

Thanks for inviting the AJP to complete your survey. Please see our responses below, with some explanation.

## Animal cruelty

- Do you support regular unannounced audits of all intensive farms and slaughterhouses for animal welfare checks?

**Yes** - the Animal Justice Party's "Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland" calls for greater scrutiny of slaughterhouses and intensive farms, including the mandatory installation of CCTV footage. In 2019, [AJP submitted to the Queensland Parliament](#) the need to introduce tougher scrutiny for the animal agriculture industry, rather than punish whistleblowers and investigators. As part of AJP's national Animal Law policy, we advocate the stronger enforcement of existing animal welfare laws as an interim measure until objective and standardised animal protection legislation, which actually protects animals, is introduced across Australia.

- Will you commit to increasing transparency around animal welfare enforcement, as recommended by the recent Martin Inquiry (at a minimum)?

**Yes** - the Animal Justice Party is opposed to the racing of animals and (as an interim measure until we are able to ban those industries) will push for greater transparency and enforcement. The Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland calls for a ban of horse and greyhound racing by 2025, with steps including whole-of-life tracking and harsher penalties for contravention of animal welfare laws. The AJP also supports appointing well trained welfare inspectors without conflicts of interest (see our response below).

- Will you support an independent office of animal protection/welfare and move animal welfare oversight to this department?

**Yes** - the Animal Justice Party is the only political party pushing for an Independent Animal Protection Agency (IAPA) in the 2020 Queensland Election. The Department of Agriculture has an inherent conflict of interest in enforcing the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*, and the RSPCA (a registered charity) simply cannot enforce the law. Queenslanders would not accept a charity investigating and policing violent crime, so why is it acceptable for animal cruelty? The AJP's vision for an IAPA is a well-funded, independent public body that is empowered and equipped to properly investigate animal cruelty claims and, importantly, prosecute human offenders. To succeed, AJP is also pushing for an overhaul of the animal welfare legislation (to give legal personhood to animals) and establish a federal Animal Rights Commission to research and advocate for the rights and interests of nonhuman animals. These last points are what makes AJP's "protection" model different to other parties calling for an office for animal "welfare".

## Animal agriculture

- Recognising the most animal agriculture is unsustainable and a major contributor to climate change, will you commit to stopping all subsidies to animal agriculture industries?

**Yes** - The Animal Justice Party wants to redirect funds from animal agriculture to new and ethical, vibrant industry. The Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland also calls for an immediate stop to all land clearing activity associated with animal agriculture (responsible for more than 90% of Queensland clearing!). AJP will include "transitioning away from animal agriculture" to the government's existing Queensland Climate Transition Strategy.

- Will you commit to no new intensive farms in Queensland and reducing Queensland's beef herd?

**Yes** - The Animal Justice Party is the only political party campaigning to stop intensive farms and reduce Queensland's reliance on animal agriculture.

### **Greyhound racing**

- Will you prevent the development of any new greyhound or horse racing tracks in Queensland?

**Yes** - The Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland calls for the abolition of these industries by 2025.

- Will you legislate to stop the slaughter of ex-race horses and greyhounds?

**Yes** - As an interim measure, the Animal Justice Party calls for whole-of-life tracking and severe penalties for animal cruelty.

### **Rodeos**

- Do you support a ban on calf roping?

**Yes** - The Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland calls for the immediate banning of calf roping.

- Do you support mandatory vets at all rodeos to ensure injured animals receive proper care?

**Yes** - The Animal Justice Party would support this measure as a stepping stone to closing the industry by 2025.

### **Puppy farms**

- Will you legislate to ban puppy farms/large scale breeders?

**Yes** - The Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland calls for an end to puppy farming in Queensland. See the work of our MPs in New South Wales and Victoria and how hard they are campaigning to end these horrific facilities.

- Will you ban sale of dogs and cats at pet stores (except for legitimate rescue/rehoming)?

**Yes** - The Animal Justice Party views animals as individuals, not commodities.

### **Sharks and marine life**

- Will you remove drumlines and sharknets and adopt a non-lethal shark control program as costed recently by Sea Shepherd, Marine Conservation Society, and Humane Society?

**Yes** - The Animal Justice Party Queensland ran in 2017 with a plan to remove drumlines and sharknets. Unfortunately, politicians refuse to listen and again the Ten Point Plan calls for an immediate end to these barbaric devices. We recommend trialling shark spotters and the use of drones to live side-by-side with nature's wonders.

**Read more about the Animal Justice Party's national policies and our commitments for the Queensland Election (our Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland) here:**

<https://animaljusticeparty.org/qld/queensland-state-government-election-2020/>