



# **2018-19 Budget Estimates**

**Report No. 5, 56<sup>th</sup> Parliament**  
**Innovation, Tourism Development and**  
**Environment Committee**  
**August 2018**

## **Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee**

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<b>Deputy Chair</b>	Mr Jon Krause MP, Member for Scenic Rim
<b>Members</b>	Ms Sandy Bolton MP, Member for Noosa
	Mr Jason Costigan MP, Member for Whitsunday
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### **Acknowledgements**

The committee thanks:

- Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games, and
- Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts.

The committee also acknowledges the assistance provided by departmental officers who contributed to the work of the committee during the estimates process.

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## Chair's foreword

This report presents a summary of the committee's examination of the budget estimates for the 2018-2019 financial year.

Consideration of the budget estimates allows for the public examination of the responsible Ministers and the chief executive officers of agencies within the committee's portfolio areas. This was undertaken through the questions on notice and public hearing process.

The committee has recommended that the proposed expenditure, as detailed in the Appropriation Bill 2018 for the committee's areas of responsibility, be agreed to by the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

On behalf of the committee, I thank the Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games and the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts and their departmental officers for their co-operation in providing information to the committee throughout this process.

I would also like to thank the members of the committee for their hard work and valuable contribution to the estimates process, and other members whose participation in the hearing provided additional scrutiny of the estimates.

Finally, I thank the committee's secretariat and other Parliamentary Service staff for their assistance throughout the estimates process.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Pegg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Duncan Pegg MP  
Chair

August 2018

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Role of the committee

The Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee (the committee) is a portfolio committee of the Queensland Parliament, which commenced on 15 February 2018 under the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* and the Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly.

The committee's areas of responsibility are:

- Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, and
- Environment, Great Barrier Reef, Science and Arts.<sup>1</sup>

On 15 June 2018, the Appropriation Bill 2018 and the estimates for the committee's areas of responsibility were referred to the committee for investigation and report.<sup>2</sup>

On 1 August 2018, the committee conducted a public hearing and took evidence about the proposed expenditure from the Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games and the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts, and other witnesses. The transcript of the committee's hearing can be accessed at:

[http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/hansard/2018/2018\\_08\\_01\\_EstimatesITC.pdf](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/hansard/2018/2018_08_01_EstimatesITC.pdf).

### 1.2 Aim of this report

The committee considered the estimates referred to it by reviewing information contained in:

- budget papers
- answers to pre-hearing questions on notice, and
- evidence taken at the hearing.

This report summarises the estimates referred to the committee and highlights some of the issues the committee examined.

Prior to the public hearing, the committee provided the Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games and the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts with questions on notice in relation to the estimates. Responses to all the questions were received.

Answers to the committee's pre-hearing questions on notice; documents tabled during the hearing; any additional information provided by Ministers after the hearing; and minutes of the committee's meetings are included in a volume of additional information tabled with this report.

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<sup>1</sup> Standing Rules and Orders, Schedule 6. The schedule provides that departments, statutory authorities, government owned corporations or other administrative units related to the relevant Minister's responsibilities regarding these areas are deemed to be included.

<sup>2</sup> Standing Order 177(2) provides for the automatic referral of the Annual Appropriation Bills to portfolio committees once the Bills have been read a second time.

### **1.3 Other Members participation**

The committee gave leave for a number of other Members to participate in the hearing. The following Members participated in the hearing:

- Mr Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar
- Mr David Crisafulli MP, Member for Broadwater
- Mr Michael Hart MP, Member for Burleigh
- Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP, Member for Surfers Paradise, and
- Dr Christian Rowan MP, Member for Moggill.

## **2. Recommendation**

Pursuant to Standing Order 187(1), the committee must state whether the proposed expenditures referred to it are agreed to.

### **Recommendation 1**

The committee recommends that the proposed expenditure, as detailed in the Appropriation Bill 2018 for the committee's areas of responsibility, be agreed to by the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

### 3. Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games

#### 3.1 Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games

The Honourable Kate Jones MP, Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games, is the Minister responsible for the Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games (DITID). The department has the following service areas:

- Tourism Industry Development, and
- Advancing Queensland through Innovation.

The following table compares the appropriations for DITID for 2017-18 and 2018-19.

<b>Appropriations</b>	<b>2017-18 \$'000</b>	<b>2018-19 \$'000</b>
<i>Controlled Items</i>		
departmental services	322,967	222,834
equity adjustment	923	(255)
<i>Administered Items</i>	623,869	107,889
<b>Vote</b>	<b>947,759</b>	<b>330,468</b>

Source: Appropriation Bill 2018, Schedule 2, p. 11.

The following table outlines the agencies and statutory bodies for which the Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games is responsible and provides a comparison of the budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19.<sup>3</sup>

<b>Agency</b>	<b>2017-18 \$'000</b>	<b>2018-19 \$'000</b>
Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games		
- controlled	386,143	222,834
- administered	623,869	107,889
Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation	764,873	4,905
Tourism and Events Queensland	119,792	141,858

Source: State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation and Tourism and Events Queensland.

<sup>3</sup> The table indicates the agency budget. It may not represent the actual appropriation. The figures for DITID 2017-2018 are adjusted budget figures.

