

ANIMAL WELFARE

Statement by Member for Gosnells

MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells) [12.53 pm]: Righting injustices and progressing our society should always be a priority of this Parliament. I want to acknowledge the many people and organisations that dedicate their energy to animal welfare and threatened species conservation. Recently I attended “An Evening for the Animals” at Government House and I salute the work of Rebecca Tilbrook in helping deliver on-ground action for the Wildlife Alliance, Leif Cocks for his dedication and service to the Orangutan Project and Clare Campbell for her magnificent work with the Silvery Gibbon Project. Saving animals from cruel treatment, overseas and in Australia, is a strong desire of many people in my electorate. People in my electorate expect this Parliament to take action on cruelty associated with live animal exports; stalls in piggeries that immobilise sows; tiny cages for hens and meat chickens; puppy farming; calf roping at rodeos; killing of unwanted racehorses and greyhounds; and the cruel treatment of feral animals in the culling process. There are many other animal welfare issues that need tackling. I am proud of the WA Labor recommendation to establish an animal welfare administration board and the creation of a WA animal welfare strategy. A society that turns a blind eye to failings in animal welfare systems is also a society that turns a blind eye to acts of child abuse and other acts of cruelty.