

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Mr Higgins to the Minister for Education:

### Woolianna Demountable

1. I refer to Tender Number T18-1943 awarded to Demountable Sales & Hire for \$305,365.00. When and how was the decision made to replace the current school structure communicated to the Woolianna community?
2. Why is this demountable \$160,025 cheaper than the Douglas-Daly demountable?
3. When will works commence? When will they be complete?
4. Where will the new demountable be located?
5. Will the replacement affect teaching at the school?
6. Is the contractor contractually obliged to mitigate risk of school children being on or near a construction site?
7. Where will the school operate during works? What are the interim arrangements?
8. What other disruption will occur in the community?
9. Was the current teacher at the school consulted on the new demountable?
10. Were the current teaching staff consulted on the impending works? If not will they be?
11. What other improvements will be made to the Woolianna School? Playground? Amenities?

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### ANSWERS:

1. As part of the expression of interest process for the Building Better Schools commitment, the school identified for refurbishment works to occur in two demountables. During the scoping stage, it was identified that it was more cost effective to replace one of the demountables and to incorporate a new office and server room.

As per normal program delivery, communication occurs with the school's teaching principal who provides updates to the school council. As the school does not have a school council due to its size, the Woolianna School teaching principal provided updates to parents.

2. The cost difference between Douglas Daly and Woolianna School is related to the scope of works. Douglas Daly included the removal of a beyond economical repair ablution block, new ablutions as well as increased general learning area. The school council agreed to a contribution to the project to achieve a larger general learning area and kitchenette.
3. Works commenced by the contractor on site 5 December 2018 and were completed by 13 December 2018. The outstanding work is to connect the phone line by Telstra, which is expected to be completed in the coming weeks.
4. The new demountable was located in the same position as the beyond economical repair demountable being removed.
5. The work had minimal effect on the school operations. The contractor has liaised with the school if disruption was expected.
6. Yes. The contractor is contractually obliged to mitigate risk while staff and students are on site.
7. The majority of students who occupy the old demountable were on Transition Camp at the Michael Long Learning Centre in Darwin. Remaining students were able to be accommodated in other areas of the school.
8. There were no disruptions for the community.
9. The new demountable and installation date was discussed with the acting teaching principal.
10. Yes. Staff and students were advised of the works.
11. No other improvements have been made to the Woolianna School at this stage. The school will need to apply for funding in future years for new identified works as part of the infrastructure program.