



Hon Tim Mulherin MP
Member for Mackay



**Queensland
Government**

**Minister for Primary Industries
and Fisheries**

Reference: 07163/09

23 SEP 2009

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of Parliament
TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Neil
Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 1254-09 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 4 August 2009 regarding the position of Principal Industry Development Officer (Horses).

I have responded directly to the principal petitioner, Mr Warren Gardiner, and attach a copy of my reply in accordance with Standing Orders.

Yours sincerely

TIM MULHERIN, MP
**Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries
and Rural and Regional Queensland**
Member for Mackay

Att

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Hon Tim Mulherin MP
Member for Mackay



**Queensland
Government**

Reference: 07153/09

**Minister for Primary Industries
and Fisheries**

Mr Warren Gardiner
Vice President Queensland Horse Council Inc
The University of Queensland Gatton Campus
Gatton Qld 4343

Dear Mr Gardiner

I refer to the petition, with yourself as Principal Petitioner, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly regarding the position of Principal Industry Development Officer (Horses) in Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries (QPIF), part of the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation.

On 7 August 2009, I wrote to Mrs Debbie Dekker, President of the Queensland Horse Council Inc (QHC), in response to a letter raising concerns about the termination of the temporary Principal Industry Development Officer (Horses) position in Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries (QPIF). Mrs Dekker informed me in her letter that QHC was conducting both an E-Petition and a written petition.

As I said in my previous letter, it is unfortunate that industry developed an expectation that the Principal Policy Officer (Horses) position would be retained as a permanent position. The 12 month position was created in response to a request from the Queensland Horse Council to QPIF for special assistance when the industry was recovering from Equine Influenza and attempting to restructure their representational arrangements. The position was terminated at the end of the 12 month term.

QPIF recognises the importance of the horse industries and has implemented processes for engagement with those industries. In my previous letter to Mrs Dekker I provided contact details for appropriate officers in Biosecurity Queensland and Industry Development and Trade. The Horse Industry Biosecurity and Market Access Liaison Group convened by Biosecurity Queensland is the major forum for whole of industry engagement. I am advised that QHC is an active member of this group.

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If you require any further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr John Daniels of the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation on telephone 07 3239 3214 or email john.daniels@deedi.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Mulherin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'T' and 'M'.

TIM MULHERIN, MP
Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries
and Rural and Regional Queensland
Member for Mackay