

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 2027
Asked on 7 October 2010

MR HOOLIHAN asked the Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland (MR MULHERIN)–

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how cattle growers and the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation are collaborating to drive the 2020 Beef Industry Reference Group?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is delivering on a plan to take Queensland's iconic beef industry into the 21st century and significantly increase its value. Queensland's beef research, infrastructure, collaborations and investment are being completely renewed under 2020 Beef, providing better outcomes for our beef producers.

2020 Beef aims to grow the profitability of the industry to a value in excess of \$10 billion by the year 2020 and increase the number of Queenslanders employed in the industry from 34 000 to around 60 000.

The second 2020 Beef Reference Group meeting was held on 13 October, with more than 30 industry representatives in attendance. Through the Reference Group, leading beef companies, representing the entire supply chain, are being engaged directly in determining the priorities for our 2020 Beef initiative.

Working groups have been formed to address each of the priorities, which include: Legislative Reform, Market Access; Policy and Legislation; Productivity and the Environment; Biosecurity; Skilling and Retention; and Infrastructure and Transport.

Companies represented on the 2020 Beef Reference Groups include: Swift Australia; Nippon Meat Packers; Camm Agricultural Group; AgForce Queensland; Stanbroke Pastoral Company; Teys Brothers; Livestock Transporters Association of Queensland; Mort & Co; Macquarie Pastoral Company; Nolans Meats; Australian Lotfeeders Association; Northern Australian Beef Research Council; Meat and Livestock Australia; John Dee; Australian Livestock Property Agents; Australian Livestock Exporters Council; Cattle Council of Australia; Austrec; and AAA Livestock Services.

This collaboration between several government departments, led by DEEDI, and a full cross-section of the Queensland beef industry is important because it means that government and industry together are deciding on priorities and actions for government to take and for industry to take, to drive industry growth into the future.