1. The Government made election commitments under its ‘Rejuvenating Queensland Racing’ policy and in its Six Month Action Plan to, amongst other things, transfer appropriate racing integrity functions to Government, to be paid for by the industry, including the establishment of a Racing Disciplinary Board (the disciplinary board).
2. To address criticisms of there being no independent appeal mechanisms outside the operation and control of the racing industry control body, at a level below appeal to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT), the disciplinary board is being established to replace the existing appeal committees established by Racing Queensland Limited.
3. The disciplinary board will be responsible for the initial hearing of all appeals from administrative and disciplinary decisions of the control bodies and stewards’ inquiries. Appeals initiated by aggrieved persons against decisions of the disciplinary board will be heard by QCAT in the same manner as currently exists with decisions of appeal committees. To ensure a control body does not use its resources to prosecute cases regardless of the public interest or overall merits involved, a control body will be able to appeal a decision of the disciplinary board to QCAT only on a question of law.
4. Cabinet noted the intention of the Minister for National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing to appoint the Honourable William Carter QC as chairperson of the Racing Disciplinary Board for a term of up to three years commencing from 1 May 2013.
5. *Attachments*
* Nil.