

Clarification/Correction from Scott Hansen and Peter Day from NSW Department of Primary Industries, in relation to answers provided at the hearing on 13 August 2020 for the Inquiry into Exhibition of Exotic Animals in Circuses and Exhibition of Cetaceans in New South Wales.

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Mr HANSEN: The inquiry today is looking at a range of questions regarding cetaceans; one facility in New South Wales which currently holds three dolphins, I believe our written submission may reference four. Unfortunately, one of those four dolphins, a 40-year-old female dolphin by the name of Calamity, passed away on 9 June 2020 of old age.

Mr Hansen would like to clarify that Calamity died during a procedure to treat a suspected cancer/tumour of the mouth. The post-mortem identified other abnormalities, and degradations that were likely age related.

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Mr DAY: There is no prescribed time limit. There is a requirement that they have a rest period in any given year of up to a month, of which two weeks must be taken in a fixed block and the other time can be taken as individual days as part of their moving itinerary.

Mr Day would like to make a correction that a circus animal must have a total of at least one month's rest in a twelve month period.

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Mr DAY: Most of our audits are announced because it is important to have the relevant people there to be available to make sure that the questions can be answered on the day. If we ever received a complaint they would always be unannounced and we do retain the capacity to do an unannounced audit if required, as well.

Mr Day would like to clarify that under Section 40(1)(a) of the Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986 an inspector may enter any premises which are a licensed animal display establishment or any other place where an inspector believes, on reasonable grounds, that a provision of this Act or the regulations has been or is being contravened.