

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-135 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to supporting the rebuilding of the Queensland major events calendar, will the Minister provide an update on the Queensland Destination Events Program?

ANSWER:

Tourism is an essential industry to many of our state's rural and regional centres. Events play a key role in fostering regional tourism through attracting visitors across Queensland, generating local economic activity, promoting the destinations where they are held, and engaging local communities.

The positive economic impact and interest in a community that a successful regional event can provide not only helps to build a sense of local pride, but can also foster confidence and strengthen the community as a whole.

The Queensland Government supports regional events through the Queensland Destination Events Program (QDEP), administered by Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ). QDEP is designed to create a growth pathway for events across Queensland that play a role in attracting visitors to the region and promoting the host destination.

Since 2015, QDEP has invested more than \$12.4 million across more than 380 events held in Queensland. Thanks to the Queensland Government's commitment to provide an additional \$36 million over three years to TEQ to attract more events and position Queensland as Australia's events capital, QDEP increased from \$2 million to \$3 million per year from 2018-19 through to 2020-21 (an increase of \$3 million over three years).

In 2019-20, 98 destination events were supported by TEQ, of which, 62 were successfully staged prior to the onset of COVID-19.

The Queensland Government is committed to supporting the tourism and events industry through the incredibly difficult and ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am pleased to announce that 23 events across Queensland will share in more than \$546 000 in funding as part of QDEP Round 16.

Events awarded funding in Round 16 include:

- Dust Hustle: Qld Moto Park
- Brisbane Comedy Festival
- The Planting
- Agnes Blues, Roots & Rock Festival
- 12 Towers Ocean Paddle Race 2021
- Gold Coast Triathlon: Luke Harrop Memorial
- Gold Coast Running Festival
- BOWLZILLA Gold Coast
- St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend
- Birdsville Big Red Bash (2021 – 2023)
- Lost Trades Fair
- Kingaroy BaconFest
- Festival of Hell
- Noosa Summer Swim Festival
- Goomeri Pumpkin Festival
- Sunshine Coast Multisport Festival
- Australian Body Art Festival 2021
- Jungle Love Festival
- Isuzu Queensland Open
- Northern Australian Beach 5s Rugby Championship 2021
- Port Douglas Hot & Steamy Festival
- Yarrabah Music and Cultural Festival 2021
- Yungaburra Triathlon

Applications received for Round 17 of QDEP are currently being assessed.

Applications are also now open for Round 18 for events to be staged from September 2021 to September 2022. All event proponents are encouraged to check out the QDEP guidelines on the TEQ website (www.teq.queensland.com) and apply before the round closes on 3 February 2021.

TEQ is focused on supporting and rebuilding the *It's Live! in Queensland* events calendar.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

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No. 2

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-135 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to supporting the tourism industry's recovery, will the Minister provide an update on the Tourism Business Capability Training and Funding Program?

ANSWER:

Having a strong and resilient tourism industry has been a long-standing priority of this government and building the capability of the tourism sector is now more critical than ever to enable the industry to recover and strengthen post COVID-19.

Since 2018, the Queensland Government has funded the Tourism Industry Business Capability Development Program with \$3 million over three years.

Through this important program, the Queensland Government is supporting small to medium sized tourism operators to increase their knowledge and skills, resulting in them being more competitive, adaptive and resilient.

The program is industry-led and delivered by the Queensland Tourism Industry Council in collaboration with government, Tourism and Events Queensland, the Regional Tourism Organisations and other industry partners. The program is reviewed annually to ensure it is tailored to best suit the current needs of the operators and the regions in which they are based.

Years 1 and 2 of the Program focused on two key themes - Digital Readiness and Trade Readiness. The Program is now in Year 3 and is supporting businesses to refocus and be competitive in a primarily domestic market for 2020/21 with topics under the themes of: COVID-19 reopening and preparation; pivoting a product; business innovation; domestic trade and distribution; and domestic marketing.

As of 20 November 2020, the program has supported the delivery of 1449 activities with 2304 participants including 69 Indigenous tourism businesses, covering all 13 tourism regions of the state.

