

For all creatures, great and small.

Annual Report FY 2024-25



President and CEO Report



Mission

We improve the lives of animals through care and evidence-based welfare advancements that change attitudes, behaviours, practices, and laws.

Vision

A world where animals and people live together with dignity, respect, and compassion.



This coming year marks an extraordinary milestone: 150 years of RSPCA South Australia. It gives us a moment to reflect on how far we've come as an organisation and as a society.

In 1875, the idea of protecting animals from cruelty was radical. Today, it's a shared value, embedded in our laws, our communities, and our hearts.

Over the past century and a half, we've witnessed extraordinary progress for animal protection. We've moved from providing basic shelter to holistic care, from siloed teams to an integrative approach, and from silence to advocacy. Animal welfare has evolved from a fringe concern to a central pillar of modern society.

And yet, our mission remains as urgent as ever. It's no secret that the challenges we still face today - neglect, abandonment, exploitation - are complex and evolving, especially with widespread cost of living concerns.

But so too is our response. We are better equipped and more determined than ever to protect those who cannot speak for themselves.

As we celebrate this anniversary, we also look forward. Thanks to your support, the future of animal welfare in South Australia is bright. We envision a state where every animal is treated with dignity, where legislation reflects compassion, and where we can all unite with our shared love for all creatures great and small.

We will continue to lead with courage and advocate with conviction, and we will do so with the support of our compassionate community who believe that kindness should extend to all living beings.

Thank you for being part of RSPCA SA's journey. Here's to the next 150 years of compassion, progress, and hope.



Rob DiMonte
President

Thank you for another year of support and dedication to improving animal welfare across South Australia.

It's been just over a year since we moved into our Animal Care Campus at O'Halloran Hill, a milestone that marked not just a change in location, but a transformation in how we care for animals and support our people.

While the transition came with its share of unexpected hurdles, we've embraced the opportunity to refine our facilities and create a space that offers better accommodation for animals and a more united environment for our staff and volunteers.

Looking ahead, we're excited to continue expanding our campus. Plans are underway to build additional animal housing, enhance walking trails, and nurture native flora. Thanks to the generosity of our patron supporter, Carole Stone, we're also introducing a dedicated dog park for our resident canines, which will be a space designed for enrichment and socialisation.

But our capacity to care isn't measured solely by infrastructure. It's defined by the dedication of our people. From veterinary professionals and behaviour specialists to Inspectors, customer care teams, and volunteers, we've invested in growing our workforce to ensure best-practice standards across every aspect of our operations.

This year, our team has faced increasing demand. Cost of living pressures have led to a rise in reports of neglect and abandonment, and more families are seeking help to stay with their pets or surrender them when no other option exists. In the 2024-2025 financial year, we received 5,125 reports of cruelty or neglect and welcomed 6,257 animals into our care.

Despite the strain, we've responded with resolve; finding forever homes for 3,348 animals. We've also expanded our Inspectorate, recruiting 2 new Inspectors with plans to add one more, bringing our total to 11 in the coming year.

Our Foster Program continues to be a cornerstone of our work, with 2,139 animals placed in loving foster homes last year. Foster carers help us to extend our reach beyond the shelter and provide animals with the comfort and stability of a home environment.

In early 2025, we formalised our community outreach initiatives to meet emerging needs. The Pet Pantry now offers food and supplies to families in crisis, while Vet Assist provides financial support and micro-loans for veterinary care, ensuring pets and their people can stay together during difficult times. These programs have already had an incredible impact in keeping families united when they need each other most.

Beyond direct care, our advocacy efforts have continued to shape the future of animal welfare. We've led the charge against duck hunting, with a petition set to be presented in late 2025. We played a key role in developing South Australia's first state-wide Cat Management Plan, which brings much-needed clarity and cohesion to cat ownership and welfare. We're also working with government to advance long-overdue amendments to the Animal Welfare Act, which will bring stronger protections for animals and tougher penalties.

In the year ahead, we'll continue to push for legislative reform, an end to duck shooting, and greater scrutiny of industries that exploit animals for sport and gambling; particularly the greyhound racing sector, where meaningful change remains slow. We will keep asking the hard questions about whether a social license can ever truly exist for animals in sport.

