## INQUIRY INTO 2021 INQUIRY INTO THE APPROVED CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS UNDER THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT 1979

Name: Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 27 February 2022

## Partially Confidential

Every piece of criminal legislation in this country has a process of transparency and oversight as to how it is enforced – except animal cruelty laws.

There are huge conflicts of interests and disempowerment that exists between the 'players' who are meant to protect animals which includes The RSPCA, The Animal Welfare League, The Department of Agriculture and the Department of Primary Industry.

The Not for profit organisations have no power and very little funding to ensure prosecutions are followed through every time they are needed. They are restricted by sponsorships and donations they may receive, and the fact that the RSPCA receives minimal government funding for the job they are attributed to do, forces them to raise funds from the very corporations who they must protect animals from. Hence the RSPCA 'tick of approval'.

The Minister for Agriculture and the Department of Primary Industry who are charged with ensuring Animal cruelty laws are upheld are also protecting business interests who use and exploit animals who need protection.

There is a total lack of transparency which has been aided by Animal Agricultural gag laws to disrupt the strengthening of and the enforcement of Animal Cruelty Laws. Simultaneously, the truth behind the treatment of animals and our severely lacking animal protections are intentionally hidden behind rhetoric, clever, yet deceitful advertising and social /attitude engineering.

NSW urgently needs a well- funded Independent Office of Animal Protection. The Laws as they stand now are weak, riddled with conflicts and focus on profit over the lives of animals. This needs to urgently change.