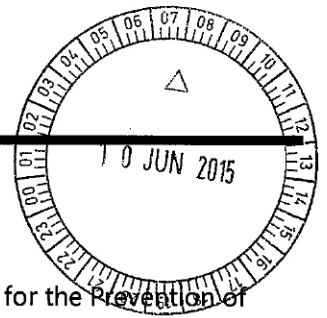


Joint Select Committee into the RSPCA



From:
Sent: Wednesday, 10 June 2015 7:39 AM
To: Joint Select Committee into the RSPCA
Subject: Select Committee into the Operations of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Western Australia (Inc)

To the Select Committee into the Operations of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Western Australia (Inc).

The RSPCA's mission is for 'for all animals to be accepted as sentient beings treated with dignity, compassion and respect'.

Australians rely on having a national body that they know will rescue and treat injured animals as a result of cruelty and neglect, educate about animal welfare and, as the mission states, prevent cruelty to ALL animals.

This rightly includes farmed animals – how they are raised and handled, how they are slaughtered and all life stages in-between.

It rightly includes treatment of animals used in sport and gambling, such as greyhounds and horses.

It rightly shines a light on the cruelty inherent in the live export trade.

The RSPCA's policies are underpinned by science and their purpose is to promote the interests of animal welfare.

The RSPCA's 'Five Freedoms' include:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst: by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour.
- Freedom from discomfort: by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease: by prevention through rapid diagnosis and treatment.
- Freedom to express normal behaviour: by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.
- Freedom from fear and distress: by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

Without a national organisation such as the RSPCA, the suffering of animals would continue unabated. For example the barbarity recently documented within the greyhound racing industry would not have been possible without the RSPCA.

In summary:

I completely support the ongoing and present level of government funding to the RSPCA.

I completely support its objectives.

I completely support its use of powers.

It seems to me, as a citizen, that this Enquiry is more about vested interests trying to curtail the powers of the RSPCA for reasons of their own economic benefit.

Yours Sincerely

Judy Hungerford