As we prepare to celebrate 150 years of RSPCA South Australia, we do so with immense pride in what we've achieved, and deep gratitude for the community that makes it all possible. Whether you've donated, volunteered, adopted, fostered, shopped, signed a petition, or simply shared our stories, your actions have helped drive change.

On behalf of our team, our Board, and the animals we serve, thank you.

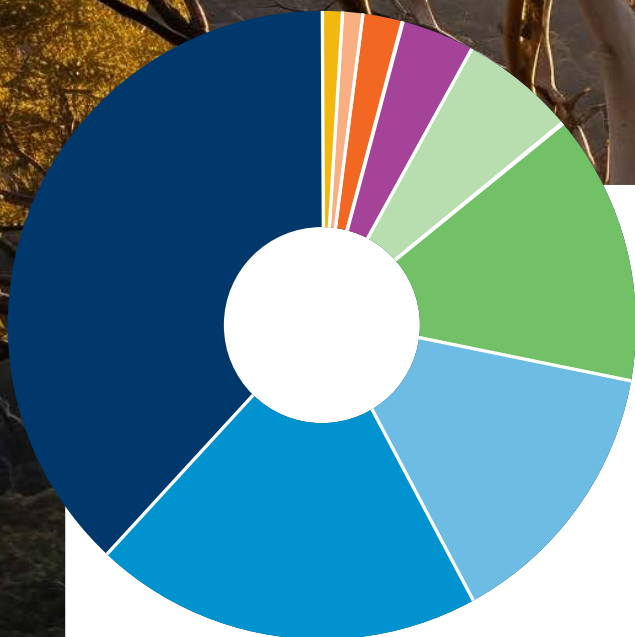


Marcus Gehrig
Chief Executive Officer

Our Impact

6,257

Animals welcomed
into our care
FY24-25



Intake Pathways

38%
2,363
Stray/
Impound

20%
1,246
Inspector
seized

14%
842
Inspector
surrender

14%
870
Ambulance
/ Rescue

6%
400
Owner
surrender

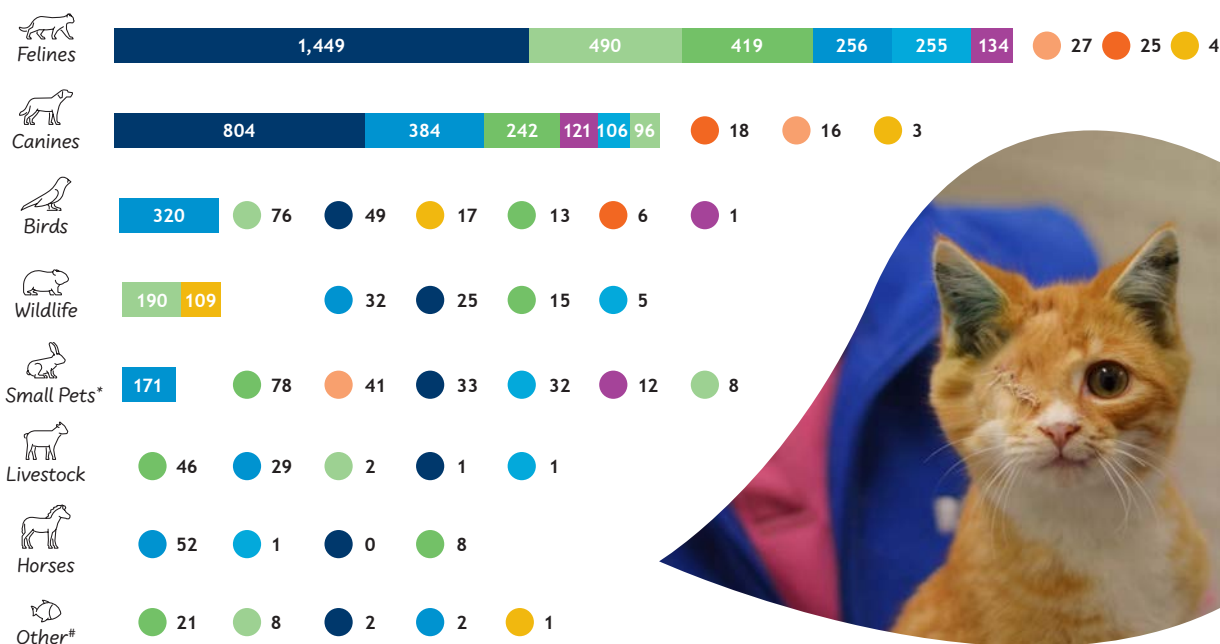
4%
269
Returned
within 30 days

2%
134
Transfer
in

1%
84
Born in
care

1%
49
Emergency
boarding

Intake pathways by Animal Type



● Stray/ Impound
 ● Inspector seized
 ● Owner surrender
 ● Inspector surrender
 ● Ambulance / Rescue
 ● Emergency boarding
 ● Born in care
 ● Returns
 ● Transfer in

*Includes rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, ferrets.

