LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Education:

RATE Program

1. The Education Department's 2022 Annual Report states that "RATE will build the local teacher workforce". The current version of RATE is very different to the old version of RATE that many of our communities were calling for. Does a graduate of this new RATE program graduate as a remote teacher?

Remote Aboriginal Teacher Training (RATE) is managed by the Department of Education in partnership with Registered Training Organisations (including Charles Darwin University and Batchelor Institute).

The current RATE model streamlines support for Aboriginal Educators through delivery of a range of professional development opportunities, including: nonaccredited training; vocational education and training, and tertiary education qualifications.

This model:

- provides entry and exit points that align with Aboriginal Educator aspirations in Territory education settings
- builds capacity of existing Aboriginal Educators in remote and very remote education settings at every step of their education career; including focused support for those who aspire to become qualified teachers.

Accredited courses that current RATE participants are engaging in include:

- Certificate III Early Childhood Education and Care
- Certificate III Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education
- Certificates III and IV School-based Education Support
- Undergraduate Certificate Remote Educators
- Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care
- Diploma of Educational Studies
- Bachelor of Education.

2. What is the pay scale for a remote local teacher whose highest qualification is the RATE certificate? And how does it compare to the current teacher pay scale?

RATE participants who graduate with a Bachelor of Education receive a Classroom Teacher salary in line with the relevant Enterprise Agreement, which starts at \$81,739 per annum.

RATE participants who complete certificate courses progress through assistant teacher (AT) pay levels, with AT5 employees paid at \$76,225 per annum.