MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION

ACTION SHEET

MINISTER'S OFFICE USE

☑ Minister Reply
☐ Chief of Staff Reply
☐ Briefing Note

☐ Departmental Response
☐ Department Action
☐ Department Information

☐ Refer to: _____

☐ No Further Action Required

☐ Copy to
○ Director-General

Comments:

_____
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Signature: _____ Date: 6/1/14.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

11/612

MECU USE
TO: _____ Dept Ref: CTS ____/____ Due Date to MECU___/___/___

RELATED CORRESPONDENCE: _____

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER COMMENTS:

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_____
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_____

Abbey Ride

From: Hinchinbrook Electorate Office <Hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 20 December 2013 6:42 PM
To: Environment
Subject: s.49 - Confidential Information Re: Wallabies

Dear Minister,

Please find following correspondence received from one of our constituents, s.49 of South Mission Beach.

Whilst it is understood that you have responded on a number of occasions regarding wallaby populations in the Mission Beach are s.49 has drawn light to a burgeoning problem associated with erosion due to wallabies over-grazing coastal-fringe areas.

On behalf o s.49 I am requesting that you consider the points that he has raised, with a view to responding to same as soon as practicable.

Your assistance with this matter is, as always, appreciated.

Kindest regards,

Jess Exelby | Electorate Officer
The Hon Andrew Cripps MP
Member for Hinchinbrook
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

PO Box 1515, Ingham, Queensland, 4850
P: 07 4776 1428 | F: 07 4776 3503
E: hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au
W: www.andrewcripps.com.au

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

s.49 - Confidential Information

[redacted]

s.49 - Confidential Information

[redacted]

Consider the environment before you print this email.

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It is the addressee's responsibility to scan this message for viruses.The Parliamentary Service does not warrant that the information is free from any virus,defect or error.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

Ref CTS 00372/14

24 JAN 2014

Level 13
400 George Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2454 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7330
Facsimile +61 7 3220 6231
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

The Honourable Andrew Cripps MP
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
Member for Hinchinbrook
PO Box 1515
INGHAM QLD 4850

Dear Minister

Thank you for your email of 20 December 2013 making representation on behalf of s.49 [redacted] s.49 [redacted] of South Mission Beach concerning the wallaby population at South Mission Beach. The Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection has asked me to reply on his behalf.

I recognise s.49 [redacted] concerns regarding the overabundance of agile wallabies in the area that has created a number of environmental, health and economic concerns as outlined in his letter.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's role is to support others in managing nuisance wildlife via issuing necessary approvals such as Damage Mitigation Permits. As outlined in Minister Powell's previous correspondence, the management of agile wallabies in the South Mission Beach area will require a coordinated approach from all parties involved. Cassowary Coast Regional Council is best placed to coordinate and manage the public amenity impacts from these animals. Councils around Queensland already play a leading role in this regard, through their work to manage nuisance flying-fox roosts and other problem species, such as ibis and magpies.

I can also reaffirm from the Minister's prior correspondence that EHP officers met with the council's Chief Executive Officer and other officers in August 2013. The EHP officers outlined options to address the issue, which included moving the animals outside of the residential zone to be euthanised. EHP has since reiterated its offers of assistance to council, including most recently by EHP's Director-General, Mr Jon Black, to the council's Chief Executive Officer on 16 January this year.

Regarding your constituent's concerns about health matters specifically, it is recommend that community members continue to take any necessary precautions, especially to ensure that they wash their hands effectively, perform the necessary hygiene practices and avoid coming into contact with the wallabies where possible.

The Minister hopes this information is of assistance when replying to your constituent. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact the Minister's Office on 3719 7330.

