

‘Green’ light for RSPCA Animal Care Campus plan *Support for RSPCA South Australia’s vision at Glenthorne Farm*

The Greens have thrown their support behind RSPCA’s vision for a new Animal Care Campus at Glenthorne Farm to help reduce animal suffering in South Australia.

As community support for RSPCA’s plans continues to grow, a crucial injection of \$5 million in Government funding will be required for the Animal Care Campus, which would offer education programs, training facilities, a hobby farm and modern facilities for best practice animal care.

Hon Tammy Franks MLC of South Australian Greens says improving animal welfare in this State should be priority and will lobby the new Government to support RSPCA South Australia’s proposal.

“The Greens support a plan to protect the welfare of animals, as well preserving the open space that is Glenthorne Farm,” said Ms Franks.

“The RSPCA work tirelessly to ensure the safety and welfare of our state’s wildlife, farm animals and domestic pets and we will back them in their venture to provide and preserve a space to continue their good work.”

Paul Stevenson, RSPCA South Australia Chief Executive Officer, says education programs would aim to upskill the community in proper animal care to prevent animal suffering before it occurs.

“Unfortunately we continue to see the need for our work every day - last financial year our team responded to more than 4,200 reports of animal cruelty, most of which were caused by people not understanding animal needs; it has really highlighted the need for more education,” Mr Stevenson said.

RSPCA South Australia has received significant community support for their new Animal Care Campus, with over 6,939 signatures counted in just 4 weeks of launching the [petition](#), with

hundreds more of hard-copy signatures continuing to flood in. The Greens support for the project follows SA Best candidate Karen Hockley who last week committed the party's support.

RSPCA South Australia will invest \$15 million into this facility, from their own reserves and through fundraising campaigns, and would require 4 hectares of land - just 2% of Glenthorne Farm's overall 208 hectares, as well as an additional \$5 million in Government funding.

Mr Stevenson said the not-for-profit had undertaken a rigorous search for possible sites across southern Adelaide and had identified a small section of the Glenthorne Farm site as the ideal location, because of its visibility and accessibility.

"We've enjoyed tremendous support from the southern community and many of our 2,000 volunteers come from the region. We understand Glenthorne Farm is much-loved by the community and would like to work with them to achieve our respective goals for animal welfare and also for preserving Glenthorne Farm as open space," Mr Stevenson said.

For more information on RSPCA's Animal Care Campus vision, and for petition and lobby packs, visit: www.rspcasa.org.au/newdirection

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