

ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER EDUCATION OFFICERS — MINING AND PASTORAL REGION

427. Hon ROBIN CHAPPLE to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to Aboriginal and Islander education officers in the Mining and Pastoral Region.

- (1) Are the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person or persons who must be on the recruitment panel of the placement from the local community or identified as having local knowledge from the community?
- (2) If no to (1), why not?
- (3) If no to (1), how does the department make itself aware during the recruitment process of any cultural issues within the local community, where there are diverse cultural differences?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1)–(3) The Department of Education’s Aboriginal cultural standards framework provides an expectation that principals involve local Aboriginal community members where possible. School leaders are responsible for the recruitment and selection of staff for their schools. It is expected that principals conduct selection processes in a culturally appropriate way.