The feasibility of a National Horse Traceability Register for all horses Submission 5

From:

To: RRAT, Committee (SEN)

Subject: National Horse Register submission

Date: Monday, 4 March 2019 11:17:08

Attachments:

Dear Sir,

I would like to make a submission regarding the establishment of a <u>National Horse Register</u>. I feel this is the utmost importance for safety and animal welfare reasons

The horse is the most dangerous animal in the Western world and the death rate is between 0.5 to 1 death per million head of population in most Western countries and the serious injury rate is 1 serious injury for every 350 hours of contact. This is 20 times the rate of motorcycling! I have attached the latest peer reviewed document on horse safety statistics conducted by my PhD student, Dr Lesley Hawson. In terms of animal welfare, there are also considerable data showing that horses suffer significant welfare insults from human ignorance and also socio-economic effects. As so-called 'problem horses' go from one home to another, the level of care diminishes at each stage. A National horse Register would be a significant step forward for Australia and would contribute to our international image in a positive way. Best wishes,

Andrew McLean, PhD