Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (*Varroa jacobsoni*) under the *Biosecurity Act 2014 – 2019*

Incident
Revision register

<table>
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<th>Version No</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>14 August 2019</td>
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1. Biosecurity program

1.1 Program name

Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014 – 2019 Incident.

1.2 Program scope


The Prevention and Control Program directs activities targeted at eradicating and containing the varroa mite. This includes destruction, sampling and testing of:

- Asian honey bee (AHB; Apis cerana), which is a confirmed host of V. jacobsoni within the area of the Prevention and Control Program; and
- European honey bee (EHB; A. mellifera), which is generally a terminal host of V. jacobsoni but potentially a competent host as host-shifting from A. cerana to A. mellifera has been recorded in several locations

1.3 Abbreviations, acronyms and definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term/acronym</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Act</td>
<td>Biosecurity Act 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHB</td>
<td>Asian honey bee (Apis cerana)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apiary appliance</td>
<td>Means any apparatus, fitting, implement or utensil that has been used for beekeeping or processing, handling or storing an apiary product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apiary product</td>
<td>Means bee collected pollen, bee comb, comb sections, cut comb, honey dew, propolis, queen candy or raw beeswax</td>
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<tr>
<td>BQ</td>
<td>Biosecurity Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSL</td>
<td>Biosecurity Sciences Laboratory, Coopers Plains, Brisbane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAF</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHB</td>
<td>European honey bee (Apis mellifera)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBO</td>
<td>General biosecurity obligation (see s 23 of the Act)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hive</td>
<td>Means any container in which a colony of bees (EHB) is kept (i.e. a managed hive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nest</td>
<td>Means a natural shelter for bees and includes the bees, either EHB or AHB (i.e. a feral nest)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention and Control Program</td>
<td>Means the “Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014 – 2019 Incident”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response Plan</td>
<td>Means the “Response Plan for the Eradication of Varroa jacobsoni from Queensland – 2019 Incident”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveillance Program</td>
<td>Means the “Surveillance Program for varroa mite (Varroa jacobsoni) under the Biosecurity Act 2014 – 2019 Incident”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swarm</td>
<td>Means a group of bees, either EHB or AHB, that has left a hive or a nest with a queen bee to start a new colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townsville area</td>
<td>Means the area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varroa mite</td>
<td>Is a honey bee parasite of the genus Varroa. This document is primarily concerned with V. jacobsoni as the species detected in Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varroa mite carrier</td>
<td>Varroa mite can be spread on any of the following carriers: a bee; a swarm, nest or hive of bees; an apiary appliance; or an apiary product</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Requirement for a prevention and control program

2.1 Purpose and rationale

Significant biosecurity risk

The Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Act) provides for the establishment of prevention and control programs. Prevention and control programs are directed at any of the following:

(a) preventing the entry, establishment or spread of biosecurity matter in an area that poses a significant biosecurity risk

(b) managing, reducing or eradicating any biosecurity matter in an area that could pose a significant biosecurity risk1.

Background:

On 11 April 2019, 20 rainbow bee eater pellets were collected from the Townsville Port as part of the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program surveillance activity which is being delivered by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QDAF).

On the 16 April 2019, the Biosecurity Science Laboratory (BSL) confirmed the presence of three Asian honey bee (AHB, Apis cerana) forewings in these pellets. Increased surveillance was conducted in the surrounding areas in response to this detection. Between 16 and 23 April 2019, a further 12 AHB drones were collected from the Townsville Port Administration Building and one AHB worker was collected 300 metres away but still within the Townsville Port Area. The 12 drones and one worker bee were confirmed as AHB by BSL.

On 16 May 2019 a feral AHB nest was located in the roof cavity of the Townsville Port Administration building. The nest was destroyed and all bees and associated material was sent to BSL for diagnostics. BSL confirmed the presence of 7 varroa mites in the sample. Genetic microsatellite testing has confirmed that the host AHB did not originate from the AHB from the 2016 incursion or from any other previous incursions of AHB nationally. Genetic analysis of the drones and the presence of multiple queen cells in the nest also indicated the possibility of multiple colonies in the area. On Friday 31 May 2019 the CSIRO laboratory confirmed the mites’ species as Varroa jacobsoni.