This includes holding 178 workshops, completing 755 digital health-checks, mentoring 715 operators, supporting the development of 133 new fact sheets, 110 new rate sheets, 20 new sales and marketing plans, 17 operators attending new trade show events, 11 operators participating in a trade roadshow and eight videos.

In 2020/2021, the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport, through this program, will be supporting up to 1100 tourism businesses to receive as many as four personalised one on one coaching sessions in order to 'transform' and 'build back better', as they recover from the pandemic. The Queensland Government encourages all Queensland tourism operators to register to participate in this valuable program, provided at no cost to businesses.

The Program complements the Government's broader suite of small business and innovation programs including those delivered under 'Advancing Small Business Queensland' by the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training.

An election commitment of \$4 million over four years has been made to support additional business capability training and to conduct research to future-proof the industry.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

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No. 3

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-133 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to supporting innovation hubs and precincts, will the Minister provide an update on the regional innovation hubs?

ANSWER:

Queensland has a thriving network of Innovation Hubs across the state. Innovation hubs play a vital role in the success of emerging and current industries, driving economic growth and creating high-value jobs in our regions.

The Advance Queensland initiative has provided close to \$12.4 million of funding to support the establishment of innovation hubs across Queensland.

Never before has innovation been so important in what is an increasingly digital economy. Queensland's innovation hubs are supporting regional companies to participate in and benefit from the digital economy, building strong sustainable businesses.

The \$1.2 million Regional Startup Hubs Support Program is supporting regionally based startup hubs and groups in Queensland to build their capability to deliver programs and activities to attract, inspire and build the knowledge and skills of local innovators.

Funded hubs are located across the state in areas that include Far North Queensland, Wide Bay, Darling Downs, Mackay-Whitsunday, Ipswich and Logan. Thousands of local innovators are participating in the innovation events and activities delivered through these hubs.

Advance Queensland is also backing Smart Precinct NQ located in Townsville, with \$500 000 from the Advancing Regional Innovation Program, to support high growth business in North Queensland to be globally competitive.

James Cook University (JCU) was provided \$10 million in Advance Queensland funding towards the establishment of the JCU Ideas Lab. The lab will translate JCU's teaching and research into innovation that generates jobs and economic growth for Cairns and the broader region, creating products and processes with real commercial application.

A new \$3 million Agtech and Logistics Hub in Toowoomba will build local capacity to use technology and innovation to revolutionise farming practices, improve supply chains and commercialise new technology.

The Queensland Government has also partnered with Central Queensland University to deliver an Advanced Technology and Innovation Centre in Rockhampton to create jobs in the agricultural technology, mining and manufacturing industries. The centre opened in September and provides opportunities for Central Queenslanders to expand their career options and generate new business opportunities, meaning more jobs for the region.

Innovation hubs located in Brisbane are equally focused on building capability and opportunities in all regions across Queensland. The new Immersive Technology Hub and the \$5 million Artificial Intelligence Hub will develop local talent across regions and help connect businesses, industry, government organisations, and universities across Queensland to talent and technologies.

In addition to these physical spaces, the Queensland Government has launched the QiHub. This online hub is the entrepreneur-led community that showcases and connects Queensland's vibrant innovation and startup ecosystem and is a place to discover all the state's entrepreneurs in one convenient location.

With the support of these initiatives, our regions are transforming into hubs for innovation and enterprise, supporting our local communities to develop and strengthen economies that generate new businesses and jobs growth, now and for the future.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 4

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-135 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to attracting and facilitating new tourism infrastructure investors in Queensland, will the Minister provide an update on how the Great Keppel Island rejuvenation project is progressing?

ANSWER:

A strong tourism industry on Great Keppel Island is important for tourism in the Southern Great Barrier Reef and Great Keppel Island will play a central role in post COVID-19 economic recovery in Central Queensland.

Great Keppel Island is the jewel in the crown of Central Queensland's tourism industry as highlighted by recent performance, which has seen some operators experience the best visitor numbers in recent years. However, the island still has significant untapped potential.

The Palaszczuk Government understands the tourism potential of Great Keppel Island, which is why the Government made an election commitment to provide \$30 million towards common-user infrastructure to stimulate tourism on the island.

