

## Question on Notice

No. 190

Asked on 27 February 2008

Mrs Pratt asked the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) —

### QUESTION:

With reference to young unmarried teachers sharing accommodation having their power bills and ambulance levy paid by Education Queensland—

- (1) Is this part of a salary package for young unmarried teachers sharing accommodation and are all teachers aware of this?
- (2) Do married or single teachers living in private accommodation have their power bills and ambulance levy paid by Education Queensland?
- (3) If not, why not and what do they get in their salary package to compensate for this discrimination?

### ANSWER:

- (1) Both for the benefit of tenants and for administrative ease, the Department of Education, Training and the Arts directly pays electricity, gas and ambulance levy expenses on behalf of unmarried staff in shared government accommodation (multi-tenants).

Power, gas and ambulance levy expenses are then recovered from multi-tenants through the department's rent subsidy arrangements.

- (2) Married or single teachers living in private accommodation directly pay their power, gas, and ambulance levy.
- (3) Multi-tenants indirectly pay power, gas and ambulance levy expenses through increased rent charges. Those in private accommodation pay such costs directly to their service provider.

The department provides a locality allowance for staff living in rural and remote parts of the State to help off-set costs.