

3 May 2013

The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

By email: nfpreform@treasury.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Statutory definition of a Charity May 2013 - RSPCA Australia response

RSPCA Australia makes this submission on the definition of a charity on behalf of its members - RSPCA ACT, RSPCA Darwin, RSPCA NSW, RSPCA QLD, RSPCA SA, RSPCA TAS, RSPCA VIC and RSPCA WA. We welcome the opportunity to contribute to this important process.

The RSPCA is one of Australia's most enduring charities, working to prevent cruelty to animals in Australia since 1871. It is widely respected by governments, industry groups and the general public. We provide essential animal care and protection, deliver a law enforcement function designated in State/Territory legislation and play an active role in community education and advocating changes in behaviour and legislation for the betterment of animal welfare. The community provides 97 per cent of our annual operating funds via fees for service, donations and other fundraising activities, with governments providing just 3 per cent.

RSPCA Australia supports the Exposure Draft on the Statutory Definition of Charity with the amendments recommended by the Community Council for Australia outlined in their submission. These recommendations seek to; clearly establish the purpose of the Bill; increase understanding about the various lists and descriptions of charitable purpose in the Bill; and, ensure appropriate language is used to describe the purposes and activities of charities.

RSPCA Australia welcomes the Government's commitments to reforming the not for profit sector and we look forward to contributing at every opportunity.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further information.

Yours sincerely



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