

## **Standing Committee on State Development: Inquiry into animal welfare policy in NSW**

### **Hearing 21 March 2022 – Question on Notice Transcript Extract:**

*The Hon. EMMA HURST: I have a question for the Australian Veterinary Association. Last week we heard from the Shooters Union, who were advocating for a special exemption specifically for pig dogging, the practice of using dogs to fight and hunt wild pigs. I am curious, as a veterinary organisation, what is your stance on the practice of pig dogging and whether you think pig dogging is a form of animal fighting or not?*

*DIANE RYAN: It is a very interesting question, which I think we will have to take on notice. We have a number of policies and I suppose that is one policy that I would have to check that we have. If we have, then I will present it to the Committee.*

### **Australian Veterinary Association Response:**

The Australian Veterinary Association [Hunting Policy](#) includes the following statement relevant to the question taken on notice: *Dogs should not be used in the hunting of animals, except where they are used purely to locate or flush out animals and as part of a formal government control program (e.g. dogs used in island eradication campaigns to find the last few individuals in a population of feral animals). Dogs must not be permitted to pursue, corner or attack the animals. The use of dogs to hold or bring down feral pigs has adverse welfare effects for both dogs and pigs and should not be permitted. The killing of feral pigs using dogs and knives or arrows is inhumane. Additionally the use of dogs to hunt pigs is usually an ineffective method of control.*