



TORRES STRAIT ISLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

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Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House QLD 4000
Email: aec@parliament.qld.gov.au

12 January 2017

Dear Sir / Madam

Inquiry into the impacts of invasive plants (weeds) and their control

Please accept this document as the submission from the Torres Strait Island Regional Council (TSIRC) in relation to the Parliamentary Inquiry into the impacts of invasive plants (weeds) and their control in Queensland:

Responses to the terms of reference are detailed below:

- **the responsibilities of local governments in relation to the control of prohibited, restricted and invasive plants imposed under s.48 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* are reasonable, and local governments are meeting those obligations**

TSIRC undertakes its responsibilities under the Biosecurity Act 2014. TSIRC has nine staff authorised under the new Act, with seven located on the islands. TSIRC allows the Torres Strait Regional Authority to undertake weed control within its local government area with the exception of Hammond Island.

- **programs for the control of weeds on Crown land administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines are effective**

There are no programs for the control of weeds administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines within the TSIRC local government area.

- **Biosecurity Queensland's weeds programs, including biological controls and new technologies, are adequately funded and effective at controlling weeds**

TSIRC is not aware that any of Biosecurity Queensland's weeds programs impact on the Torres Strait region.

- **environmental programs administered by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection impact favourably on weed control programs administered by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and local governments**

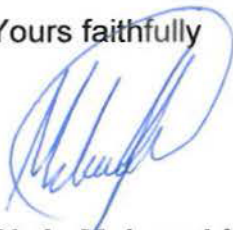
TSIRC is not aware of any environmental programs administered by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection that are conducted in the Torres Strait Region.

- **federal, state and local government weeds programs are coordinated to maximise their achievements and to have a whole of government approach.**

The Torres Strait Regional Authority undertakes weed control programs with in the TSIRC local government area except Hammond.

Should you wish to discuss the response please do not hesitate to contact our Manager Environment and Health, Mr Ewan Gunn on phone [REDACTED], or [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully



Chris McLaughlin

Acting Chief Executive Officer