

Question on Notice

No. 888

Asked on Friday, 15 June 2018

MR N DAMETTO ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Minister's recent advice that local governments have their own powers to disperse flying foxes, yet only two out of 87 colonies have been successfully dispersed using these powers—

Will the Minister commit to working with the Katter Australia Party to fund research to develop new, more effective methods to disperse flying foxes?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

The Queensland Government has already taken action to address this issue. In 2016, the Department of Environment and Science commenced the \$2.7 million Reduce Flying Fox Conflict Program 2016-2020.

This includes a three-year scientific research program being conducted in collaboration with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), and other partners such as local governments, into flying-fox movements and behaviour. This research is gathering scientifically sound information to enhance our understanding of the factors influencing little red flying-fox behaviour as they move throughout the landscape.

Part of the CSIRO's work also involves consultation with local governments to determine the effectiveness of various flying-fox roost management measures over past decades. This information will then be used to inform improved approaches to the management of flying-fox roosts in urban areas, for use by local governments across Queensland.