### **3.1.1 Budget highlights**

DITID's key priorities for 2018-19 are to:

- lead the Advance Queensland initiatives and programs to support innovation-led jobs growth
- encourage the innovation ecosystem through Ignite Ideas, expanding the Precinct, and supporting regional innovators
- support research through fellowship and the uptake of key technologies like big data, artificial intelligence and drones by industry
- progress the Advancing Tourism 2016-20: Growing Queensland Jobs strategy to drive tourism growth
- progress initiatives under the Growing Tourism, Growing Tourism Jobs policy including the \$48.6 million Attracting Tourism Fund, \$46 million Regional Tourism Infrastructure and Experience Development Program including \$10 million for the Outback Tourism Infrastructure fund
- deliver infrastructure to the Great Barrier Reef islands of \$50 million, with priority on growing, greening and cleaning projects, and a new Great Keppel Island recovery package to support the delivery of major tourism infrastructure improvements
- mobilise Government in partnership with industry to drive the visitor economy, especially through the growth of tourism, major events and international education throughout Queensland
- continue to deliver the Queen's Wharf Brisbane Global Tourism Hub project and processes for regional Global Tourism Hubs in Cairns and the Gold Coast
- implement strategies and evaluations under the Embracing 2018 Legacy program to ensure the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) leaves a lasting legacy for the Gold Coast and Queensland and that the facilities and infrastructure ultimately supports the long-term needs of the region, and
- work with the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts to identify opportunities to support the growth of the ecotourism industry in Queensland.<sup>4</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for Tourism Industry Development are to:

- finalise the delivery, reporting, dissolution and transfer of knowledge of GC2018, working collaboratively and transparently with partners and stakeholders
- continue to implement strategies under the Embracing 2018 Legacy program, to evaluate the outcomes from GC2018
- continue to drive tourism growth, in partnership with industry, by progressing initiatives under the Advancing Tourism 2016–20: Growing Queensland Jobs strategy
- mobilise Government in partnership with industry to drive the visitor economy, especially through the growth of tourism, major events and international education throughout Queensland
- progress initiatives under the Growing Tourism, Growing Tourism Jobs policy, including administering the following -

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<sup>4</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, p 3.

- an Attracting Tourism Fund to provide incentives to attract new international airline routes and connectivity to Queensland
- a new Regional Tourism Infrastructure and Experience Development program to assist communities to grow tourism by developing new and improved tourism experiences or products and develop tourism industry capability
- deliver infrastructure to the Great Barrier Reef islands (including Great Keppel Island), with priority on revitalisation projects to support the delivery of major tourism infrastructure investments
- facilitate the successful delivery of the Queen's Wharf Brisbane Global Tourism Hub and continue processes for procurement of regional Global Tourism Hubs in Cairns and the Gold Coast
- facilitate new investments in eco and adventure tourism in Queensland, particularly on Government owned lands such as National Parks or State Forests, and
- work with the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts to identify opportunities to support the growth of the ecotourism industry in Queensland.<sup>5</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for Advancing Queensland through Innovation are to:

- lead the Advance Queensland initiatives and programs across government to support innovation-led growth and enhance Queensland's capacity to adapt and thrive, including -
  - encouraging innovative startups and small businesses to commercialise their products through the Ignite Ideas fund
  - supporting new ideas for growing Queensland's competitive strengths through Industry Research Fellowships
  - driving innovation in regional Queensland through the Regional Startup Onramp program
  - fostering diversity in innovation by encouraging the success of female founders and researchers
  - increasing the skills and opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander innovators and entrepreneurs
- work with our key industries to drive cross-cutting technologies, like artificial intelligence, that will boost our global competitiveness.<sup>6</sup>

Total capital grants for DITID in 2018-19 are \$34.5 million, including:

- \$12.4 million allocated in 2018-19 to the Regional Tourism Infrastructure and Experience Development Program to assist communities to grow tourism by developing new and improved tourism experiences which includes the facilitation of outback tourism infrastructure projects
- \$10 million allocated for the Great Barrier Reef Island Rejuvenation Package to help industry rejuvenate Great Barrier Reef Island resorts and offer world-class experiences to visitors

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<sup>5</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, pp 4-5.

<sup>6</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, p 7.

- \$5.8 million allocated in 2018-19 to the Great Keppel Island Recovery Package to support the delivery of major tourism infrastructure improvements
- \$3.1 million allocated for the finalisation of works on GC2018 venues to enable ongoing public and community use of the facilities for post-games events
- \$2.4 million allocated to facilitate outback tourism infrastructure projects, as part of the Regional Tourism Infrastructure and Experience Development Program
- \$2.2 million allocated in 2018-19 for the Australian Workers Heritage Centre to help meet costs of refurbishment and extension of premises and exhibits
- \$524,000 allocated to Mt Inkerman Nature Tourism Development for roadworks, car parking and other infrastructure upgrades, and
- \$413,000 is allocated to Mackay Tourism Visitor Information Centre development to a new Visitor Information Centre at Sarina, repositioned on the highway.<sup>7</sup>

### **3.1.2 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to DITID included:

- the Attracting Aviation Investment Fund, Connecting with Asia program and Attracting Tourism Fund
- route development programs, various airline routes, inbound seat capacity and government funding and obligations
- additional capital attracted into tourism investment and its ratio to tourism investment attraction costs
- electronic gaming machine licences and casino licences
- the tourism funding package and tourism funding guarantee
- delivery of ecotourism projects, including the facilitation of new ecotourism experiences, funding, the participation of the Department of Environment and Science (DES), and overnight stays in national parks
- assisting areas for which tourism is particularly important to diversify beyond tourism
- the major events budget and its related funds
- benefits of international education and training
- the excavation and construction phase of the Queen's Wharf Brisbane project and associated local jobs and opportunities
- accuracy of the department's website
- the Myriad festival
- supporting innovation, entrepreneurship and start-ups
- job creation, the Advance Queensland fund and regional Queensland
- the Ignite Ideas Fund, including the recipients of funding and building the program
- improving digital connectivity in regional Queensland
- how the Advance Queensland Valley Precinct supports innovators and entrepreneurs

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<sup>7</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements - Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, p 15.

- social innovation initiatives and projects
- Ministerial travel, and
- how the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships program helps to grow entrepreneurs' businesses.

### **3.2 Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation**

The Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games is also responsible for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Corporation (GOLDOC).

A comparison of GOLDOC's budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are reproduced earlier in this report.

