QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

CAPITAL FUNDING
I. Are you aware that the NSW Government capped capital funding to all schools since 2012, at a time when Catholic school enrolments were increasing?

II. Catholic school enrolments in NSW are forecast to grow by 58,000 to 312,000 by 2031. Will your party increase capital funding to Catholic schools to help meet the challenge of rising enrolments?

III. (To coalition candidates) How will your party fund the construction of new schools and classrooms to meet the forecast growth of 267,000 additional enrolments in all sectors by 2031 if it fails to sell 49% of the electricity poles and wires network?

IV. (To Labor candidates) If your party wins government, how will it fund the construction of new schools and classrooms to meet the forecast growth of 267,000 additional enrolments in all sectors by 2031?

RECURRENT FUNDING
I. Will your party ensure NSW Catholic schools receive the recurrent NSW Government funding already agreed with the Commonwealth to 2019?

CHOICE
I. Does your party support the right of parents to choose a faith-based education or their children?

II. Does your party support the right of Catholic schools to provide a faith-based education through appropriate employment, enrolment and curriculum policies and practices?

PLANNING
I. All Catholic schools are not-for-profit and their capital projects are primarily funded by parents - yet they can be required to pay Section 94 infrastructure contributions to local councils (and similar charges to state-owned utilities), while government schools are exempt. How will your party ensure a more level playing field for Catholic schools in the NSW planning system?

II. (For schools in greenfield areas) Do you support Catholic schools being involved in planning new suburbs in greenfield areas so that they are able to identify and acquire suitable sites before they are rezoned to higher values uses?

III. Catholic schools authorities must deal with a plethora of councils in NSW (43 in Sydney, 11 in the Hunter) when building or expanding schools. This adds to planning complexity and confusion for dioceses. Will your party support a more equitable and streamlined approvals process for Catholic schools?