



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Local Government**

Media Statement

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Gnowangerup sheep farmer prosecuted for animal cruelty

A Gnowangerup sheep farmer has been convicted of animal cruelty and failing to comply with two Direction Notices in relation to charges laid in February 2009 by the then Department of Local Government and Regional Development under the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*.

Mr Terence Rodway allowed sheep he was in charge of to suffer harm that could have been alleviated by the taking of reasonable steps. Mr Rodway also failed to comply with two Direction Notices to ensure the welfare, safety and health of his sheep.

In the sentencing submissions, the prosecution stated that the sheep were suffering from flystrike and neglected by the accused in such a way that the harm they suffered and resulting condition of the flock was among the worst seen by the Inspectors involved.

Mr Rodway was sentenced and fined \$2,000 in the Albany Magistrates Court on Tuesday 8 December 2009, after having previously pleaded guilty to all three charges before the Katanning Magistrates Court on 28 August 2009. At this time, Mr Rodway was given a conditional release order secured by a personal undertaking of \$2,000 in relation to each offence and received an additional order that a local veterinary surgeon inspect his flock every 3 months for the duration of the order.

Department of Local Government Director General Ms Jennifer Mathews said the *Animal Welfare Act 2002* provided protection for all animals in Western Australia.

“Hopefully convictions such as this one will reinforce that the inhumane treatment of animals is not acceptable in this State,” Ms Mathews said.

“I acknowledge the work of the Animal Welfare Branch for its investigation and enforcement of the Act.”

Ends

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