

Question on Notice

No. 951

Asked on Wednesday, 23 August 2023

MR S ANDREW ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS (HON L LINARD)—

QUESTION:

With reference to Queensland's Environmental Offsets program—

Will the Minister advise (a) what percentage of Environmental Offsets were delivered by way of a 'Conservation payment' between 2017 and 2023 and (b) what was the combined dollar amount for these 'Conservation payments' across the same period?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

- (a) Where it has been determined that an environmental offset is required for an impacted matter, the Queensland environmental offsets framework provides flexibility in how the offset can be delivered. A proponent may elect to deliver either a proponent-driven land-based offset, a financial settlement offset (a payment made into the Offsets Account held by the Department of Environment and Science), or a combination of both. Between 1 January 2017 and 14 February 2023, of the 219 conditioned authorities that have signed an agreed offset delivery arrangement, proponents have elected to deliver 91 per cent of their offset liabilities via a financial settlement offset.
- (b) For the period 1 January 2017 to 24 August 2023, proponents have opted to pay \$59,732,629 to the Department of Environment and Science for financial settlement offsets.