This commitment was critical in attracting investor interest in the former Great Keppel Island Resort, with the current leaseholder, Tower Holdings, in negotiations to transfer its leases to Altum Property Group. The sale of the Great Keppel Island Resort is yet to be finalised, however, the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport (DTIS) is getting on with delivering the infrastructure that Great Keppel Island needs to attract more visitors.

Potential common-user infrastructure options under consideration include a jetty and barge ramp; solar power; visitor facilities including amenities, shade and seating; new and upgraded walking trails, a viewing platform and water treatment. DTIS is currently consulting with key stakeholders about the options they want to see prioritised to encourage tourism and business opportunities.

DTIS knows that a new common-user wastewater treatment plant is a priority for the island and necessary to support any future tourism growth, and the Government has committed to deliver this and are planning to have engineers on the island assessing site options before the end of the year.

DTIS also plans to commence other priority works as soon as possible to ensure much needed infrastructure is in place to support tourism operators and to enhance the visitor experience.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 5

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-136 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to providing support to the Queensland sport and recreation industry, will the Minister provide an update on how the Gabba naming rights is progressing?

ANSWER:

In 2018, the independently authored Stadium Taskforce undertook a review of Stadiums Queensland, the entity set up by the Queensland Government to own and operate the State's major sports facilities.

The Stadium Taskforce provided recommendations that sought to investigate and improve the commerciality of The Gabba.

Recommendation 5.3 of the Stadium Taskforce Interim Report recommended *"the naming rights for The Gabba be put out to tender, subject to retaining "Gabba" in the stadium name. This will reduce the need for taxpayer subsidy and allow investment in ageing infrastructure including turnstiles and facilities"*.

The Queensland Government supported this recommendation as part of its response to the Stadium Taskforce.

The intent of putting out to tender the naming rights for The Gabba was to generate additional revenue for the venue that could be directed back into the venue to support the main hirers, such as the Brisbane Lions, Queensland Cricket and Cricket Australia.

In response, Stadiums Queensland, supported by consultants and Government agencies including Queensland Treasury, undertook a three stage tender process to secure naming rights for The Gabba. This process concluded in early 2020 with a preferred proponent identified.

While the details of any submissions made during the tender process are commercial-in-confidence, the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed government consideration of this matter.

It should be noted that The Gabba, while being a venue that has been in operation and hosting sporting events in Brisbane for over a century, has evolved during the past two years since the Stadium Taskforce recommendations.

For example, the Queensland Government invested \$35 million in upgrading the venue, with these significant improvements completed in time for The Gabba to host the AFL Grand Final on 24 October 2020, the first time in the competition's 123 year history the Grand Final was played outside of Victoria.

Additionally, the Cross River Rail Woolloongabba Station is being built directly across the road from the venue and this will have a once in a lifetime positive impact on The Gabba with the venue's accessibility increasing dramatically.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 6

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-136 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to growing elite success and athlete pathways, will the Minister provide an update on the World Surfing Reserves?

ANSWER:

World Surfing Reserves are globally significant surfing sites, or those with an outstanding series of surf breaks, awarded by Saves the Waves Coalition, a non-government organisation. Of the 10 declared and two currently nominated World Surfing Reserves, Queensland is home to two, Noosa and the Gold Coast.

In 2015, the Palaszczuk Government made an Election Commitment to secure the declaration of a World Surfing Reserve at Gold Coast's southern beaches and surf breaks from Burleigh Heads to Snapper Rocks. This commitment was achieved in March 2016 when Save the Waves Coalition declared the southern Gold Coast as the world's eighth World Surfing Reserve.

Existing regulatory frameworks across all levels of government largely protect World Surfing Reserves in Queensland. The Noosa and Gold Coast local governments already do a fantastic job in protecting their surfing amenity for communities and visitors to enjoy.

To address concerns that there may still be gaps in protection for Queensland's iconic surfing reserves, the Government made a further commitment in March 2020 to work with community to consider legislation, alongside other options, to fully protect the Noosa and Gold Coast World Surfing Reserves. This includes looking at the enhanced assessment of development to better consider impacts on the waves.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to working with local governments and other key stakeholders to safeguard these natural assets as part of the Activate! Queensland 2019-2029 Strategy and Our Activ8 2019-2022 Action Plan.

