

Question on Notice

No. 329

Asked on 31 March 2022

MRS D FRECKLINGTON ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the Training Assistance Fund to support racing participants in flood impacted areas of South East Queensland—

Will the Minister explain (a) why Cherbourg Regional Council is listed in the media statement of 5 March 2022, yet is not listed on the Racing Queensland website and (b) why the South Burnett region has not been included, given it is a defined disaster area (for the South East Queensland Rainfall and Flooding event 22 Feb-7 March)?

ANSWER:

The Queensland racing industry was significantly affected by the South East Queensland rainfall and flooding event, with initial estimates indicating more than 1200 trainers would be impacted by heavy rainfall and flooding, lost race meetings and increased costs for transport, feed and bedding for their animals.

On 5 March 2022, I announced \$500,000 in flood relief for the industry, to be overseen and administered by Racing Queensland to ensure that financial relief was available to affected participants, as quickly as possible.

Racing Queensland advises that on 5 March 2022, the information on its website was consistent with that listed in the media statement. As information on affected areas has been updated, Racing Queensland has updated its website. The list of eligible areas now includes Cherbourg and an additional five areas, including North Burnett and South Burnett Regional Councils.

Racing Queensland has communicated the amended list of eligible areas to affected racing industry participants and trainers who are able to access financial assistance under the Training Assistance Fund.