

Question on Notice
No. 1840
Asked on 24 November 2009

Dr Flegg asked the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Wilson) —

QUESTION:

With reference to learning support teachers—

- (1) What is the department's policy in relation to the allocation of learning support teachers?
- (2) What is the formula for provision of learning support teachers and hours of learning support teachers that schools are provided with per 100 students?
- (3) How does this differ between primary school and high school?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question.

The Department of Education and Training's policy regarding the allocation of learning support teachers is that they are placed on a needs basis.

Learning support teachers are proportionally allocated to educational regions each year based on the previous year's state wide July Census enrolment collection for all schools in each region.

Included in this centralised allocative methodology are time and travel and socio-economic status weightings calculated for each school within a region. Regional allocations are reviewed annually in line with movements in enrolments to ensure that resources are allocated equitably across the State.

Regional staff, in consultation with schools, are responsible for allocating learning support resources to individual locations based on the identification of students requiring learning support. This allocation is based on student needs regardless of the level of schooling.