MR J BLEIJIE ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland Government Commitment to Union Encouragement policy—

Will the Minister advise (a) the number of new Department of Education employees that have had their details shared with a union (i) in the last 12 months, (ii) since May 2015, (b) the unions that this data has been shared with and (c) details of any IT system security audits undertaken by the department of these unions to ensure any shared data is protected from cyber attacks?

ANSWER:

a) *the number of new Department of Education employees that have had their details shared with a union (i) in the last 12 months, (ii) since May 2015*

The Department of Education's certified agreements reflect the requirement to provide new starter data to registered industrial organisations consistent with the Queensland Government Commitment to Union Encouragement policy.

In the last 12 months (November 2021 to October 2022), the department has shared a total of around 15,400 employees' details.

Since May 2015 (December 2015 to October 2022) the department has shared a total of around 83,200 employees' details.

b) *the unions that this data has been shared with*

Employee information is shared with the relevant registered industrial organisations that represent Department of Education employees—the Queensland Teachers' Union, Together Union and the United Workers' Union.

c) *details of any IT system security audits undertaken by the department of these unions to ensure any shared data is protected from cyber attacks*

The department has internal controls and measures in place to protect its data security. The department's *Information Security Policy and Procedure* applies a consistent, risk-based approach to information security that maintains the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information by protecting information against unauthorised disclosure, access or use, loss or compromise (malicious or accidental), or a breach of privacy. This includes identifying and managing risks to information, applications and technologies throughout their lifecycle by implementing an Information Security Management System in compliance with the Queensland Government's Information security policy (IS18:2018).

The department does not undertake auditing of the relevant registered industrial organisations' IT systems. The transfer of information is encrypted prior to being sent. The only details provided are minimal work related information and work contact details.