

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: CRAIGMORE HIGH SCHOOL

- 13 February 2008

Ms CICCARELLO (Norwood) (11:02): I move:

That the 274th report of the committee, entitled Craigmore High School Redevelopment, be noted.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:32): I wish to make a brief contribution to this debate. I think it is a very good thing that Craigmore school has had this money spent on it. As everyone knows when looking around the state at the various educational facilities, there are needs to be addressed and it is a continuous program. There are issues with the number of square metres per student when rooms are deemed surplus, so schools need to maintain even assembly halls to keep them operational and be able to hold their school assemblies under some in-house system.

I challenge the government regarding the maintenance backlog and, if it is dinkum and so proud to shout from the rooftops about how good it is at funding maintenance, why was it removed from an education department website around 18 months ago? This website was accessible by anyone and everyone, and you could see what moneys were needed to be spent over time at schools right throughout the state. So I put out the challenge to this government: if it is so good at maintaining and upgrading schools, it should bring back the public website so that the government can be publicly accountable for what money is being spent and then we can have the debate on what this government is spending versus previous governments. But let us move forward and get on with the job.

Motion carried.