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*Kindness*



# QUEENSLAND 2020

*The Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland*

## About this document

The *Ten Point Plan for a Kinder Queensland* is a collaborative, grassroots effort of Animal Justice Party members in applying the core values and national policies of the party to issues we are facing today in Queensland. The Plan is a blueprint for our candidates to help improve the lives of animals once elected to the Legislative Assembly and is endorsed by the Animal Justice Party. These issues have been selected and prioritised by Queensland members but reflect only a portion of the party's national policies and, regrettably, can only address a fraction of the harms done to animals and nature. For other animal and environmental issues not in this document, please refer to the national policies available on our website. The Animal Justice Party also has position statements concerning issues related solely to human political/social concerns, which are available on our website. Our members and candidates are further guided by the party's four core values: **Kindness, Equality, Rationality and Nonviolence.**

## Table of Contents - *The Ten Point Plan*

<b>1. Declare a climate emergency and biodiversity emergency</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Invest in an ethical economy and a healthy population</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. Protect marine life, oceans and our iconic beaches</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4. Restore the natural world</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>5. Support the hard work of wildlife rescue volunteers</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>6. Extend legal personhood to animals and nature</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7. Crack down on animal cruelty</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>8. Free animals from the 'entertainment' industry</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>9. Provide loving homes for companion animals</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>10. Promote AJP's core values of Kindness, Equality, Rationality and Nonviolence</b>	<b>21</b>

# 1. Declare a climate emergency and biodiversity emergency

The Animal Justice Party (AJP) recognises that Australia is in the midst of a climate and biodiversity crisis. The AJP is the only party with a plan to tackle ALL of the main causes of high risk climate change. We seek to prioritise actions that will address the underlying causes. With Queensland responsible for 28% of national greenhouse gas emissions, we need to address the industries and their work practises that are the major drivers of climate change – cattle and sheep farming / grazing; the extraction and use of fossil fuels; and their associated land clearing practises. We will use our position within Parliament to support existing efforts to transition away from these industries towards more sustainable alternatives; and, examine new initiatives, both domestically and globally, being undertaken to address the crises.

## **Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:**

1. Animal Justice Party MPs will use their position in Parliament to declare a climate and biodiversity emergency in Queensland and will work with all political, government and community stakeholders to fix these crises.
2. Introduce a moratorium on all land clearing activities relating to animal agriculture, which presently account for more than 90% of Queensland's land clearing.
3. Support the Queensland Government to achieve its goal of zero net emissions by 2050, bringing this forward if possible.
4. Complete a 100% transition to clean renewable energy by 2035.
5. Diversify Queensland exports and end coal mining by 2030.
6. Add 'transitioning away from animal agriculture' as a key part of the *Queensland Climate Transition Strategy*, which is presently missing. Animal agriculture (grazing and factory farming) is a primary driver of climate change and land clearing. Also add ending intensive (factory) farming, since the number of animals augments the effect.
7. Boost funds for the Government's *Queensland Carbon Plus Fund* and set a target to regenerate 25% of lost tree cover by 2060, with the main beneficiaries being Traditional Owners and rural landholders including former graziers and

pastoralists.

8. Investigate better climate disaster management, with a view to explore options for traditional fire management techniques and better prepare people and nature for further disasters. More must be done to assist wildlife during these disasters (see Point #5- *Support the hard work of wildlife rescue volunteers*).

## 2. Invest in an ethical economy and a healthy population

The Animal Justice Party (AJP) recognises the contribution made by the farming industry in Queensland. For instance, with more than 120 types of fresh produce of fruit, vegetable and nut production, the *Sunshine State* produces 90% of Australia's fruit and vegetables during winter for supermarkets. Of particular note, the industry is dominated by a significant share of small to medium sized enterprises (SME's) that the AJP recognises for their value-adding and employment share efforts in ensuring Queensland's (*and Australia's*) ongoing food security and growth. It is for these reasons, that the AJP will encourage the Parliament to provide government support into the research and development of innovative practises that will lower the costs of production for farmers; whilst, providing meaningful employment for Queensland families.

In addition, this will align to the efforts being made by medical practitioners and health industry experts in Queensland to ease and prevent chronic illnesses by raising awareness about the benefits of eating nutritional vegetables, fruit, legumes, nuts and seeds – along with daily movement and exercise. Encouraging changes to eating habits and lifestyle can help resolve many symptoms. By promoting a higher level of net investment into the Queensland horticultural industry – *as outlined above* – and endorsing education campaigns that promote healthier living, the AJP is reallocating resources towards the improvement of Queensland community's well-being over the longer term.