With GC2018 now delivered, GOLDOC will be dissolved and, through the year 2018-19, GOLDOC's activities and transactions will be decommissioned.<sup>8</sup>

#### **3.2.1 Budget highlights**

Key strategic priorities to ensure the completion of the post-GC2018 obligations include:

- finalising all staff contracts
- closing all commercial and procurement contracts
- completing the financial accounts and auditing requirements
- transferring and handing over information and physical assets to legacy custodians, and
- winding-up GOLDOC as required under the *Commonwealth Games Arrangements Act 2011*.<sup>9</sup>

#### **3.2.2 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to GOLDOC included:

- retention payments for GOLDOC senior management
- GC2018 ticket sales
- GC2018 opening and closing ceremonies
- the economic benefits of GC2018, including any previous risks to attaining those benefits and the maximisation of opportunities to benefit Gold Coast and Queensland businesses
- how the Queen's Baton Relay promoted Queensland and marketed GC2018
- the legacy of GC2018 facilities and infrastructure
- GOLDOC staffing and the volunteer program, and
- GC2018 reconciliation action plan.

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<sup>8</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, p 28.

<sup>9</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games, p 28.

### **3.3 Tourism and Events Queensland**

The Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games is also responsible for Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ).

A comparison of TEQ's budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are reproduced earlier in this report.

#### **3.3.1 Budget highlights**

TEQ's focus areas for 2018-19 include:

- showcasing Queensland's tourism and events experiences to key domestic and international markets through TEQ's experience-based marketing strategy - marketing activity is delivered under the five pillars of: Reef, Islands, Beaches; Natural Encounters; Adventure and Discovery; Queensland Lifestyle, Culture and People; and Events
- working collaboratively with DITID to implement the Advancing Tourism 2016-2020: Growing Queensland Jobs strategy and the new Growing Tourism, Growing Tourism Jobs policy - including collaboration with the Attracting Tourism Fund and the Growing Tourism Infrastructure Program
- focussing on the conversion of more high value travellers through the continued delivery of Queensland's creative platform and fresh 'Find your perfect next...' marketing campaign
- maximising the values of Queensland's events calendar through: attracting and securing anchor events for Queensland and strategically investing in events that deliver the greatest benefits across Queensland - event highlights include: Mount Isa Mines Rotary Rodeo (60th anniversary), the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers and the TV WEEK Logie Awards; high value business events such as Amway's annual Leadership Seminar; and supporting regional tourism through TEQ's Queensland Destination Events Program
- leveraging the legacy of GC2018 to drive incremental tourism outcomes and secure future international events for Queensland
- working in partnership with DITID, Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), industry, airports and airlines to successfully implement all aviation investment programs - TEQ will focus on supporting airports in the acquisition and/or expansion of services into Queensland, with strong destination messaging
- delivering destination and experience development activities such as: reinforcing Queensland's competitive position through the Best of Queensland Experiences Program, encouraging and supporting the tourism industry to innovate and deliver quality visitor experiences, and supporting Queensland's RTOs, and
- implementing activities to strengthen the tourism potential of the international education market in Queensland. During 2018-19 TEQ will continue to work with Trade and Investment Queensland to assist in implementing its International Education and Training Strategy to Advance Queensland 2016-2026.

#### **3.3.2 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to TEQ included:

- the marketing and promotion of tourism, including the marketing strategy 'Find your perfect next...', and
- economic growth generated by the major events calendar.

## 4. Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts

### 4.1 Department of Environment and Science

The Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP, Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts, is the Minister responsible for DES.<sup>10</sup> The department has the following service areas:

- Environmental Protection Services
- Species and Ecosystem Protection Services
- Heritage Protection Services
- National Parks
- Science, and
- Arts Queensland.

The following table compares the appropriations for DES for 2017-18 and 2018-19.

<b>Appropriations</b>	<b>2017-18 \$'000</b>	<b>2018-19 \$'000</b>
<i>Controlled Items</i>		
departmental services	209,844	651,475
equity adjustment	6,237	(8,043)
<i>Administered Items</i>	..	139,452
<b>Vote</b>	<b>216,081</b>	<b>782,884</b>

Source: Appropriation Bill 2018, Schedule 2, p. 10.

The following table outlines the agencies and statutory bodies for which the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts is responsible and provides a comparison of the budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19.<sup>11</sup>

<b>Agency</b>	<b>2017-18 \$'000</b>	<b>2018-19 \$'000</b>
Department of Environment and Science		
- controlled	550,378	813,880
- administered	78,656	248,977
Queensland Art Gallery	60,016	57,816
Queensland Museum	54,648	56,917
Queensland Performing Arts Trust	66,408	68,740
Library Board of Queensland	77,147	77,985
Corporate Administration Agency	12,814	10,975

<sup>10</sup> The Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development is responsible for protected area management on Moreton Island (Mulgumpin) and North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah).

<sup>11</sup> The table indicates the agency budget. It may not represent the actual appropriation. The figure for Queensland Performing Arts Trust 2017-2018 is an adjusted budget figure.

*Source:* State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland Museum, Queensland Performing Arts Trust, Library Board of Queensland and Corporate Administration Agency.

#### **4.1.1 Budget highlights**

DES's key priorities for 2018-19 are to:

- lead the development of a comprehensive new waste strategy for Queensland, underpinned by a waste disposal levy that will have no direct impact on households
- roll out the Container Refund Scheme commencing on 1 November 2018
- lead the delivery of the Queensland Reef Water Quality Program, including enhancing regulation
- lead the delivery of the Queensland Climate Change Response
- lead the \$500 million flagship Land Restoration Fund to support and grow Queensland's carbon farming sector
- deliver targeted, consistent and transparent regulation and enforcement that facilitates sustainable development in Queensland whilst minimising impacts on the environment
- prepare a new Koala Conservation Strategy to reverse the decline in population densities in South East Queensland
- progress implementation of a values-based framework for the management of parks and forests
- develop a Queensland Protected Area Strategy
- launch the Citizen Science Strategy to increase community awareness and participation in citizen science
- boost the evidence base for measuring the effectiveness of vegetation management by establishing an enhanced scientific program for the Statewide Landcover and Trees Study (SLATS)
- invest in cultural infrastructure including a new performing arts theatre at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC) and a commitment to the redevelopment of the Rockhampton Art Gallery, and
- implement sustainability and energy efficiency measures at the Queensland Cultural Centre (QCC), South Bank; address critical infrastructure upgrade works at the Queensland Museum (QM) and install a further two cooling towers within the Central Energy Plant, QCC.<sup>12</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for Environmental Protection Services are to:

- provide funding of \$3.9 million over four years to continue delivering the Queensland Government's flagship eco-efficiency program, ecoBiz for small to medium enterprises
- lead the delivery of the Queensland Climate Change Response with increased funding of \$5.6 million over four years
- provide increased funding of \$13.8 million over four years, including \$10.1 million to support the cane, grazing and banana industries in Great Barrier Reef catchments to improve water quality

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<sup>12</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 4.

