

26 January 2000

The Honourable Jim Sutton
Minister of Agriculture
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Sir,

Animal Welfare Act Inspector Warrants

The North Shore City currently contracts out it's dog and stock control work to Animal Welfare Services of Waitakere City Council which operates under the name of "North Shore Animal Care and Control" when operating in the North Shore area. Included in the contract is the potential for Waitakere to enforce the Animal Welfare Act 1999 through the Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand (AWINZ) which is currently seeking status as an approved organisation under the new Animal Welfare Act 1999. In order to facilitate the warranting of inspectors for North Shore I forward the following information.

In the event of AWINZ being an approved organisation "North Shore Animal Care and Control" will agree to-

- (a) Provide the necessary funding to enable each inspector appointed to comply with the programme;
- (b) Provide funds to meet hook-on fees with AWINZ.
- (c) Provide support services and necessary equipment for Inspectors;
- (d) Adhere to a quality system provided by AWINZ for the administration of the programme;
- (e) Permit the Inspectors to carry out their powers, duties and functions in relation to each complaint or matter that arises from his or her performance as an Inspector;
- (f) Provide day to day supervision of inspectors;
- (g) Facilitate auditing of the quality system by AWINZ and provide access to documentation as requested by AWINZ quality auditors;
- (h) Advise AWINZ by facsimile or e-mail when an investigation is likely to result in a prosecution under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 and where necessary permit the investigating inspector to act under the direction of AWINZ;
- (i) Advise AWINZ of each occasion a search warrant is obtained and executed;
- (j) Advise AWINZ of any decision not to prosecute where the investigation reveals that an offence has been committed but the circumstances warrant that no further action be taken or that a warning be given;
- (k) Refer to AWINZ any serious complaint made against an Inspector and advise AWINZ of any trivial complaint made against an Inspector and the manner in which it was dealt with;



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(1) Execute a formal memorandum of understanding with AWINZ containing the heads of agreement in this letter.

North Shore Animal Care and Control accepts that each Inspector will act under the direction of the Director-General of Agriculture and Forestry in the exercise of the powers, duties and functions imposed by the Animal Welfare Act 1999 and acknowledges that in the event of any conflict of interest arising between the powers, duties and functions conferred or imposed on an inspector as an employee and the powers, duties and functions conferred or imposed on the inspector by the Animal Welfare Act 1999, the powers, duties and functions imposed under the Act will prevail.

Yours faithfully



Tom Didovich
Business Unit Manager
North Shore Animal Care and Control