

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates
20 October 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Tourism infrastructure

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Ketter

QUESTION No.: SI-139

1. How many of the enquiries received by the NAIF have been in relation to tourism infrastructure?
2. How important is the development of and investment in tourism infrastructure to the NAIF?
3. What consideration has/will the Minister give to the proposal to allocate \$1 billion from the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility to a Northern Australia Tourism Infrastructure Fund, to boost partnerships with the tourism sector and provide incentives for investment in new and upgraded tourism infrastructure across the north?

ANSWER

1. As at 1 November 2016 the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) has received four tourism related enquiries.
2. The object of the *Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Act 2016* (the NAIF Act), which established the NAIF, is to provide finance for the construction of infrastructure that provides a basis for economic growth in northern Australia and stimulates population growth in northern Australia.

The White Paper on Developing Northern Australia identified tourism and hospitality as one of five industry pillars as having the most potential for growth in northern Australia.

3. Tourism infrastructure, could be eligible for NAIF financial assistance provided that the investment satisfies the NAIF Act objectives and the NAIF's Investment Mandate.