- lead the development of a comprehensive new waste strategy for Queensland, underpinned by a waste disposal levy that will have no direct impact on households
- implement the ban on lightweight single-use plastic shopping bags commencing on 1 July 2018
- roll out the Container Refund Scheme commencing on 1 November 2018
- implement reforms for the regulation of waste-related activities and specific wastes
- lead the development of the legislative framework for the Government's mined land rehabilitation policy and a program of work to support the reform of financial assurance for the resource sector, residual risk payments and the preparation of progressive rehabilitation and closures plans
- lead the \$500 million flagship Land Restoration Fund to support and grow Queensland's carbon farming sector to supply premium carbon offsets and derive economic, social, and other environmental co-benefits
- provide \$15.8 million in 2018-19 (\$28.6 million over five years ending in 2021-22) to continue to manage allegations of serious environmental harm and continue rehabilitation of land affected by underground coal gasification contamination
- provide \$6.7 million in 2018-19 (\$23.3 million over four years ending in 2021-22) to lead the implementation of Queensland's Environmental Regulator Program, and
- provide \$567,000 in 2018-19 (\$1.4 million over three years ending in 2019-20) to identify sites and provide advice in relation to land impacted by fire-fighting foam contamination.<sup>13</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for Species and Ecosystem Protection Services are to provide:

- \$2.1 million for crocodile management, including a Crocwise public safety education program and a crocodile monitoring program
- \$715,000 in 2018-19 for the preparation of a new Koala Conservation Strategy to implement recommendations from the Koala Expert Panel's final report on measures that can be taken to reverse the decline in koala population densities in South East Queensland
- \$450,000 (\$2.7 million over four years ending in 2018-19) to research alternative management approaches for problem urban flying fox roosts in North Queensland
- \$1.5 million in 2018-19 (\$6 million over four years ending in 2019-20) to Australia Zoo, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary to provide a coordinated response to injured wildlife and wildlife incidents throughout South East Queensland
- increased funding totalling \$350,000 (\$1.8 million over five years) for the longstanding agreement with the Queensland Conservation Council and nine regional conservation councils, and
- \$500,000 for cassowary rehabilitation in the Wet Tropics.<sup>14</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for Heritage Protection Services are to ensure significant Queensland heritage places are identified and their values protected. To achieve these highlights, DES will:

- enhance policies and procedures designed to protect the State's built heritage

<sup>13</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, pp 5-6.

<sup>14</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 9.

- continue to promote the value and increase community understanding of Queensland's heritage
- continue to review and update the State's heritage register
- provide additional funding of up to \$6.1 million over three years, which includes up to \$5.8 million in 2018-19 for urgent remedial conservation works to ensure the protection and structural integrity of identified State heritage buildings, and
- develop options for implementing the proposals outlined in the Heritage Working Group's final report.<sup>15</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for National Parks are to:

- progress implementation of a values-based framework for the management of parks and forests, including through planning instruments, management systems, monitoring programs and effectiveness evaluation and reporting
- advance delivery of \$35 million in capital works projects to enhance critical infrastructure, including nature-based tourism opportunities, on national parks and other protected areas
- establish ex-HMAS Tobruk as a premier dive destination for the Wide Bay area
- finalise Significant Regional Infrastructure Projects Program initiatives to redevelop the Mon Repos Turtle Centre and expand the public mooring and reef protection program in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
- deliver increased funding of \$4.1 million in 2018-19 (\$26 million over four years) to enhance the Great Barrier Reef Joint Field Management Program frontline service delivery
- deliver increased funding of \$429,000 in 2018-19 (\$1.3 million over three years) and ongoing to support the operation of a new ocean-going patrol vessel for the Great Barrier Reef Joint Field Management Program
- continue to deliver departmental contributions to the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan, including the Raine Island recovery project
- investigate options for management of Moreton Island (Mulgumpin) protected areas with the Quandamooka people
- implement joint management arrangements in the North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah) area, including Naree Budjong Djara National Park
- implement joint management arrangements on Cape York Peninsula Aboriginal land national parks
- effectively regulate the sustainable use of natural resources on Queensland's parks and forests
- develop a Queensland Protected Area Strategy, and
- undertake a comprehensive review of the Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2017.<sup>16</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for Science encompass both the 'Office of the Queensland Scientist' and 'Science'.

The highlights attributed to the Office of the Queensland Scientist are to:

- in 2019, continue to support the World Science Festival Brisbane

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<sup>15</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 11.

<sup>16</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 12.

- in 2018, the Flying Scientist program (a partnership with Wonder of Science) will continue to send Queensland scientists to regional and remote Queensland to deliver workshops, seminars and community programs
- continue to deliver the Engaging Science Grants aiming to increase participation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects and increase engagement and participation of the community in science-based activities, including Citizen Science projects
- launch the Citizen Science Strategy, which is an important mechanism to help address the goals of increasing community awareness and participation in citizen science and providing additional scientific data for scientists, policy makers and the community, and
- deliver an annual signature event for National Science Week. In August 2018, the Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist will deliver a two-day STEM pop-up event in Longreach to build student interest in STEM subjects and qualifications, and increase community engagement with scientists and science-based activities.<sup>17</sup>

The highlights attributed to Science are to:

