

**Question on Notice
No. 863
Asked on 6 June 2007**

QUESTION:

MRS PRATT asked the Minister for Environment and Multiculturalism (Ms Nelson-Carr)—

With reference to Question on Notice No. 455 asked on 14 March 2007 and to the maintenance and costs associated with horse riding trails—

- (1) Why have horse riders been asked to contribute to maintaining the Government's proposed riding trail network?
- (2) How many riding trail networks in the Nanango Electorate will be affected?
- (3) What is the amount allocated to Sport and Recreation for funding of these trails in the Nanango Electorate?
- (4) What is the length of riding trails proposed within the Nanango Electorate under the proposed trail network?
- (5) What is the existing length of trails for riders in the Nanango Electorate?
- (6) What has been the contribution for riding trail maintenance individually by (a) the Government and (b) riders, to date?

ANSWER:

- (1) Horse riders have not been asked to contribute to maintaining the Government's proposed horse riding network.

The proposed horse riding trail network to which you refer will fulfil the Government's commitment to provide horse riders with continued, long term use of some formed management roads through proposed national parks that have historically been used for horse riding.

We have given a commitment that horse riders will be able to continue using some management roads through proposed national parks that are part of the South East Queensland Forests Agreement. This continued use will occur on management roads that have historically been used for horse riding in five project areas. These areas include Noosa, Gold Coast, Western Brisbane, Caboolture-Bellthorpe, and Kenilworth-Mapleton.

- (2) The horse riding trail network is still being finalised in consultation with the horse riding and conservation stakeholders.
- (3) To support the implementation of the proposed horse riding trails in the five South East Queensland project areas of Noosa, Gold Coast, Western Brisbane, Caboolture-Bellthorpe, and Kenilworth-Mapleton, the Government, through the EPA, has committed \$650,000 to support the

implementation of horse riding trails under the South East Queensland Forests Agreement.

Once the horse riding trail network is finalised, works, including additional signage, will be prioritised across the network and where additional funding is required it will be sought from the Government. As the previous Minister for Environment stated in 2006, where that \$650,000 is inadequate, the Minister will seek further money for those works.

- (4) The horse riding trail network is still being finalised in consultation with the horse riding and conservation stakeholders.
- (5) Horse trails in Nanango electorate may cover many tenures including forest reserve, State forest, private land, council land, etc. Exact lengths for all these tenures cannot be provided.
- (6) Riding trail maintenance on EPA managed areas and State forests is undertaken as part of the normal every day work of managing these areas for access by anyone, whether on foot, by vehicle, by bike or by horse. For EPA managed lands, riders have not been asked to contribute to maintenance.