

Question on Notice

No. 780

Asked on 14 May 2019

MR J LANGBROEK asked the Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (HON S HINCHLIFFE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the 15 recommendations made in the final report of the Queensland Greyhound Racing Industry Commission of Inquiry aimed at improving integrity and animal welfare in the racing industry and the Queensland Government's official response to initiate 75 activities to address these recommendations—

Will the Minister advise (a) the recommendations that are yet to be completed and (b) the government-initiated activities yet to be completed?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Greyhound Racing Industry Commission of Inquiry (MacSporran Report) set out 15 recommendations aimed at improving integrity and animal welfare in the racing industry. The Queensland Government Response included 75 government initiated activities to implement the recommendations of the MacSporran Report.

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (the Commission) has maintained a strong focus on the continued delivery of the MacSporran recommendations over the last three years. To date, seven recommendations, comprising 55 government initiated activities, have been finalised.

(a) Recommendations finalised include:

- Recommendation 1: Institutional and functional model for integrity management of the Queensland Racing Industry;
- Recommendation 2: Operational model for the commercial business of the racing industry;
- Recommendation 3: The detecting, assessing, mitigating and prosecution of all breaches of the Racing Act or any other relevant Act;
- Recommendation 5: The tracking of greyhounds from birth to leaving the racing industry;
- Recommendation 6: Injury tracking;
- Recommendation 8: Discontinuation of QGreys breeding incentive program; and
- Recommendation 12: Overbreeding of greyhounds and the issue of wastage.

(b) The Commission and Racing Queensland share responsibility for implementing the remaining recommendations of the MacSporran Report and the associated government activities. The Commission and Racing Queensland co-chair a joint MacSporran Working Group to govern these activities.

The remaining eight recommendations, including the status of the government initiated activities associated with each recommendation, are:

Recommendations 4, 7, 10 and 14:

- Completing these recommendations is dependent on the development of the Commission's new on-line customer relationship management system, RandLE. Of the 15 government-initiated activities required to deliver these recommendations, seven are complete, five are in progress and three have been deferred by Government.

Recommendation 9:

- This recommendation is comprised of four government initiated activities, three of which have been completed and one deferred by Government.

Recommendations 11, 13 and 15:

- These recommendations are being led by Racing Queensland and require the development of minimum standards and training packages. Of the 12 government-initiated activities required to deliver these recommendations, one is complete and the remaining activities are in progress. Greyhound Training Track Operator Guidelines and a Greyhound Training Track Registration Policy are currently being finalised by Racing Queensland following industry feedback. The development and alignment of training packages and qualifications remains an issue nationally and is hindering the progress of these recommendations.

The implementation of four government-initiated activities related to recommendations 9 and 10 were deferred in 2017 for up to three years due to a significant reduction in greyhound breeding numbers since 2014-15 and concerns for the sustainability of the greyhound racing industry in Queensland. The deferral is subject to overbreeding and wastage not re-emerging as issues and the Commission will continue to monitor breeding and wastage numbers.