

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Date: 17 June 2019

Subject: Number of teachers in Katherine

From: Member for Spillett

To: Minister for Education

Agency: Department of Education

Number: 7.12

Question: How many teachers are currently employed in Katherine and how many are on permanent contracts?

Answer:

On 20 March 2019, there were 151.9 FTE teaching staff employed in Katherine town schools, with 91.6 FTE having ongoing permanent employment.

A proportion of teaching employees have fixed period employment to replace teachers on leave, or temporarily working in other roles, or in positions relating to fixed-term funding arrangements.

The department is committed to increasing the proportion of ongoing classroom teachers and developed the stage one Teacher Permanency Strategy in consultation with the Commissioner for Public Employment and the Australian Education Union NT.

The strategy enables principals to select eligible fixed-term classroom teachers for ongoing appointment within their school without the need to advertise, utilising section 30(1)(b) of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*.

Stage one of the strategy commenced on 25 October 2017 and is in place until 28 February 2020.

Since commencement of the strategy, 33 classroom teachers have been appointed to ongoing positions in Katherine town schools.