

Question on Notice

No. 1744

Asked on 11 October 2016

MR MILLAR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND MAJOR EVENTS (HON K JONES)—

QUESTION:

With reference to relocatable buildings within the department's Central Queensland Region—

Will the Minister advise (a) what was the total number of relocatable buildings that were utilised for educational purposes (e.g. classrooms) within Queensland schools for 2015-16, (b) what was the total cost of the construction and installation of relocatable buildings that were utilised for educational purposes (e.g. classrooms) within Queensland schools for 2015-16, and (c) what is the projected total number of relocatable buildings to be utilised for educational purposes (e.g. classrooms) within Queensland schools for 2016-17?

ANSWER:

The Department of Education and Training is committed to maximising the utilisation of its educational infrastructure and uses a mix of permanent and relocatable buildings during the life of a school. The Department uses relocatable buildings of a quality that matches the internal standards of conventional permanent facilities, in terms of comfort and classroom functionality.

These buildings are used across the State for a number of reasons including: providing facilities lost through natural disasters, fires and other events; providing additional classrooms to meet unexpected enrolment growth; as temporary accommodation during school redevelopments; and to meet peaks in student enrolments over the life of a school.

These facilities allow the Department to respond to emergent issues quickly and with high quality facilities. It also ensures the maximum amount of available funding is directed to where Queensland students and teachers need it most.

There are some 386 relocatable buildings located in the Department's Central Queensland Region. The total cost of the construction and installation of relocatable buildings that were utilised for educational purposes in state schools in the Central Queensland Region for the 2015–16 financial year was \$8.73 million.

The Department has allocated a state-wide budget of \$30 million for relocatable buildings for the 2016–17 financial year.