

Question on Notice
No. 339
Asked on 26 March 2019

MR D CRISAFULLI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR INNOVATION AND TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER FOR THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES (HON K JONES) —

QUESTION:

With reference to funding allocated by Tourism and Events Queensland in the last three financial years and this year to date

Will the Minister advise (reported separately by year and in the same format as for Question on Notice No. 2168 of 2010) (a) for each regional tourist organisation the total amount of (i) funding allocated and (ii) convention and incentive funding allocated (reported separately by (i) and (ii) and by organisation) and (b) for each international region the total amount of (i) marketing funding allocated and (ii) special initiative funding grants (reported separately by (i) and (ii) and by international region)?

ANSWER:

(a) (i)

The Palaszczuk government is committed to supporting Queensland's tourism growth.

That is why we listened to the tourism industry and delivered our election commitment to put in place our four-year funding guarantee for state-based tourism funding.

As the Member would be aware, our funding guarantee stands in stark contrast to the Newman Government that did not provide ongoing funding to support Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ) or our Regional Tourism Organisations (RTOs) and instead had an \$188 million shortfall in its last state budget.

This created significant funding uncertainty for the entire tourism industry particularly in our regions.

Please see below base funding provided to each RTO through the partnership arrangements with TEQ:

(a) (i) **Base funding**

RTO	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 Budget
Brisbane	\$715,115	\$749,000	\$749,000	\$749,000
Bundaberg	\$395,000	\$393,000	\$393,000	\$393,000
Capricorn	\$300,000	\$393,000	\$393,000	\$393,000
Fraser Coast	\$440,000	\$393,000	\$393,000	\$393,000
Gladstone	\$330,000	\$393,000	\$393,000	\$393,000
Gold Coast	\$1,100,000	\$904,000	\$904,000	\$904,000

RTO	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 Budget
Mackay	\$300,000	\$362,000	\$362,000	\$362,000
Outback Queensland	\$542,933	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$485,000
Southern Queensland Country	\$551,236	\$475,000	\$475,000	\$475,000
Sunshine Coast	\$390,000	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000
Townsville	\$489,175	\$485,000	\$485,000	\$485,000
Tropical North Queensland	\$847,250	\$904,000	\$904,000	\$904,000
Whitsundays	\$366,000	\$532,000	\$532,000	\$532,000
Other payments*	\$1,124,583	\$1,091,289	\$2,138,140	\$2,349,882
Total	\$7,891,292	\$8,091,289	\$9,138,140	\$9,349,882

*TEQ provides other payments to RTOs for specific purposes such as disaster relief funding and to support other tourism initiatives.

(a) (ii) **Convention and incentive funding**

As the Member would be aware, one of the most effective ways a government can support tourism is to attract new major events and business events to Queensland. I'm proud that since the government was re-elected we have more than doubled the value of our events calendar in Queensland, increasing the value from just over \$300 million in 2014 to more than \$800 million this year.

We will continue to increase our investment in business event attraction. In fact, it was only the Palaszczuk Labor Government that committed at the last state election to increase the Acquisition and Leveraging fund from \$1.5 million to \$3 million.

We provide funding for RTOs through multiple funding sources to secure business events. In 2017 a review was undertaken with the support of RTOs, to move to a more streamlined and upfront funding model for events funding. The new model provides new annual allocated base funding and enables RTOs to secure additional funding event bids and for international business events. (Please see details below.)

RTO	2017-18	2018-19 Budget
Brisbane	\$600,000	\$600,000
Gold Coast	\$600,000	\$600,000
Sunshine Coast	\$100,000	\$100,000
Townsville	\$100,000	\$100,000
Tropical North Queensland	\$400,000	\$400,000
Whitsundays	\$100,000	N/A

RTO	2017-18	2018-19 Budget
Acquisition and Leveraging Fund**	\$773,634	\$280,000
Total	\$2,673,634	\$2,080,000

As the Member would also be aware, given TEQ works to leverage as much additional funding as possible through third parties and partners, some details for funding arrangement are commercial in confidence. If the Member requires any further additional information, I would be more than happy to arrange a briefing with the Chief Executive Officer of TEQ.

**TEQ delivers the Acquisition and Leveraging Fund to support the business events industry to bid successfully to secure high value international events to Queensland. An aggregated figure has been provided as payments made to RTOs are commercially sensitive. This figure does not include funding provided to other eligible organisations.