

Question on Notice

No. 491

Asked on 2 April 2019

MR B O'ROURKE ASKED MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND FISHERIES (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the total funding for the Palaszczuk Government's Growing Queensland's Food Exports program and how many producers will receive assistance through this program?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government allocated \$1.3 million over two years to the Growing Queensland's Food Exports pilot program. The program focuses on food value chains with strong market opportunities that will benefit from improved export performance through market development support, supply chain facilitation, post-harvest quality, and/or market research.

The grant money was allocated to 15 businesses over two rounds. Round One opened on 7 September 2017 and received 36 preliminary concept proposals. Six projects were funded out of this round and commenced in early 2018. Round Two opened on 1 July 2018 and received 17 preliminary concept proposals. Nine projects were funded out of this round and commenced at the end of 2018. Each of the recipients received matched funding of between \$50 000 to \$100 000 to conduct their projects over a two year period. All grant money has now been fully allocated.

While 15 applicant businesses were funded, a further eight Queensland food businesses are direct collaborators in these projects. All projects will further enhance their respective industry exports by improving market access opportunities and delivering key outcomes and learnings as a result of their export development activities.