#Includes Crab/fish, insect/arachnid, reptile, non native mammals.

Animal Outcomes

4,671

Total Live Outcomes

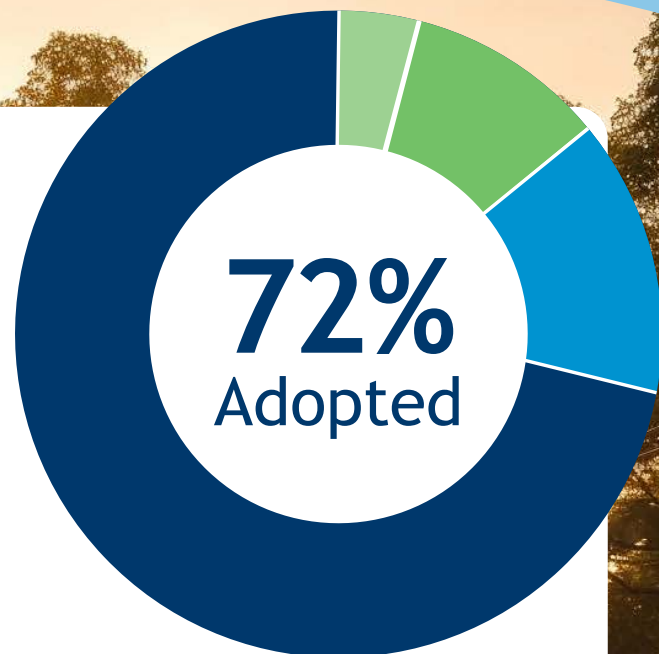
72%
3,348
Adopted

10%
475
Transferred to
Rescue Groups

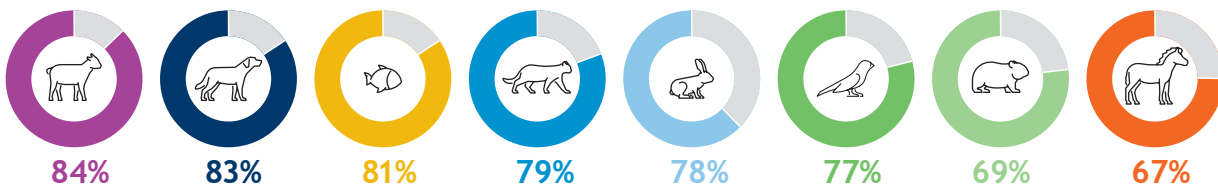
14%
655
Reclaimed

4%
193
Other^

^ Stolen, escaped and wildlife released-to-habitat



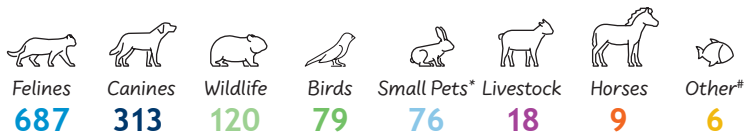
Live Release Rates by Animal Type



Welfare Outcomes

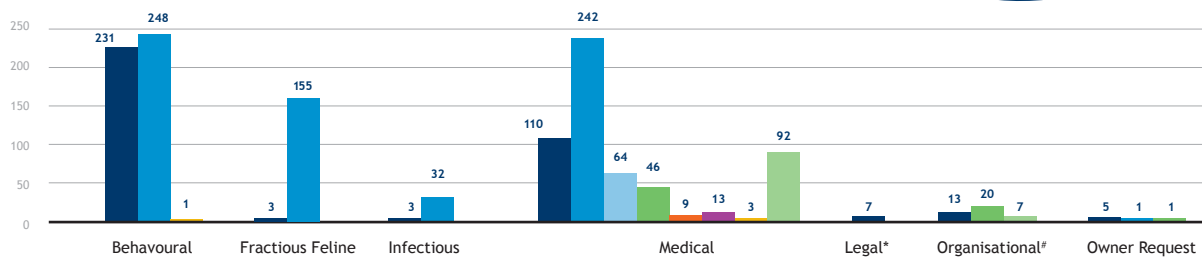
We encounter animals from all walks of life: pets, livestock, wildlife and survivors of cruelty and neglect. We strive to rehabilitate and re-home, particularly when animals require special behavioural or medical care. But when an animal's welfare is so severely compromised, we must make difficult decisions to prevent further suffering for the animal.

Non-live Outcomes by Animal Type

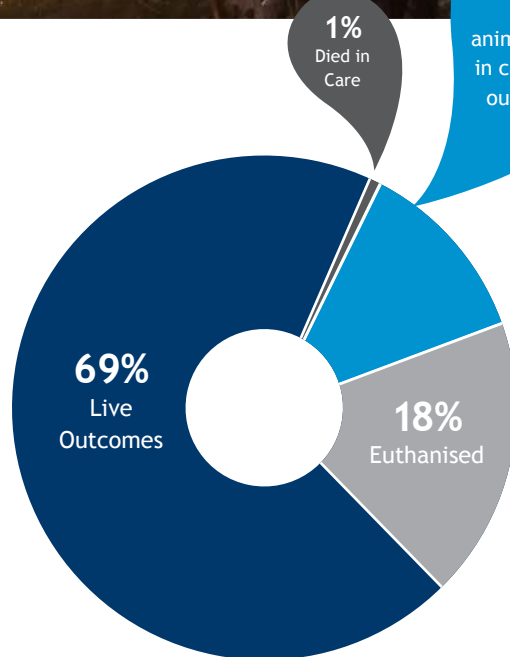


*Includes rabbits, guinea pigs, mice, rats, ferrets. #Includes Crab/fish, insect/arachnid, reptile, non native mammals.