- through the Queensland Water Modelling Network, deliver key modelling research and development and an External Engagement Program capitalising upon the extensive modelling expertise held outside Government to foster capacity building, community of practice, and innovation
- facilitate the AusBiotech 2018 National Conference and Investment Event that will profile Queensland's life sciences internationally and provide an opportunity for local industry to meet global biotechnology leaders and investors
- boost the evidence base for measuring the effectiveness of vegetation management by establishing an enhanced scientific program for SLATS, and
- improve the pasture growth model with innovative approaches to develop decision support tools to enable landholders to make climate-smart and sustainable natural resource use in grazing lands.<sup>18</sup>

The 2018-19 service area highlights for Arts Queensland are to:

- invest \$5 million (\$125 million over four years ending in 2021-22) to build a new performing arts theatre at QPAC
- provide \$4.9 million (\$8.5 million over two years) to address critical infrastructure upgrade works at QM and install a further two cooling towers within the Central Energy Plant, QCC, South Bank
- provide increased funding of \$8 million over two years, in addition to \$2 million in 2017-18, to the Rockhampton Regional Council for the construction of a new Rockhampton Art Gallery (subject to the confirmation of a \$10 million contribution from the Australian Government)
- invest \$1.8 million (\$9 million over three years) to implement sustainability and energy efficiency measures at QCC, South Bank
- invest \$1.5 million (\$3.3 million over two years) to address critical infrastructure works at QPAC
- invest \$12.8 million through contestable funding programs including the Organisations Fund, Queensland Arts Showcase Program and Playing Queensland Fund

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<sup>17</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 14.

<sup>18</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 14.

- invest \$7 million (\$17.5 million over four years ending in 2020-21) through the Arts Infrastructure Investment Fund to support priority infrastructure projects that will revitalise existing State-owned arts and cultural facilities, including the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts and the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts
- invest \$3.4 million (\$6.5 million over four years ending in 2020-21) to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders' and regional arts initiatives, including a Regional Arts Services Network and the employment of regionally based arts officers across the state, and
- continue to invest \$2.1 million (over two years from 2017-18) through the Backing Indigenous Arts initiative to strengthen the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performing arts sector in Far North Queensland, including the development and showcase of new work and creation of career opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and arts workers.<sup>19</sup>

The National Parks capital works program provides infrastructure critical for the management, enjoyment and protection of Queensland's parks and forests.<sup>20</sup> In 2018-19, capital investments will total \$59.3 million, including:

- general expenditure of \$10.1 million on various projects to improve recreation and visitor facilities
- \$10.2 million towards management and access facilities; as well as targeted expenditure on the following programs - \$13.5 million towards the Mon Repos Turtle Centre redevelopment
- \$7.5 million towards projects to support ecotourism and tourism recovery in Whitsunday Island National Park
- \$4.7 million to enhance critical infrastructure to support tourism activities at Glass House Mountains National Park, Noosa National Park and D'Aguilar National Park, and
- \$2.5 million on North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah).<sup>21</sup>

The program will also invest \$5.3 million in the replacement of a major vessel to support the Great Barrier Reef Joint Field Management Program - Intergovernmental agreement.<sup>22</sup> The remaining \$5.5 million will be spent on systems and plant and equipment.<sup>23</sup>

DES will outlay \$24 million on arts and cultural related infrastructure projects, including:

- \$5 million to commence construction of a new performing arts theatre at QPAC
- \$6.7 million for priority infrastructure projects across State-owned arts and cultural facilities, delivered through the Arts Infrastructure Investment Fund, and
- a further \$12.3 million delivering critical infrastructure works and future energy efficiency across QCC at South Bank.<sup>24</sup>

DES will also continue to invest in the development of technology and systems to enable a targeted, scientific and risk-based approach to environmental management, ensuring sustainable development, conservation of nature and heritage and sustainable management of natural resources.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>19</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 16.

<sup>20</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 25.

<sup>21</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 25.

<sup>22</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 25.

<sup>23</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 25.

<sup>24</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 25.

<sup>25</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 25.

Additionally, there is ongoing replacement of plant and equipment and continued development and enhancement of systems to support delivery of the department's frontline services.<sup>26</sup>

#### **4.1.2 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to DES included:

- the proposed allocation of revenue generated by the Waste Disposal Levy
- waste industry development and support
- funding for the Waste Investigation by the Honourable Peter Lyons into the transportation of waste into Queensland from interstate sources and matters relating to the resultant report
- litigation service standards and environmental protection orders
- Adani's Carmichael coalmine
- progress of efforts to reduce plastic pollution in the environment
- how the ecoBiz program is helping small business
- the Great Barrier Reef, including investment in water quality and joint management, and progress of new reef regulations
- work with all sectors to tackle climate change
- the Community Sustainability Action grant program
- investment in national parks
- crocodile management, including the crocodile education program and the crocodile management program
- management of urban flying fox roosts
- user charges and fees payable by wildlife licensees
- the protection of koalas, including on Minjerribah
- the relocation of koalas
- support and promotion of Queensland's heritage
- progress towards achieving zero net emissions by 2050
- action to support habitat restoration and rehabilitation for cassowaries
- the Healthy Land and Water Monitoring Program
- funding to address the ongoing management and noncompliance issues relating to our waterways and national parks contributed to by increasing visitor numbers
- establishing ex-HMAS *Tobruk* as a premier dive destination for the Wide Bay area
- royalties and land rents applicable to businesses that operate within national parks
- progress of the Land Restoration Fund
- work undertaken by the Indigenous land and sea rangers, including the Quandamooka rangers
- strengthening of vegetation management laws
- the Advance Queensland program funding

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<sup>26</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 25.

- chemical impacts on our lands and waterways
- biodiscovery and access to science and commercial outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- investment into scientific research and long-term commercial outcomes
- the circumstances when the community relies on the work of Queensland scientists
- scientific advice on the impact of ecotourism on national parks
- the promotion and celebration of women in STEM driven industries
- SLATS funding and mapping of properties
- the work of the Queensland Herbarium
- the Advance Queensland Engaging Queenslanders in Science strategy
- the allocation of funding for the Backing Indigenous Arts initiative and the program's impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists
- progress of the Regional Arts Services Network
- the success of, and investment in, the First 5 Forever program
- contestable funding programs, including the Queensland Arts Showcase Program and Playing Queensland Fund, and
- efforts to secure equitable arts funding from the federal government.

