

## Inquiry into Regional development and a global Sydney.

### Post-hearing responses.

#### Hunter Business Chamber

#### Questions on Notice

**The Hon. JOHN GRAHAM:** I would like some more detail on a couple of your last comments. Firstly, about the airport, you mentioned a Queensland Government guarantee that might be relevant. Could you give us a little more detail on how that has worked in Queensland?

The Queensland government provide funding guarantees as well as a funded Connecting with Asia strategy which allows stakeholders in the tourism sector including airports to expand services based on direct and indirect financial support.

Two articles below refer to these initiatives which were boosted in the recent Queensland State budget for 2017/18. The hard copy of the articles are in **Attachment 1**.

<http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2017/6/13/state-budget-delivers-continued-support-for-queenslands-tourism-industry>

<http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2017/6/16/more-flights-more-tourists-more-jobs-for-queensland>

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**Mr HAWES:** The Hunter Business Chamber is the regional chamber for the Hunter region. There are 30 or so local chambers in the region. We did a survey of those chambers in the last month, and the second or the two top qualifying issues were the digital economy and the NBN rollout. What we understand from our research is that in some areas the Hunter has been extremely slow. There is certainly interest in having this connectivity and this new form of communication built in, but it is not happening fast enough. The other thing is that there is a learning curve for communities about the NBN—the cost and all those things so far as businesses are concerned.

**Mr HAWES:** If you are interested, we went through rank, priority, advocacy and policy or project issues that those regional chambers thought of, and there is a mix of them across the Hunter. I will give you the feedback of those if it is of any use.

**The Hon. PAUL GREEN:** That would be useful.

The outcomes of the survey in summary form are contained in **Attachment 2**.

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The Chair had also noted Mr Hawes reference to written script during the Opening Statement and asked if these could be submitted for reference. The notes are in **Attachment 3**



## Media release

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Commonwealth Games  
The Honourable Kate Jones

### **State Budget delivers continued support for Queensland's tourism industry**

The 2017-18 State Budget delivers ongoing funding to continue to grow Queensland's tourism industry.

Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Commonwealth Games Kate Jones said this year's Budget would help boost airline connections to Asia, promote destinations and foster talent for the industry's future workforce.

"We know tourism has the potential to support thousands more jobs in Queensland," Ms Jones said.

"That's why we are providing an extra \$47 million in 2000-21 to extend our \$400 million four-year funding guarantee to provide Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ) with the funding certainty they need to grow visitation to Queensland.

"We are standing by our commitment as well as rolling out our four-year \$33.5 million Advance Queensland: Connecting with Asia strategy.

"The Palaszczuk Government has also moved quickly to provide funding for Tropical Cyclone Debbie recovery efforts, with more than \$9 million for the tourism industry and small businesses.

"This funding package includes marketing and a range of targeted initiatives to help tourism operators and small business rebuild."

Ms Jones said the Palaszczuk Government's decision to provide Tourism and Events Queensland with funding security had helped secure major events to Queensland.

"This year Queensland will be hosting the Rugby League World Cup with three games played in Townsville as well as the semi-final and final in Brisbane," she said.

"We've secured the much-anticipated Horn v. Pacquiao world title fight at Suncorp Stadium."

Ms Jones said ongoing funding to connect with new Asian cities and develop new domestic routes would deliver more tourism jobs.

"Under the Attracting Aviation Investment Fund we delivered an extra 436,000 seats on air routes into the state and secured two new international air routes as well as a new domestic route," she said.

Ms Jones said the state's Advancing Tourism: 2016-20 Growing Queensland Jobs initiative was also reaping dividends with a \$14 billion tourism infrastructure pipeline of private investment set to deliver new hotels and resorts, airport upgrades and new tourist attractions across the state.

"As part of this plan we are looking to the future with funding of \$300,000 for the Young Tourism Leaders program over three years which is showcasing the endless opportunities that can come from a career in the tourism industry," she said.

"Over the next three years there is expected to be 20,000 new jobs created in the tourism industry here in Queensland so we need to ensure we have enough skilled people keen to fill those roles."

**Media contact:** 0437 069 516

# Media release

Friday, June 16, 2017.

## JOINT STATEMENT

Premier and Minister for the Arts

The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk

Minister for Education and Minister for Tourism, Major  
Events and the Commonwealth Games

The Honourable Kate Jones



## More flights, more tourists, more jobs for Queensland

The Palaszczuk Government has secured additional flights to attract more tourists and create more jobs for Queensland, with China Airlines to increase its Taipei-Brisbane service from four times per week to daily

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk said the extra flights, from December this year, would provide a \$52 million boost for Queensland's economy, deliver up to 50,000 extra passengers and support up to 400 Queensland jobs.

