

## Question on Notice

No. 216

Asked on 16 March 2023

**MR R STEVENS** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

### QUESTION:

With reference to the media release dated 9 February 2022 titled 'FNQ gets \$5.3m beacons upgrade' and media release dated 5 September 2022 titled 'Beacons of safety for Torres Strait Islands'—

Will the Minister advise (reported separately for each media release) the precise location for each of the beacons together with the actual or planned installation completion dates?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mermaid Beach for the question.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads—through Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ)—completed the \$5.3 million Far North Queensland Beacon Replacement Program of works in January 2023.

- A total of 18 beacons were replaced in Weipa, which consisted of 14 beacons in Weipa Harbour (Cora Banks) and four beacons in the entrance channel to Weipa (Weipa South Channel).
- A total of 12 beacons were replaced in Cairns, which were all in the entrance channel to Cairns.
- Construction of the Weipa beacons was completed in June 2022, while the Cairns structures were completed in January 2023.

In September 2022, I announced a \$3.9 million investment to upgrade the marine aids to navigation in the Torres Strait.

- The project is currently going through the concept phase, which involves site investigations and consultation with key stakeholders and traditional owners to determine the exact scope of works required.
- While the scope of project works is yet to be finalised, it is envisaged that the majority of the aids to navigation servicing all the island communities and those around Seisia on the northern Cape York Peninsula will be upgraded.
- The project is scheduled to commence this year, with the project finishing next year.