Reasons for Euthanasia



* Deemed dangerous or menacing by local council.
Unweaned or too young to survive without their mother.



Our Funding

How We Allocate Our Funding

52.97%

Inspectorate

Responding to and investigating cruelty complaints.

35.22%

Animal Operations

All costs once animals come into our care including veterinary, behavioural, rehabilitation, shelter and foster care.

1.77%

Legal

Pursuing prosecutions under the Animal Welfare Act.

2.90%

Advocacy and Education

Influencing change to promote best-practice care.

3.35%

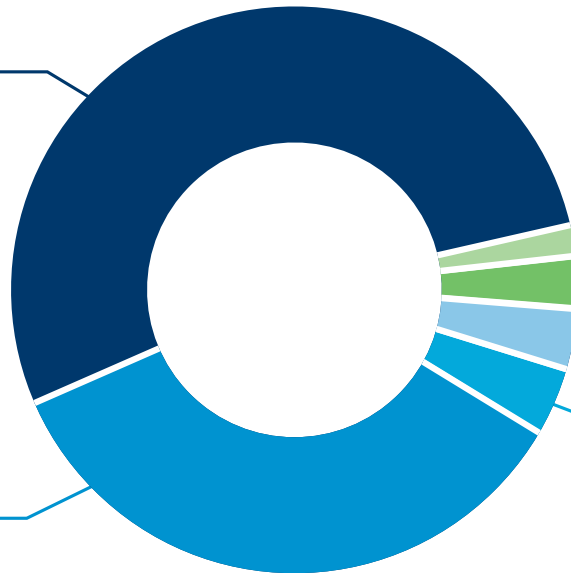
Rescue

Responding to animal emergency reports.

3.79%

Operations, Facilities and Administration

Costs to keep the organisation running, in addition to promoting adoptions, recruiting volunteers, and foster carer support.



Our Funding Sources

73.4%

Community donations

Including donors, adopters and op shops.

