

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**No. 1716**  
**Asked on 10 November 2009**

**MR MCLINDON** asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland (MR MULHERIN)—

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the Hendra Virus—

- (1) Will the Minister outline the guidelines for the management of the Hendra Virus in the Canungra and surrounding areas, specifically outlining the management plans involving the increasing bat population?
- (2) Will the Minister allow all Queensland local government jurisdictions the use of a damage mitigation permit at their discretion?

**ANSWER:**

- (1) The guidelines for the management of Hendra virus in the Canungra and surrounding areas are exactly the same as for any other part of Queensland. These are to prevent contact between bats and horses, horse feed and water as far as practicable. Further, if a horse is showing clinical signs that are consistent with Hendra virus infection, handlers should take simple precautions to prevent transfer of infection to humans by wearing gloves, overalls, a mask and washing thoroughly after contact with horses.

The guidelines for the management of Hendra Virus are available via the Department of Employment, Education and Innovation website ([www.deedi.qld.gov.au](http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au)). I encourage all members of the community to take a precautionary approach wherever possible, and familiarise themselves with the information available.

- (2) Responsibility for the issue of damage mitigation permits is within the portfolio of my colleague the Honourable Kate Jones, MP, Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability and this part of the question should be directed accordingly.