

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Vowles to the Minister for Education; and Lands, Planning and the Environment

Ministerial Communications, Staffing and Certificates of Exemption

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

1. For all departments, agencies and authorities you are responsible for, please detail as of 1 July 2013 and as of 1 July 2014:

- a. Total staffing numbers
- b. Total staffing numbers by FTE (full-time equivalent)

Q3 2013-14 (Jan to Mar 2014)	Pay 20 (26 Mar 2014)
Average paid FTE	Average paid FTE
4 150	4 268

The average paid FTE for quarter 3 (January to March 2014) was low due to a number of pay periods being affected by payroll deductions, industrial action and incomplete processing of contracts associated with the start of the school year.

- c. A breakdown by classification and level
- d. By classification and level, the number of permanent (ongoing) employees

	Q3 2013-14 (Jan to Mar 2014)
School-based teaching	2 097
School based non-teaching	715
Non-school based	404

- e. By classification and level, the number of temporary (fixed) employees
Average paid FTE

	Q3 2013-14 (Jan to Mar 2014)
School-based teaching	441
School based non-teaching	351
Non-school based	142

2. Have you or any of your Ministerial Staff engaged in formal or informal communications with L and B MacFarlane (or their representatives) concerning any matter in relation to a water extraction license? If so:
 - a. Which Ministers and Ministerial Advisers have engaged in the communications?
 - b. What was the substance of the communications?
 - c. When did the communications take place?

Not applicable for the Department of Education.

3. Have you or any of your Ministerial staff engaged in formal or informal communications with Peter Maley (or his representatives) concerning any matter in relation to a water extraction license? If so:
 - a. Which Ministers and Ministerial Advisers have engaged in the communications?
 - b. What was the substance of the communications?
 - c. When did the communications take place?

Not applicable for the Department of Education.

4. For each Government Agency and Authority how many Certificates of Exemption were issued in 2013/14? For each Certificate of Exemption:
 - a. What is the description of the goods and services contracted?
 - b. What is the value of the goods and services contracted?
 - c. Why was the Certificate of Exemption required?
 - d. Who recommended the Certificate of Exemption?
 - e. Who approved the Certificate of exemption?
 - f. Who was awarded the contract?

There were five Certificate of Exemptions issued from 1 July 2013 to 31 March 2014.

- 1) Tier 4 – Certificate of Exemption from Public Tendering
 - a. Consultancy for the review of Indigenous Education in the Northern Territory
 - b. \$264,000
 - c. High level review undertaken by a nationally recognised and acclaimed specialist educational organisation.
 - d. Executive Director Strategic Services recommended the Certificate of Exemption.
 - e. The Certificate of Exemption was approved by the Chief Executive and endorsed by the Procurement Review Board.
 - f. The Education Business Pty Ltd (VIC)

- 2) Tier 4 - Certificate of Exemption from Public Tendering
 - a. Provision of REACT Software Support and Maintenance
 - b. \$801,184
 - c. As per Procurement Direction PR8, renewal of ongoing software maintenance and licensing agreements.
 - d. Chief Information Officer recommended the Certificate of Exemption.
 - e. Standing Exemption as per the Procurement Regulation for the renewal of ongoing software maintenance and licensing agreements.
 - f. M & S Consultants Pty Ltd (NT)

- 3) Tier 3 – Invite Select Quote
 - a. Production of School2Work News
 - b. \$66,688
 - c. Only supplier in the NT that has Territory-wide distribution. As a result the Department can utilise the circulation base to distribute the publication to the target audience. It has the capacity to undertake the production of the School2Work supplement at the required frequency and distribution volume NT wide.
 - d. Assistant Director Communications recommended the Certificate of Exemption.
 - e. The Certificate of Exemption was approved by the General Manager School Operations and Performance and endorsed by the Procurement Review Board.
 - f. Nationwide News Pty Ltd (NT)

- 4) Tier 3 – Invite Select Quote
 - a. Development of Six Teacher Packs to be Used in Delivery of AHC10210 Certificate I in AgriFood Operations
 - b. \$110,000
 - c. The supplier has been identified as having the highly specialised unique skill set specific to the work requirements.
 - d. Senior Program Manager recommended the Certificate of Exemption.
 - e. The Certificate of Exemption was approved by the Director Online Education and endorsed by the Procurement Review Board.
 - f. 2 Black Dogs Pty Ltd (NSW)

- 5) Tier 3 – Invite Select Quote
 - a. Consultancy for the development of a needs-based global school resource allocation model for NT Government Schools
 - b. \$104,000
 - c. Acknowledged Australian experts in the development of needs based global school resourcing models and there are no suitably qualified consultants in the Northern Territory.
 - d. Chief Financial Officer recommended the Certificate of Exemption.
 - e. The Certificate of Exemption was approved by the Deputy Chief Executive Organisational Services and endorsed by the Procurement Review Board.
 - f. Victoria Institute - Victoria University (VIC)