

Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

Great Barrier Reef Foundation – Answers to Questions on Notice from 18 September 2018

Questioner / Page Number	Question	Response
Senator Keneally, p. 8	Is Shell / BG a member of the Chairman's Panel? Who pays the membership?	Yes. Shell Australia
Chair, p.16 & p.17	Flow chart produced by the Chair	A flow chart showing the interplay of the Foundation with government and other agencies is on page 17 of the RTP <i>Governance Arrangements</i> – reproduced below.
Senator Duniam	Please provide a list of stakeholders that have expressed an interest in working with the foundation.	The Foundation works with a range of stakeholders across government, science and business communities. We will be providing our Communications and Engagement Strategy to the Commonwealth Government on 30 November 2018. It will be published 10 business days following this date.
Senator Keneally, p.18-19	\$800,000 has been spent on admin costs to date. What are these costs?	The Activity Gantt Chart that was released by the foundation stated that \$7.3million would be spent on this financial year for administrative costs. \$800,000 has been spent to date on:  salaries, consultants, rent, equipment, travel and accommodation to meet community representatives in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay to provide briefings on the RTP, meeting expenses and legal services.
Senator Keneally, p. 23	Do you think that a university admissions process that has leapfrogged 343 students could be evidence of an organisation that has failed to comply with obligations owed to the Commonwealth?	The Foundation is not aware of any determination being made by the Commonwealth Government that, during Dr Greenfield's tenure as Vice Chancellor of the University of Queensland, the University failed to comply with any grant requirements or obligations owed by the University to the Commonwealth Government.



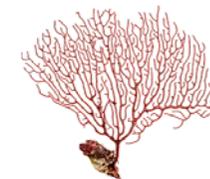
Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

Senator Anning, p.27	In the interests of verifying that the GBR projects are soundly based, and to demonstrate to all concerned that funds are spent on projects with the best ... science behind them, would the CEO and the board be supportive of an allocation of one percent of GBR funds to go to projects overseen by Professor Ridd?	Professor Ridd is welcome to submit a proposal for the Foundation's consideration under the Reef Trust Partnership.
Senator Waters, p.29	UNESCO World Heritage Centre update to 2017 World Heritage Coral Reefs: a first global scientific assessment – referring to this – How will your activities address UNESCO's concerns and the fact that we're going to lose all of our coral reefs if we continue to pump out carbon?	The Reef Trust Partnership Investment Strategy which is due to be provided to the Federal Government on 24 December will outline the approach and focus of activities enabled through grant. It will be published 10 business days following this date.
<i>Additional Questions from Senator Keneally provided via correspondence on 3 October 2018</i>		
1	How much has already been spent by the Foundation with regard to the expenditure set out in the Activity Gantt Chart? a) What amount has been spent on projects? b) What amount has been spent on administrative costs?	a) \$365,557 b) \$795,485
2	Has the Foundation sought legal advice relating to Dr Greenfield's involvement with the UQ Nepotism Scandal? a) Is Dr Greenfield eligible to remain in current role with the Foundation? b) Did Minister Frydenberg or Mr Turnbull raise any questions about Dr Greenfield's role on the board? c) Did anyone involved in government raise any questions about Dr Greenfield's role on the board?	No a) Yes b) No c) No



Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

3	<p>Of \$52.87m raised, how much is from the Chairman's Panel?</p> <p>a) What portion of that figure comes from Chairman's Panel membership fees?</p> <p>b) What portion of that figure has been spent on retreats such as the Qualia Resort Holiday in May 2018?</p>	<p>\$9.7 million has been raised through the Chairman's Panel.</p> <p>a) \$1.57 Million</p> <p>b) Approximately 47% of \$1.57million has been spent on joint events for members and scientists over nine years</p>
4	<p>Following the meeting on 9 April, did you exchange a series of letters with the then Minister Frydenberg?</p> <p>a) How many letters did you exchange, and were these emails or physical letters?</p> <p>b) Did you negotiate the terms of the grant in these letters?</p> <p>c) Did the Minister request any information from you as part of the due diligence process in these letters?</p> <p>d) Will you tender these letters to the Committee?</p>	<p>a) 2 letters, one emailed and one physically sent</p> <p>b) No</p> <p>c) No</p> <p>d) These letters have already been tabled by the Department as part of the FOI process but yes we are happy to resupply them to the Committee.</p>
5	<p>How are board members selected?</p> <p>a) Are board members remunerated at all?</p> <p>b) Is the Chair remunerated at all?</p> <p>c) Will the remunerations agreement change now that the Foundation has \$44 mil of public funds to apply to administration costs</p>	<p>The Nominations Committee of the Board assist in identifying candidates for Board, sub-Committee, Advisory Committee and Managing Director roles.</p> <p>a) No</p> <p>b) No</p> <p>c) No</p>
6	<p>Who appointed Stephen Roberts to the Board?</p> <p>a) How was he selected?</p>	<p>The Board appointed Stephen Roberts to the Board on recommendation of the Nominations Committee.</p> <p>a) Through the normal process of identifying candidates undertaken by the Nominations Committee.</p>



Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

7	<p>In 2003, the Foundation's annual report note that the Foundation is in receipt of two anonymous, untied bequests – one for \$18m, and another for \$4m – and yet these bequests have not yet appeared in the organisation's annual reports as revenue. Does the Foundation count these figures in its \$90m claim?</p> <p>b) Are these people still living?</p> <p>c) Are they still committed to these bequests?</p> <p>d) Are they still requesting anonymity?</p> <p>e) Have they indicated a change of bequest following the \$444m grant from the Government?</p>	<p>No. these bequests are not included in the \$90m.</p> <p>a) The Foundation has no further record of these bequests beyond their mention in the 2003 Annual Report and therefore is unable to provide answers to these questions.</p>
8	<p>Who does the Foundation bank with?</p> <p>a) Are they a Chairman's Panel member?</p> <p>b) Do they provide this service for a fee or pro bono?</p> <p>c) Will these arrangements continue now that the Foundation has \$44m of public funds available for administration costs?</p>	<p>Commonwealth Bank and Bank of Queensland</p> <p>a) Yes</p> <p>b) They do not provide any services under a pro bono arrangement</p> <p>c) There is no planned change to these arrangements since the establishment of the Reef Trust Partnership.</p>
9	<p>Is it correct that Westpac and ANZ both used to be a Chairman's Panel member?</p> <p>a) When did they cease to be members of the Panel?</p> <p>b) What was their reason for cancelling their Chairman's Panel membership?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>a) Westpac February 2015; ANZ July 2018</p> <p>b) A review of their community partnerships and priorities resulted in different charities being supported.</p>
10	<p>Does the Foundation have a general policy governing its banking and investment decisions?</p> <p>a) Was there a policy in place prior to the \$444m grant being offered?</p>	<p>The Foundation has an investment policy.</p> <p>a) No</p>



Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

11	<p>Does that policy address conflict of interests in relation to banks that are either represented on the Board or on the Chairman's Panel?</p> <p>a) If so, can that policy be tabled?</p> <p>b) If not, is there any other policy that addresses how the Foundation manages conflicts of interest?</p>	<p>Conflicts of interests are covered in a standalone policy that covers all Foundation activities and decision making.</p> <p>c) This policy is on the Foundation's website</p>
12	<p>Who is the Foundation's auditor?</p> <p>a) Are they a Chairman's Panel Member?</p> <p>b) Do they provide this service for a fee or pro bono?</p> <p>c) Will this arrangement continue now that the Foundation has \$44m of public funds available for administration costs?</p>	<p>Ernst and Young</p> <p>a) No</p> <p>b) They do not provide auditing services under a pro bono arrangement</p> <p>c) There is no planned change to these arrangements since the establishment of the Reef Trust Partnership.</p>
13	<p>Who is the Foundation's legal firm?</p> <p>a) Are they a Chairman's Panel Member?</p> <p>b) Do they provide this service for a fee or pro bono?</p> <p>c) Will this arrangement continue now that the Foundation has \$44m of public funds available for administration costs?</p>	<p>Allens</p> <p>a) Yes</p> <p>b) They provide legal services under both pro bono and fee paying arrangements</p> <p>c) There is no planned change to these arrangements since the establishment of the Reef Trust Partnership.</p>
14	<p>Who is the Foundation's insurance provider?</p> <p>a) Are they a Chairman's Panel Member?</p> <p>b) Do they provide this service for a fee or pro bono?</p> <p>c) Will this arrangement continue now that the Foundation has \$44m of public funds available for administration costs?</p>	<p>AON and Austrbrokers.</p> <p>a) No</p> <p>b) They do not provide insurance under a pro bono arrangement</p> <p>c) There is no planned change to these arrangements since the establishment of the Reef Trust Partnership.</p>



Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

15	Who is the Foundation's preferred airline? a) Are they a Chairman's Panel Member? b) Do they provide this service for a fee or pro bono? c) Will this arrangement continue now that the Foundation has \$44m of public funds available for administration costs?	Qantas a) Yes b) They provide a level of contra services under the annual partnership agreement c) There is no planned change to these arrangements since the establishment of the Reef Trust Partnership.
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