



Submission for the Select Committee into the Operations of
The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Western Australia

Monday 6th of July 2015

On the 25th of February 2014 our property and business on _____ was visited by RSPCA inspector Ms Maureen Rogers. At the time I kept my thoroughbred broodmares on this property in a 10 acre paddock.

Maureen Rogers entered my property and informed me that the horses on this property needed to be provided with shade in the form of a structure such as windsails.

I advised her that I have had horses for a very long time and am well aware of their husbandry needs. I also argued that there was very obviously nothing wrong with the horses and that I never have had any problems with keeping horses in the paddock in question.

Maureen then admitted that there was nothing wrong with the horses but that they needed shade.

She left the property saying that she would come back and follow up on this case, however a revisit has not occurred to this date.

Shortly after the incident, I was visited by the Department of Agriculture for an unrelated matter. I voiced to them my disappointment and anger at the RSPCA's actions and got the reply that the RSPCA were acting "way out of line" in my case.

I would like my submission to be considered as I am deeply unhappy with the direction the RSPCA is going into. I do not appreciate them pushing their own agenda under the guise of their policing powers. There are so many things that we could be doing in regards to bettering Animal Welfare, yet the focus, money and resources appear to be spent on those horses that are kept in excellent husbandry conditions and where there is clearly no breach to their welfare at all. I have found this whole experience distressing and, as the objectives of the RSPCA are unlikely to change, I welcome this inquiry and am hopeful that it will achieve a change in authority for policing the welfare of livestock.

Yours Sincerely,

Robert Martin