

Submission  
No 34

**INQUIRY INTO 2025 INQUIRY INTO THE OPERATION OF  
THE APPROVED CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS UNDER  
THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT 1979**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
**Date Received:** 31 October 2025

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Partially  
Confidential

I am concerned about several aspects of the RSPCA organisation.

I am a wildlife carer of 20 years with WIRES. In recent years I have become aware of the increasing relationship between the RSPCA and WIRES. During these past years staff from RSPCA have moved over to WIRES. The CEO of WIRES is an x employee of RSPCA. In all my 20 years of experience with WIRES I have never heard of them targeting individuals as they have done in the recent past, since their office staff have become largely comprised of x RSPCA employees, which have resulted in carers being subjected to inspections by persons who seem to have little or no knowledge of wildlife, thereby making decisions based on hearsay, rather than proof.

One very concerning case is of a macropod carer, Tracey Dodds, who was prosecuted in court by RSPCA, was found guilty of aggravated cruelty in regards to a kangaroo that she was trying to rehabilitate. RSPCA had so called expert witnesses, but Tracey was allowed none. In my opinion, she was treated unfairly, unsupported by her Coordinator in the first instance and targeted by a person or persons within WIRES.

There have been other cases where these inspections have been made on carers who have voiced dissatisfaction with the management of WIRES and has actually nothing to do with the truth. To be clear, a wildlife carer is exactly that, a person who cares deeply for wildlife and while it's possible there may be an exception, it is more than highly unlikely that someone who cares enough to volunteer almost all their time, energy and love into the commitment they make to wildlife, which is a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week commitment, that said person would wish to or deliberately harm any wildlife in their care.

I think this relationship between the two organisations is inappropriate and unethical and I believe it is doing great harm to the wildlife sector in general.

I believe the government should be taking a very close look at both organisations and quickly before all the wildlife carers leave due to fear of being persecuted and prosecuted.

Regards