

EDUCATION AND TRAINING — COUNTRY TEACHING PROGRAM

4166. Mr P.J. Rundle to the minister representing the Minister for Education and Training:

- (1) Were the Country Teaching Program (CTP) allowance arrangements that expired on 31 December 2017 extended or renewed?
- (2) If yes to (1), are the allowances the same or have they been altered?
- (3) With reference to (2) if they have been altered, what changes were made?
- (4) If yes to (1), please list the regional locations where the CTP allowance is paid to school psychologists?
- (5) If no, please explain how the Government is planning to attract and retain public school psychologists in regional and remote schools?

Mr P. Papalia replied:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The allowances are the same.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) School psychologists do not receive a Country Teaching Program allowance as the industrial entitlement does not exist in their agreement.
- (5) The Department in is receipt of interim approval from the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation, and Safety (DMIRS) for the continuation of an attraction and retention incentive equivalent to 26.5 FTE for school psychologists working at the following schools:

Kimberley Education Region

Derby District High School

Fitzroy Valley District High School

Halls Creek District High School

Goldfields Education Region

Boulder Primary School

East Kalgoorlie Primary School

Kalgoorlie–Boulder Community High School

Kalgoorlie Primary School

Leinster Primary School

Ngaanyatjarra Lands School

O'Connor Primary School

Pilbara Education Region

Baler Primary School

Hedland Senior High School

Karratha Primary School

Karratha Senior High School

Newman Senior High School

Pegs Creek Primary School

South Newman Primary School

South Hedland Primary School

Tom Price Senior High School

Other measures to attract and retain public school psychologists in regional and remote schools include:

Country Practicum Program

The program increases awareness of career opportunities in regional and remote schools by providing funding to support student school psychologists (and pre-service teachers) to undertake long-term practicums in public schools.

Teach in WA

The program promotes careers in public education. Promotion includes presentations at career and university expos to undergraduates in education courses, including those studying toward a career as a school psychologist, and targeted information sessions to promote opportunities in regional and remote schools. Targeted marketing materials, and a dedicated area of the Department's careers website, have been developed to promote a career as a school psychologist.

Subsidised employee accommodation and relocation assistance

This assistance is provided to school psychologists relocating to all remote and regional locations (excluding the Bunbury region). Accommodation in remote locations is fully subsidised.