Finally, the AJP acknowledges the changing patterns of consumption and production occurring both domestically and globally. With advances in food science, ingredient characterisation, processing and production there is a movement away from animal-based products and towards more alternative plant-based meat products. Research predicts global expenditure on plant-based meats to rise from 1% of the US\$1.4 trillion global meat market and reach 3.6% to 10% (or US\$50 to US\$140 billion) by 2029. This is supported by economic modelling that suggests the sector will promote A\$3 billion in retail sales, A\$1 billion in manufacturing and employ over 6,000 workers by 2030. This highlights the need for forward-thinking growers and supportive industries within Queensland to become the industry leaders and embrace this growth phase.

### **Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:**

1. Review government grants, loans and concessions to examine how best to redirect funds and benefits to growers away from less sustainable enterprises. With drought a reality, Queensland must lead on drought-resistant horticulture and attract research and development investment to our state.

2. Establish a *Queensland Farming Future Fund* to promote “transformation” (transformation of farms) from stressful and unsustainable animal agriculture towards carbon farming, horticulture and manufacturing through a reprioritised *Agriculture and Fisheries* budget. This will include reskilling for Queensland workers and increased capacity to export our crops and their products to new and existing markets in Australia and overseas.
3. Update school curriculums to include teaching about the availability of substitutes and alternatives to animal-based protein; the benefits of a plant-based diet in fitness training and recovery time; the importance of balanced plant-based diets and exercise for human health.
4. Provide Queenslanders with healthy and climate-friendly, plant-based food by default at all government events and institutions (including hospitals and schools). Support and expand the *Healthy Food and Drink Supply Strategy for Queensland Schools* by increasing healthy-plant based options and removing processed meats from school shops.
5. Enlist the support of state and local media, supermarkets and sporting organisations to launch public, fun, family and community minded programs such as an annual 30 day exercise challenge, meatless Mondays, and an annual “Veganuary” month.
6. Call for an inquiry into the cause and costs of recent pandemics and their links to both intensive animal agriculture and the hunting of animals, e.g. kangaroos. Consumers deserve transparency regarding industry practices with animal welfare and biosecurity risks. Our fight against COVID-19 must be more than hygiene and social distancing measures; we must prevent the next pandemic if our economy is to survive. The Animal Justice Party’s health improvement programs are aimed at minimising biosecurity risks while improving our current health and wellbeing, and strengthening our immune systems to give our bodies the best chance of fighting potential illnesses.

### 3. Protect marine life, oceans and our iconic beaches

The Animal Justice Party acknowledges the inherent value and importance of healthy, functional marine ecosystems. We will work towards the protection of all marine life and ocean environments. More must be done by the Queensland Government to look after these amazing creatures and prevent their homes being polluted by plastic waste and pollution. A good starting point will be undoing the harm caused by the government's war on sharks.

#### Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:

1. Replace lethal shark nets and drumlines with non-lethal alternatives such as dedicated shark-spotters and drones. We can reduce the risk of shark bites and keep people safe without killing marine life. The number of marine animals killed by Queensland's ~30 shark nets is in the tens of thousands, with 5 whales caught in 2019 alone.
2. Develop educational programs to teach the significance and importance of sharks, as well as safe behaviour around sharks whilst in *their* habitat.
3. Phase out factory farming, cattle feedlots and monoculture crop production which are often associated with harmful nutrient and sediment losses, prioritising regions closest to the Great Barrier Reef.

It is well recognised that pollutant runoff (particularly sediment, nutrients and pesticides) from agriculture to the Great Barrier Reef is causing serious widespread damage to the reef's ecosystems, including coral reefs and seagrass meadows.

4. Establish government grants for NGO organisations that work with landholders to improve land management techniques, enhance water quality, reduce sediment losses, and minimise the impact of farm runoff on the Great Barrier Reef.
5. Stop the removal of reef fish and live corals from the Great Barrier Reef for the aquarium trade, in order to prioritise reef health and species biodiversity.
6. Support and extend the ban on single-use plastics. Invest in the development of biodegradable products, and tax environmentally harmful fishing nets claimed to

be 'lost' (or discarded) at sea to deter this mass pollution.

7. Facilitate community-run clean up efforts to address the impacts of marine debris and plastic pollution.
8. Educate community members on the ability of fish to feel pain and review the impact of commercial and recreational fishing on habitat, species and individuals with a view to educate the public and phase out the industry.
9. Phase out fossil fuel production, starting with a ban on any new coal and natural gas operations. Phase out live animal exports, starting with a ban on new cattle holding yards and feedlots. This will mitigate shipping traffic at export ports and the associated impacts on marine life and ocean ecosystems.
10. Redirect all current funding associated with port expansion for fossil fuel and live animal exports to the development of clean energy and plant-based agriculture. Expansion involves huge dredging operations and dumping of the dredge spoil at sea.