0.4%

Other Income

3.5%

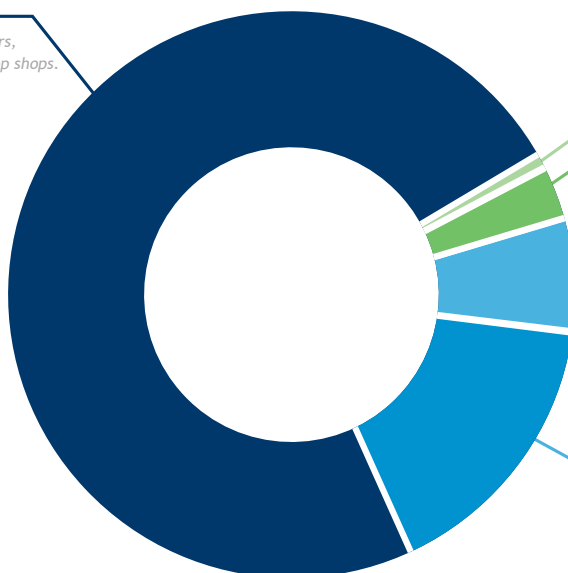
Investment income including sale of assets

6.4%

Council Income

16.3%

Government (Inspectorate) Funding





RSPCA
OpShop
the best things in life are rescued



Our People
Thank you for a
fantastic year.



Highlights



One year in our new home

In May 2024, we officially opened our purpose-built Adelaide Animal Care Campus (AACC) at O'Halloran Hill, marking a transformative moment for RSPCA SA. Uniting our teams together onto one multi-purpose campus has undoubtedly enhanced the quality of care we deliver. Our wonderful staff and volunteers continue to work side by side; sharing knowledge and resources more effectively than ever before. Our campus is home to modern animal accommodation, the Brad Ward Veterinary Clinic, and there are more fantastic developments in the works. AACC truly represents a hub for rescue and enforcement, uniting our mission under one roof and setting a new benchmark for animal welfare in our state.

Final Million Paws Walk - The Last Lap - the end of an era

In May 2025, we hosted our final Million Paws Walk, marking the end of a beloved national tradition that spanned three decades. Held at the Adelaide Botanic Garden, the event brought together 2,766 people and their pooches, raising over \$100,000 for animals in need. The final walk celebrated many years of community spirit, compassion, and dedication, with more than 750,000 participants and 400,000 dogs raising \$17 million since its inception. The Last Lap was a fantastic tribute to the owners and pups who helped shape a legacy of kindness and care!



Approaching our 150-year milestone

As we we near the end of 2025, we find ourselves reflecting on a truly remarkable milestone: 150 years of unwavering dedication to animal welfare. This landmark anniversary honours the generations of staff, volunteers, and supporters whose compassion and courage laid the foundation we continue to build upon. From our origins in 1875, sparked by public concern for mistreated horses and bullocks, RSPCA South Australia has grown into a vital force for change; underpinned by our collective love for all creatures great and small. We remain deeply grateful to those who came before us, carrying forward their legacy with heart and conviction. Their mission to protect animals from cruelty still drives every action we take today.

Growing our Inspectorate Team

In mid-2024, we welcomed a landmark commitment from the state government: \$16.4 million over four years in funding for our incredible Inspectorate Team through to 2028. Thanks to this support, we will continue to expand our team, improve response capacity, and prepare for upcoming legislative changes. We also allocated \$2.5 million to build new enclosures at our care campus to meet the increasing number of animals coming into our care via the Inspectorate Team. Our heartfelt thanks go to the Inspectorate Team, whose tireless work investigating cruelty and neglect continues to protect thousands of animals each year.



Animal Welfare Act update

In a major win for animals across South Australia, the state government passed its biggest animal welfare law update in 16 years, bringing stronger protections for animals and tougher penalties for offenders. Backed by community support, this reform marks a major step forward for animal wellbeing across our state. When implemented, the updated laws will introduce Australia's toughest penalties: up to \$250,000 or 10 years' jail for severe harm, and fines for businesses reaching \$1 million. Once the new regulations are in place, the updated Animal Welfare will allow us to proactively enforce animal care standards, engage with pet owners to prevent harm, and prosecute cruelty cases much faster.

Celebrating RSPCA volunteers

RSPCA SA proudly celebrated its volunteers in 2025, with a reception at Government House attended by Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Mr Rod Bunten, and CEO Marcus Gehrig. Volunteers and foster carers play a vital role in every aspect of our work, from building trust with timid animals and supporting daily operations at our Animal Care Campus, to ensuring our Op Shops are functional and welcoming. Their compassion and dedication drive real change for animals and the people who love them. We're proud to honour their impact at our Animal Care Campus, in our Op Shops, and out in the community.



