

## **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**No. 482**

**Asked on 4 June 2015**

**MS LEAHY** asked the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries and Minister for Sport and Racing (MR BYRNE)—

### **QUESTION:**

Will the Minister advise the outcomes of the Wild Dog Compliance Trial Pilot Project, in the Murweh, Paroo, and Somerset Regional Councils?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for the question.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) has prepared a report on the wild dog compliance pilot project which was conducted across the six months from July to December 2014.

The key findings from the report are that existing legislation meets the needs of wild dog compliance and that local government can conduct compliance action in relation to wild dogs, provided their officers have the intention, skills and resources to do this.

To carry out a compliance program on wild dogs, the project found it is important for a local government to ensure they understand the compliance process to be followed under the Act; that they have developed a compliance policy; that their Authorised Persons under the Act have the necessary skills in legislation and investigation as well as relevant equipment and facilities; that a Pest Survey Program for wild dogs is implemented; and that they undertake investigations and follow up complaints in an appropriate manner.

The report will be publically presented at the Local Government Association of Queensland Bush Councils Convention in July this year and made available to the public on the department's website shortly after.

The project also highlighted the importance of education and extension. Property owners were often unaware of their obligations or how to control wild dogs and guidance by local government and DAF officers is invaluable in assisting them meet their obligations.

DAF has a role in providing training and mentoring support to local government and the pilot project has left a legacy in most of the participating shires. DAF will continue to support local government to effectively carry out their legislated responsibilities for wild dogs.