



2009

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

REPORT
ON

THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
EDUCATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF PORT
SORELL, SHEARWATER, WESLEY VALE,
SASSAFRAS AND MORIARTY

Membership of the Committee

Hon. Kerry Finch, MLC (Chair)
Hon. Ruth Forrest, MLC
Hon. Vanessa Goodwin, MLC
Hon. Tania Rattray-Wagner, MLC

Mrs Heather Butler, MP
Mr Brenton Best, MP
Ms Cassy O'Connor, MP
Mr Brett Whiteley, MP

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FINDINGS

1. The Committee finds that a strong case was made by the local community for a new contemporary school to be opened at Port Sorell.
2. A demographic study has found that, even without a new school, the projected Port Sorell township population (within a 5 km radius of Port Sorell) will grow to between 5000 and 6000 within the next decade¹.
3. Evidence was received that a private school organisation has developed interest in investing in a school in the Port Sorell township. The community feeling is that the establishment of a private school would not be the best option for Port Sorell, effectively neutralising any further public school development in Port Sorell, with resultant inequity issues arising.
4. Latrobe Council would encourage the establishment of a private school in the event that a public school development in Port Sorell does not proceed.
5. It is inefficient to bus 230 Port Sorell children 10 km away from their distinct township community to form a combined school population of 300 students at an out of town school.
6. That a prime site for a new school has been set aside in Port Sorell by the Latrobe Council as a result of the very comprehensive Port Sorell Environs Study. This site is adjacent to a bush reserve and is only a few minutes' walk to the Rubicon foreshore, while being central to the whole community and in walking distance to residences for most children.
7. That an option was presented to the Committee utilising the Building the Education Revolution (BER) funding to develop a new school at Port Sorell for the Port Sorell township (students located within a 5 km radius of Port Sorell). The option was based on an amalgamated educational model for the students in the area.
8. Another option presented was that no school be closed immediately as a result of a new school at Port Sorell, preferring for a review to take place five years after the establishment of the new Port Sorell School by the school communities and the Education Department. The reasoning behind this is to provide stability for children in upper primary years. Evidence given suggested that financing the option of keeping all schools in the area, including Port Sorell, may prove challenging.

¹ Associate Professor Natalie Jackson "Port Sorell and Suburbs – Projections" February 2008

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a new contemporary public primary school be planned, constructed and opened in Port Sorell.
2. That in planning for the size and scope of the school, a radius of 5 km be adopted as the catchment area and future growth projections be taken into account.
3. That no school be closed immediately as a result of the planned opening of a new school.
4. A review be undertaken by the school communities with the support of external consultants to ensure stability for current primary students.
5. That consideration be given to an operational model which would allow savings in management costs by operating all schools in the area as a cluster or campus model.
6. That an independent task force with consultative and resolution capabilities be assigned to work with Sassafras, Moriarty and Wesley Vale school communities to assist in developing the most appropriate educational model for those students, in collaboration with any new school at Port Sorell.
7. That Wesley Vale Primary School considers its immediate needs for heating and urgent capital works and that the remainder of the Building the Education Revolution funding be redirected towards the proposed Port Sorell Primary School.
8. That Latrobe Council consider transferring the available land parcel identified within their strategic plan to the Department of Education at no cost.

1 - INTRODUCTION

1.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INQUIRY

On 29 April 2009 the House of Assembly resolved to refer to the Joint Standing Committee on Community Development the following reference for investigation.

1.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference:

- (A) That the Joint Standing Committee on Community Development inquire and report upon the provision of public primary school education for the residents of Port Sorell, Shearwater, Wesley Vale, Sassafras and Moriarty; and
- (B) That the Committee report by 31 October 2009.

1.3 PROCEEDINGS

The Committee sought and received submissions from the public during May and June 2009. Public hearings were held during May, June and July 2009. The Committee expresses its appreciation to those who took the time to provide evidence in person or to prepare written information. Details of submissions, witnesses, and documents received are contained in the appendices to this report.

2 - BACKGROUND

The Committee received evidence with regard to the ongoing appeal for a school in Port Sorell, the reasons behind a school not being constructed already, the ongoing work of the Latrobe Council to provide for a school in the area, the demographic change in Port Sorell, the possibility of a private school being built in the area, and the strength of the current push for a public primary school in Port Sorell.

- 2.1 In 1999 the Department of Education conducted an investigation into the need for a school at Port Sorell in consultation with local government, Moriarty and Wesley Vale School Councils, and the Departments of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources; Health; and Police, and decided against the creation of a new school.²

² Mr Malcolm Wells, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Hobart, 26 May 2009, p 1

- 2.2 A significant factor in this decision was the impact on the viability of existing schools in the area that a new school would have.³ However, there has since that time been a feeling among many of the residents of Port Sorell that the community is entitled to a school and there is a strong public movement within the township campaigning for the creation of a school.⁴
- 2.3 In 2005, the Strategic Plan undertaken by the Latrobe Council called for a school at Port Sorell. The community lobbied for such an outcome and commenced a planning process. This included investigations into the area demographics and projected community growth, as well as finding an appropriate site for the proposed school.⁵
- 2.4 There is considerable public support within the Port Sorell community for a public primary school to be built within the township. Surveys conducted by the Latrobe Council have returned overwhelming support for the construction of a school in the area.⁶
- 2.5 The Latrobe Council carried out extensive studies into the appropriate site for a proposed school. As a result of these studies⁷, the Camp Boomerang site on Pitcairn Street has been set aside for use as a school.
- 2.6 Non-government school organisations have already expressed an interest in opening a school in the area.⁸ The Latrobe Council may offer the land set aside for a school to such a private school organisation should a public school not go ahead. However, the community preference is for a public school.
- 2.7 Results from the study into the Port Sorell demographics showed significant population growth in the last decade, growing to 3500, projected to continue to grow to between 5000 and 6000 by 2020, without taking into account any potential increase in population due to the development of a new school. Port Sorell remains one of the fastest-growing communities in Tasmania. While much of this population growth occurred in those aged 30 and above, some growth was evident in the 0 to 14 age group.⁹
- 2.8 Coupled with the increase in population in Port Sorell there has been an increase in infrastructure projects and developments, many of which are targeted at families. These include, a childcare centre, a major supermarket, additional residential areas, specialty shops, new aged care facility and a medical centre. Planning for a marina is also underway.¹⁰

³ Mr Malcolm Wells, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Hobart, 26 May 2009, p 2

⁴ Mr Michal Rataj, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell, 15 July 2009, p 15

⁵ Latrobe Council Submission to the Inquiry, June 2009

⁶ "Latrobe Council Report: Port Sorell Primary School Community Feedback 2009"

⁷ SEMF Pty Ltd, "Port Sorell School Site Evaluation February 2007"; Ecologically Sustainable Design Pty Ltd, "Port Sorell and Environs Strategic Plan Review – Enquiry By Design 3 to 13 March 2008 Outcomes and Recommendations"; Latrobe Council "Port Sorell and Environs Strategic Plan 2008"

⁸ Mr Grant Atkins, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell, 15 July 2009, p 32

⁹ Associate Professor Natalie Jackson, "Port Sorell and Suburbs – Projections" February 2008

¹⁰ Mr Graeme Hay, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 9

2.9 The announcement of the Building the Education Revolution (BER) funding package for capital works in public primary schools was not the precursor to the call for a public primary school at Port Sorell.

*"...this current push for a school at Port Sorell is not five minutes in the making nor has it come about simply because of the BER funding issue... The fact that the BER funding arrived out of the blue with such stringent time frames and conditions has really accelerated that process and now we find ourselves in this exciting position with a real opportunity to make a difference in Port Sorell."*¹¹

Findings

2. *A demographic study has found that, even without a new school, the projected Port Sorell township population (within a 5 km radius of Port Sorell) will grow to between 5000 and 6000 within the next decade.*

3. *Evidence was received that a private school organisation has developed interest in investing in a school in the Port Sorell township. The community feeling is that the establishment of a private school would not be the best option for Port Sorell, effectively neutralising any further public school development in Port Sorell, with resultant inequity issues arising.*

4. *Latrobe Council would encourage the establishment of a private school in the event that a public school development in Port Sorell does not proceed.*

6. *That a prime site for a new school has been set aside in Port Sorell by the Latrobe Council as a result of the very comprehensive Port Sorell Environs Study. This site is adjacent to a bush reserve and is only a few minutes' walk to the Rubicon foreshore, while being central to the whole community and in walking distance to residences for most children.*

3 - PROPOSED PORT SORELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Committee received detailed evidence from various community organisations and concerned individuals about the benefits of building a new, contemporary public primary school at Port Sorell.

3.1 Social isolation is a problem in rural areas, and one of the best ways of dealing with this is to prioritise the creation of community hubs through shared community infrastructure. Within this framework, public schools have two

¹¹ Mr Michal Rataj, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 14

- functions: firstly to educate, and secondly to act as a supportive community resource.¹²
- 3.2 A school in Port Sorell, in its function as a supportive community resource, would provide facilities for such things as counselling; support agencies; family and parenting support services; an on-line access centre; a library; preschool music and kinder gym classes; sporting clubs; meeting rooms for community groups and youth clubs; adult education and employment training providers; and a place for art and theatre presentations accessible by the community in out of school hours.¹³
- 3.3 A school within the township of Port Sorell would allow greater interaction with the local community through visits from community organisations such as Landcare and the Fire Service, a greater level of participation in parent help, and school excursions within walking distance of the school.¹⁴ Each of these is more difficult and costly for schools such as Moriarty Primary School, Wesley Vale Primary School and Sassafras Primary School, where the school is located outside of the main township from where most of the student population is drawn.
- 3.4 The development of a primary school within the Port Sorell township would greatly assist children in making the transition into school, as the local childcare centre would be able to run more comprehensive preparing for school courses, and children would become more familiar with the school facilities simply by walking by it with their parents, or playing on the play equipment over weekends.¹⁵
- 3.5 The growth of the Port Sorell area would be greatly enhanced by the development of a public primary school within the township. An estimated 30 per cent of real estate inquiries in the area come from young families, approximately half of whom choose not to take their inquiries any further on learning that Port Sorell does not have a primary school. In addition, many families move away from Port Sorell once their children reach school age, in order to be closer to schools.¹⁶
- 3.6 As there are currently more than 260 primary school aged students from Port Sorell travelling at least 10 km twice a day in order to attend school, a primary school built within the Port Sorell township would allow these students to walk or ride bikes to school, easing traffic congestion, minimising travelling time, boosting public health and decreasing air pollution and carbon emissions.¹⁷
- 3.7 Each of these benefits of the construction of a public primary school at Port Sorell would contribute to the development of a sense of belonging to the community in the local children and improve community ties between young and old.

¹² Ms Joanne Coates, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 12

¹³ Ms Joanne Coates, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 13

¹⁴ Ms Joanne Coates, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 13

¹⁵ Mr Brent Armistead, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 3-4

¹⁶ Mr Graeme Hay, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009, p 10

¹⁷ Ms Penny Armistead, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 3

Findings

1. *The Committee finds that a strong case was made by the local community for a new contemporary school to be opened at Port Sorell.*

Recommendations

1. *That a new contemporary public primary school be planned, constructed and opened in Port Sorell.*
2. *That in planning for the size and scope of the school, a radius of 5 km be adopted as the catchment area and future growth projections be taken into account.*

4 - WESLEY VALE, MORIARTY AND SASSAFRAS PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Committee received evidence from the Wesley Vale, Moriarty and Sassafras Primary schools about the excellent quality and current situation of the existing schools, as well as what kind of impact the construction of a new public primary school at Port Sorell would have on these schools.

- 4.1 Currently, approximately 300 students attend Wesley Vale Primary, 230 of whom come from the Port Sorell area. Moriarty Primary School caters for 77 students, 28 of whom travel from Port Sorell. Sassafras Primary School is attended by 54 students, two of whom come from Port Sorell. A further three students travel from Port Sorell to attend Latrobe Primary School.¹⁸
- 4.2 Many of the students travelling from Port Sorell to Wesley Vale Primary School do so by bus. The bus service raises concerns for numerous parents, as the buses are crowded and take two runs, so students may have a considerable wait either before or after school to catch the bus. In particular, parents of younger students are anxious about the duration and safety of bus travel. Additionally, there is little flexibility to the bus service.¹⁹ Students returning to after school care in Port Sorell cannot be dropped near the child care centre. Instead, they must be collected by child care centre workers, causing difficulty for providing for the children already in the centre.²⁰
- 4.3 Wesley Vale Primary School is close to capacity with current enrolments.

¹⁸ Mr Andrew Finch, "Enrolment Patterns and Distribution of Students" Term One Census 2008

¹⁹ Mr Brent Armistead, Ms Penny Armistead, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009 p 4

²⁰ Ms Julie Patterson, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 16 July 2009 p 32

- "We have an enrolment at the moment of 293 and we are at our capacity. Last year we had 11 classes this year we have 10, so we do have one multipurpose space at the moment; last year we had none. We are very much under pressure. If this community continues to grow at this rate we are not going to be able to enrol these children at Wesley Vale anyway, so money is going to need to be spent somewhere."*²¹
- 4.4 The Moriarty Primary School held a community meeting at short notice which was very well attended, indicating the community interest. Those present voted to keep Moriarty Primary School open and not to amalgamate with Wesley Vale Primary School. However, the school did not object to the creation of a new public primary school at Port Sorell.
- "We are not against a school at Port Sorell but not at the expense of our wonderful little community school... we ask that Moriarty Primary School's uniqueness be recognised and conserved in this process."*²²
- 4.5 Sassafras Primary School does not believe that the school would be significantly adversely impacted by a new school opening in Port Sorell. Not quite four per cent of the school's population are based in Port Sorell.
- "We actually felt that [the Moriarty community] were really in a similar position to us. They would be as an entity in their own right even if there were a school at Port Sorell... We did not think that the school at Port Sorell would impact on us at all. We thought that every community deserves a school."*²³
- 4.6 Of the 223 responses to the Latrobe Council's survey asking whether or not members of the community supported the development of a public primary school in Port Sorell, many of the 26.9 per cent of respondents who did not support it cited concern over the future of other local schools, particularly Wesley Vale Primary, as their reasoning.²⁴

Findings

5. *It is inefficient to bus 230 Port Sorell children 10 km away from their distinct township community to form a combined school population of 300 students at an out of town school.*

Recommendations

3. *That no school be closed immediately as a result of the planned opening of a new school.*

²¹ Ms Dayna Dennison, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 15 July 2009, p 20

²² Ms Nicola Oliver-Smith, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 16 July 2009, p 7

²³ Ms Rachel Brown, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Port Sorell on 16 July 2009 p 1

²⁴ "Latrobe Council Report: Port Sorell Primary School Community Feedback 2009"

4. *A review be undertaken by the school communities with the support of external consultants to ensure stability for current primary students.*
5. *That consideration be given to an operational model which would allow savings in management costs by operating all schools in the area as a cluster or campus model.*
6. *That an independent task force with consultative and resolution capabilities be assigned to work with Sassafras, Moriarty and Wesley Vale school communities in developing the most appropriate educational model for those students, in collaboration with any new school at Port Sorell.*

5 - FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Committee received the following evidence with regard to the cost of building and opening a contemporary public primary school in Port Sorell, funds that may already be available, and possible savings. The evidence was taken with particular regard to the Building the Education Revolution (BER) funding announced by the Federal Government in February 2009.

- 5.1 While the projection of costs for creating a new school is “fairly dynamic, given how much information is available about the design of the school, the current status of tendering and construction firms in the marketplace”, the cost estimate for the construction of a new contemporary public primary school at Port Sorell is between \$9 million and \$12 million.²⁵
- 5.2 In constructing a public primary school in Port Sorell, one of the biggest issues is finding the appropriate funding source.
“There is obviously no current capacity within the capital investment program for this so it would need to be money that was found from a budgetary perspective.”²⁶
- 5.3 The Latrobe Council has set aside land for the express purpose of the construction of a school at Port Sorell (see 2.5). This may offset some of the total costs of construction, however the details are not finalised.
- 5.4 Building the Education Revolution funding is based on enrolments to already existing schools. The guidelines state clearly that the money can be used for capital works on a new school if already existing schools choose to amalgamate or create a federation where the funding allocated to the already existing schools is then shared and put towards the new school building. A single school not requiring all of its allocated Building the Education Revolution funding may also apply to have some of its funding redirected towards the creation of a new school. If local schools choose not to redirect any funding, amalgamate or

²⁵ Mr Andrew Finch, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Hobart on 24 July 2009, p 7

²⁶ Mr Andrew Finch, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Hobart on 24 July 2009, p 8

- participate in such a federation, the Building the Education Revolution funding is not available to a new stand-alone school being created. In the case of redirections of funds, amalgamations or the creation of a federation, the schools must submit this choice to the Commonwealth Government in writing.
- 5.5 Wesley Vale Primary School received \$2 million in BER funding, while Moriarty Primary School and Sassafras Primary School received \$850,000 and \$250,000 respectively.²⁷
- 5.6 Neither Moriarty Primary School nor Sassafras Primary School has expressed a desire to amalgamate or establish a federation with other schools in the area (see 4.4 and 4.5). The reply from Wesley Vale Primary School, while not encompassing as large a proportion of the school community, was not so hesitant (see 4.3). However, the overall consensus from meetings held with the Wesley Vale Primary and Moriarty Primary Schools was a preference not to amalgamate.²⁸
- 5.7 The bus service provided to the students of Wesley Vale Primary School living in Port Sorell consists of three buses, one travelling from Shearwater to Wesley Vale, one from Port Sorell to Wesley Vale via Squeaking Point Road, and one from Port Sorell to Wesley Vale via Shearwater. The total cost of running these services is approximately \$156,000 per annum, much of which would be saved should a public primary school be opened in the Port Sorell township.²⁹

Findings

7. That an option was presented to the Committee utilising the Building the Education Revolution (BER) funding to develop a new school at Port Sorell for the Port Sorell township (students located within a 5 km radius of Port Sorell). The option was based on an amalgamated educational model for the students in the area.

8. Another option presented was that no school be closed immediately as a result of a new school at Port Sorell, preferring for a review to take place five years after the establishment of the new Port Sorell School by the school communities and the Education Department. The reasoning behind this is to provide stability for children in upper primary years. Evidence given suggested that financing the option of keeping all schools in the area, including Port Sorell, may prove challenging.

²⁷ Mr Andrew Finch, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Hobart on 24 July 2009, p 1

²⁸ Mr Malcolm Wells, Transcript from the Public Hearing in Hobart on 26 May 2009 p 3

²⁹ Mr Bernard Carlington, "Annual Cost of the Bus Service for Primary School Students travelling from Port Sorell to Wesley Vale Primary" July 2009

Recommendations

7. *That Wesley Vale Primary School considers its immediate needs for heating and urgent capital works and that the remainder of the Building the Education Revolution funding be redirected towards the proposed Port Sorell Primary School.*
8. *That Latrobe Council consider transferring the available land parcel identified within their strategic plan to the Department of Education at no cost.*

HON KERRY FINCH MLC
CHAIRMAN

30 September 2009

Appendix 1

Submissions

Submissions received were as follows:

1. Hawk Hill (Tas): Ms Deborah Tolson, Office Manager.
2. KCB Developments: Mr Peter Cross, Managing Director.
3. Shearwater Medical Centre: Mrs A. Cable, Practice Manager.
4. Private submission: Mr Mike Rataj.
5. Private submission: Mr and Mrs David and Sharon Rush.
6. Private submission: Ms Joanne Coates.
7. Private submission: Ms Judy Hicks.
8. Shearwater Children's Centre: Ms Julie Patterson, Director.
9. Private submission: Ms Belinda Holliday.
10. Private submission: Ms D'Ayrne Sharman.
11. Neighbourhood Watch: Mr Bernard King, Area Co-ordinator.
12. Private submission: Ms Emma Glover.
13. Private submission: Ms Natasha Armistead.
14. Private submission: Mr Grant Atkins.
15. Private submission: Ms Bev Sienesi.
16. Private submission: Mr and Mrs Stephen and Cheryl Dick.
17. Private submission: Mr and Mrs John and Glennis Mawer.
18. Latrobe Council: Ms Adelle Rist, Youth Development Officer.
19. Private submission: Ms Beryl Berriman.
20. Port Sorell First Response Unit, Tasmanian Ambulance: Ms Robyn Hay, Secretary.
21. Camp Banksia Controlling Authority: Mr Geoff Taylor FAPI Dip Val, CPV, API Member 70088, Chairman.
22. Port Sorell Tennis Club: Mr Michael Blyth, Secretary.
23. Latrobe Council.
24. L.J. Hooker Shearwater: Ms Cheryl Williams, Director.
25. Port Sorell Golf Club Inc: Mr Robert J. Murfet.
26. Private submission: Ms Janet Townsend
27. Port Sorell Cricket Club Inc: Mr Grant Sharman, Vice President.
28. Private submission: Ms Stephanie Tuckett.
29. Private submission: Ms Michelle Carter.
30. Private submission: Mr John Boevink.
31. Private submission: Mr and Mrs Grant and Penny Armistead.
32. Maintenance Systems: Mr Adam Brooks, Managing Director.
33. Wesley Vale Primary School Association: Mr Adam Brooks, Chairperson.
34. Port Sorell Community School Committee: Mr Brent Armistead, Secretary.
35. Private submission: Mr and Mrs Brett and Dayna Dennison.
36. Private submission: Mr and Mrs Peter and Jan Pfundt.

37. Private submission: Mr and Mrs J. and D. Last.
38. Private submission: Mr Michal Rataj.
39. Private submission: Ms Erin Thomas.
40. Private submission: Mr David Cashion.
41. Private submission: Mrs. Helene Sankey.
42. Moriarty Primary School Association: Ms Rhonda Hall and Ms Nicola Oliver-Smith.
43. Roberts Shearwater: Ms Corinne Price, Sales Manager.
44. Private submission: Ms Nerissa Snyders.
45. Private submission: Ms Karen Baxter.
46. Private submission: Mr and Mrs Michael and Heidelinde Radcliff.
47. Xcel Fitness Shearwater: Mr Callan Metzger, Facility Manager.
48. Private submission: Mr Garth I Wells, J.P.
49. Port Sorell General Store/Takeaway: Ms Sandra Thorp, Store Manager.
50. Supa IGA, Shearwater Supermarket: Mr Michael Baxter, Director.
51. OneCare: Ms Maree Febey, Facility Manager.
52. Private submission: Mr and Mrs Quentin and Tanya Rataj.
53. Private submission: Ms Ann Charlesworth PhD.
54. Private submission: Mr Peter Hogkinson.
55. Private submission: Names withheld.
56. Port Sorell Lions Club: Mr Lou Manson, President.
57. Tempt Bakery Café: Ms Mary-Anne Foster, Proprietor.
58. Private submission: Ms Katrina Kent.
59. Salt Food & Wine: Shane Carter and Wayne Gannon.
60. Sassafras Primary School.
61. Global Retail Importers Pty. Ltd.: Mr David Baxter, Director.
62. Jenkyn Plumbing.
63. Private submission: Mr Kevin Keep PhC JP.
64. Adrian Barber Appliance Repairs: Mr Adrian Barber.
65. Port Sorell Marine: Ms Maree Weeks.
66. Karbax Pty. Ltd.: Lesley M. von Steiglitz.
67. Private submission: Ms Karen Skledar.
68. Private submission: Ms Margaret Austin.
69. Private submission: Mr and Mrs David and Sonia Littler.
70. Private submission: Ms Adele Martin.
71. Private submission: Ms Paula Weeks.
72. Private submission: Ms Amanda Smith.
73. Private submission: Ms Elisabeth Mackrell.
74. Harcourts Shearwater: Ms Amy Richardson, Client Service Manager.
75. Private submission: Ms Karen Dick.
76. Private submission: Ms Tania Bean.
77. University of Tasmania: Associate Professor Natalie Jackson, Director, Demographical Analytical Services Unit.

Appendix 2

Witnesses

Witnesses appearing before the Committee were as follows:

Tuesday 26 May 2009, Hobart

- Mr Malcolm Wells, General Manager, Learning Services (North-West) (Department of Education)

Wednesday 15 July 2009, Port Sorell

- Mr Brent Armistead, Secretary, Port Sorell Community Schools Committee
- Ms Penny Armistead, teacher, Wesley Vale Primary School
- Ms Dayna Dennison, teacher, Wesley Vale Primary School
- Ms Alanie Cripps, local resident
- Mr Steven Dick, Latrobe councillor
- Mr Jason Martin, local business owner
- Mr Graeme Hay, co-owner, LJ Hooker Shearwater
- Ms Joanne Coates, local resident
- Mr Michal Rataj, local resident
- Hon Greg Hall MLC, Member for Western Tiers
- Mr Rene Hidding MP, Member for Lyons
- Mr Grant Atkins, local resident
- Hon Michael Gaffney MLC, Member for Mersey, Latrobe Mayor
- Mr Gerald Monson, General Manager, Latrobe Council

Thursday 16 July 2009, Port Sorell

- Ms Rachel Brown, Principal, Sassafras Primary School
- Ms Maria Perotti, Secretary, Sassafras Primary School
- Ms Rhonda Hall, President, Moriarty Primary School Association
- Ms Nicola Oliver-Smith, Moriarty Primary School Association
- Mr Simon Payton, Principal, Wesley Vale Primary School
- Mr Adam Brooks, Chairperson, Wesley Vale Primary School Association
- Ms Julie Patterson, Director, Shearwater Children's Centre
- Mr Malcolm Wells, General Manager, Learning Services (North-West) (Department of Education)

Friday 24 July 2009, Hobart

- Mr Andrew Finch, Director, Finance, Facilities and Business Support, Corporate Services

Appendix 3

Documents Received

The following documents were received by the Committee and taken into evidence:

1. Latrobe Council report
2. Schools demographic data, document entitled "Building the Education Revolution – Funding (Primary Schools for the 21st Century & School Pride Funding)" provided by Mr Malcolm Wells
3. Department of Education presentation entitled "Latrobe Municipality and Public Education" provided by Mr Andrew Finch
4. Enrolment patterns and distribution of students, provided by Mr Andrew Finch
5. Annual Cost of the Bus Service for Primary School Students travelling from Port Sorell to Wesley Vale Primary, July 2009, provided by Mr Bernard Carlington