

AWAC Recommendations to Minister March 2014 – March 2018¹

Date	Recommendation	Action
2014	Approve the draft Tasmanian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Dogs and make the Standards components into Regulations.	Accepted
2014	Approve amendments to the Tasmanian Animal Welfare Guidelines for Transfer of Livestock on Bass Strait.	Accepted
2014	Do not approve the nationally developed Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep and Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Cattle in their current form.	Accepted
2014	Amend the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i> to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase penalty provisions for animal cruelty • Provide for consistent accountability of officers • Improve operational arrangements for AWAC 	Accepted
2015	Approve the Code of Practice for Hunting Ducks in Tasmania as a Guideline under the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i>	Accepted
2015	Amend the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i> to include re-considered recommendations from the 2012 review.	Part of any future review of the Act.
2016	Approve Guidelines for Humane Euthanasia of Cetaceans as an Animal Welfare Guideline under the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i> .	Accepted
2016	Approve one-off additional funding for RSPCA Tasmania of \$50,000	Accepted
2016	Approve a small subcommittee of scientific experts	Noted by Minister with request to AWAC to consider alternative options including appointment of an expert to AWAC
2017	AWAC advised it was considering appointment of an individual scientific expert. Detailed proposal to follow.	
2017	Approve release of up to \$10,000 pa from the Animal Welfare Trust Account to fund a scientific adviser to AWAC.	Noted by Minister

¹ This table is derived from formal correspondence between the AWAC and the then Minister for Primary Industries and Water.

		The Department's advice is that the AWAC has access to scientific expertise both through AWAC and DPIPWE.
2017	Include a ban on pronged dog collars in amendments to the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1993</i>	<p>In June 2015, the Government's leader in the Upper House Vanessa Goodwin tried to include a ban on pronged collars after a 12-month amnesty only to withdraw it.</p> <p>"The Government doesn't want this amendment to be lost and then not have the opportunity to pursue this banning of pronged collars down the track."</p> <p>A matter for future review of the Act.</p>
2017	Early learnings from major animal welfare incidents be made public without compromising the criminal prosecution, as soon as possible to reduce the risk of further incidences	<p>General recommendation noted.</p> <p>Matter to be actioned by DPIPWE, noting that not prejudicing any individual investigation is a paramount / overriding consideration.</p>
2017	Consider appointment of racing stewards under Animal Welfare Act	<p>Matter was considered but alternative recommendation of CVO/Director of Racing was accepted.</p> <p>In the 2018-19 Budget two new Cadet Stewards positions were funded.</p>
2017	Approve the amended version of the <i>Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Cattle</i> and <i>Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Sheep</i> provided by AWAC as official Guidelines and Regulations in Tasmania.	<p>Noted by Minister.</p> <p>To be progressed by DPIPWE.</p>
2017	Approve an independent review of existing regulatory mechanisms and enforcement of abattoirs.	Formal advice from DPIPWE to Minister pending. Awaiting outcomes / lessons learnt from two criminal investigations just finalised. In

		the interim, there have been ongoing audits of abattoirs.
2017	Further advice on the Animal Welfare Standards for Sheep based on proposed industry changes at the national level to the section on mulesing.	Noted by the Minister. To be progressed by DPIPWE.
2018	Matters related to Bass Strait shipping and the transportation of animals.	DPIPWE will undertake appropriate monitoring of animals arriving at Tasmania.

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