

**Question on Notice
No. 184
Asked on 18 February 2020**

MR N DAMETTO ASKED MINISTER FOR INNOVATION AND TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER FOR CROSS RIVER RAIL (HON K JONES)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the State Government calling on the tourism industry in 2018 for expressions of interest (EOI) in developing eco-accommodation and a tourism product along the Hinchinbrook Island, Thorsborne Trail—

Will the Minister provide an update on the EOI process and public consultation and explain why this process has taken longer than first anticipated?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is investing in national parks and supporting opportunities for nature-based tourism like the Thorsborne Trail in Hinchinbrook Island National Park.

This is part of our plan to grow tourism and grow tourism jobs.

Consultation is underway with the North Queensland Land Council and the Cardwell-based Giringun Aboriginal Corporation, representing the Traditional Owners of Hinchinbrook Island, on the potential for ecotourism experiences in the region.

A series of workshops with the Traditional Owners has been completed to identify their aspirations for promoting cultural heritage and connection to country, as well as lasting employment and business opportunities.