



Inquiry into licences to harm native animals

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. That the Animal Welfare Committee inquire into and report on licences to harm native animals in New South Wales, and in particular:
 - (a) the species and number of animals affected by licences to harm native animals
 - (b) the welfare impacts of lethal control methods prescribed under licences to harm native animals, including consideration of whether current requirements adequately safeguard animal welfare and species identification
 - (c) the extent to which orphaned young are affected by licences to harm native animals and how these impacts are tracked or mitigated
 - (d) the adequacy of current assessment processes used when granting licences to harm
 - (e) the level of public transparency and accountability associated with licensing decisions, including data availability and reasons for approval and rejection of applications
 - (f) the extent of NSW Government support for research, trials, and adoption of alternative wildlife management strategies
 - (g) the extent to which First Nations communities and Traditional Owners are consulted prior to the issuing of licences to harm native wildlife, and how cultural values and responsibilities are incorporated into decision-making, and
 - (h) any other related matters.

The terms of reference for the inquiry were self-referred by the committee on 24 September 2025.

Committee membership

Hon Emma Hurst MLC	Animal Justice Party	<i>Chair</i>
Hon Bob Nanva MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Hon Robert Borsak MLC	Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	
Hon Wes Fang MLC	The Nationals	
Hon Stephen Lawrence MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Aileen MacDonald MLC	Liberal Party	
Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Hon Emily Suvaal MLC	Australian Labor Party	