## **4.2 Queensland Art Gallery**

The Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts is also responsible for The Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (the Gallery or QAGOMA).

A comparison of the Gallery's budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are reproduced earlier in this report.

### **4.2.1 Budget highlights**

In 2018-19, the Gallery will:

- present a non-ticketed blockbuster exhibition, The 9th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT9), and public programming, including an APT public forum, Children's Art Centre projects and the Summer Festival
- present the first year of the Brisbane International Film Festival at QAGOMA, supported by Screen Queensland
- present exhibitions of Queensland artists Tony Albert, Judith Wright and Dick Roughsey
- develop the Collection, targeting transformational acquisitions and the contemporary art of Australia and the Asia Pacific during the APT year, and present exhibitions that showcase significant works of art from the Collection by contemporary artists Robert MacPherson and Nicolas Molé
- conduct regional tours of the exhibitions A World View: The Tim Fairfax Gift, Physical Video, and Robert MacPherson: Boss Drivers; and deliver the Kids on Tour program to venues in remote and regional Queensland
- expand the Gallery's digital capability, including by implementing the first phase of a fundraising campaign to support learning initiatives by digitising the QAGOMA Collection

- encourage the strong presence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and culture, and work towards the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan, and
- in collaboration with Arts Queensland, identify and progress priority infrastructure projects including those that reinstate original elements of Robin Gibson's heritage-listed Queensland Art Gallery building.<sup>27</sup>

#### **4.2.2 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to the Gallery included:

- investment in blockbuster funding to help increase Gallery patronage and the other positive impacts of blockbuster funding for Queensland.

### **4.3 Queensland Museum**

The Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts is also responsible for QM.

A comparison of QM's budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are reproduced earlier in this report.

#### **4.3.1 Budget highlights**

In 2018-19, QM will:

- continue to implement the \$7 million investment over four years from 2016-17 to maintain the State's collections and address critical maintenance at regional campuses and the storage facility at Hendra
- continue to implement the \$4.5 million investment over four years from 2016-17 with matched funding raised from sponsorship support to update and replace permanent exhibitions to ensure preservation of collections, increase attendance levels and provide compelling experiences for visitors
- transform the Sciencentre into an interactive facility to inspire the next generation of Queenslanders in STEM
- deliver a legacy exhibition to coincide with Centenary of the ANZAC
- present major exhibitions including Egyptian Mummies: Exploring Ancient Lives, Monkeys: A Primate Story, NASA: A Human Adventure, Perception Deception, Shape Shifter: 3D Printing, Underworld Mugshot, Dinosaur rEvolution, Evolution—Torres Strait Islander Masks, Alice's Wonderland and Day out with Thomas, as well as delivering new programs across all our campuses
- deliver museum services across Queensland through our Museum Development Officer network
- deliver the fourth World Science Festival Brisbane, with engagement across Queensland
- develop further partnerships to enhance research capability, and
- support the Advance Queensland initiative which aims to make Queensland one of the leading states for student literacy and numeracy by 2020 by delivering new STEM projects across all campuses of the museum.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 43.

<sup>28</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 51.

### **4.3.1 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to QM included funding to address critical infrastructure upgrade works at QM.

## **4.4 Queensland Performing Arts Trust**

The Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts is also responsible for Queensland Performing Arts Trust (QPAT).

A comparison of QPAT's budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are reproduced earlier in this report.

### **4.4.1 Budget highlights**

In 2018-19, QPAT will:

- work closely with theatre infrastructure professionals and other experts to support the planning and design of the new performing arts theatre to be constructed at QPAC
- extend the reach of programming through regional presentations and free extended live broadcasts of productions from QPAC's International Series and iconic events, such as the 2018 Out of the Box Festival and Clancestry - A Celebration of Country for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures, as part of the Queensland Government's base funding upgrade
- present a Queensland exclusive season of the world-renowned Teatro alla Scala Ballet Company, the first ever Australian season in the company's 240-year history, alongside an extensive program of events
- collaborate with Queensland creatives and technicians, arts companies and education institutions to continue to build Brisbane's reputation as a hub of musical theatre training, creation and presentation, as part of the Queensland Government's base funding upgrade
- lead the Cultural Mapping Project, working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and partner organisations to explore and document the origins, evolution, ownership and protocols surrounding dance and song, and
- deliver Stage 2 of the International Teaching Artist Program with partners, Lincoln Center Education and Sydney Opera House via QPAC's global education platform Kadenze.<sup>29</sup>

### **4.4.1 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to QPAT included:

- investment in a new performing arts theatre at QPAC
- critical infrastructure works being undertaken at QPAC, including details of the works and time lines for completion, and
- QPAT staffing.

## **4.5 Library Board of Queensland**

The Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts is also responsible for State Library of Queensland (SLQ).

A comparison of SLQ's budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 are reproduced earlier in this report.

### **4.5.1 Budget highlights**

In 2018-19, SLQ will:

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<sup>29</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 58.

- invest \$5 million to continue to deliver First 5 Forever, in partnership with public libraries, as an ongoing family literacy initiative to give families the information and tools they need to help children develop language and literacy skills
- launch the National Electronic Deposit system developed in partnership with National and State Libraries Australia, which will improve the collection of and access to electronic-only publications under legal deposit provisions
- commence the implementation of SLQ's Digital Strategy, including the first stage of a new online presence to improve access to content and services, and implementation of a digital content preservation system
- deliver the final year of Q ANZAC 100, including a State-wide program to commemorate the Centenary of Armistice in November 2018
- develop audiences through the delivery of exhibitions and events, including the Queensland Literary Awards, and black&write! Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander writing and editing program
- support new business, social enterprise and creative industries, including through the Business Studio and The Edge's Fabrication Lab, and
- invest \$24.9 million in public library collections and services and work with public libraries to implement programs and activities to increase Queensland's digital literacy skills.<sup>30</sup>

#### **4.5.1 Issues raised at the public hearing**

Issues raised by the committee in relation to SLQ included SLQ staffing and recruitment.