The Townsville area has been the subject of a varroa response since 2016 (National Response Plan for the Eradication of Varroa jacobsoni from Queensland, also known as the National Varroa Mite Eradication Program or NVMEP). This response is due to end on 31 August 2019 after a 30 month proof-of-freedom phase during which no further varroa mites related to the June 2016 incursion have been found.

Since the identification of AHB wings in April 2019, increased surveillance has been conducted throughout the Townsville area both under the NVMEP and under a new response to this 2019 incursion. Surveillance to August 2019 has found no further evidence of varroa mites or AHB, except for 3 AHB wings in bee-eater pellets collected at the port several days after the destruction of the nest.

Varroa mites are generally regarded as the greatest threat to the Australian honey bee industry. V. destructor is considered the greater threat but host-shifts by V. jacobsoni from AHB to EHB have been recorded in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands and in these cases its pathogenicity has been similar to V. destructor. There is a risk that mites detected on AHB in Townsville may adapt to EHB if there is contact between V jacobsoni and local EHB over an extended period. Infestation of EHB colonies by varroa mites results in weak and deformed bees and the slow death of the colony. Detection of mites in a hive may take up to two years after the initial infestation and death of the colony will usually occur within three years if unmanaged. The effect of varroa mites on managed EHB hives will also adversely impact

1 See section 234 (What is a prevention and control program) of the Act.
2 Information current at 14 August 2019.
on the agricultural and horticultural industries that rely on *A. mellifera* to pollinate crops, including fruits, nuts, some grains and seeds.

The value of the Queensland honey bee industry (including honey, bees wax, Queen bee sales and pollination services) is estimated at $52 million. The estimated value of pollination services (managed honey bees, feral honey bees and native bees) to the agriculture and horticulture sector in Queensland is quoted between $600 million and $1 billion; the CSIRO estimate these services at around $1 billion for Queensland.

A Response Plan for the Eradication of *Varroa jacobsoni* from Queensland – 2019 Incident has been prepared and endorsed by the Australian Government and State and Territory governments and industry bodies. This surveillance program provides the legislative mechanisms to implement the eradication of varroa mite.

The objectives of the Prevention and Control Program are to:

i. prevent further spread of varroa mite in AHB

ii. minimise the risk of establishment of varroa mite in EHB

iii. eradicate varroa mite from Queensland.

2.2 Measures that are required to achieve the purpose

The key activities undertaken under the Prevention and Control Program, as outlined in the National Response Plan include (but are not limited to):

- destruction of nests of AHB within the Townsville area, including collecting samples for laboratory analysis, aimed at delimiting and eradicating AHB and varroa mite from the area

- destruction of feral nests of EHB within a 10km radius of an infected place, including collecting samples for laboratory analysis to monitor the local EHB population for varroa mite

- destruction of managed EHB hives within the Townsville area if the hives are found to contain varroa mites

There is some degree of overlap between the Prevention and Control Program and the Surveillance Program. These programs should be read together.

2.3 Powers of authorised officers

Section 3.4 of the Prevention and Control Program details the general powers available to an authorised officer conducting activities under the program, including measures that an authorised officer may take under the program.

Entry of place

The Act provides that authorised officers appointed under the Act may, at reasonable times, enter a place situated in an area to which a biosecurity program applies, to take any action authorised by the biosecurity program. These activities must be done in a timely and efficient manner to ensure that the measures are as effective as possible. The Prevention and Control Program authorises entry into places to allow these measures to be undertaken.

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3 See section 261 (Power to enter place under biosecurity program) of the Act.
In accordance with the Act, a reasonable attempt will be made to locate an occupier\(^4\) and obtain the occupier’s consent to the entry prior to an authorised officer entering a place to undertake activities under the Prevention and Control Program. Nevertheless, an authorised officer may enter the place if\(^5\):

(a) the authorised officer is unable to locate an occupier after making a reasonable attempt to do so, or
(b) the occupier refuses to consent to the entry.

