

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**No. 724**  
**Asked on Thursday, 11 May 2006**

**MRS PRATT** asked the Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (MR MULHERIN)-

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the South Burnett and other tick free areas and straying stock from infested areas to tick free areas—

- (1) How many complaints have been lodged regarding straying stock and how many were multiple incidences against individuals?
- (2) How many companies/individuals have been charged, prosecuted and convicted of the offence and what penalties were applied?
- (3) What measures have been put in place to ensure these offenders do not continue to flout their obligations?

**ANSWER:**

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) does not have legislative authority for the control of straying stock. Straying stock issues are the responsibility of local government authorities.

- (1) The DPI&F Kingaroy office has received one complaint about straying stock and the Stock Inspectors at Murgon have received two reports of straying stock. All reports were for the same incident. The people making the reports indicated that this was at least the second time that the stock from the property concerned had been on the road.
- (2) Information on the number of charges, prosecutions, convictions and any penalties for straying stock offences should be sought from relevant local government authorities in the South Burnett area.
- (3) In the case of the complaints that have been received, DPI&F has written to the relevant local government authority and the property owner involved reinforcing it's concern with the risk of straying stock re-infesting the cattle tick Control or Free Zones and supporting the council taking any action that the council is empowered or authorised to use to ensure that the risk of cattle tick re-infesting any of these areas is minimised.

DPI&F Inspectors have also spoken with the overseer responsible for the management of the cattle on the relevant property and the property has a current approved program for the eradication of cattle tick.