

Question on Notice

No. 1140

Asked on 14 October 2025

MR S KNUTH asked the Minister for Primary Industries (HON A PERRETT)—

QUESTION:

With reference to concerns about producers in Far North Queensland facing a lack of fair market access because of the lack of regulatory pathways to support micro-abattoirs and meat processing facilities on rural-zoned land, and in light of reforms in other states—

Will the Minister consider implementing regulatory changes to provide comparable development exemptions or complying-use pathways for on farm micro-abattoirs and meat processing facilities, recognising them as ancillary to farming?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The Queensland Government is supportive of on-farm diversification and recognises the opportunity that on farm micro-abattoirs and meat processing facilities can offer producers and rural Queensland communities. Safe Food Production Queensland is responsible for regulating livestock meat processing in Queensland under the *Food Production (Safety) Act 2000* and *Food Production (Safety) Regulation 2014* and this legislation does not prohibit micro-abattoirs. Safe Food Production Queensland can provide operators with guidance on food safety regulatory compliance and food safety standards.

The Department of Primary Industries is the Queensland Government's lead agency for animal welfare activities. Any livestock slaughter, including at a livestock processing facility that is on-farm, must meet the requirements of the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*.

Additional requirements for meat processing activities may apply under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. As these matters fall within the portfolio of the Honourable Andrew Powell, Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation, the Member may wish to redirect this part of their question as appropriate.

Matters concerning land use changes on rural-zoned land fall within the portfolio the Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations. As such, the Member may wish to redirect this part of their question as appropriate.