The Premier said the extra services, secured through the Palaszczuk Government's Attracting Aviation Investment Fund would deliver up to 50,000 extra passengers to Queensland over the next 12 months.

"Under my Government, we have secured new flights bringing more than 650,000 new seats to Queensland and injecting more than \$700 million in our tourism economy," she said.

"This is another vote of confidence to Queensland's tourism industry and for jobs for Queenslanders."

Tourism Minister Kate Jones said the additional flights were delivered in partnership with Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ), China Airlines, Brisbane Airport Corporation and other trade partners.

"Through the international aviation hub in Taipei, these extra services will open up additional access to other key markets including Japan, Korea, North America, Europe and the UK," the Minister said.

"The Asian market is one of huge potential for Queensland's tourism industry."

"China Airlines is a global airline with an extensive international network and these additional flights will deliver crucial access into Queensland from Taiwan."

The 2017-18 State Budget, released this week, delivered ongoing funding to continue to grow Queensland's tourism industry.

Ms Jones said this year's Budget would help boost airline connections to Asia, promote destinations and foster talent for the industry's future workforce.

"We know tourism has the potential to support thousands more jobs in Queensland," she said.

"That's why we are providing an extra \$47 million in 2020-21 to extend our \$400 million four-year funding guarantee to provide Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ) with the funding certainty they need to grow visitation to Queensland.

"We are standing by our commitment as well as rolling out our four-year \$33.5 million Advance Queensland: Connecting with Asia strategy."

"The Palaszczuk Government has also moved quickly to provide funding for Tropical Cyclone Debbie recovery efforts, with more than \$9 million for the tourism industry and small businesses."

Brisbane Airport Corporation CEO and Managing Director Julieanne Alroe said the additional services would meet growing demand on the route.

"The Taiwanese visitor market to Brisbane has grown consistently in the last few years with 71,000 Taiwan arrivals recorded into Queensland over the last year," Ms Alroe said.

The Attracting Aviation Investment Fund is a \$10 million funding commitment by the Palaszczuk Government to support new or expanding airlines to bring more passengers to Queensland by securing greater international aviation access.

International tourists continue to flock to Queensland, with 2.6 million visitors pumping a record-breaking \$5.2 billion into the State's economy. The latest Tourism Research Australia data, released this month, shows international visitation to Queensland increased by 6.8% in the year to March 2017. It reaffirms Queensland's tourism industry is going strong with total visitor nights from overseas travellers increasing to 53.5 million, up 3.2%.

**Media contact:**

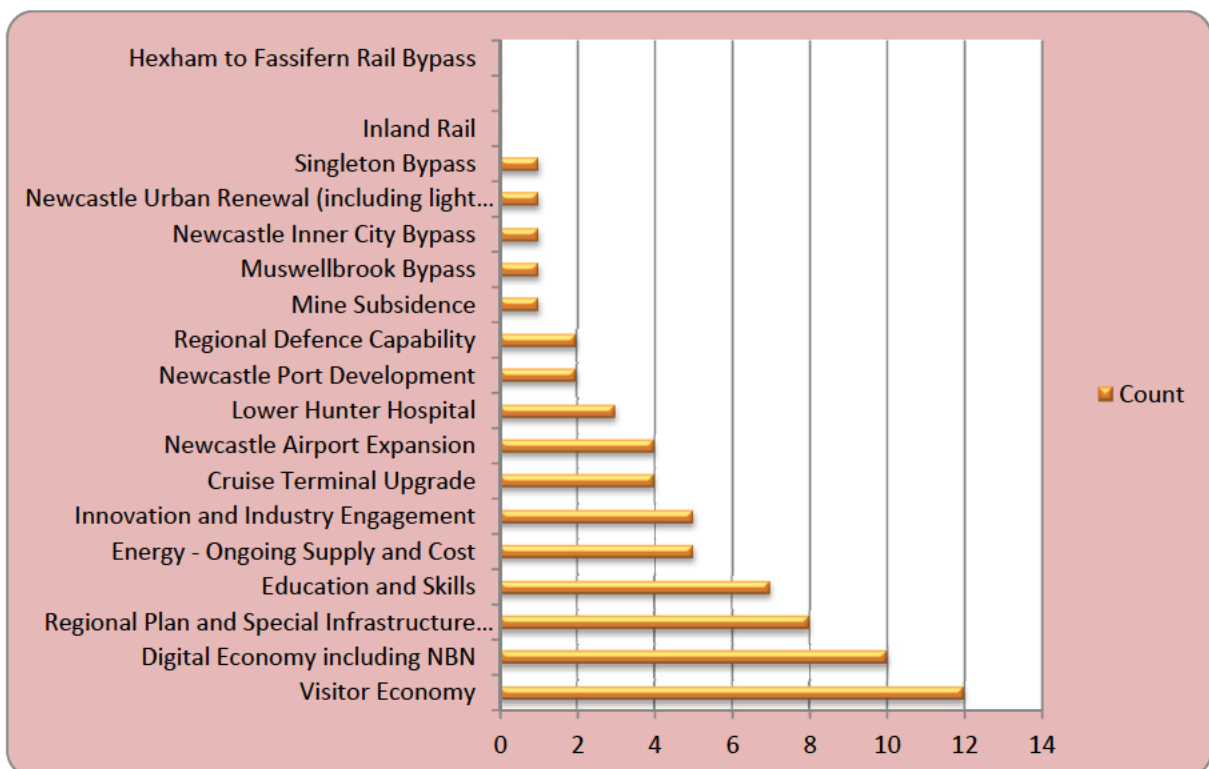
- **Kirby Anderson (Premier's office) 0417 263 791**
- **Emma Clarey (Tourism Minister's office) 0437 069 516**

