

**From:** [Paul Johnston & Rose Ashton](#)  
**To:** [DGR Inbox](#)  
**Subject:** don't restrict environmental charities  
**Date:** Thursday, 3 August 2017 10:32:11 AM

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Dear Sir / Madam,

Environmental charities play a very important role in our society, often doing work that the Australian Government doesn't do, such as monitoring whale slaughtering.

Advocacy for the environment is crucial to creating better policies and preventing damage. It can be the most efficient expenditure compared to the costs (environmental, social, physical & mental health) of repairing future environmental damage.

Limiting the ability of environmental groups for advocate for our environment would result in poorer environmental outcomes.

Some major environmental problems, like climate change, cannot be stopped through on-ground works alone. Public behaviour has to change, as that can be done through environment groups.

The 2016 Inquiry and discussion paper create a false dichotomy between remediation and advocacy. On-ground work needs supporting policies or funding from government, which may only arise as a result of advocacy.

I donate to the following charities because the work they do helps make a better world:

Oxfam  
Australian Conservation Foundation  
Ambulances for strike victims  
BirdLife Australia  
Fred Hollows  
Royal Society for the Blind  
Trees For Life  
Parkinson's SA

Three of them are environmental charities. Please do not pass laws that restrict their advocacy.

Kind regards,  
Rosalie Ashton