

RSPCA — EDUCATION UNIT

**761. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:**

I refer to the blog site saving pets and a report that up to a dozen RSPCA staff have recently lost their jobs resulting in the RSPCA closing its education unit that services more than 4 000 children a year.

- (1) Can the minister confirm that the education unit has closed?
- (2) If yes to (1), does government funding under the most recent grant agreement still require the RSPCA to provide education and the promotion of responsible companion animal ownership?
- (3) If yes to (2), is the grant agreement made invalid by the closure of the RSPCA's education unit; and, if not, why not?
- (4) If no to (2), when was the decision made to remove the education component from the grant agreement, by whom was the decision made, and why was the decision made?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The RSPCA has advised that there has been a restructure but the education unit has not been closed.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) No, because the RSPCA still has the capacity to meet the requirements of the grant agreement.
- (4) Not applicable.