



Jessica Shaw MLA

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Animal Welfare Task Group
Animal Welfare Standards Public Consultation
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Dear Members of the Animal Welfare Task Group,

RE: POULTRY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

I have been overwhelmed by the number of community members of the electorate of Swan Hills in Western Australia that have contacted my office in regards to the draft *Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Poultry*. I have heard from a range of people that are deeply concerned about the welfare of poultry.

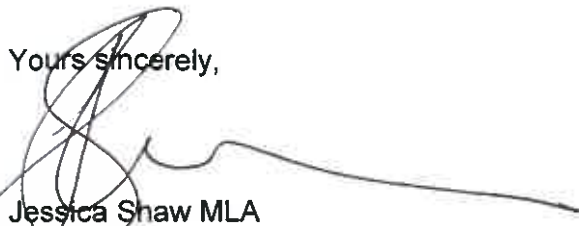
The main issues raised in submissions received include:

- Poultry should be able to practice natural behaviour patterns.
- Poultry should be able to roam without restriction, dust bathe, interact with other birds, stretch, spread their wings and feel sunlight.
- Poultry need to have social interaction, roost, nest and forage.
- Concerns that battery chickens have higher mortality rates from osteoporosis and fatty liver disease.
- Concerns about psychological distress and boredom.
- Concerns about bone breakages.
- Concerns that chickens are forced to lay eggs.
- The cruelty associated with beak trimming.
- The fact that many companies and other countries moving away from caged chickens and eliminating the use of caged eggs.

Overwhelmingly people support the phasing out and banning of battery cages. I strongly urge the Animal Welfare Task Group to listen to the concerns of the community.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Jessica Shaw MLA
Member for Swan Hills