## Local Chamber Survey Summary - Policy and Advocacy May 2017

### 1. The Task and Context

- Rank and comment on 19 Regional / subregional issues noted by HBC
- Noted in context of NSWBC Advocacy issues (from web site)
- Nominate significant local and district issues
- Consider 12 month and 3 year time frames
- List the constraints to achieving or addressing the issues
- What other issues are relevant

### 2. Ranking - Regional and sub regional Issues



### 3. Things reinforced

- Visitor economy growth and development including physical connections – airports, cruise terminal
- Government infrastructure priorities and investment – importance and relevance
- NBN and digital economy – issues in delivery and service
- Education and Skills and TAFE role

#### **4. Comments on the HBC List**

- a. Co-existence with mining together with site rehabilitation
- b. Decentralisation of industries – providing opportunity and encouraging migration
- c. Council restriction on development and utilisation of large land banks – sell to companies from Sydney that will invest and build employee numbers
- d. Marketing, promotion and coordination of a Regional Plan - where do we want to be; where are we headed; getting people to talk to each other.

#### **5. What you would like to add to the regional and subregional list**

- a. Employment opportunity including youth
- b. Public transport planning and expansion including buses, light rail and region blank spots.
- c. Glendale interchange
- d. Manufacturing industry sustainability
- e. Telecommunications (in addition to NBN)
- f. Seniors Living services and facilities
- g. Council S94 funds expenditure
- h. Coordination and collaboration across the region
- i. Resolving land use conflicts
- j. Regional marketing
- k. Regional share of mining royalties

#### **6. Local and District Issues -12 months**

##### ***6.1 Operational***

- a. Local chamber funding
- b. LCC Membership and engagement
- c. Coordination and communication (across Chambers)
- d. Chambers and Council working together

##### ***6.2 Projects and Policy***

- a. Industry expansion (airport and environs)
- b. 'Economic development' – tourism; creating new employment; urban renewal
- c. Branxton main street; Scone CBD and by pass; Lovedale signage;

#### **7. Local Issues – 3 years**

##### ***7.1 Operational***

- a. BIA model for Chambers

##### ***7.2 Projects and Policy***

- a. Regional Planning
- b. Conference Facility Nelson Bay (Visitor Economy)
- c. Urban infrastructure (paths, cycleways, parklands)

- d. Urban renewal; Scone main street development; other transport and road upgrades to key towns.
- e. Level of local rates; attracting government services back to towns;

#### **8. Issues preventing delivery – 12 months**

- a. Access to information
- b. Council lack of vision; funding; interest
- c. Local Chamber myopathy
- d. Lack of broader funding – state and feds
- e. Resourcing
- f. Lack of an agreed plan
- g. Lack of business confidence
- h. Lack of LCC resources to lobby for grants; lack of political transparency
- i. Lack of external interest (Kurri Kurri)
- j. Chamber committee commitment and drive
- k. Lack of time and meaningful engagement

#### **9. Issues preventing delivery – 3 years**

- a. Ibid: Councils, LCC funding, resources.
- b. Lack of agreed vision.
- c. Busting the Sydney centric mentality in infrastructure provision and employment growth.
- d. Collaboration and development of a masterplan
- e. Membership growth and engagement

#### **10. Other Comments**

- a. Lack of ability to influence government
- b. Chamber movement needs to do more to support small business
- c. Cut the red tape!
- d. Vision for stronger connection and representation between chambers and within the network – getting the local and regional perspective.
- e. Need for agreement by Chambers to advocacy issues
- f. Small business don't understand value of chamber membership
- g. Need for broader input into developing advocacy issues including people from outside the region and mining industry.
- h. Gaining traction and support from Council on major projects and business interests is difficult.
- i. Coalesce and coordinate the interests of Chambers, government and private sector to define goals for our region.