



**6 May 2022**

Legislative Council  
Parliament of New South Wales

**Post Hearing Response – Inquiry into Animal Welfare Policy in New South Wales**

To whom it may concern,

In response to the questions taken on notice please see below.

- 1. There was a comment from an inquiry participant that RSPCA officers frequently come into people's homes with Tasers – can you clarify if any RSPCA officer is ever equipped with a Taser?*

Whilst AWL NSW Inspectors and RSPCA Inspectors are both Authorised Officers under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979, we work for separate organisations. Therefore I cannot provide an answer for the above.

- 2. There was some discussion at the Inquiry about whether there should be an element of “pre-meditation” included in the definition of aggravated animal cruelty. What is your response to this? Would you support this change, or do you believe aggravated cruelty should remain a strict liability offence?*

AWL NSW Inspectorate believes Aggravated Cruelty should remain as a strict liability offence with no change.



If you require further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Matthew Godwin  
Chief Inspector  
AWL NSW Inspectorate