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<sup>30</sup> State Budget 2018-19, Service Delivery Statements – Department of Environment and Science, p 66.

## Statement of Reservation

## **Statement of reservation**

The 2018/19 Budget is a budget of taxes, debt and unemployment.

After three-and-a-half years, Labor's legacy for Queensland is no less than five new taxes, an \$83 billion debt bomb and the worst unemployment in Australia, at the time the budget was handed down.

This is a budget that shows Labor have given up and have no plan for Queensland, just a plan for more taxes and more debt. These five new taxes will rip \$2.2 billion out of our economy. These five new taxes will hit households and businesses in every corner of this State.

After three-and-a-half years in office, Labor has no economic plan for Queensland. To divert attentions from Labor's lack of an economic plan and failure to deliver its promises, Labor continues to attempt to blame the former Government, unable to defend their own record in office.

Disappointingly, the Innovation, Tourism Development and Environment Committee, like numerous other hearings during the budget estimates process, saw Government members obstructing questions by non-Government MPs. We consider this an abuse of standing orders and believe there is an intent to provide protection for Ministers during budget estimates.

### **Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games**

#### Tourism Industry Development

The Committee was forced to endure the hysterics and ramblings of a Minister that was far from familiar with the operations of her own department.

Interchanging any trace of an informative explanation to questions asked with unbecoming ramblings and name calling is both disappointing and disrespectful to the estimates process.

The Minister demonstrated a categorical absence in understanding the basic principles and performance indicators of the many funds she administers. When straightforward questions relating to return on investment or fund performance indicators were posed by LNP members, the Minister was unable to provide any direct or concise answers.

In addition to the Ministers concerning lack of understanding of departmental operations, instead of speaking to the current 2018-19 budget, the Minister was forced to focus on budgets from 2014-15 and earlier. During the one hour allocation for tourism industry development, the Minister made no less than 18 references to an administration that tabled its last budget four years ago.

The Minister's deficiency in understanding basic financial principles appears to have translated into the development of misconceived frameworks for taxpayer funded programs. When asked how many additional beds will be delivered from Labor's

ecotourism industry funding – which the committee was informed is being sourced from two separate funds worth \$36 million and \$48 million respectively – the Minister was unable to provide any semblance of detail:

*Mr CRISAFULLI: How many extra beds will that deliver over, say, the next 12 months?*

*Ms JONES: We are working through that at the moment. As I say, this is the very first time this has ever happened. I am working with the major players in the industry, whether it is in the Whitsundays or whether it is the Turners, who have made a significant investment in the electorate of Scenic Rim. We will see brand-new tourism products get up. I do recognise, though, that sometimes you do see a longer lead time in ecotourism.*

In true form of the Palaszczuk Labor Government, the Minister could not articulate a single numerical return for the potential millions of dollars of taxpayer money she anticipates to spend. Driven by media opportunities, Labor is big on announcements but small on accountability and even smaller on delivering return for taxpayer money invested.

#### Commonwealth Games

The LNP has always supported the Commonwealth Games. We funded the Games when we came into Government as Labor had failed to budget for this significant investment, beyond winning the bid for the Games.

Not only did we lay the groundwork for many projects, we funded important road network improvements to make sure our constituents could have a lasting benefit from the Games.

Estimates revealed that \$600,000 in executive bonuses will be paid to GOLDOC senior management following the completion of the Commonwealth Games. It was noted in Estimates that retention payments are part of the employment contracts for five GOLDOC executive staff. Two retention bonuses have already been paid, totalling \$130,000, while the remaining bonuses which are based off key performance indicators (KPIs), are currently being finalised. Retention bonuses are supposed to be paid based on performance. Concerns have been raised that retention bonuses are being paid in spite of KPIs not being met adequately, given the question marks over a number of operational shortfalls during the Games.

Bizarrely, it seems the following were the KPIs applied by Labor to the Commonwealth Games:

- Scare everyone away so no one uses the M1;
- Discourage locals from visiting Surfers Paradise and Broadbeach, ensuring that many local businesses will struggle to meet the expectations created;
- Ensure athletes hardly feature in the Closing Ceremony;
- Long delays for buses and major public transport issues; and
- Leave 5000 vacant seats for the Closing Ceremony.

Whilst Labor is always quick to blame others for their own shortcomings, there's no doubt that many matters could have been managed significantly better. The 5000

vacant seats at the Closing Ceremony is an example. Labor could have strategically managed the wide range of expectations by stakeholders, instead of being content with 5000 empty seats at the biggest event in the Gold Coast's history.

Given Labor's failure to adequately measure KPIs, it is of concern to Queensland taxpayers that their hard-earned money is going to be paying these retention bonuses. Everyday Queenslanders would agree it would be reasonable to expect executives to fulfil KPIs and not just automatically be paid retention bonuses.

### Innovation

Only half an hour (for all non-government members) was available to raise key questions on this important area involving funding for Queensland start-ups, artificial intelligence, innovation and the digital economy. In that time, the LNP were only allocated eight questions and thus were unable to fully explore issues within the Minister's portfolio area of Innovation.

The LNP raised questions with regard to the DSITI website which is found when a search on google using search criteria "Department of Innovation Queensland". This website is completely out of date and listed a "last updated date" in 2015. It is disappointing that the Queensland Minister in charge of Innovation and the Digital economy doesn't appear to use google or any other search engine to check on her own Department's internet presence, instead relying on knowing the web address her department uses.

Unfortunately, most Queenslanders don't know government departments' website addresses off the top of their heads and rely on search engines. The LNP notes while DSITI still appears at the top of search engines as of Friday 3 August, with the current Department now appearing further down the list, so it appears the LNP's questions have prompted some response from the government. We also note the DSITI website is still out of date so perhaps the government hasn't got to that site yet?