Activate! Queensland and its first three-year action plan target government investment to drive delivery of sport and active recreation opportunities for all Queenslanders to promote healthier, more active lifestyles. This includes the delivery of quality and accessible places and spaces that improve and support liveability and physical activity in our communities.

Protecting World Surfing Reserves supports the delivery of Activate! Queensland's commitment to growing elite success and athlete pathways by ensuring the diversity of quality waves that will underpin the success of Queensland's current and future high-performance surfers are protected now and into the future. It also supports the continuation of high quality competitors from amateur to professional surfing competitions already held at both World Surfing Reserves.

Ensuring Queensland's World Surfing Reserves at the Gold Coast and Noosa are fully protected into the future will provide coastal communities and visitors with ongoing exceptional opportunities to be active outdoors, improving their physical and mental health and wellbeing, while also supporting community liveability in those areas in a sustainable way.

Since the first Roundtable meeting on 4 March 2020, the Department has been working with the diverse membership of the Ministerial Surfing Roundtable (including from the Queensland Government, local councils, surfing organisations, First Nations peoples and World Surfing Reserve local stewardship committees) to look at improving protections for Queensland's World Surfing Reserves.

At its second meeting in August 2020, the Roundtable agreed to finalise a discussion paper seeking stakeholder views on the values of and potential threats to our World Surfing Reserves. A public consultation process opened on 2 October 2020 and closed on 30 November 2020. Consultation results are now being analysed and will be communicated to Roundtable members and the broader community in early 2021.

The Palaszczuk Government will continue to work in partnership with key stakeholders to develop enhanced protections for World Surfing Reserves including through legislative and non-legislative approaches.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 7

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-136 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to enhancing equity and inclusion in sport, will the Minister provide an update on the female facilities program?

ANSWER:

In October 2017, the Palaszczuk Government released the Female Facilities Program with the aim of developing functional and inclusive female change rooms and amenities that meet the current and future needs of sport and recreation participants.

In February 2018, 45 projects were approved for funding of \$15.2 million toward a total project cost of \$17.9 million.

40 of these projects have now been completed with five projects still active and expected to be completed by mid-2021.

As part of the *Activate! Queensland 2019-2029* strategy, the Government will target investment that ensures universally designed infrastructure that promotes equitable access to participation opportunities for all, including women and girls, Queenslanders who identify as LGBTIQ+, seniors and people with a disability.

Universal design ensures buildings and environments are innately accessible and inclusive to as many people as possible, regardless of age, gender, level of ability or cultural background.

In 2019, under the Active Community Infrastructure Program, an initiative under the *Activate! Queensland 2019-29* strategy, 26 female-friendly facilities have been funded to date, totalling \$11.9 million.

Five of these projects funded under the Active Community Infrastructure Program have been completed, with 21 projects in various stages of construction and pre-construction.

The Palaszczuk Government is continuing to deliver both dedicated female amenities and universally designed facilities that help to support and encourage more women and girls to get involved in sport and active recreation.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 8

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-133 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to continuing to support a strong pipeline of start-ups and scaleups, will the Minister provide an update on COVID-19 response support for innovators?

ANSWER:

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant economic impacts, including on startups and innovators. When COVID-19 first hit Queensland, the Palaszczuk Government took immediate action to support start-ups and scaleups, including advocacy to close the gaps for pre-revenue startups and innovators in Australian Government business support packages.

Daily digital support sessions were implemented to provide resources, tools, advice, expertise and forums for startups and innovators to learn, upskill and connect with one another. A nine-month rent reprieve was also provided to assist tenants at The Precinct in Fortitude Valley.

Some startups and scaleups were hit hard during the pandemic, while others saw growth. Recognising this, the Government partnered with BDO Australia to deliver virtual business and financial education programs for those growing their business, extending their revenue runways, pressing pause on their business, or deciding to move on.

‘Open for Business’, an Indigenous business to business support service and hotline was established. The service supports Indigenous businesses and innovators to navigate the wealth of information available on COVID-19 and the resources available to help Queensland businesses during the pandemic, and to do so in a culturally trusted way.

