Question on Notice No. 490 Asked on 24 May 2022

MR D CRISAFULLI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM, INNOVATION AND SPORT AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER ON OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS SPORT AND ENGAGEMENT (HON S HINCHLIFFE) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the Work in Paradise program announced on 14 July 2021 for tourism and hospitality workers—

Will the Minister advise (a) the number of applications received, (b) the number of applications approved, (c) the locations where the successful applicants have moved from, (d) the locations where the successful applicants moved to, (e) the total amount of cash incentives paid to successful applicants and (f) the date that government stopped accepting applications for cash incentive payments?

ANSWER:

The Work in Paradise (WIP) incentive scheme attracted 5195 applicants.

As at 3 June 2022, a total of 3551 applicants had been approved under the WIP incentive scheme.

Of these approved applicants, 50.5 percent were from within Queensland and 49.5 percent relocated from locations outside Queensland including New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory and New Zealand.

The Whitsundays was the most popular destination where approved applicants secured work, followed by Cairns and Douglas Shire. Other local government areas where approved applicants worked include Balonne, Banana, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall Tambo, Burdekin, Burke, Carpentaria, Cassowary Coast, Charters Towers, Cloncurry, Cook, Croydon, Diamantina, Etheridge, Flinders, Goondiwindi, Hinchinbrook, Isaac, Longreach, Mackay, Maranoa, Mareeba, McKinlay, Mount Isa, Northern Peninsula Area, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire, South Burnett, Southern Downs, Tablelands, Torres, Townsville, Weipa, Western Downs and Winton.

As at 3 June 2022, a total of \$4 million has been paid to applicants. The remaining funding is fully committed to ongoing program delivery, including the second and third instalment payments for eligible applicants.

On 31 March 2022, the WIP incentive scheme closed to new applicants as it was fully subscribed.