

RSPCA ACT Report for the Service Funding Agreement

Report for 1st July 2019 – 31 December 2019

Prepared by RSPCA ACT

a. The number of animals seized under the Animal Welfare ACT 1992

1. 29 animals seized under 81A(a) to (c) and/or s85(2) via 85(1)((a) to (c).

2. Animal types:

Birds	4	including 3 DOA
Felines	3	including 2 DOA
Canines	22	
TOTAL	29	

3. Number of animals destroyed under the Act: 0. (*relates only to Inspector Seized Animals*)
4. Number of entries into premises under section 81 of the Act: Data not collected by our system.

Although our system is not able to capture this data, we have been working towards including relevant information on Inspector seized animals appropriated without consent to enter the property for December and January. We are including this information, as it may be useful to note under this question.

Note: no properties were listed as actually entered under S85(1), however the ones listed below were entered under "Imminent Risk Death/Injury". We are counting these as not having owner consent to enter the property.

December 2019

3 cases of seizures (multiple animals, 11 seized),
1 listed as Imminent Risk Death/Injury

January 2020

9 cases of seizures (multiple animals, 14 seized inc 3 DOA),
4 listed as Imminent Risk Death/Injury

b. Stray dogs and cats

1. Number of animals received from the public:

Felines	477
Canines	127
TOTAL	604

2. Number of animals received from the Territory:

Felines	13	
Canines	63	Note: includes DAS seized animals
Other species	2	
TOTAL	78	

c. Cats and dogs housed

1. For stray cats and dogs received from the public or the Territory, the number of days housed against legislative compliance period for the relevant Acts:

Felines	7 days*
Canines	within 7 days*

* Denotes the minimum days to be held as 'stray hold' to meet compliance requirements.

Note: animals are released back to owners if claimed before stray hold is up, and once stray hold period has expired, unclaimed animals fall under ownership of RSPCA ACT.

2. Number of days held for prosecution related matters:

Felines	average 6 days
Canines	average 179 days

3. Number of dogs transferred to DAS: **7**
(Note: includes DAS seized animals returned to DAS)

d. Animals released

1. Number of **stray** dogs and cats returned to owner:

Felines	57
Canines	140
TOTAL	197

2. The average number of days housed until returned to the owner: 1 day

e. Euthanisation

Number of pest animals euthanised	21
Number of cats deemed feral/unsocialised and euthanised	57
TOTAL	78

f. Inspectorate service

1	Number of complaints/referrals received in relation to animal welfare	701
2	Number of investigations undertaken in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act 1992	647
3	Number of prosecutions commenced under the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1992</i>	1 (TASKER)
4	Summary of court outcomes by type:	
	• Number finalised in this reporting period:	3
	○ Dismissed: UUVALU Offence date July 2016	
	○ Convicted: FRIEND (Agg.Cruelty) Offence date 31/8/18	\$50 Court levy GBO for 8 months
	○ Not proven, dismissed: PERKINS/T2 Enterprises Offence Date 4/4/2018	
5.	Matters involved the issuance of written directions to owner/carers of animals – all these directions were complied with, therefore did not advance to prosecution	9

g. General statement

The Inspectorate staff changes during the six-month period comprised one inspector leaving which required a new round of recruitment. The new Inspectorate member commenced work in January 2020. Our existing trainee completed full training and obtained Inspectorate authorisation.

The RSPCA ACT Inspectorate places emphasis on rigour in the preparation of briefs of evidence, and due to the small team composition, this marginally contributes to an already slow prosecution process.

All matters attended to are done in pairs, ensuring high safety and procedure standards.

h. Additional information

# animals at C/H status on 31 December	Total = 29 - 16 Canines - 13 reptiles
Includes animals in foster. Does not include DAS C/H animals	

In addition, we also included the 'Length of Stay' (LOS) for animals who were or are in care during this reporting period. Their status therefore:

- changed to or from Court Held in the July-December period,
- or are/were still in care as at 31 December 2019,
- indicates the total LOS at that status, for those animals who were still in care during this reporting period, but who came in before July 1 2019.

Days at court hold status	# Animals
0-30	11
31-60	10
61-100	1
100+	43 (inc snakes)

This information was not requested, but we wanted to provide it as we think it is useful to capture.