

LANDSDALE FARM SCHOOL — FAMILY SUPPORT WA

765. Hon JIM CHOWN to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to the announcement on Saturday, 8 September 2018 regarding the preferred tenderer for Landsdale Farm School.

- (1) Does the minister think it appropriate that Landsdale Farm School staff found out about the preferred tenderer via a Facebook post; and —
 - (a) if yes, can the minister please explain why it is appropriate that the staff were not formally notified; and
 - (b) if not, why did it happen?
- (2) When will the transition from a Department of Education–run facility to a not-for-profit-run facility take place?
- (3) Will the minister please explain what financial benefits the government will accrue having a not-for-profit organisation running and administering the establishment as opposed to the Department of Education continuing to run Landsdale Farm School?
- (4) Can the minister please put a dollar figure on these annual financial savings?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

I reject the premise of the honourable member’s question.

- (1) As stated, the preferred operator for Landsdale Farm School was announced on Saturday, 8 September 2018. As the media statement was scheduled to be released on the weekend, the Landsdale manager was advised of the proposed announcement on Friday, 7 September 2018.
- (2) The transition to Family Support WA Inc will take place at the end of term 4, 2018.
- (3) Family Support WA Inc is an innovative and modern disability services provider with a long history of involvement at Landsdale Farm School. Its history and association allows Family Support WA to bring new approaches to the operation of the farm while maintaining the farm’s objectives and ethos. Under this model, the Department of Education will not be required to contribute to the operation of Landsdale Farm School.
- (4) The annual savings are estimated at \$520 000.