

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD — RSPCA PROSECUTIONS AND ANIMAL SEIZURES

571. Hon DARREN WEST to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

- (1) Has the Department of Agriculture and Food had any concerns in the last two years with any prosecutions or animal seizures handled by the RSPCA?
- (2) If yes to (1) —
 - (a) which prosecutions or animal seizures;
 - (b) what were the concerns;
 - (c) how was the RSPCA advised of the concerns; and
 - (d) were the concerns resolved to the satisfaction of the Department of Agriculture and Food?
- (3) If no to (2)(d), what action has the department taken to have the concerns resolved?
- (4) On what date was the minister first made aware of the concerns?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2)
 - (a) The Department of Agriculture and Food WA has had concerns in at least two cases.
 - (b) The concerns centred on seizure and forfeiture of animals, as well as issues relating to funding, performance and reporting against the grant agreement and administrative arrangements.
 - (c) It was advised through meetings, phone calls and mail correspondence.
 - (d) Yes—satisfied with improvements and commitment to further improvement.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) I have been regularly updated.