Registrations were also opened for “One Business”, a program delivered in collaboration with TAFE Queensland to provide culturally appropriate training and coaching for Indigenous businesses, innovators and entrepreneurs across all sectors and around the state to pivot to digital solutions and consolidate their business skills.

Advance Queensland programs were realigned, such as the Industry Research Fellowships, to focus on projects that address the COVID-19 pandemic and economic recovery, or preparedness for possible future events of similar scale. Through the Industry Research Fellowships, \$6.145 million was committed to back more than 30 Queensland research projects aimed at combatting the pandemic.

Round 7 of the Ignite Ideas Fund was launched to support the growth of Queensland small to medium sized businesses, with up to \$200 000 towards commercialisation of innovative products, processes, and services.

Queensland Founders are doing it tough. That is why the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport is providing support with access to mental health services through the Mental Health for Founders program. The program supports startups with access to mental health services, with close to 300 hours of free mental health consultations have been made available for Queensland founders through this program.

The Palaszczuk Government provided entrepreneurs in regional Queensland with free access to Startup Onramp's online Founders Course, helping innovators with a roadmap for their startup journey, featuring insights from some of Australia's leading startup experts.

This crisis has highlighted the importance of the Queensland innovation ecosystem, and the strength of the entrepreneurial spirit. Many Queensland startups and innovative businesses have pivoted to develop innovative solutions and technologies that respond and adapt to the issues posed by the pandemic. The Palaszczuk Government will continue to support Queensland innovators in the building of a strong, sustainable, adaptive economy that will create jobs now, and for the future.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 9

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-133 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to ensuring that all Queenslanders benefit from the emerging knowledge-based economy, will the Minister provide an update on the Palaszczuk Government's regional innovation strategy?

ANSWER:

Our regions are rich with innovation potential, and regional Queenslanders are natural innovators. Building new, diverse economies in our regions is integral for our state's economic recovery from COVID-19 and remains a major priority for this Government.

To date, the Palaszczuk Government has committed more than \$163 million in Advance Queensland funding to more than 4300 regional innovators. Over 11 000 jobs have been supported through their projects.

Through the \$6 million Advancing Regional Innovation Program that commenced in 2017, our regions are driving new economies and new jobs. The program is enabling local entrepreneurs, business leaders and key industries to harness innovation, strengthening existing industries and preparing regional Queenslanders for the jobs of today and the jobs of tomorrow.

The Palaszczuk Government continues to be focused on turning Queensland's regions into hubs of innovation. For instance, initiatives such as the Agtech and Logistics Hub in Toowoomba will help grow the adoption of innovation and technology in the agriculture industry, through facilitated connections, collaboration, partnerships, and opportunities to solve industry's biggest challenges.

The new \$2.8 million Advanced Technology and Innovation Centre at Central Queensland University in Rockhampton opened in September this year, providing opportunities for Central Queenslanders to expand their career options and generate new business opportunities, creating more jobs for the region.

The new facility provides opportunities for the community, local businesses, farmers, and students to use the space and equipment to access training and advice, make connections with others and catalyse innovations into commercial success.

Regional innovative businesses are driving local job growth. For example, BCF Concreting Solutions is an Indigenous Rockhampton business that is nationally recognised for innovation within the agricultural and concrete construction sector. Their development of GPS solutions, supported through Advance Queensland Deadly Deals funding, has already helped them secure \$150 000 in new work contracts and expand their workforce with local Indigenous employment, supporting three new jobs, and they are confident of future business growth.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to building on the great investment that has been made to date to help regional economies grow through innovation and support the creation of jobs for today and jobs for tomorrow across Queensland.

That is why the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport is working with our regional partners and developing a new Regional Innovation Strategy to guide the next phase of building innovation in the regions.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 10

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 2-135 of Volume 2 of the Service Delivery Statements, and the reference to supporting the rebuilding of the Queensland major events calendar, will the Minister provide an update on COVID safe events?

ANSWER:

Queensland's tourism and events industry has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, making 2020 a year the industry will never forget.

Due to the restrictions on mass gatherings in the early stages of the Government's COVID-19 response to keep Queenslanders safe, events across the country were cancelled, postponed or adapted and delivered virtually.

