

Question on Notice
No. 28
Asked on 4 February 2020

MR M HART ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the government's 2019-20 commitment to the air-condition classroom program—

Will the Minister confirm that the department has undertaken the relevant checks of all project managers and the successful tenders involved to ensure their compliance with the Queensland Building and Construction Commission's Minimum Financial Requirement and that they are within their Maximum Revenue category?

ANSWER:

The Department of Education (DoE) is working closely with the Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW), QBuild, and schools to deliver air conditioning to more than 300 schools outside the Cooler Schools Zone.

All contractors and workers who are engaged in the performance of works and services for QBuild are required to comply with the relevant Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) requirements.

Project managers engaged by DoE are prequalified from DoE's Standing Offer of Arrangement. Prequalification assists government departments in selecting appropriately qualified building industry service providers above a certain threshold.

Contractors who wish to tender for Queensland Government building projects valued at more than \$1 million (GST inclusive) must be prequalified and registered on the Queensland Government's prequalification register (PQC) maintained by DHPW. PQC contracts are subject to a formal financial capacity assessment in accordance with the Capital Works Management Framework and guidelines. This registration is in addition to any QBuild registration.

QBuild also undertakes a detailed financial assessment as part of its processes for tenders between \$500,000 and \$1 million to ensure contractor compliance with QBCC Minimum Financial Requirements. Tenders below \$500,000 do not require a financial assessment; however, all relevant QBCC licensing and insurance checks are conducted by QBuild.

QBuild has conducted QBCC searches on all the major works contract contractors to date for the air conditioning tenders undertaken and has confirmed that contractors have met the Maximum Revenue Category on their QBCC licence.

DoE conducts regular checks on all relevant QBCC licenses and insurances to ensure compliance throughout the process.