## 4. Restore the natural world

The Animal Justice Party advocates for the restoration of the natural world. We will support the urgent and necessary transition towards plant-based agricultural systems to reduce green-house gas emissions, land and water degradation, deforestation and biodiversity loss.

Present day conservation efforts and environmental laws are weak, merely limiting the amount of damage, we as a species, inflict on nature. To survive, we must not only stop environmental destruction but undo it through rehabilitation. When we restore ecosystems we also help people, improving resilience to disease and drought; improving soil quality; and ensuring vital food security. Animal agriculture is a leading driver of a range of environmental harms.

### **Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:**

1. Strengthen the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* by prohibiting clearing of native remnant vegetation and significant regrowth for the purpose of animal agriculture, which is the cause of over 90% of Queensland's clearing. We will remove exemptions that continue to permit land clearing.
2. Provide greater incentives to landholders for maintaining, protecting, enhancing and regenerating native vegetation.
3. Return COVID-19 affected Queenslanders to work with practical environment regeneration projects involving \$500 million investment in priority regions over 2-3 years.<sup>1</sup>
4. Enter into agreements with landholders for rewilding agricultural land with natural processes, resulting in landscapes that feature increased biodiversity, water quality and soil structure as well as balanced animal populations.
5. Amend state town planning legislation to end destructive urban sprawl and actively shrink our urban footprint with renewed focus on public transport and liveable cities.
6. Overhaul the “destroy now, pay later” model outlined in the *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*. If developers intend to destroy crucial habitat, suitable homes for animals must be available *before* clearing begins with the welfare of the

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<sup>1</sup> E.g: Ernst & Young (2020) *Delivering economic stimulus through the conservation and land management sector*.

animal occupants being the primary concern of any activity. Habitat takes years to mature and future offsets do nothing to help the animal residents losing their homes today.

7. Amend the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* (Qld) to extend the duty of care towards animals to include a landholder being responsible for the welfare of animals on their property during all land use changes, e.g. construction.
8. Develop a 'green belt' and 'wildlife corridor' fund to purchase and rehabilitate land crucial to reconnecting urban animal populations currently separated by human activity.
9. By 2030, give wildlife a chance by increasing the total amount of protected land to cover 25% of pre-clearing potential habitat for terrestrial threatened species, up from 11% today.
10. Legislate minimum targets for local councils to protect and rehabilitate land within their borders.
11. Work with industry and local councils to increase Queensland's recycling rates from below 50% presently to over 75% by 2025. We will begin with urban businesses (often opting out of recycling services) and local councils in rural areas with 0% recycling rates. Recycling and recycled products is an untapped resource. Innovation and jobs across many sectors can contribute to active recycling, repurposing, remaking of goods.

## 5. Support the hard work of wildlife rescue volunteers

The Animal Justice Party is dedicated to the protection of wildlife. We encourage the Queensland Government to assist in raising the volume and well-being of wildlife across the state. This could be achieved with greater assistance and additional funding being reallocated towards the expansion of wildlife corridors and used to broaden the management and coordination of rescue efforts. The AJP seeks to support those who work tirelessly to care for and rehabilitate our wildlife, and for those, that invest in new and innovative ways to help Queensland wildlife when they need rescuing.

### **Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:**

1. Establish a *Wildlife Rescue Committee Queensland* to properly fund, coordinate and manage wildlife rescue efforts throughout the state, uniting a fragmented network of volunteer rescue groups and individuals. This will help to-
  - a. ensure that volunteer rescuers and carers are continually trained and kept up to date.
  - b. centrally manage volunteers in response to disasters like bushfires and floods to successfully rescue Queensland wildlife.
2. Increase grants for species recovery and sustainability from \$100K to \$200K and review grant availability for not-for-profit organisations.
3. Include wildlife sensitivity training as a prerequisite to graduating from P-Plates. Drivers must know how to drive safely in the presence of animals and what to do in the event of a collision.
4. Investigate and support other means of making Queensland roads safer for animals.
5. Broaden the definition of the duty of care in the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* to include wildlife injured on Queensland roads and create an obligation to assist or at least report injured and orphaned wildlife.

## 6. Extend legal personhood to animals and nature

The Animal Justice Party acknowledges that ecosystems, natural communities and animals are not property to be owned by humans and we will push to legislate the Rights of Nature<sup>2</sup> and to grant individual animals legal personhood. Animals are beings that have an integral role in the Earth Community, and their own inalienable right to exist and flourish free from negative human interference.

