

Question on Notice
No. 642
Asked on 25 May 2021

MR D CRISAFULLI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION AND MINISTER FOR SPORT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the \$4.9m line item in the Budget 2020-21 Capital Statement titled Great Keppel Island recovery package—

Will the Minister provide (a) a list of the work undertaken as part of this allocation, (b) total project spend to date and (c) initial estimated cost of the project at project inception?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government remains committed to growing tourism and creating jobs on Great Keppel Island and throughout the Great Barrier Reef. This Government understands the unique challenges faced by island resorts and the importance of a strong tourism industry on Great Keppel Island to the future of Central Queensland's economy. That is why the Palaszczuk Government has committed \$30 million for common-user infrastructure to stimulate tourism and improve the visitor experience on the Island.

Key activities undertaken in 2020-21, include:

- preliminary design and feasibility investigations
- site investigations for a number of infrastructure options
- consultation with a broad range of stakeholders on infrastructure to enhance the visitor experience and encourage tourism and business opportunities, including Minister Hinchliffe undertaking consultation on Great Keppel Island with all stakeholders on 23 June 2021.

Total project spend to date is \$4.01 million. The need for greater certainty on private sector plans for redevelopment of the Great Keppel Island Resort leases had delayed further expenditure on the Island.

The Department of Innovation and Tourism Industry Development initially investigated power, water and data connections to the Island following consultation with the Livingstone Shire Council and other local stakeholders that identified this as the preferred option to support tourism on Great Keppel Island. Project costings as part of a draft Detailed Business Case determined that this could not be delivered without additional investment.