

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

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From: Mr Ian Sloan MLA

To: Hon Nicole Manison MLA

Portfolio: Agribusiness and Aquaculture

Agency: Industry, Tourism and Trade

Subject: Chief Veterinary Officer role and available resources

QUESTION:

What is the role of the Chief Veterinary Officer in the live cattle trade? How many staff does she have at her disposal? Are the resources available sufficient to fill the needs of the industry under increasing regulatory requirements?

ANSWER:

Role in live cattle export trade

The Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) has responsibility for administration of the Northern Territory *Livestock Act 2008* and Regulations.

The CVO leads the Livestock Biosecurity Branch, including support for the pastoral industry in the Northern Territory and livestock exports.

The Australian Government regulates the live cattle export trade.

Resources

There are 29 staff in the Livestock Biosecurity Branch.

Resourcing of the Livestock Biosecurity Branch is regularly reviewed to assess future operational needs, including industry needs.