

MOORA RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE — CLOSURE

615. Hon MARTIN ALDRIDGE to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to email correspondence between the Department of Education and the minister's office on 12 December 2017 under the subject "Narrative" and specifically a paragraph titled "Moora and Northam residential facilities".

- (1) Is the minister aware that the department's advice to her office is that it would cost \$2.5 million to address building noncompliance issues at Moora Residential College, not \$8.7 million as she claims?
- (2) How did the Department of Education arrive at the figure of \$2.5 million?
- (3) Could the minister please table the report or assessment that the Department of Education relied upon in providing that advice to her office?
- (4) Has the minister sought any recent advice from the Department of Education to reconsider the planned closure of the college at year end?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

- (1)–(3) The \$8.7 million is the figure announced by the former Liberal–National government in its last few months in office. It refers to a major upgrade and refurbishment project that would address the immediate compliance and longer term requirements of the residential college if it were to remain open. The independent reports tabled previously show between \$7.2 million and \$11.2 million was required to keep the facility open beyond 2018. As context to the announcement of the closure, the department provided an estimate to address immediate compliance requirements if the college was to remain open in the longer term. The figure of \$2.5 million was an estimate based on preliminary information regarding fire compliance—previously tabled—and indicative costs to address other compliance and maintenance issues. A formal report and detailed costing were not prepared and certainly not provided to me.
- (4) No.