2024-2029 Strategic Plan

Our 2024-29 Strategic Plan aims to unify our focus, providing clear direction while remaining adaptable to our everchanging environment. It is a blueprint for our future and a statement of our collective intent.



Strategic Pillar 1:

Protect, Prevent & Influence



How we will achieve:

- 1.1 We will develop programs focused on community engagement to prevent cruelty and neglect
- 1.2 We will establish community outreach programs to improve responsible Animal ownership
- 1.3 We will be the leading voice of influence on Animal Welfare throughout South Australia

What our impact will be:

- 1.1 Animal Welfare is improved throughout SA
- 1.2 The number of domestic animals requiring RSPCA's care are reduced
- 1.3 Improved legal and regulatory protection for animals

Our focus *this year*:

- Finalise our Inspectorate Funding Deed for both domestic and livestock
- Launch pilot community outreach programs into key welfare and cruelty hot spots
- Drive advocacy agenda with focus on Greyhound Racing, Cat Management and Wildlife

Our focus for *next year*:

- 3 New Inspectors Recruited
- New AWA Internal Governance
- Centralise Cruelty Calls to SA
- Launch Community Outreach
- Finalise State Cat Management Strategy with Government

Strategic Pillar 2:

Empower & Engage our Workforce



How we will achieve:

- 2.1 We will build the best workforce that is committed to our purpose and values
- 2.2 Our culture will support a safe and healthy environment so that our people can do great work
- 2.3 We will recognise our staff and volunteers' commitment to our purpose

What our impact will be:

- 2.1 We are seen as an employer of choice
- 2.2 Our workforce is healthy and safe
- 2.3 Our workforce is valued and appreciated

Our focus *this year*:

- Develop and implement a leadership learning and development strategy
- Strengthen and embed organisational safety culture

Our focus for *next year*:

- Development of Culture Strategy
- Embed our Values
- Volunteer engagement program

Strategic Pillar 3:

Strengthen our Customer Engagement



How we will achieve:

- 3.1 We will focus and respond to our customers expectations
- 3.2 We will make it easy for customers to engage with us
- 3.3 We will continue to build our market presence as leaders in animal welfare

What our impact will be:

- 3.1 Our customers become our greatest promoters
- 3.2 Our customers are loyal
- 3.3 We are trusted by the South Australian public

Our focus *this year*:

- Expand on public's understanding of RSPCA work in our community
- Embed our customer experience strategy

Our focus for *next year*:

- Transform our organisation and operations to deliver the best experience for all our customers
- Increase adoptions
- 150-year celebrations

Strategic Pillar 4:

Grow, Sustain, Mature



How we will achieve:

- 4.1 We will drive opportunities to build financial sustainability
- 4.2 We will focus our activities on full cost recovery
- 4.3 We will collaborate nationally to align our organisation and build synergy

What our impact will be:

- 4.1 Our reserves grow to the benefit of our community
- 4.2 Our programs are funded to meet our needs
- 4.3 Our capacity and capabilities grow

Our focus *this year*:

- Drive existing revenue activity and identify new commercial opportunities
- Actively leverage and build on national opportunities

Our focus for *next year*:

- Expand OpShops from 19 to 25
- Expand major grant opportunities (wildlife, low-cost vet and desexing clinic)
- Drive national activity

Strategic Pillar 5:

Best Practice Animal Care



How we will achieve:

- 5.1 Our animal care models are considered best practice
- 5.2 We will leverage technology to advance our business
- 5.3 We will continuously improve our business processes
- 5.4 We leverage our transition to Glenthorne and becoming a Wildlife organisation

What our impact will be:

- 5.1 Animals stay for shorter periods and animal campus welfare is improved
- 5.2 Our technology enables our work and our innovations improve animal outcomes
- 5.3 We challenge our status quo
- 5.4 We celebrate our new home

Our focus *this year*:

- Build a best practice animal care model
- Build systems road map

Our focus for *next year*:

- Expand best practice to animal care
- Animal building expansion
- Implement new animal database

Our Board



Rob DiMonte

President

Rob is a chartered accountant and professional company director. He has held many board and advisory roles over the past 35 years and is passionate about improving the social and economic wellbeing of South Australians.