Queensland's strong response to controlling the spread of COVID-19 meant that events were allowed to go ahead from 3 July 2020, under the Industry Framework for COVID Safe Events. The Framework, operating in conjunction with other approved COVID Safe Industry Plans and COVID Safe Professional Sporting Code Plans, provides a pathway for events in Queensland to be planned and delivered in a COVID-safe manner.

Queensland has played a critical role in enabling numerous Australian sporting codes to stage their competitions in 2020, including the 2020 Toyota AFL Premiership, the Suncorp Super Netball Series, the CommBank T20 and One Day International women's cricket series and the Women's National Basketball League season currently being played in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay.

Since June 2020, the Tourism Response Team (TRT), comprising of representatives from the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport and Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ), has assisted over 250 event organisers with COVID-19 event related enquiries.

As Queensland's leading marketing, destination and experience development and major events agency, TEQ continues to work collaboratively with government, industry and Queensland destination partners to identify, attract, develop and promote major events in Queensland that deliver significant tourism outcomes for the regions in which they are held.

In addition to the restart of sport such as the NRL, AFL and Super Netball in Queensland, TEQ's portfolio of events restarted from August 2020 with the staging of the Jeff Horn v Tim Tszyu boxing event in Townsville, the Townsville Supercars Double Header, Brisbane Festival and the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers.

In September 2020, TEQ launched a new events calendar featuring events across Queensland scheduled to take place from September to December 2020 in a COVID Safe manner.

The successful staging of these and other events across Queensland has enabled restrictions to ease further. Events held in stadiums are now able to have 100 per cent capacity. Seated and ticketed indoor events are also able to have 100 percent capacity, which is a significant boost to many events and nearby businesses. The TRT continues to work closely with Queensland Health to facilitate the staging of COVID-safe events in an efficient manner.

The Queensland Government will continue to market the events calendar to drive visitors to experience Queensland's COVID Safe events and boost the Queensland economy.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 11

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, can the Minister advise the allocated funding for events in 2019/20, the actual funding provided for events in 2019/20 and the budget for events in 2020/21 (reported separately by event and year)?

ANSWER:

The Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport (DTIS) has wholly or partly funded events as follows:

2019-20 Budget	2019-20 Actuals	2020-21 Budget
\$5,512,457	\$4,870,077	\$24,859,543

As individual contracts are commercial-in-confidence, the budget for each event cannot be disclosed as this may result in a breach of contract between the Queensland Government and the event organiser.

Multi-year contracts are in place for some events, with the payments occurring over multiple years. As a result, payments for one event may be made over two or three financial years and cannot be attributed to the financial year in which the event was held.

For some events, funding contributions are made from multiple agency's portfolios. The events captured in the above table include:

- ICC T20 World Cup
- 2020 Toyota AFL Premiership Hub
- 2020 Toyota AFL Grand Final and Pinnacle Events
- 2020 Suncorp Super Netball Series
- 2020 Telstra NRL Premiership
- Queensland Country Bank Stadium – Event Attraction
- Queensland Country Bank Stadium – English Premier League Pre-Season Friendly
- North Queensland Events Package
- FIFA Women's World Cup 2023
- NRL Magic Round (2019, 2020, 2021)
- TV Week Logies (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)
- Cairns Temporary Arena – Event Attraction
- Sugar Sugar Musical
- Women of the World Festival (2020, 2021).

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 12

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, can the Minister advise the budgeted and actual funding in 2019/20 (reported separately) for a) Growing Tourism, Growing Tourism Jobs Programs (itemised by program) b) the Great Keppel Island Rejuvenation Pilot, and c) the Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) Economic Transition Strategy?

ANSWER:

The budgeted and actual amounts for the programs identified are outlined in the table below:

Program	2019-20 Original Budget (\$'000)	2019-20 Actual (\$'000)
Growing Tourism, Growing Tourism Jobs		
<i>Attracting Tourism Fund</i>	20,900	20,619
<i>Growing Tourism Infrastructure Fund</i>	21,503	19,630
<i>Outback Tourism Infrastructure Fund</i>	3,627	4,326
<i>Great Barrier Reef Island Resort Rejuvenation</i>	24,407	18,558
<i>Great Keppel Island Rejuvenation Pilot</i>	17,745	781
Minjerribah Futures	4,839	6,315

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 13

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 143 of the SDS, for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years (broken down by individual year) the (a) budget tourism marketing expenditure and (b) actual tourism marketing expenditure to date?