If after entering a place an authorised officer finds an occupier present, or if the occupier refuses to consent to the entry—the authorised officer will make reasonable attempts to produce an identity card for inspection and inform the occupier of the reason for entering and the authorisation under the Act to enter without the permission of the occupier.

An authorised officer, entering a place under the Prevention and Control Program must make a reasonable attempt to inform the occupier of any steps taken, or to be taken, and if steps have been taken or are to be taken, that it is an offence to do anything that interferes with a step taken or to be taken.

An authorised officer must leave a Notice of Entry in a conspicuous position and in a reasonably secure way. This notice must state the date and time of entry and information addressing the reason for entry, authorisation to enter a place and the steps undertaken by the authorised officer after entry\(^6\).

**Giving a direction under a prevention and control program**

Section 237 of the Act provides that an authorised officer may, at a reasonable time and at a place within an area to which a prevention and control program applies:

- direct an occupier to take reasonable steps, within a stated and reasonable timeframe, to remove or eradicate the biosecurity matter to which the program relates. These steps must be limited to what is reasonably necessary to achieve the purposes of the prevention and control program, e.g. to assist the authorised officer to destroy a nest of bees at a place; to monitor a place where nest destruction has been undertaken for further bee activity, and to report any further bee activity to the authorised officer.

- destroy the biosecurity matter to which the program relates, or a carrier of the biosecurity matter, if the authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that the biosecurity matter or carrier poses a significant biosecurity risk. The National Response Plan establishes the level of risk associated with varroa mite to warrant the destruction of varroa mite and varroa mite carriers.

**Failure to comply with a direction**

Under section 238 of the Act, occupiers of a place within the area to which the program applies are required to comply with an authorised officer’s direction issued under section 237 of the Act, as outlined above, unless the occupier has a reasonable excuse for not complying. An authorised officer must give an offence warning for the direction.

\(^4\) Schedule 4 of the Act defines an occupier of a place to include the following:
(a) if there is more than one person who apparently occupies the place – any one of the persons;
(b) any person at the place who is apparently acting with the authority of a person who apparently occupies the place;
(c) if no one apparently occupies the place – any person who is an owner of the place.

\(^5\) See section 270 (Entry of place under sections 261 and 262) of the Act.

\(^6\) See section 270 (Entry of place under sections 261 and 262) of the Act.
Obligations
Section 3.5 of the Prevention and Control Program details the obligations that may be imposed on a person who is an occupier of a place to which the program applies by an authorised officer conducting activities under the program.

General powers of authorised officers
Nothing in the Prevention and Control Program or its associated Authorisation limits the powers of authorised officers under Chapter 10 of the Act.

2.4 Consultation
The Prevention and Control Program operates within the area of the Townsville City Council (see section 3.3 of the Program Authorisation). The Townsville City Council was consulted regarding the operation of the program prior to authorisation.
3. **Authorisation of a prevention and control program in the State of Queensland**

I, Dr Elizabeth Woods, the Chief Executive of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (the Department) acting pursuant to section 235 of the Biosecurity Act 2014 (the Act), authorise the Prevention and Control Program for varroa mite (*Varroa jacobsoni*) under the Biosecurity Act 2014 – 2019 Incident (the Prevention and Control Program) in Queensland, on the basis that:

- I am satisfied that there is varroa mite, which is prohibited matter, in the Townsville area
- I am satisfied that varroa mite in the Townsville area poses a significant biosecurity risk to the Queensland bee industry
- I am satisfied that measures are required to prevent the establishment or spread of varroa mite that poses a significant biosecurity risk in the Townsville area.

Dr Elizabeth Woods
Director-General
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Authorised on 26 / 08 / 2019

3.1 **Biosecurity matter**

The prohibited biosecurity matter to which the Prevention and Control Program relates is varroa mite (*Varroa jacobsoni*).