Yours sincerely

s.49 - Signature [redacted]

Fiona Procter
Acting Chief of Staff

PTI DL RELEASE - EHP

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION

ACTION SHEET

MINISTER'S OFFICE USE

☑ Minister Reply
☐ Chief of Staff Reply
☐ Briefing Note

☐ Departmental Response
☐ Department Action
☐ Department Information

☐ Refer to: _____

☐ No Further Action Required

☐ Copy to
  ○ Director-General

Comments:

Signature: GS Date: 24/4/13.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

08803/13

MECU USE

TO: _____ Dept Ref: CTS _____/___ Due Date to MECU___/___/___

RELATED CORRESPONDENCE: CTS 05772/13.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER COMMENTS:

Hinchinbrook Central
86-92 Herbert Street, INGHAM, QLD, 4850
Post: PO Box 1515, INGHAM, QLD, 4850
E-mail: hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au
Web: www.andrewcripps.com.au
Phone: 07 4776 1428
Fax: 07 4776 3503
Local Call: 1800 810 656

THE HON ANDREW CRIPPS MP
MEMBER FOR HINCHINBROOK

OFFICE OF THE QLD MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION
23 APR 2013

18 April 2013

The Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

I write on behalf of a number of constituents who have contacted me on several occasions regarding the increasing presence of wallabies in the South Mission Beach area.

I have previously brought this matter to your attention through representations dated 12 March 2013, however the ongoing complaints and wallaby *'incidences'* has necessitated further representations.

It has been brought to my attention that recent *'wallaby incidences'* involve:

- A wallaby mounted a small boy.
- A wallaby scratched and drew blood on a woman's face which required treatment.
- A 5'2" woman in her 70's had a wallaby race at her and literally jumped over her, giving her an enormous fright.
- Suburban lawns and landscaped gardens are being severely damaged, and the introduced weeds through droppings is causing major concern.

Holiday accommodation venues have reported guests being very concerned at the potential of aggression of wallabies, the potential to pick up allergies or disease from their droppings, the smell of manure and the unsightliness of droppings on pedestrian walkways.

Holiday venues are concerned at losing trade as the tourist season is about to begin and the region is still recovering from Cyclone Yasi.

I have enclosed a photo which appeared in today's Tully Times highlighting the prolific wallaby population in South Mission Beach and respectfully request that this matter is given your urgent attention, and advice as to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection's position on mitigating this problem and giving assistance to the residents of South Mission Beach.

I look forward to your advice.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Cripps MP
Member for Hinchinbrook
Encl

PTI DE RELEASE - EHP

08903/13

WHAT WALLABIES? A loyal reader sent in this photo of wallabies at South Mission Beach a little while ago. At the time some people were complaining about a drop in wallaby numbers. "Have a look at this photo and tell me if you think wallaby numbers are on the decrease?!" the loyal reader asked. Calls for a wallaby cull have gone out and some people think a cull has recently taken place. The *Tully Times* is currently looking into the matter and hopes for a response from Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.

AGILE WALLABIES: The *Tully Times* also drove around South Mission Beach and agile wallabies were everywhere. Also in the car was an old mate, who just happens to be a wildlife research scientist. He went into great detail about the breeding reasons for this wallaby sitting with its tail in this position.

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

Ref CTS 08903/13

6 JUN 2013

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Facsimile +61 7 3224 2496
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

The Honourable Andrew Cripps MP
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
Member for Hinchinbrook
PO Box 1515
INGHAM QLD 4850

Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter of 18 April 2013 concerning the increased population of agile wallabies in the South Mission Beach area. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection has been monitoring the increased agile wallaby population at Mission Beach. I thank you for passing on these reports of wallabies behaving aggressively.

The department's role with respect to nuisance wildlife is principally to assist in supporting others in managing it via issuing necessary approvals. There are however two long standing and notable exceptions, being cassowaries and estuarine crocodiles, where the department directly manages these dangerous animals in the wild for human safety reasons.

In the case of these wallabies, local government is considered better placed to conduct on-ground management. Councils around Queensland already play a leading role in this regard, through their work to manage nuisance flying fox roosts and other problem species such as ibis and magpies.

Departmental officers are seeking discussion with Cassowary Coast Council in an attempt to find a resolution to this situation. I will provide you further advice as the issue progresses.

I hope this information is of assistance when replying to your constituents. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact my Chief of Staff, Mr Troy Collings on 3239 0844.