ANSWER:

Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ) is the Queensland Government's lead marketing, destination and experience development and major events agency.

Marketing expenditure for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years is:

	2019-20		2020-21	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual*
Tourism Marketing	\$44,967,092	\$36,777,089	\$33,609,585	\$9,278,010

*2020-21 represents expenditure to date as at 30 November 2020 and has not been audited

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

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No. 14

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, will the Minister advise the total annual expenditure relating to conferences, workshops, catering and other hospitality expenses by departments and agencies under the administration of the Minister for 2019-20 and the budgeted amount of 2020-21?

ANSWER:

	2019-20 Actual financial year		2020-21 budgeted financial year	
	Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport	Tourism and Events Queensland	Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport	Tourism and Events Queensland
Expenditure on conferences workshops catering and other hospitality expenses	\$85,311	\$1,141,541	\$47,620	\$345,000

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 15

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, will the Minister outline the number of fraud and/or misconduct investigations currently being undertaken either by the department or the Crime and Corruption Commission, regarding the department or Tourism and Events Queensland employees with specific reference to the overall types of complaints and the number of staff currently on suspension as a result of these investigations?

ANSWER:

It is not appropriate to comment on investigations currently being undertaken by either the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport, Tourism and Events Queensland or the Crime and Corruption Commission.

The Public Service Commission meets its legislative requirement under section 88N of the *Public Service Act 2008* to publish annual conduct and performance data by 30 September each year.

A link to this report is below:

<https://www.forgov.qld.gov.au/2019-20-conduct-and-performance-data>

The Public Service Commission data does not include matters involving corrupt conduct.

Corrupt conduct matters fall under the jurisdiction of the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) and a corruption allegations data dashboard is published at [Corruption allegations data dashboard | CCC - Crime and Corruption Commission Queensland](#)

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 16

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, will the Minister advise for the 2019-20 actual financial year and 2020-21 budgeted financial year (in table format by individual financial year) (a) the headcount number of contractors and labour hire staff in the department and Tourism and Events Queensland, (b) all expenses associated with contractors and labour hire staff in the department and Tourism and Events Queensland and (c) headcount number of staff seconded to the department and Tourism and Events Queensland from any other State Government entity?

ANSWER:

	2019-20 Actual financial year		2020-21 budgeted financial year	
	Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport	Tourism and Events Queensland	Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport	Tourism and Events Queensland
Contractors and labour hire staff headcount	79	11	87	Nil
Contractors and labour hire expenses	\$18,171,422	\$1,516,458	\$14,947,647	Nil
Headcount of number of staff seconded into the agency from any other State Government entity	32	Nil	18	Nil

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 17

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of all overseas related travel departmental expenses (in table format, per financial year and per country) for 2018-19 and 2019-20?

ANSWER:

Departmental expenditure for overseas trips taken in 2018-19 and 2019-20 for the functions that now fall under the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport are listed in the tables below.

2018-2019	
Country	Agency Cost \$
USA	84,912.01
United Kingdom	10,016.39
Philippines	11,818.76
Singapore	1,608.00
New Zealand	9,637.21
Tokyo	7,884.00
Hong Kong	958.06
Canada	2,018.77
TOTAL	\$128,853.20

2019-2020	
Country	Agency Cost \$
USA	13,077.25
United Kingdom	6,097.76
Singapore	3,324.28
New Zealand	2,015.38
Hong Kong	1,961.93
Canada	759.39
TOTAL	\$27,236.00

As part of Annual report requirements for Queensland Government agencies, published by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, agencies must disclose information in relation to overseas travel expenditure.

A detailed comprehensive listing can be found in the [Queensland Government Open Data Portal](#) under the former Department of State Development, Tourism and Innovation and Department of Housing and Public Works.

