



13 November 2008

Neil Wells  
Manager Animal Welfare  
Waitakere City Council  
Private Bag 93 109  
Henderson  
WAITAKERE 0650

Dear Neil

**ANIMAL WELFARE ACT 1999 – APPROVED ORGANISATION STATUS**

I refer to the recent telephone conference regarding options for continuing to have an approved organisation, as defined in the Animal Welfare Act 1999 (**the Act**), within the boundaries of the Waitakere City Council. Currently The Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand performs this role. We discussed whether Animal Welfare Waitakere could become an approved organisation.

The Ministry's understanding of the Act is that Animal Welfare Waitakere is not able to be declared as an approved organisation. This is because it is not an "organisation" as contemplated by the Act.

I note that councils are permitted to establish "council organisations" and "council-controlled organisations" under Part 5 of the Local Government Act 2002. If Animal Welfare Waitakere was restructured into such an organisation it would be able to be considered for approval. Should you wish to pursue this option I suggest you contact Joanna Tuckwell of the Ministry's Animal Welfare Directorate on (04)894 0369.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any matters contained in this letter in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Joseph Montgomery  
Senior Solicitor

Cc Joanna Tuckwell  
MAF  
HEAD OFFICE

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
Te Manatū Ahuwhenua, Ngāherehere

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