Yours sincerely

ANDREW POWELL MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

RTI DE-RELEASE - EHP

Ufer Cathy

From: Corro EHP Minister
Sent: Wednesday, 17 July 2013 11:44 AM
To: Ufer Cathy; Gardiner Dorelle
Subject: FW: TF/13/15488 - Ministerial Liaison Request - s.49 [redacted]
Attachments: Wallaby plague - South Mission Beach.html; DEHP - TF1315488 s.49 [redacted] [redacted].docx; PRIORITY MINISTERIAL Wallaby plague - South Mission Beach.tr5; Email forwarded from the Prime Minister with concerns about the ~ plague in South Mission Beach and asking what can be done to control it.html

Erin Taylor
Project Officer
Ministerial and Executive Correspondence Unit
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
Telephone: 07 33306256
Fax: 3224 2496.
Email: erin.taylor@ehp.qld.gov.au

From: Premier Liaison [mailto:Premier.Liaison@premiers.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 July 2013 11:39 AM
To: Corro EHP Minister
Cc: Rachel Lunnon; Admin ERP (DPC)
Subject: TF/13/15488 - Ministerial Liaison Request s.49 [redacted]

Good morning

The Premier has received the attached correspondence from a member of the public s.49 [redacted] about **the Wallaby plague - South Mission Beach.** It would be appreciated if you could please review the correspondence and prepare a draft response for Premier signature, addressing the issues raised.

To assist you in preparing your response, please find attached:

- incoming correspondence (emails)
- Premier correspondence template (partially completed).
- Previous correspondence (email)

Note that the Premiers office has not provided any specific drafting instructions.

Please provide the draft response for Premier consideration, with any appropriate supporting documentation, to premier.liaison@premiers.qld.gov.au by **31 July 2013.** It would also be appreciated if you could also provide the **contact details of a departmental officer** who we could discuss the content with should we require any content clarification (name, position, email address and contact number). Should your Minister have corresponded with the constituent previously on this issue, please provide the Premier with a copy of their response.

Should you wish to seek an extension, please contact Ms Karen Cowell at premier.liaison@premiers.qld.gov.au prior to the due date with a valid reason why the timeline cannot be met, and a proposed new due date.

Thanks in advance for your assistance.
***Please note a .tr5 file has also been attached for DPC's ease of reference. This file is an internal link to our record management system and therefore will not open externally ***

Seja Vogel
Administration Officer
Executive Correspondence Unit
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

RTIDL RELEASE - EHP

Pages 10 through 11 redacted for the following reasons:
- -
s.49 - Confidential Information

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

For reply please quote: *DEHP/ERP – TF/13/15488*

s.49 - Confidential Information

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Thank you for your two emails of 9 July 2013 highlighting the problems that you and other residents in the South Mission Beach area are having with wallabies and the damage that they are causing.

Due to the concerns raised, I have sought advice directly from my Cabinet colleague, the Honourable Andrew Powell MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection. The Queensland Government recognises the South Mission Beach community's concerns regarding the overabundance of agile wallabies and is taking the necessary action to minimise the impacts that can result.

There are mechanisms under current legislation that allow the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) to issue permits to local governments or to landowners, to control animal populations when they become out of balance. Currently, damage mitigation permits have been issued to three farmers in the surrounding area to protect their livelihood from damage caused by wallabies.

An application for such a permit is available from the EHP website at www.ehp.qld.gov.au by clicking on (1) 'Topics', (2) under the 'Wildlife and Ecosystems' heading click on 'Animals', (3) 'Wildlife permits and licenses', (4) 'Application form', (5) 'Damage mitigation permit (culling and disposing of wildlife)'. DEHP will process any applications received as a matter of urgency.

Again, thank you for writing to me on this matter and I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

CAMPBELL NEWMAN

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: *DEHP/ERP – TF/13/15488 – CTS 16868/13*

Executive Building
100 George Street Brisbane
PO Box 15185 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3224 4500
Facsimile +61 7 3221 3631
Email ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au
Website www.thepremier.qld.gov.au

0 9 AUG 2013

s.49 - Confidential Information [redacted]

Thank you for your email of 9 July 2013 concerning the problems that you and other residents in the South Mission Beach area are having with wallabies and the damage that they are causing. The Prime Minister, the Honourable Kevin Rudd MP has also referred your email of the same date to me for a response.

The Queensland Government recognises the South Mission Beach community's concerns about the overabundance of agile wallabies in this area. s.49 [redacted]

s.49 [redacted]

The management of agile wallabies in the South Mission Beach area is a local council issue. However, the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) recognised a potential skills shortage in the local council's ability to address this issue and has now formulated a plan, including the provision of mentoring and advice to Cassowary Coast Regional Council to minimise the impacts.

There are also mechanisms under current legislation that allow DEHP to issue permits to local governments or to landowners to control animal populations when they become out of balance. Currently, damage mitigation permits have been issued to three farmers in the surrounding area to protect their livelihood from damage caused by wallabies. An application for such a permit is available from the DEHP website at www.ehp.qld.gov.au by clicking on (1) 'Topics', (2) under the 'Wildlife and Ecosystems' heading click on 'Animals', (3) 'Wildlife permits and licenses', (4) 'Application form', and (5) 'Damage mitigation permit (culling and disposing of wildlife)'. I'm told that DEHP will process any applications received as a matter of urgency.

Again, thank you for writing to me on this matter and I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

CAMPBELL NEWMAN

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION

ACTION SHEET

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☑ Minister Reply
☐ Chief of Staff Reply
☐ Briefing Note

☐ Departmental Response
☐ Department Action
☐ Department Information

☐ Refer to: _____

☐ No Further Action Required

☐ Copy to
○ Director-General

Comments:

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Signature: GS Date: 17/7/13

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

ib 31/13

MECU USE
TO: _____ Dept Ref: CTS ____/____ Due Date to MECU____/____/____

RELATED CORRESPONDENCE: _____

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER COMMENTS:

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Hinchinbrook Central
86-92 Herbert Street, INGHAM, QLD, 4850
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E-mail: hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au
www.andrewcripps.com.au
Phone: 07 4776 1428
Fax: 07 4776 3503
Local Call: 1800 810 656

THE HON ANDREW CRIPPS MP
MEMBER FOR HINCHINBROOK

OFFICE OF THE QLD MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION
17 JUL 2013

11 July 2013

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister Andrew

I wish to make representations on behalf of s.49 - Confidential Information
s.49 [redacted]

Minister, s.49 [redacted] has requested the assistance of your Department to address the wallaby population in South Mission Beach, and has further requested urgent action to prevent further physical and financial damage to the area.

Your attention and response to these representations would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Cripps

Andrew Cripps MP
Member for Hinchinbrook

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

1693/13

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

Ref CTS 16931/13

6 AUG 2013

Level 13
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GPO Box 2454 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3239 0844
Facsimile +61 7 3224 2496
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

The Honourable Andrew Cripps MP
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
Member for Hinchinbrook
PO Box 1515
INGHAM QLD 4850

Dear Minister Andrew

Thank you for your letter of 11 July 2013 making representation on behalf of [redacted] s.49 - Confidential Information concerning the overabundant wallaby population at South Mission Beach.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection recognises the South Mission Beach community's concerns regarding the overabundance of agile wallabies in this area, and I note with concerns [redacted] s.49
Essentially, the management of agile wallabies in the South Mission Beach area is a local council issue. However, the department recognises that the local council may have limited experience in these matters and has offered to provide advice to Cassowary Coast Regional Council on a strategy to minimise the impacts.

There are also mechanisms under current legislation that allow the department to issue permits to local governments or to landowners to control animal populations when they become out of balance. Currently, lethal damage mitigation permits (DMPs) have been issued to three farmers in the surrounding area to protect their livelihood from damage caused by wallabies.

DMP application forms are available at <www.ehp.qld.gov.au/licences-permits/plants-animals/documents/p01394aa.doc>, and the department will process any applications received as a matter of urgency. Finally, any lethal action against agile wallabies also needs to occur in line with the *'National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies – non-commercial'* available at <www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade/publications/kangaroo/pubs/code-of-conduct-non-commercial.pdf>.

I hope this information is of assistance when replying to your constituent. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact my Chief of Staff, Mr Troy Collings on 3239 0844.

Yours sincerely

ANDREW POWELL MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

RTI DI RELEASE - EHP

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION

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☑ Minister Reply
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☐ Departmental Response
☐ Department Action
☐ Department Information

☐ Refer to: _____

☐ No Further Action Required

☐ Copy to
O Director-General

Comments:

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Signature: _____ Date: 29/7/13

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

1778/13

MECU USE
TO: _____ Dept Ref: CTS _____/____ Due Date to MECU____/____/____

RELATED CORRESPONDENCE: _____

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER COMMENTS:

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Hinchinbrook Central
86-92 Herbert Street, INGHAM, QLD, 4850
Post: PO Box 1515, INGHAM, QLD, 4850
E-mail: hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au
www.andrewcripps.com.au
Phone: 07 4776 1428
Fax: 07 4776 3503
Local Call: 1800 810 656

THE HON ANDREW CRIPPS MP
MEMBER FOR HINCHINBROOK

OFFICE OF THE QLD MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION
29 JUL 2013

19 July 2013

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

I have been requested to make representations on behalf of s.49 - Confidential Information [redacted] s.49 [redacted] serious concern for the residents of South Mission Beach, who are currently dealing with what she terms as plague wallaby populations in the area.

s.49 [redacted] fears that the many of the area's residents will suffer ill health effects as a result of wallaby excretions, and many children are at risk of injury from animals entering home gardens.

s.49 [redacted] is requesting assistance from the State Government to control wallaby numbers in the South Mission Beach area, in the interests of public health and safety.

On behalf of s.49 [redacted] I am requesting your attention and response to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Cripps MP
Member for Hinchinbrook

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

1778/13

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT

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400 George Street Brisbane 4000
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Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Ref CTS 17788/13

27 AUG 2013

The Honourable Andrew Cripps MP
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
Member for Hinchinbrook
PO Box 1515
INGHAM QLD 4850

B/C Chief of Staff to the
Honourable Lawrence Springborg MP
Minister for Health
GPO Box 48
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Referred by direction for direct reply. Copy of the inwards correspondence is attached.

Troy Collings
Chief of Staff

RTI DE-RELEASE - EHP

Dear Minister

Thank you for your letter of 19 July 2013 making representation on behalf of s.49 of Mission Beach concerning the population of agile wallabies at South Mission Beach.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection recognises community concerns regarding the excess population of agile wallabies at South Mission Beach and the limitations of the Cassowary Coast Regional Council in addressing the matter.

Departmental officers met with the council's Chief Executive Officer and other officers on 16 August 2013. The departmental officers outlined, at a broad level, options to address the issue, which included moving the animals outside of the residential zone to be euthanized. The department reiterated its offers of assistance.

Until this issue can be resolved, I ask that community members take care of each other, especially supervising children, ensuring that they wash their hands effectively and avoid the wallabies where possible.

The issue s.49 has raised regarding the health impact for children coming in contact with wallaby faeces falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Honourable Lawrence Springborg MP, Minister for Health. As such, a copy of your correspondence has been passed on to him with a request that a reply be forwarded to you at the earliest opportunity.

I hope this information is of assistance when replying to your constituent. Should you have any further enquiries, please contact my Chief of Staff, Mr Troy Collings on 3239 0844.

Yours sincerely

SIGNED

ANDREW POWELL MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection

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Fax: 07 4776 3503
Local Call: 1800 810 656

THE HON ANDREW CRIPPS MP

MEMBER FOR HINCHINBROOK

COPY

OFFICE OF THE QLD MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE PROTECTION
29 JUL 2013

RTI DL RELEASE - EHP

19 July 2013

Hon Andrew Powell MP
Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection
GPO Box 2454
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

I have been requested to make representations on behalf of s.49 - Confidential Information [redacted] s.49 [redacted]

s.49 [redacted] serious concern for the residents of South Mission Beach, who are currently dealing with what she terms as plague wallaby populations in the area.

s.49 [redacted] fears that the many of the area's residents will suffer ill health effects as a result of wallaby excretions, and many children are at risk of injury from animals entering home gardens.

s.49 [redacted] is requesting assistance from the State Government to control wallaby numbers in the South Mission Beach area, in the interests of public health and safety.

On behalf of s.49 [redacted] I am requesting your attention and response to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Cripps MP
Member for Hinchinbrook