



12 August 2010

File Ref: LG05-0015-I

Grace Haden
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Dear Ms Haden

RNZSPCA

Thank you for your recent email correspondence of 29 July 2010. You have asked the Auditor-General to investigate:

- Contracting arrangements between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and the RNZSPCA over enforcing animal welfare law. You allege that this is not consistent with the statutory framework, that there is a lack of accountability and transparency in the relationship between MAF and the RNZSPCA, including its branches and member societies, and how that is controlled and managed.
- The allegation that the animal welfare enforcement regime provides an incentive for the SPCA to inappropriately prosecute strict liability offences, because the SPCA is allowed to keep fines as revenue.

Having considered the information you have provided, we do not consider that the questions you raise warrant any action on the part of this Office.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Powell
Sector Manager