



OIA13-136

18 OCT 2013

Grace Haden
Animal Owners Support Trust
fyi-request-1149-68df9485@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Grace Haden

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request of 20 September 2013 relating to Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RNZSPCA) animal welfare appointments.

The following information is released to you under the Official Information Act 1982:

- A list of SPCA centres as at 25 September 2013. The RNZSPCA is deemed to be an approved organisation under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 in accordance with sections 189 and 190. The SPCA branches and member societies are not approved organisations in their own right but operate through the RNZSPCA and may continue to do so only while they remain affiliated to the RNZSPCA.
- A list showing the geographical spread of SPCA auxiliary officers and inspectors as at 25 September 2013. There are currently 42 SPCA animal welfare auxiliary officers and 86 SPCA animal welfare inspectors appointed under the Animal Welfare Act.

We are unable to respond within the timeframe set out in the Official Information Act to your request for the names of SPCA auxiliary officers and inspectors. Accordingly, the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has decided to extend the time limit for responding to your request pursuant to section 15A of the OIA. The Ministry will reply to your request by no later than 8 November 2013.

The extension is necessary because consultations necessary to make a decision on your request are such that a proper response cannot reasonably be made within the normal 20 working day time limit.

Individuals wanting to become auxiliary officers or inspectors must undertake appropriate training. A four month distance learning course (developed by RNZSPCA National Support Office and approved by MPI), must be completed by individuals wanting to become auxiliary officers. Individuals who want to become inspectors must successfully complete the *Certificate in Animal Welfare Investigations*, which is a one year distance learning course held at Unitec in Auckland.

Applications for appointment of auxiliary officers and inspectors are received by MPI from RNZSPCA. Applications must include evidence of training records, criminal check results, and SPCA recommendations (branch or member society and Executive Council). The application is assessed by MPI to ensure applicants are suitability qualified. Upon successful assessment of the application, inspectors are appointed by the Minister, or his delegate, and auxiliary officers are appointed by the Director-General, or his delegate.

Auxiliary officers and inspectors are issued with photo identification cards on appointment.

MPI maintains a database of RNZSPCA animal welfare appointments but this information is not publically available.

Your request for a *copy of the annual returns for each of the approved organisations* is refused in accordance with section 18(g) of the Official Information Act 1982, on the grounds that the information is not held by MPI. RNZSPCA annual reports are publically available at: <http://rnzspca.org.nz/about/annual-reports>

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our decision to extend the time limit for responding to part of your request. A request must be made in writing to:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsmen
PO Box 10 152
WELLINGTON

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Stone', written in a cursive style.

Matthew Stone
Director Animal & Animal Products

List of SPCA centres as at 25 September 2013

SPCA Auckland
SPCA Bay of Islands
SPCA Bay of Plenty
SPCA Buller
SPCA Canterbury
SPCA Central Hawkes Bay
SPCA Central King Country
SPCA Dannevirke
SPCA Feilding & Districts
SPCA Gisborne
SPCA Golden Bay
SPCA Gore
SPCA Greymouth
SPCA Hastings & Districts
SPCA Hawkes Bay
SPCA Hokitika
SPCA Horowhenua
SPCA Invercargill
SPCA Kaitaia
SPCA Kawarau: SPCA Kawerau
SPCA Manawatu
SPCA Marlborough
SPCA Mid Canterbury
SPCA Motueka
SPCA Nelson
SPCA North Otago
SPCA North Taranaki
SPCA Opotoki
SPCA Otago
SPCA Paeroa
SPCA RNZSPCA
SPCA Rotorua
SPCA South Canterbury
SPCA South Taranaki
SPCA South Waikato
SPCA Southland
SPCA Taranaki
SPCA Taupo
SPCA Tauranga
SPCA Te Awamutu
SPCA Te Kuiti
SPCA Thames
SPCA Waiheke
SPCA Waihi
SPCA Waikato
SPCA Wairarapa
SPCA Wanganui
SPCA Wellington
SPCA Whakatane
SPCA Whangarei

Geographical spread of SPCA Auxiliary Officers and Inspectors as at 25 September 2013

Location	Count of Appt
Animal Welfare Auxiliary Officer	42
SPCA Auckland	1
SPCA Bay of Islands	1
SPCA Buller	1
SPCA Canterbury	9
SPCA Feilding & Districts	2
SPCA Hawkes Bay	1
SPCA Hokitika	1
SPCA Horowhenua	1
SPCA Marlborough	2
SPCA Nelson	2
SPCA Otago	2
SPCA Rotorua	3
SPCA South Canterbury	3
SPCA Southland	3
SPCA Te Kuiti	1
SPCA Wairarapa	1
SPCA Wellington	4
SPCA Whakatane	2
SPCA Whangarei	2
Animal Welfare Inspector	86
SPCA Auckland	10
SPCA Bay of Islands	2
SPCA Canterbury	4
SPCA Central Hawkes Bay	1
SPCA Dannevirke	1
SPCA Gisborne	1
SPCA Golden Bay	1
SPCA Gore	1
SPCA Hastings & Districts	1
SPCA Hawkes Bay	2
SPCA Hokitika	2
SPCA Kaitaia	1
SPCA Kawerau	1
SPCA Manawatu	2
SPCA Marlborough	2
SPCA Mid Canterbury	1
SPCA Motueka	1
SPCA Nelson	3
SPCA North Taranaki	3
SPCA Opotoki	1
SPCA Otago	3
SPCA RNZSPCA	9
SPCA Rotorua	2
SPCA South Canterbury	1
SPCA South Taranaki	2
SPCA South Waikato	1
SPCA Southland	2
SPCA Tauranga	1
SPCA Thames	2
SPCA Waiheke	2
SPCA Waikato	3
SPCA Wairarapa	2
SPCA Wanganui	1
SPCA Wellington	8
SPCA Whangarei	6
Grand Total	128

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT