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The Hon. RACHEL MERTON: Deputy Premier, what impact are these challenges and limitations having in terms of school halls and the educational experience of students?

Ms PRUE CAR: I can give you a long list of schools where we are addressing historic issues of a lack of investment in halls. It is like any school infrastructure. Communities deserve public schools that are fit for purpose in their communities. We are hard at work delivering that.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Deputy Premier, you will recall, obviously, that at the last estimates we spoke in some detail about the issues with asbestos on school sites. That was during a period of time when there were those alarming issues underway.

Ms PRUE CAR: Indeed.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Can you confirm now exactly how much material was removed from the Liverpool West site?

Ms PRUE CAR: Look, I am going to take that on notice or I am going to ask Ms Harrington. I do not want to give the wrong information.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: That is alright. If Ms Harrington has it, I am happy for her to provide it.

Ms PRUE CAR: Ms Harrington, I am just wondering if you have got that information?

LISA HARRINGTON: Yes, I do. So 2,500 tonnes of mulch were removed.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Thank you. Do you have the date as to when the final amount of mulch was removed?

LISA HARRINGTON: I can get that for you.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: So it was 2,500 tonnes. Minister, just to confirm, are you confident that all the asbestos that was removed as part of construction works at that site was done in line with the relevant legal requirements?

Ms PRUE CAR: That was the instruction and I would expect nothing less.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: Thank you. You have made about three or four announcements over the course of the past year about having deputies, senior teachers and assistant principals back in the classroom. The first announcement was, I think, in December last year. Then there was another announcement in April and then one a couple of weeks ago as well. Have you actually implemented that policy?

Ms PRUE CAR: We undertook the Review into Executive Teaching Time. I am going to answer this because it is very important, actually. We had a situation where we inherited a chronic teacher shortage. The number of extra deputy principals, assistant principals and head teachers had exploded while we were struggling to fill classroom teacher positions. We had 10,000 merged or cancelled classes that were brought to us by yourself. What we decided to do was to consult with school communities about how we can encourage executive teachers—APs, DPs and head teachers—to spend more time in the classroom. Can I say, most teachers I have met absolutely love being in the classroom. In fact, their biggest thing to me is "Take my admin away so I can spend more time in the classroom." We have consulted with a range of stakeholders, primary principals, secondary principals and the Teachers Federation, and we will be rolling that out.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: I wanted to confirm though, Minister, that you first announced this in December last year. There was an article in *The Sydney Morning Herald* that said the review took place in September last year and that from term one this year State school executive or senior teachers would be expected to teach certain numbers of days per week. But an article earlier this month said that actually wouldn't happen until day one, term one, next year. Have you not implemented the policy you announced back in December last year at all this year, or are you doing it in a staged approach? It is just very unclear.

Ms PRUE CAR: We make no apologies for doing everything possible to deal with the chronic teacher shortage that you left us.

The Hon. SARAH MITCHELL: With respect, that's not what I've asked. Deputy Premier, I respect that you come to government with your own agenda. You announced this late last year—that it was going to happen from day one, term 1 this year. Recent media reports are now saying that, no, it's day one, term 1 next year. So which is it?

Ms PRUE CAR: We consulted with schools on how this would work.