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 18

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, can the Minister advise the amount of allocated funding to Advance Queensland programs in 2019/20, the amount of funding budgeted to Advance Queensland programs in 2019/20, the amount of funding budgeted to Advance Queensland programs in 2020/21 and the number of Advance Queensland programs that have ended or been discontinued (reported separately by year and individual program)?

ANSWER:

Advance Queensland is the Queensland Government's vision for the future and a significant investment in a stronger, diversified Queensland economy. Advance Queensland creates employment, generates new economic opportunities and is continuing to develop the knowledge-based jobs of today and tomorrow.

In 2019-2020, \$26.5 million for Advance Queensland programs was fully allocated.

The amount of funding budgeted to Advance Queensland programs in 2019-20 was \$26.5 million.

The amount of funding budgeted to Advance Queensland programs in 2020-21 is \$11.5 million.

The number of Advance Queensland programs that have ended or been discontinued is 15.

Year	Number of Programs ended or discontinued
2016	1
2017	4
2018	4
2019	3
2020	3

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 19

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 132 of the SDS, will the Minister disclose the total value of hospitality, event and travel expenses relating to all programs associated with Advance Queensland for 2019/20 broken down by (a) costs associated with the Queensland Chief Entrepreneur, (b) costs associated with the Office of the Queensland Chief Entrepreneur and (c) all other costs?

ANSWER:

The Office of the Queensland Chief Entrepreneur builds and promotes the importance and contribution of entrepreneurship and investment in Queensland.

A key activity of the Queensland Chief Entrepreneur is hosting educational and business events and undertaking regional engagements that bring together Queensland startups, entrepreneurs, investors, incubator and accelerator members, and mentors from across Queensland.

Throughout the 2019-20 financial year, the Office of the Queensland Chief Entrepreneur hosted 18 face-to-face events and 36 virtual events with approximately 1000 in-person attendees, and over 12 000 virtual attendees.

In 2019-20, the Queensland Chief Entrepreneur visited 30 cities and towns and met with 4488 people.

	Hospitality \$	Travel \$	Events \$
Queensland Chief Entrepreneur	0	10,828	0
Office of the Queensland Chief Entrepreneur	14,206	18,742	12,113
All other costs	7,612	86,924	21,855
Total	21,818	116,494	33,968

ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

2020 ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 20

THE ECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to page 137 of the SDS, will the Minister provide a breakdown of funding for Queensland Active Precincts by individual government venue for (a) the 2019/20 actual capital spend and (b) the \$26.668 million 2020-21 budgeted spend?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Active Precincts Capital Works Program is a three year, \$40 million investment to transition the Gold Coast Recreation Centre, Sunshine Coast Recreation Centre and Townsville Sports and Recreation Precincts into flexible, community focused facilities that encourage and inspire increased participation in sport and recreation programs and activities.

The Queensland Active Precincts will serve as exemplar facilities to be emulated by local authorities and the sport and recreation industry.

The below table outlines a breakdown of funding for Queensland Active Precincts by individual venue, the 2019/2020 actual spend and the 2020/2021 budgeted spend.

Of the \$26.668 million referenced on page 2-137 of the SDS, \$21.8 million is capital works expenditure for the Queensland Active Precincts. The remaining funding is in relation to the \$4.5 million for the Wangetti Trail and the \$355,000 for the Queensland Recreation Centre.

Venue	Project	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Budget
Gold Coast Recreation Centre	Accommodation Stage 2 Upgrade	\$818102	
	Aerial Adventure Park	\$938 571	
	Frontage Improvement and Fence Realignment	\$442 128	
	Multipurpose Court Precinct	\$222 456	\$6 000 000

Sunshine Coast Recreation Centre	Aerial Adventure Park	\$857 258	
	Shelly's Accommodation Redevelopment	\$4 957 396	
	Pool Filtration and change room upgrade	\$12 052	
	Multi-purpose Court Precinct	\$76 407	\$4 545 509
Townsville Sports and Recreation Precinct	Frontage and Fencing Upgrade	\$179 904	
	Multi-purpose Court Precinct	\$126 551	\$11 254 491
Magnetic Island Recreation Camp	New Amenities Block	\$99 175	
Total:		\$8730 000	\$21 800 000

*note 2020-2021 budget as per the SDS is for the 7 month period