Inquiry into referred 2017–18 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by Miss Lee MLA:

In relation to: School Autonomy page 64

1. Are all schools now operating under a similar autonomy model?
   a. If not, which schools have not transferred to such a model and why have they not transferred?

2. Can you provide details, for each of the 3 years, what progress is being made in the roll out of the new school administration system?
   a. How was the $10m amount determined?
   b. What does it cover?
   c. What was the reason for the new system being implemented in schools?

3. How will success of the new system be measured?

4. What refinements have been made to managing the business and financial arrangements of a school as a consequence of introduction of the new SAS?

5. What support is currently available from the ACT Education Directorate to a principal for administrative activities and functions?

Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

1. Page 64 of the Annual Report refers to a new Information Communications Technology (ICT) Business System that will support the operations of all ACT public schools. All public schools will use the system, Jervis Bay School has not yet been deployed.

2. (a, b, c) The School Administration System (SAS) replaces the long-standing ICT operations system for ACT public schools. The budget was determined having regard to market conditions and implementation support required for a new ICT system. The SAS is the core business system for schools.

3. The Directorate approved a benefits analysis to be undertaken following deployment of the full ICT business system.

4. The project has not altered the way schools manage their finances, the business processes have been updated to utilise the improved capability of the new ICT system.
5. ACT public school budgets provide the total funding to support the operation of schools. In addition to this, there are a range of supports provided to principals that include; procurement, human resources and infrastructure.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs

Signature: [Signature]
Date: 18/12/18

By the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, Yvette Berry MLA