Question on Notice No. 720

Asked on 25 May 2023

DR A MACMAHON ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the review that will inform the next National School Reform Agreement between the Commonwealth and states and territories—

Will the Minister provide an update on the review and advise the following figures (reported separately by year from 2021 to 2023 inclusive) (a) for government schools (i) the percentage of schooling resource standard funding provided by the Queensland Government and (ii) the equivalent funding for government schools and (b) for non-government schools (i) the percentage of schooling resource standard funding provided by the Queensland Government and (ii) the equivalent funding for non-government schools?

ANSWER:

The Review to Inform a Better and Fairer Education System (the Review) commenced in March 2023 with release of the Terms of Reference and membership of the associated Expert Panel. Consultations to inform the review are now underway.

A Ministerial Reference Group has been established to act as a source of advice to the Expert Panel. This includes teachers, principals, students, parent organisations, education unions and other education experts and stakeholders.

Queensland is actively engaging with the Review and will continue to do so. In May 2023, the Minister for Education and departmental representatives met with the Chair of the Review panel, Dr Lisa O'Brien, to discuss the Review.

The Expert Panel will deliver its final report to Education Ministers by 31 October 2023.

More information about the Review can be found on the Australian Government's website at www.education.gov.au/review-inform-better-and-fairer-education-system.

The Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) is the Australian Government's estimate of the total recurrent public funding that schools need to meet the educational needs of their students. Annual state funding targets are shown in Queensland's Bilateral Agreement (2019–2023) as a percentage of the SRS. The dollar target is finalised near the end of each year, based on August Census enrolments.

Queensland's 2021 SRS funding figures have been submitted to the National School Resourcing Board for review, with the Review's final report yet to be tabled in the Australian Parliament prior to its public release.

Queensland funding figures for 2022 are yet to be compiled and as such, the financial data will not be available until October 2023. These figures as a percentage of the SRS are then subject to a national audit process and are due to be submitted to the Australian Government by the end of November 2023.

Queensland funding figures for 2023 are yet to be finalised. These will be available in October 2024 and are due to be audited and submitted to the Australian Government by the end of November 2024.