



To Dr. Jane Thompson,
Committee Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Reference Committee
Parliament House
Canberra
ACT 2600

Inquiry into the feasibility of a national horse traceability register for all horses.

The Western Australian Horse Council is pleased to make the following comments –

We have long been under the unsatisfactory situation of there being no accurate knowledge of the number equines, their distribution, and their contribution to the State and Federal economies.

It is estimated that current registration processes, including racing, trotting, breed societies, sporting groups and recreational societies may account for little more than half the total population.

Some years ago an unsuccessful representation was made to the WA Dept of Agriculture, as it was then known, for the inclusion of equines at the initiation of the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) processes which apply to all farm animal movements from premises which, in theory, all now have a Property Identification Code (PIC). These two factors could provide an immediate basis for a traceability register.

The WAHC wholeheartedly supports this initiative as set out in the terms of reference.

Regards,

Diane Bennit AM
Chair, WAHC.
26.03.2019

Representing a united horse community in Western Australia.