



# N. E. Wells & Associates

Incorporating NEW Quality Systems, NEW Health and Safety Systems,  
NEW Publishing, NEW Animal Welfare Information Services

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Friday, 12 January 1996

ACD Bayvel  
National Manager  
Animal Welfare and Environment  
MAF Regulatory Authority  
Ministry of Agriculture  
P O Box 2526  
WELLINGTON

Dear David

**re: Territorial Authority Animal Welfare Services**

Happy hogmanay!

With the Waitakere City pilot programme now in full effect it is timely to plan now for a seamless transition from the pilot programme to a national programme – subject of course to such modifications as arise from MAF audits and review. The warrants will expire on 13 June.

We have now been commissioned by Waitakere City to expand the systems that we have already installed for animal welfare purposes to a full ISO 9002 system. However, MAF's audits will focus on the Animals Protection Act Inspectorial systems so our continuing work on other aspects of Waitakere's Animal Welfare Centre will not impact on the pilot programme.

My understanding is that Ian Neill will do the audit probably around March or April.

As would be expected other territorial authorities are interested in the programme. You will be aware that I did a workshop in Rotorua in September which outlined the programme and its expected development. That was attended by 11 territorial authorities in the Bay of Plenty area.

Since Christmas I have written to all 74 territorial authorities to assess the level of interest. I must say that even I am surprised at the high level of interest. This seems to arise from two main areas. First, from 1 July territorial authorities functions for hydatids control cease, and second, there is a widespread frustration amongst officers who often see animal neglect but lack the powers to take immediate action.

To have a national programme up and running by 1 July will need planning. Enclosed is a draft paper *Criteria for Territorial Authority Animal Welfare Services and National Qualifications Framework*.

The paper takes into account the broad principles set out by Barry in *Vetscript* and the discussions I had with him last year.

Of essence such a programme needs to provide for:

- the establishment of a national training and accrediting body which is approved by MAF and answerable to MAF so that MAF is not dealing directly with all the players individually;
- systems to an ISO 9000 standard that be audited by MAF;
- administration to be such that MAF is not taking on an inordinate amount of new administrative work. Systems need to provide for the training and accrediting body to process all necessary documentation to a standard approved by MAF so that MAF's function is to verify and certify;
- flexibility to enable MAF's involvement in on-going systems improvement.

I would like to progress this promptly so planning can progress. I am anticipating that some territorial authorities will be interested in training officers before 1 July.

I would appreciate your preliminary comments. We can then discuss it in detail in Wellington, perhaps to coincide with the February AWAC meeting.

  
Sincerely

  
Neil Wells