

# **ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

## **Question Taken on Notice**

**Date:** 19 June 2019

**Subject:** Underground power for schools

**From:** Mrs Lia Finocchiaro

**To:** Mr John Langoulant

**Agency:** Power and Water Corporation

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**Number:** 11.2

**Question:**

Could Power and Water please provide information on what areas around each of the nine primary schools will be undergrounded as part of the underground power process that has been allocated \$3m?

**Answer:**

The schools will be connected to the nearest underground assets, which are from 30 metres to about 900 metres away depending on the school. They will not connect to the overhead poles under normal conditions.

These 'nearby' underground assets are generally underground cables that traverse the area on the way to supply other underground areas. Power and Water will 'cut-in' into these cables/assets so that we can connected the schools to the underground supply.

Since the schools are a comparatively small amount of load we are able to do this without adversely affecting the existing underground network capacity in usual conditions.

The schools as a result will generally experience an improvement in reliability and resilience associated with being connected to a fully underground supply.

Only the schools power supply is being undergrounded.

Areas around the schools are not being undergrounded and will continued to be supplied via the overhead network.