



The Hon Mark Furner MP  
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries  
and Minister for Rural Communities

Our ref: CTS 20866/21  
Your ref: A760605

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14 October 2021

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Services  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 15 September 2021 (ref: A760605) regarding the petition received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly No.3529-21: *Funding for RSPCA*.

I acknowledge the important work of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Queensland (RSPCA) in caring for sick and injured animals and those in need of shelter and rehoming.

The RSPCA also plays an important role in enforcing the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* (ACPA). The RSPCA maintains a team of inspectors, appointed by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, who investigate animal welfare complaints under the provisions of the ACPA. The department and the RSPCA operate under a formal Activity Agreement, which includes an annual funding arrangement to support the RSPCA's inspectorate.

In 2016 the Queensland Government approved a capital works grant of \$3 million for upgrading and renewing animal shelters in Townsville and Cairns. The Cairns shelter works were completed (\$2 086 000). However, in April 2020, the funding committed to refurbishing the Townsville shelter (\$914 000) was paid to the RSPCA instead as operational funding to assist with its Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) response.

If your office requires further information, please contact Mr Dan McIntyre in my office on 07 3719 7420.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M. Furner'.

**MARK FURNER MP**  
**Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and**  
**Minister for Rural Communities**