

HARNESS RACING INDUSTRY

964. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Racing and Gaming:

I ask a supplementary question. Have the review terms been restricted to governance? Will the review cover issues such as this?

Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS replied:

The review terms were narrowed to governance, because it was the view of the committee, and indeed is my view, that governance needed to be addressed, and that if governance were addressed appropriately, other issues would be dealt with in a more expeditious manner and certainly in a manner that would produce good results for the racing industry. Issues of the kind raised by the member have been touched on in the report of the review, with which I have no doubt the member is very familiar. I note in particular a recommendation of the review committee to the effect that the stewards should be under the control of an authority that supervises the codes as a whole. I point out to the honourable member and to the House that what is in the report of the review is not government policy, because the Government has not determined its view on these matters. I have mentioned the process of consultation, recommendation and decision making. If the Government and the Parliament were to go down the path recommended by the review, it would follow that the matters raised by the honourable member would be addressed.