

Question on Notice

No. 1578

Asked on Wednesday, 16 October 2019

DR C ROWAN 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 Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts refurbishment—

Will the Minister advise (a) a final date when the refurbishment will be finalised, (b) how much money has been expended to date and (c) how much total money has been forecast to be spent?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

The refurbishment of the Centre of Contemporary Arts Cairns is a key Palaszczuk Government initiative to support arts and culture in far north Queensland, with a focus on supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performing arts.

This job creating infrastructure investment is in addition to our \$15 million contribution to the recently opened Cairns Performing Arts Centre.

I am advised that in early December 2019, work will begin to prepare for the existing arts and cultural tenants to move back into the building, with the formal handover from the building contractor scheduled for late December 2019.

I am advised that as at 20 October 2019, Department of Environment and Science (DES) project expenditure was approximately \$3.3 million (excluding GST), with the remaining DES forecast project expenditure anticipated to be \$2.6 million (excluding GST).

I am further advised that the owner of the building, the Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW), is using the closure as an opportunity to conduct a range of building maintenance activities including upgrades to existing electrical services and air conditioning systems, with an estimated cost by DHPW of approximately \$1.2 million (excluding GST).