In responding to a question from LNP members about job numbers flowing from Queensland Innovation funding, the Committee was advised that the 'job-supported' reference was an accepted term by Treasury for reporting on jobs. This can be misleading in that it does not sufficiently distinguish from new jobs that are created, jobs safeguarded or jobs supported in some other way. The LNP also raised concern over 'Ignite Ideas' funding supplied to companies that compete against local companies, supply services that are not used in or directly benefit Queensland and are suspected of having temporary offices based in Queensland only to be eligible to obtain Queensland government funding.

Unfortunately, there was insufficient time allocated to this hearing to explore with the government how these companies are audited after being funded to ensure Queensland benefits from this funding.

The LNP also raised with Minister Jones her trip to the USA in June and questioned her departure from BIO2018 exhibition prior to the actual exhibition starting to visit Las Vegas to attend the Jeff Horn World Title fight and notes that the Minister was unable to provide justification for the allocation of taxpayer funds to this trip. The

Minister advised she paid her own accommodation but utilised taxpayer funds for air travel. Taxpayers could rightly argue this was a taxpayer funded jaunt benefiting taxpayers in no way.

## **Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts**

### Environment and Science and the Great Barrier Reef

Limited questioning relating to an environmental protection order for Baal Gammon Copper was allowed. The committee learnt of an investigation that was undertaken by the Department on 17 April 2018 with the LNP being advised of no further action being undertaken to comply with the actions outlined in the order. As the transcript excerpt below illustrates, when pressed to provide detail the Committee Chair ended the Opposition's questioning block and moved to a crossbench member:

*Mr CRISAFULLI: Minister, given it has now been over two months, what action has been taken to address Baal Gammon Copper's failure to comply with the EPO?*

*Ms ENOCH: Through the chair, the member for Broadwater is making some imputation about whether there has been a breach in the act and whether there is a compliance or not. That investigation must be able to take its full course, so that is the job of the regulator.*

*Mr CRISAFULLI: Mr Chairman, I am referring to the fact that there were three separate cases where water testing was done at that mine and it showed dangerous levels. I want to ask the minister what action has been taken.*

*CHAIR: Member for Broadwater, I rule that further question out of order. The minister has clearly answered that the matter is under investigation. Do you have any further questions?*

Alarming for North Queensland residents, the LNP uncovered the department's three-month acceptable window for removing problem crocodiles. Labor's inability to act is leaving communities threatened by the real risk crocodiles create. Then to add further insult to injury to North Queenslanders, the committee was informed that the Government wasn't planning on taking any real actions until another report was published in 2020. While North Queensland communities battle swelling crocodile numbers, all Labor can do is to continue to kick the issue into the long-grass and hope the problem will go away.

The Minister was requested to explain increases in departmental fees for individual pet owners. On the back of a strong campaign waged by LNP Member for Hervey Bay, which attracted over a thousand signatures, the Minister was unable to provide specifics of how much it'll cost for the individual pet owner.

Continuing Labor's inability to provide any degree of accountability, the Minister refused to acknowledge any issue in relation to the failed scuttling of the ex-HMAS Tobruk. As the only Minister to preside over a failed scuttling in recent history, it is

alarming that the Minister was unable to provide any detail as to how Labor planned to fix this debacle and how much it would cost taxpayers.

Deeply concerning details of more than 100 koalas being killed as a result of Government policy was uncovered by the LNP. Raising serious questions regarding the future intentions of Labor, the Minister was unable to clearly rule out allowing a similar government translocation mass-mortality event to occur again. As koala populations of South East Queensland continue to come under significant pressure, it was revealed that the only action being undertaken is more reports and consultative committees. As the below exert demonstrates, the Minister was even unsure as to what the Koala Advisory Council she established would be responsible for:

*Ms ENOCH: ...We hope that the Koala Advisory Council will contribute to that as well.*

While embattled Queensland graziers are fighting extensive drought conditions, the LNP uncovered that our farmers will continue to be slugged hundreds of dollars to correct mapping errors caused by modelling from the Department of Environment and Science. With a \$4 million allocation of taxpayer funds to improve Labor's Statewide Landcover and Trees Study, it is shameful that the Minister will continue to charge landholders for mapping mistakes made by her department.

#### Arts

During questioning, the Minister expressed the importance of publicly funding the arts in Queensland, but refused to be drawn into answering questions on portfolio relevant market-led proposals such as that relating to a new theatre or aquarium for Brisbane. Given the relevance of these market-led proposals to developing the arts in Queensland, it was disappointing that the Minister would make no comment as to their foregone benefits. The arts in Queensland will be diminished if this Government continues to deny private enterprises from supporting new arts initiatives and developments in the future.

#### Closing:

Instead of a plan for the future Labor continues with the politics of the past.

Unlike Labor, the Liberal National Party does have a plan for Queensland. Our plan is designed to make it easier for Queenslanders to get a job and get ahead.

The LNP economic plan lays out five goals and how the LNP would deliver each of them.

The LNP plan will:

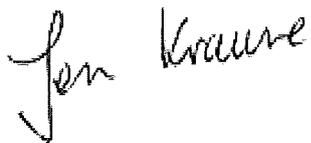
- Bust congestion
- Provide cheaper electricity
- Ensure better health and education
- Deliver water security
- Guarantee no new taxes

The LNP's Economic Plan outlines what we would do right now and what we plan to do from 2020.

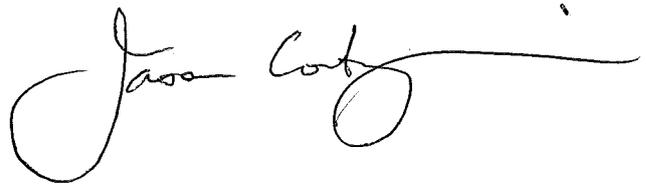
It is the beginning, not the end, of our commitment to Queensland.

Because we want Queenslanders everywhere to have good jobs and great opportunities.

Only the LNP has a plan that will get this State moving again and ensure Queensland's best days are ahead of us.



**Jon Krause MP**  
**Member for Scenic Rim**



**Jason Costigan MP**  
**Member for Whitsunday**