



As the President of Geraldton Dog Rescue, some 420 klms North of Perth, I am dismayed at the amount of funding that is given to the RSPCA and an organisation such as GDR and other rescue groups across the State receive no funding

In country areas a rescue group such as Geraldton Dog Rescue could do so much more if there was funding. The RSPCA do very little in country areas. There is an Inspector located in Geraldton but my belief is that the Inspector has to cover the whole of the North West as well and it is a part time position. This just is not feasible.

The RSPCA is very "city centric" and whilst they may do a good job there, there is no real benefit to us in the country areas. In Geraldton, Geraldton Dog Rescue take on dogs from the City Pound that are not claimed by their owners. These dogs are placed into foster homes (there is no shelter) and new homes are found. Geraldton Dog Rescue is operated 100% by Volunteers, donations and fundraising. There is no funding. We are not physically able to take all the dogs. GDR also try to assist the RSPCA Inspector in Geraldton by fostering dogs that are in her care and finding homes for them. A portion of the funding that goes to the RSPCA would make a huge impact on the operations of GDR and permit a greater involvement in the community.

It is my personal opinion that the amount of money directed to the RSPCA really does not go toward the animals but more toward the highly paid individuals that are employed. There are no funds going to the rescue organisations that are doing the work with volunteer labour.

Where is the accountability? To who are the RSPCA accountable?? In some cases that I am aware of the understanding of - "if there is food, water and shelter, there is nothing to do" seem to ring true. GDR often have reports of cruelty situations but there is nothing we can do. We cannot even look into these further.

Cases that go to court take much too long for an outcome and for the people that the RSPCA are in court against this surely means a huge drain on their personal resources.

Are the people on the board of the RSPCA really looking at animal welfare? RSPCA is a business and is more inclined to operate like a corporate entity. There are large amounts of promotional activities occurring - all at an expense. This money could be directed elsewhere. I am concerned that in regional and remote areas the presence of the RSPCA is never seen.

I have long been a supporter of the RSPCA but in recent years it seems that the direction has changed. I object to the amount of money that funds the organisation with what I feel is virtually no benefit to the masses. In the case of Geraldton Dog Rescue, who work very hard with 100% Volunteer workforce and receive no funding but are the only rescue group for dogs in the Midwest there appears to be an injustice.