

**Question on Notice**

**No. 855**

**Asked on 24 May 2006**

**Mr Rickuss** asked the Minister for Education and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) -

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the Government's asbestos roof replacement program –

- (1) Will he outline by State electorate (a) how many schools in each State electorate need to have their roof/s replaced under the program, (b) what schools in each State electorate need to have their roof/s replaced under the program, (c) how many schools in each State electorate have actually had their asbestos roof/s replaced under the program and (d) what schools in each State electorate have actually had their asbestos roof/s replaced under the program?
- (2) Does the Government have a policy to assist in determining which school should receive priority in having their asbestos roof/s replaced; if so, will he outline what that policy is?

**ANSWER:**

I am pleased to see the Member is interested in the Government's Asbestos Roof Replacement Program (ARRP), which, weather permitting, should reach the half way mark by the end of the year, only 18 months after commencement.

In May this year, the ARRP reached a milestone of 300 roofs – less than 12 months since the program began. This was a tremendous achievement and a credit to all involved.

Our Government has been the first in the state's history to comprehensively address this issue and to provide funding to replace every asbestos roof in every Queensland state school. We have been able to accelerate the program by getting specialist tradesmen on-board to work weekends, as well as school holidays.

Tenders are currently being called for the replacement of another 177 school asbestos roofs before the end of November this year. This work will take the program past the half way mark – with more than 470 roofs replaced in the first 18 months of the program.

In your electorate, a further three schools will have their roofs replaced under the (ARRP). These are Flagstone Creek SS, Lockyer District SHS and Ropley SS. One school in the Lockyer Electorate, Mt Sylvia, has already had an asbestos roof replaced.

The Department of Education and the Arts Internet website provides details of asbestos roofs that have been replaced under ARRP. This site is regularly updated. Roofs are replaced in line with an audit of all asbestos roofs by the Department of Public Works (DPW), which specific priority ratings.