Question on Notice No. 1016

Asked on 7 June 2006

MRS PRATT ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (MR WELFORD) —

QUESTION:

With reference to schools within the Nanango Electorate—

- (1) How many schools are marked for closure?
- (2) How many are under consideration for closure?
- (3) Will he name each school and reasoning behind these decisions?
- (4) How many schools still have asbestos roofs and when will they be removed?
- (5) Has the cost of the above plus other maintenance and upkeep contributed to the consideration of closures?

ANSWER:

- (1) No schools are marked for closure in the Nanango Electorate.
- (2) School communities at Memerambi State School and Moore State School are currently involved in consultation processes with Education Queensland. Principals, Parents & Citizens Associations, shire mayors, surrounding schools, community and business leaders the Queensland Teachers Union, the Queensland Council of Parents & Citizens' Association and the Isolated Children's parents & Citizens' Association are being consulted.
- (3) Memerambi State School has declining enrolments. The current enrolment is 16 students and is concentrated in Years 5-7 with no enrolments in lower year levels. There is a possibility of 2 Preparatory Years students in 2007. There are 3 state schools within a 16 kilometre radius of Memerambi State School: Wooroolin State School (7 kilometres); Crawford State School (8 kilometres); and Kingaroy State School (16 kilometres).

Moore State School also has declining enrolments. The current enrolment is 11 students. There is little opportunity for students to engage with same or similar aged peers and small numbers restrict the vibrancy of teaching programs. It is situated in an area of overprovision with Linville State School only 5 kilometres away. Benrakin State School is 10 kilometres away.

- (4) More than 340 asbestos roofs at over 120 schools have been replaced since the commencement of our Asbestos Roof Replacement Program (ARRP) in May 2005. Asbestos roof replacement work is still to be carried out at four schools in your electorate. The roofs at these schools are in good condition. These are:
 - o Kilcoy SHS scheduled for replacement before February 2007
 - o Kingaroy SHS scheduled for replacement before end November 2006
 - Kumbia SS Yet to be scheduled
 - Linville SS Yet to be scheduled
- (5) No.