

# Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS)

## Survey

Agriculture hub

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Response received at:  
8 March 2024, 8:48am

Response ID:  
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- 1 Do you agree to your response being published in full on our website?  
Yes
- 2 [Blank question text]  
Not answered
- 3 I have read and understood the privacy notice and consent to the collection, use and disclosure of my personal information as outlined in the privacy notice.  
Yes
- 4 Confirm that you have read and understand this declaration.  
Yes
- 5 First name  
Sandra
- 6 Last name  
Baxendell
- 7 Email  
goatveto@gmail.com

- 8 Who are you answering on behalf of?  
Individual or individuals
- 9 Organisation name:  
Not answered
- 10 What state or territory do you live in?  
Queensland
- 11 Where do you reside?  
Metropolitan (capital cities, other metropolitan areas, population greater than 100,000)
- 12 Which sector best describes you or the organisation you work for?  
Veterinarian
- 13 Are you currently an agriculture, fisheries or forestry levy payer?  
No
- 14 Which Rural Research and Development Corporation do you pay levies towards?  
Not answered
- 15 Does this vision statement reflect everything you feel an Australian Animal Welfare Strategy should aim to achieve?  
Yes
- 16 Is there anything else it should include?  
Not answered
- 17 Do the above proposed streams cover the right priority areas for the strategy?  
Yes

**18** Are there other priority areas that you think are important and should be added to the strategy?

Yes incentives to encourage veterinarians for rural areas . We need research into options for better disbudding of goat kids and prevention of urinary calculi in goats. We also need a policy change to allow veterinarians to prescribe veterinary medicines for goats (and other minor species) even if there is a DO NOT USE statement on the label about goats producing milk for human consumption or a DO NOT USE in any other species or any other manner except on the label. Allow vets to prescribe by tele-medicine so that goat owners not near a vet willing to prescribe for goats or other minor species can access veterinary medicines .

**19** Are there any you feel are not a priority area?

no

**20** Are there any shared factors affecting animal welfare that cut across all, or multiple, animal groups? For example: climate change, innovation, workforce retention.

Yes incentives to encourage veterinarians for rural areas . Also climate change and hence heat stress, bush-fires, flood etc

**21** How can the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy address these in a practical way?

Support other policy initiatives

**22** What do you think are the biggest challenges facing Australia's animal welfare system?

2: Community values and expectations about animal welfare issues are constantly changing, while improvements in animal welfare science can take time to develop and implement.

3: There is a complex relationship between animal welfare regulation, productivity and community expectations.

4: Animal welfare is primarily a state and territory responsibility providing challenges with a harmonised approach to decision-making.

5: Developing a fit-for-purpose national strategy that suits all audiences, taking into account that different groups of stakeholders may have different expectations and interests.

6: The national standards development system is complex and not currently meeting all stakeholder needs.

23 Are there additional challenges in the animal welfare system that have not been listed above, which the renewed strategy should consider?

Allow veterinarians to use tele-medicine to prescribe for goats and minor species & encourage vets to go to or stay in rural areas.

24 What do you think are the biggest opportunities for Australia's animal welfare system?

2: There is a strong research community, focused on developing and considering contemporary animal welfare science and evidence and coordinating research and data collection across jurisdictions.

3: Overseas trading partners are increasingly interested in Australia's animal welfare credentials.

4: Animal industry and animal-related industries are increasingly building animal welfare into industry-level sustainability plans and work practices.

5: There is a changing social licence, reflecting the intrinsic value of animals and their importance to people.

6: Animal welfare has become part of national conversations including biosecurity, animal health and productivity.

7: Agriculture Ministers are focused on animal welfare and work is underway to improve national standards setting.

25 Are there additional opportunities for improvements in the animal welfare system that have not been listed above, which the renewed strategy should consider?

The breeding of pets with genetic defects e.g. French Bulldogs with breathing difficulties, fainting goats can be changed to only allow for improvements, not continuation of genetic defects. At least 1 parent i.e sire must not carry the defective gene.

26 Is there anything else you would like to be considered in the development of the strategy, within the scope described in this discussion paper?

Not answered