



**Government  
of South Australia**

# **Animal Welfare Advisory Committee**

## **2017-18 Annual Report**

**Animal Welfare Advisory Committee**

Level 9, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide SA 5000

[www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)

Contact phone number	+61 8 8207 7731
Contact email	DEW:AnimalWelfare@sa.gov.au
ISSN	1832-9438

Date presented to Minister: 28 September 2018

To:

The Hon David Speirs MP

Minister for Environment and Water

This annual report is to be presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Sector Regulations 2010*, the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987* and meets the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee by:

**Professor Mehdi Doroudi**

**Presiding Member**



Signature



Date

## Contents

<b>Contents .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Section A: Reporting required under the <i>Public Sector Act 2009</i>, the <i>Public Sector Regulations 2010</i> and the <i>Public Finance and Audit Act 1987</i> .....</b>	<b>4</b>
Agency purpose or role .....	4
Objectives .....	4
Key strategies and their relationship to SA Government objectives .....	4
Agency programs and initiatives and their effectiveness and efficiency .....	5
Legislation administered by the agency .....	6
Organisation of the agency .....	6
Other agencies related to this agency (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility) .....	6
Employment opportunity programs .....	6
Agency performance management and development systems .....	7
Work health, safety and return to work programs of the agency and their effectiveness ....	7
Work health and safety and return to work performance .....	7
Fraud detected in the agency .....	8
Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud .....	8
Whistle-blowers' disclosure .....	8
Executive employment in the agency .....	8
Consultants .....	8
Contractors .....	9
Financial performance of the agency .....	9
Other financial information .....	9
Other information requested by the Minister(s) or other significant issues affecting the agency or reporting pertaining to independent functions .....	10
<b>Section B: Reporting required under any other act or regulation .....</b>	<b>10</b>
Enter name of act or regulation .....	10
Reporting required under the <i>Carers' Recognition Act 2005</i> .....	10
<b>Section C: Reporting of public complaints as requested by the Ombudsman .</b>	<b>11</b>
Summary of complaints by subject .....	11
Complaint outcomes .....	11
<b>Appendix: Audited financial statements 2017-18 .....</b>	<b>12</b>

## **Section A: Reporting required under the *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Sector Regulations 2010* and the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987***

### **Agency purpose or role**

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (the Committee) is established under section 6 of the *Animal Welfare Act 1985* (the Act). Through its broad membership, the Committee demonstrates a strong commitment by government to the significance of animal welfare, providing the public with assurance that animal welfare matters are held in high regard and are well considered.

The Committee provides balanced expert advice to the Minister for Environment and Water (the Minister) on issues relating to the Act and contemporary animal welfare issues.

### **Objectives**

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee set the following objectives for 2017-18:

- Providing advice to the Minister and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) which was renamed after March 2018 to the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) on enforcement of the Act, draft policies and proposed legislation.
- Providing responses to national standards and guidelines for animal welfare.
- Providing comments on codes of practice and developing codes of practice.
- Developing and updating position statements.
- Investigating animal welfare matters which come to the attention of the Committee.
- Investigating appeals against decisions of animal ethics committees.
- Sharing of information between nominating organisations and agencies.

### **Key strategies and their relationship to SA Government objectives**

<b>Key strategy</b>	<b>SA Government objective</b>
Maintaining linkages and networks with industry and non-government organisations, ensuring participation in animal welfare standards, mutual understanding and acceptance of issues and their resolutions and that South Australian livestock industries are not disadvantaged.	Continual engagement with community and stakeholders, RSPCA, PIRSA and SA Health to achieve animal welfare outcomes.

Key strategy	SA Government objective
Consideration of the standards and requirements for animal based research.	Red-tape is minimised but animal welfare is ensured.
Establish animal research scholarship to investigate reduction and refinement in the use of animals for research purposes.	Research will improve our knowledge of alternate methods to animal testing in the biomedical field and alternate protocols for animal welfare related to production.

### Agency programs and initiatives and their effectiveness and efficiency

Program name	Indicators of performance/effectiveness/efficiency	Outcome for South Australia
Advise the Minister on any matter relating to the administration or enforcement of this Act.	Reviewed the committees' positions on topics under the headings of pets, animals in scientific research and teaching, native and introduced wildlife, animals in work, recreation and sport, production animals, aquatic animals, companion animal breeding and trade standards, greyhound kennels and natural resources management feral animal control program.	Provide the Minister with a broad based community view on a variety of contentious animal welfare issues.
Consider and report to the Minister on legislative proposals affecting animal welfare.	Considered the use of electronic collars use for livestock and companion animal management and their use in virtual fencing.  Review of cage sizes as required by the South Australian standards and guidelines for the breeding and trade of companion animals.	There is public value in revising legislative proposals affecting specific user groups. There is broader assurance that legislation is a reflection of the general community expectations.
Examine proposed codes of practice relating to animals and report to the Minister on their likely effect upon animal welfare.	Provided comment on the revised Code of Practice for the Humane Destruction of Wombats by Shooting and deer population control program in the South East of South Australia	The public seeks assurance that, if wombats must be destroyed, then only when all other management options have failed.  The public expects Government to consider up to date evidence in policy development relating to the humane destruction of wombats

Program name	Indicators of performance/effectiveness/efficiency	Outcome for South Australia
Develop, or assist in developing, codes of practice for animal welfare and to make recommendations to the Minister as to their adoption under the regulations.	Considered the management of the Adelaide Hills koala population by contraceptive implants.  Discussion on donkey farming and export for Chinese medicine.	Ensure that animal welfare is considered as a central objective in all Government animal management programs.
Investigate and report to the Minister on any matters referred by the Minister to the Committee for advice.	Advice was provided to the Minister on legislative proposals suggested by the public and referred to the committee for advice.	Public value is embedded in the knowledge that the Minister actively seeks the advice of a diverse expert membership informed by experts in the relevant fields.

### Legislation administered by the agency

The Committee is responsible for complying with the *Animal Welfare Act 1985* and *Animal Welfare Regulations 2012*, which are administered by DEW.

### Organisation of the agency

In accordance with section 6 of the Act, the Committee consists of eight members appointed by the Minister.

The membership of the Committee has been appointed for a three-year period, expiring on 2 February 2019. The Committee membership and remuneration is reported in the South Australian Government Board and Committee Information Annual Report.

### Other agencies related to this agency (within the Minister's area/s of responsibility)

Department for Environment and Water

### Employment opportunity programs

The Committee has no staff of its own and utilises the services of DEW. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2017-18.

Executive, administrative and project support were provided to the Committee from existing DEW resources.

**Agency performance management and development systems**

<b>Performance management and development system</b>	<b>Assessment of effectiveness and efficiency</b>
The Committee undertake a performance review, including evaluation of its effectiveness and governance responsibilities.	Not assessed in this reporting period
Government employees supporting the Committee's operations undertake a performance review and development program with their managers.	Two sessions are held on an annual basis. This is considered to be effective.

**Work health, safety and return to work programs of the agency and their effectiveness**

<b>Program name and brief description</b>	<b>Effectiveness</b>
This Committee abides by the relevant health and safety policies and procedures that have been adopted by DEW to meet whole of Government and legislative requirements.	Reporting on this matter is contained within the DEW Annual Report 2017-18.

**Work health and safety and return to work performance**

	2017-18	2016-17	% Change (+ / -)
<b>Workplace injury claims</b>			
Total new workplace injury claims	0	0	0 %
Fatalities	0	0	0 %
Seriously injured workers*	0	0	0 %
Significant injuries (where lost time exceeds a working week, expressed as frequency rate per 1000 FTE)	0	0	0 %
<b>Work health and safety regulation</b>			

Number of notifiable incidents ( <i>WHS Act 2012, Part 3</i> )	0	0	0 %-
Number of provisional improvement, improvement and prohibition notices ( <i>WHS Act 2012 Sections 90, 191 and 195</i> )	0	0	0 %-
<b>Return to work costs**</b>			
Total gross workers compensation expenditure (\$)	0	0	0 %
Income support payments – gross (\$)	0	0	0 %

### Fraud detected in the agency

Category/nature of fraud	Number of instances
It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Committee in this reporting period.	0

### Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud

Strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the DEW Annual Report 2017-18.

Data for the previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/animal-welfare-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

### Whistle-blowers' disclosure

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the *Whistle-blowers' Protection Act 1993* 0

Data for the previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/animal-welfare-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

### Executive employment in the agency

Executive classification	Number of executives
SAES Level 1	0

Data for the previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/animal-welfare-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

The [Office of the Commissioner of Public Sector Employment](#) has a [data dashboard](#) for further information on the breakdown of executive gender, salary and tenure by agency.

### Consultants

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken and the total cost of the work undertaken.



<b>Consultancies below \$10,000 each</b>		
Nil	Purpose	\$0
	Subtotal	\$0
<b>Consultancies above \$10,000 each</b>		
Nil	Purpose	\$0
<b>Total all consultancies</b>		<b>\$0</b>

Data for the previous years is available at <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/animal-welfare-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>:

See also the Consolidated Financial Report of the Department of Treasury and Finance <http://treasury.sa.gov.au/> for total value of consultancy contracts across the SA Public Sector.

## Contractors

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged by the agency, the nature of work undertaken and the total cost of the work undertaken.

Contractor	Purpose	Value
Nil	Purpose	\$0

Data for the previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/animal-welfare-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

The details of all South Australian Government-awarded contracts for goods, services, and works are displayed on the SA Tenders and Contracts website [here](#).

The website also provides details of across government contracts [here](#).

## Financial performance of the agency

The Committee is a statutory body; it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEW Annual Report 2017-18.

The costs associated with the administration of the Committee are met from within existing DEW resources. Members are remunerated in accordance with a recommendation by the Chief Executive, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, in line with the Cabinet-approved Remuneration Framework.

## Other financial information

Nil to report.

**Other information requested by the Minister(s) or other significant issues affecting the agency or reporting pertaining to independent functions**

Nil to report.

**Section B: Reporting required under any other act or regulation**

It is declared that Committee has no reporting requirements under any other Act or Regulation.

**Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005***

The *Carers' Recognition Act* is deemed applicable for the following: Department of Human Services, Department for Education, Department for Health and Wellbeing, Department of State Development, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, South Australia Police and TAFE SA.

*Section 7: Compliance or non-compliance with section 6 of the Carers Recognition Act 2005 and (b) if a person or body provides relevant services under a contract with the organisation (other than a contract of employment), that person's or body's compliance or non-compliance with section 6.*

## Section C: Reporting of public complaints as requested by the Ombudsman

### Summary of complaints by subject

Public complaints received by the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee	
Category of complaints by subject	Number of instances
All complaints	No specific complaints have been received by the Committee.

Data for the previous years is available at: <https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/animal-welfare-advisory-committee-annual-report-data>

### Complaint outcomes

Nature of complaint or suggestion	Services improved or changes as a result of complaints or consumer suggestions
All complaints	No complaints have been received or acted upon

## **Appendix: Audited financial statements 2017-18**

Financial services are provided to the Committee by DEW. Finances are audited annually as part of DEW's financial statements.

Annual report information (including financial statements) is available on the [DEW](#) website.