

QUESTION ON NOTICE
No. 128
Asked on 7 March 2013

MR HOBBS asked the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (MR McVEIGH)–

QUESTION:

Will the Minister (a) outline what frontline services are being provided in the Warrego Electorate by the department and (b) advise the locations where these services are being provided?

ANSWER:

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) provides a range of frontline services to primary producers and communities within the Warrego electorate.

DAFF staff are located in offices in Roma, Charleville, Cunnamulla, St George, Barakula State Forest, Mitchell and Injune within the electorate.

The support provided by DAFF officers varies from centre to centre and covers a diversity of services including:

- Biosecurity matters such as
 - o animal health surveillance and management
 - o wild dog control and management including maintenance of barrier fencing
 - o cattle tick surveillance and management
 - o crop protection
 - o invasive plant surveillance and control
- Extension services associated with pastures and soil, as well as for the beef, grains, sheep and goat industries
- Commercial management of state forests
- Drought and other disaster assistance programs
- General information services about all DAFF programs.

For example, the larger offices in Roma and Charleville provide many of these services listed above. Other centres such as Cunnamulla, St George, Mitchell and Injune access support from other DAFF offices including those outside the electorate.

In addition to the staff located in these towns, primary producers and communities are also supported by DAFF officers based outside the Warrego electorate in major centres such as Toowoomba and Brisbane. Services provided by officers from these centres include:

- development and education
- research for the grains, cotton, beef and sheep industries.

Individuals and organisations can also access information and support via the DAFF website www.daff.qld.gov.au or by calling the Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23.

The Queensland Government recognises agriculture as one of the four pillars of the Queensland economy and we will continue to provide services to agricultural producers throughout the state, including those in the Warrego electorate, to enable them to improve the productivity and profitability of their businesses.