

Question on Notice

No. 289

Asked on 28 February 2019

MR S ANDREW ASKED MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how Coles and Woolworths ' \$1 Milk ' campaigns has been financially beneficial to the dairy farmers in the electorate of Mirani?

ANSWER:

I thank the member for the question.

The pricing decisions of participants in the dairy supply chain are commercial matters. Questions in respect to the impacts of pricing promotions on dairy farmers should be directed to the supermarkets who made these decisions.

In 2017, the Palaszczuk Government announced a funding package of \$960 000 to support the Queensland dairy industry. This funding was for the development of an industry-operated marketing scheme for the Queensland dairy industry, capacity building for dairy farmers and small dairy processors and improved data collection on dairy farm performance.

As part of the package, \$550 000 over three years is being provided to the Queensland Dairyfarmers' Organisation (QDO) to develop and implement an industry-operated marketing scheme. This funding commenced in 2017-18. To date QDO has received funding of \$300 000.

The Department of Employment, Small Business and Training has been provided with \$290 000 over two years to assist small milk processors and dairy farmers to diversify their product range, and better develop their markets with improved branding and marketing. In 2017-18, activities undertaken included the development of tailored mentoring support services and workshops, and an expansion of the Go Local campaign. These activities are continuing and will be completed in 2018-19.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) has been provided with \$120 000 in funding over two years, to encourage increased farmer participation in the Queensland Dairy Accounting Scheme. The additional information collected will enhance the analysis, undertaken by DAF, of the financial performance of participating farms.