3.2 **Purpose of the Program**

The objectives of the Prevention and Control Program are to:

i. prevent further spread of varroa mite in AHB

ii. minimise the risk of establishment of varroa mite in EHB

iii. eradicate varroa mite from Queensland.

3.3 **Area affected by the Program**

The Prevention and Control Program will apply to the area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council (refer to Figure 1). Any reference to the “Townsville area” in the program is a reference to the area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council.
Figure 1: Varroa mite area of interest – Area within the boundary of the Townsville City Council
3.4 Powers of authorised officers

An authorised officer of the Program appointed under the Biosecurity Act 2014, may enter a place—other than a residence—without a warrant and without the occupier’s consent within the State of Queensland under the Program. An authorised officer appointed under the Biosecurity Act 2014 will also have the power to enter a place under the Program.

An authorised officer can exercise the powers of an authorised officer under the Act in relation to the Program, if the authorised officer is appointed by the chief executive. An authorised officer has general powers after entering a place to do any of the following, subject to any appointment conditions and limits imposed on the authorised officer:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General powers in the Act</th>
<th>Measures an authorised officer may take under the Prevention and Control Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Powers of entry</td>
<td>Enter a place under s 261 of the Act to undertake measures under the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search any part of the place</td>
<td>Destroy varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier. This includes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspect, examine or film any part of the place or anything at the place</td>
<td>• attending a place with a pest control contractor and directing the pest control contractor to destroy varroa mite or a carrier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take for examination a thing, or a sample of or from a thing, at the place</td>
<td>• destroying varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier in a way that results in damage or destruction of property (e.g. a letter box where a nest is located) if the damage or destruction cannot be avoided and the authorised officer assesses the biosecurity risk as being significant to warrant the damage (Note that compensation may be available where damage or destruction of property occurs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place an identifying mark in or on anything at the place</td>
<td>Taking property if the property is a carrier of biosecurity matter and taking the property is necessary to treat and sample the biosecurity matter or carrier in a way that minimises the biosecurity risk (e.g. seizure of a wine barrel used as outdoor furniture to allow the authorised officer to destroy and sample the biosecurity matter in a way and at a place that minimises the biosecurity risk; Note that compensation may be available where damage or destruction of property occurs).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place a sign or notice at the place</td>
<td>Direct an occupier of the place to take reasonable steps within a reasonable time to remove or eradicate varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Produce an image or writing at the place from an electronic document or, to the extent it is not practicable, take a thing containing an electronic document to another place to produce an image or writing</td>
<td>Search a place to check for the presence or absence of varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take to, into or onto the place and use any person, detection animal, equipment and materials the authorised officer reasonably requires for exercising the authorised officer’s powers under this division</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroy biosecurity matter or a carrier if the authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds the biosecurity matter or carrier presents a significant biosecurity risk; and the owner of the</td>
<td></td>
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7 The Act defines a **residence** to mean a premises or a part of a premises that is a residence with the meaning of section 259(2) and 259(3).
8 See section 259 (General powers to enter places) of the Act.
9 See section 261 (Power to enter a place under biosecurity program) of the Act.
10 See section 255 (3) (Powers of particular authorised officers limited) of the Act.
11 See section 296 (General powers) of the Act.
12 See section 243 and section 247 (Appointment conditions and limit on powers) of the Act.
13 Section 296(5) defines **inspect**, a thing, to include open the thing and examine its contents.
14 Section 296(5) defines **examine** to include analyse, test, account, measure, weigh, grade, gauge and identify.
15 Section 296(5) defines **film** to include photograph, videotape and record an image in another way.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>biosecurity matter or carrier consents to its destruction</th>
<th>Inspect, examine or film varroa mite or a varroa mite carrier to assist with tracing of carriers to and from a place.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remain at the place for the time necessary to achieve the purpose of the entry</td>
<td>Take samples for the purposes of diagnostic analysis, to ascertain the presence or absence of varroa mite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The authorised officer may take a necessary step to allow the exercise of a general power</td>
<td>Identify carriers such as a tree that contains or has contained bees with tags, notices, flags or signs for any purpose consistent with the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If the authorised officer takes a document from the place to copy it, the authorised officer must copy and return the document to the place as soon as practicable</td>
<td>Produce a written and/or electronic note(s) to support program activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If the authorised officer takes from the place an article or device reasonably capable of producing a document from an electronic document to produce the document, the authorised officer must produce the document and return the article or device to the place as soon as practicable.</td>
<td>Take GPS coordinates to ensure accuracy of location details of varroa mite or varroa mite carriers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertake preventative treatment such as blocking access points to a destroyed nest (e.g. with expanding foam) that is consistent with the objectives of the program.</td>
<td>Take a document such as a document detailing the movement of a varroa mite carrier that is relevant to the objectives of the program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pursuant to section 237 of the Act an authorised officer may also:

- give a direction to an occupier of a place located in the area to which the program applies to take reasonable steps to remove or eradicate varroa mite, as reasonably necessary to achieve the purposes of the program, or
- destroy varroa mite or a carrier of varroa mite, if that authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that they pose a significant biosecurity risk.

A penalty applies for failing to comply with a direction issued under this section unless the occupier given the direction has a reasonable excuse for not complying with the direction.\(^{16}\)

An authorised officer may make a requirement (a help requirement) of an occupier of the place or a person at the place to give the authorised officer reasonable help to exercise a general power.\(^{17}\)

### 3.5 Obligations imposed on a person under the Program

#### 3.5.1 Obligations imposed on an occupier of a place where an AHB or EHB nest exists

The following obligations may be imposed on a person who is an occupier\(^{18}\) of a place within the area to which the Prevention and Control Program relates\(^{19}\):

- if required, move or remove any thing at a place that could obstruct an authorised officer from undertaking the activities required to take action under the program, e.g. moving outdoor furniture to allow reasonable access to the location of a nest; restraining an animal that may interfere with the authorised officer undertaking their duties under the program etc.; and/or

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\(^{16}\) See section 238 (Failure to comply with direction) of the Act.

\(^{17}\) See section 297 (Power to require reasonable help) of the Act.

\(^{18}\) Schedule 4 of the Act defines an occupier of a place to include the following:
- if there is more than one person who apparently occupies the place – any one of the persons;
- any person at the place who is apparently acting with the authority of a person who apparently occupies the place;
- if no-one apparently occupies the place – any person who is an owner of the place.

\(^{19}\) See section 236(1)(h) (What program authorisation must state) of the Act.
• if required, monitor a nest site for a period of time following nest destruction, as directed by an authorised officer, and notify DAF of bee activity within the nominated time; and/or

• help\textsuperscript{20} the authorised officer in the exercise of their powers if required.

3.5.2 Obligations imposed on an occupier of a place where managed hives are kept

An occupier of a place where managed hive/s of EHB are kept may only move, or allow the movement of any life stage of live EHB (i.e. an egg, larva, pupa or adult of a worker, drone or queen) individually, as a colony or part of a colony, in a container in which a colony of bees can be kept including brood frames containing egg, larva or pupa (collectively, these items are referred to as "risk items"), from the place where the managed hives are kept to another place outside of the area affected by the program, only if the following conditions have been met:

• If the EHB originated from outside the Townsville City Council area and are transiting through the area in a sealed package or container:
  o the packaging or container must remain sealed while the bees are within the Townsville City Council area.

• If the EHB originate from a place within the boundaries of the Townsville City Council, the occupier MUST:
  o notify DAF by email (varroa@daf.qld.gov.au) at least seven (7) days prior to the intended movement of EHB. The notification must include the date of the intended movement, the origin and destination of the intended movement, and the details of the risk items intended to be moved (e.g. number of hives; number of bees; life stage of bees etc.); and
  o following the notification, follow any directions given by an authorised officer in relation to testing the risk items prior to the intended movement. This may include allowing an authorised officer to conduct hive testing using acaricide strips and sticky mats; or self-assessment of hives (i.e. alcohol washing, sugar shaking or drone uncapping); and
  o if testing is conducted, only move EHB if a negative test result (i.e. no varroa mite present) is returned; and
  o prior to movement of the EHB, ensure that the EHB are securely packaged and sealed in a manner that prevents the escape of live bees, leakage of apiary products, and exposure to foraging bees etc; and
  o prior to the movement of any hive materials (e.g. part of a managed hive; brood frames etc), ensure that the hive materials are packaged and sealed in a manner that prevents the escape of live bees, leakage of apiary products and exposure to foraging bees etc; and
  o prior to movement of the EHB, ensure that no bees, of any species, are present on the outside of the sealed packages; and
  o ensure that the packaging remains sealed and secure from the commencement of the movement of the EHB from the place where the managed hives are kept, until such time that the EHB reach their final destination at another place; and
  o ensure that any equipment being moved, that has come into contact with live bees prior to the intended movement, is free of all life stages of live bees for seven (7) days prior to the intended movement; and

\textsuperscript{20} See section 297 (Power to require reasonable help) of the Act - A person of whom a help requirement has been made must comply with the requirement unless the person has a reasonable excuse.
o keep detailed written records of any surveillance, testing, exclusion and/or movement of EHB and immediately produce these records if requested by an authorised officer.

Note: The Act prevents the movement of Asian honey bees and varroa mites. See section 3.5.3 below for details of legislative obligations in relation to the movement of AHB and varroa mite.

3.5.3 Legislative obligations

The Act provides, amongst other things, that:

- a person has a general biosecurity obligation (GBO) to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise the biosecurity risk\(^{21}\)

- a person must report the presence of prohibited matter\(^{22}\) and must not deal with prohibited matter.\(^{23}\) Varroa mites are prohibited matter\(^{24}\)

- a person must report the presence of restricted matter (category 1); and must not take any action to exacerbate, and must take action to minimise, the biosecurity risk associated with the restricted matter (category 1).\(^{25}\) AHB (Apis cerana javana) is restricted matter (category 1).\(^{26}\)

3.6 Commencement and duration of the Program

The Prevention and Control Program will begin on 1 September 2019 and will continue up until 30 April 2021. The duration of the Prevention and Control Program is considered to be reasonably necessary to achieve the program’s purpose.

3.7 Consultation with relevant parties

As required by the Act\(^{27}\), I have consulted, prior to the authorisation of the Prevention and Control Program, with the following local government, which is the local government for the area to which the program applies:

- Townsville City Council.

3.8 Notification of relevant parties of requirements

As required by the Act\(^{28}\), I will give public notice of the Prevention and Control Program 14 days before the program starts by:

- giving the notice, by way of letter, to each government department or government owned corporation responsible for land in the area to which the Program relates

- publishing the notice on the Department’s website.

A copy of the Prevention and Control Program (including its Authorisation) is available for inspection at the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries head office at 80 Ann Street Brisbane and regional offices. A copy of the Prevention and Control Program is also available to view and print at no cost on the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries website at www.daf.qld.gov.au. A copy of the Program Authorisation will be provided on request by contacting the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Customer Service Centre on 13 25 23.

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\(^{21}\) See section 23 (What is a general biosecurity obligation) of the Act.

\(^{22}\) See section 36 (Reporting presence of prohibited matter) of the Act.

\(^{23}\) See section 37 (Dealing with prohibited matter) of the Act.

\(^{24}\) See Schedule 1, Part 2 (Animal diseases, parasites and viruses) of the Act.

\(^{25}\) See section 42 (Reporting presence of category 1 or 2 restricted matter) of the Act.

\(^{26}\) See Schedule 2, Part 1 (Restricted matter – other than invasive biosecurity matter (Restricted matter affecting plants)) of the Act.

\(^{27}\) See section 239 (Consultation about proposed biosecurity program) of the Act.

\(^{28}\) See section 240 (Notice of proposed biosecurity program) of the Act.