Leanna Read

Science

Leanna brings broad-ranging company executive, board and investment experience, particularly in biotechnology. She is chair or board member of a number of companies and innovation committees, and a past Chief Scientist for South Australia. She is also the proud owner of RSPCA SA graduate, Ahmani. Leanna is passionate about animal welfare in the agricultural sector and broader community.



Stephen Voss

Legal

Stephen is a lawyer and partner at national law firm Thomson Geer and acts for a number of national and international institutional corporations. He's also the proud owner of his dog, Nelson (pictured).



Susan Hazel

Veterinary

Susan is a veterinarian by training and an academic at the University of Adelaide, School of Animal & Veterinary Sciences, where she teaches animal behaviour, animal welfare and ethics. She is a member of multiple animal boards, committees and associations and her research interests centre on human-animal interactions with a goal to improve both animal and human welfare.





Sheenagh Edwards

Accounting

Sheenagh is a chartered accountant and audit partner with more than 20 years' experience and has been involved in the audit of larger not-for-profit organisations throughout her career both in the UK and in Australia. Sheenagh shares her home with two golden retrievers, Tbay and Schultz (pictured).



Julie George

Marketing

Julie is Head of Marketing and Stakeholder Engagement at Centina and Kolabb, leading branding and communications across construction and property development. A former marketing agency owner, she holds commerce and marketing qualifications, is an AICD graduate, and a Telstra Business Woman of the Year finalist. Julie has worked across multiple sectors and is also Chair of the LGA Procurement Board.



Kate Gray

Commercial

Kate has a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Adelaide and has worked in a range of marketing and analyst roles in FMCG, retail and property and is now a business owner. At home, she has a spoodle named Leo and a rescue cat, Joel.



Ron Baker

Veterinary Science, Business & Leadership

Ron Baker is a veterinarian with extensive experience over the last 30 years owning and managing veterinary practices. From 2019-2022 Ron was General Manager of the Specialist and Emergency Hospital Division at Greencross. In 2022 he stepped back to begin his own consultancy as a business and leadership coach.



Professor Chris Daniels

Wildlife

As CEO of the International Koala Centre of Excellence and Chief Strategic Advisor to Cleland Wildlife Park, Chris brings a wealth of experience to the board. Chris has a passion for wildlife conservation and connecting with nature and he devotes his downtime to his Golden Retriever, Mara (pictured).



Michael Harvey

Strategy and Communications

Michael joined the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium of South Australia as Director in 2021, bringing 20 years of experience in the museum, culture and science sector to the role. At the Botanic Gardens, Michael has overseen major capital works, a revitalisation of its public programming, significant growth in visitation and revisions to the organisation's governance and legislation.



Financial Summary

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2025

		2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Costs			
<i>Mission</i>	Inspectorate & Legal	6,916	4,035
	Rescue	423	409
	Animal Operations	4,451	6,256
	Advocacy	366	338
	Sub-Total Mission Costs	12,156	11,038
<i>Overheads</i>	Admin	478	159
	Total Mission Costs to be Funded	12,635	11,197
Net Income			
	<i>Bequests</i>	7,453	3,574
<i>Animal Operations</i>	Boarding, Council	1,952	1,907
<i>Government</i>	Inspectorate Funding	3,900	1,602
<i>Investments</i>	Incl Gains & Losses	315	799
<i>Commercial</i>	Adoptions & Retail, Op Shops, Dog training	164	119
<i>Fundraising</i>		1,647	578
	Total Net Income	15,431	8,579
	Surplus / (Shortfall)	2,796	(2,618)
	<i>Capital Campaign</i>	—	1,249
	<i>Revaluation Adjustments</i>	312	454
	Total Comprehensive Income	3,108	(916)

Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Assets		
Current Assets	7,573	2,633
Non-current assets	39,706	41,784
Total assets	47,279	44,417
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	4,101	3,453
Non-current liabilities	10,222	11,116
Total Liabilities	14,323	14,569
Net Assets	32,956	29,848



Major National
Partner &
Official National
Nutrition Partner



National Partners



State Partner



For all creatures, great and small. Since 1875.

Stay up-to-date with the latest animal welfare news by signing up to our
e-newsletter at rspcasa.org.au

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