

LIVE SHEEP TRADE, PROSECUTIONS BY RSPCA

1. Hon JIM SCOTT to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development:

- (1) Has the State Government threatened to take away the RSPCA's funding or powers if it prosecutes a live export case?
- (2) Given the controversy of vested interests within the RSPCA and the lack of will to prosecute offenders in the live sheep trade, will the minister investigate changing the Act to set up a separate investigative and prosecutorial body?
- (3) Will the minister suspend the prosecutory powers of the RSPCA for farming matters and request that the police carry out this function?

Hon TOM STEPHENS replied:

I appreciate the opportunity to answer this question with the assistance of notes that I had in my possession earlier. However, they have been momentarily misplaced.

The PRESIDENT: I will give the minister the opportunity to answer shortly.