### **Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:**

1. Pursue all appropriate avenues and measures to introduce laws establishing the Rights of Nature. This may be achieved through constitutional reform, transforming existing environmental laws or the introduction of new dedicated Rights of Nature Laws.
2. Educate the public on the Rights of Nature, and how communities can uphold and protect our local environment.
3. Incorporate key ecosystems, starting with a trial for the Great Barrier Reef and moving onto significant forests and other habitats. Granting these ecosystems legal personhood will ensure their protection with the ability to claim compensation and restoration in court via legal guardians made up of Indigenous, conservation and other community groups. This will be a new paradigm in environmental conservation.
4. Challenge the cultural, economic and legal conceptions of nature and animals as property to be owned by humans when reviewing Bills and other proposals. Animal Justice Party MPs will also educate politicians and Parliament on how to live within our ecological limits.
5. Abolish the property status of animals. Nonhuman animals will be classed as legal persons. Create third party rights to allow animal protection organisations to bring legal proceedings in cases of animal cruelty when government authorities

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<sup>2</sup> Rights of Nature recognises that our ecosystems - including oceans, trees, animals, mountains - have rights, just as humans have rights. Balancing what is good for human beings against what is good for the other species, and the planet.

fail to enforce the law. Over time, the Animal Justice Party will push for uniform legislation protecting animals from human interference or harm all across Australia.

## 7. Crack down on animal cruelty

The current animal protection governance framework in Queensland is founded on animals' legal status as property and promotes their exploitation, mostly for agricultural purposes. This makes most animal cruelty *lawful*. Even if harm is deemed unlawful, there is little threat of punishment as law enforcement is conducted by charities or government departments that are also responsible for representing the interests of animal industries (the *Department of Agriculture and Fisheries*). This illustrates a conflict of interests. The Animal Justice Party will introduce major law reforms and hold exploitative industries to account, removing their exemptions. No one is above the law.

### **Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:**

1. Amend the purposes in the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*; deleting regulating the “use” of animals and including “recognising the sentience of nonhuman animals”. The amended Act will also provide legal personhood to nonhuman animals.
2. Remove Part 6 exemptions which excuse the cruel treatment of animals for testing, hunting, farming and other purposes.
3. Establish a new *Independent Animal Protection Agency* in Queensland, separate to the *Department of Agriculture and Fisheries*, and responsible for coordination of investigations and enforcement; public education; advice to government; law reform; and regular reporting to the public.
4. Repeal recent ‘ag-gag’ laws which silence those who reveal, or protest against, animal cruelty; specifically sections 10A and 13 of the *Summary Offences Act 2005*.
5. Mandate the use of CCTV cameras in all intensive agriculture and slaughtering establishments with the footage being publicly accessible.

## 8. Free animals from the ‘entertainment’ industry

The Animal Justice Party believes that there is plenty to see and do in Queensland without harming animals. Our vision is a cruelty-free entertainment industry, and we will start by setting up the necessary programs and structure to end the use and breeding of animals for human entertainment. It is important to plan for a responsible transition towards kinder alternatives, with increased government investment ending the use of animals for entertainment by 2025.

### Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:

1. An immediate ban of recreational hunting of any kind including but not limited to “pig dogging”.
2. End horse racing by 2025, with phase out activities to commence immediately-
  - a. stop the use of whips as a performance aid in racing activities.
  - b. stop the breeding of horses intended to be used for racing.
  - c. increase funding for re-homing programs to ensure all animals involved can be safely re-homed and avoid retired racehorses being sent to slaughter
  - d. implement ‘whole of life’ tracking. Thousands of racehorses are killed every year, most before they even run on a racetrack. A system must be implemented to monitor the welfare of each racehorse for their entire life, even after racing stops.
  - e. increase penalties for animal abuse. Penalties (for illegal doping, excess whipping, tongue ties) are not proving a deterrent given the financial profits offered by the industry. The industry must also strengthen associated regulation and enforcement.
3. End greyhound racing by 2025, with phase out activities to commence immediately-
  - a. implement ‘whole of life’ tracking. Thousands of greyhounds are killed every year. A system must be implemented to monitor the welfare of each greyhound for their entire life, even after racing stops.
  - b. fund rescues and sanctuaries. Thousands of unwanted greyhounds are put to death despite being healthy and eligible for private adoption. The Queensland Government must fund private greyhound rehoming

organisations and privately operated sanctuaries.

- c. increase penalties for animal abuse. Penalties are not proving a deterrent given the financial profits offered by the industry. The industry must also strengthen associated regulation and enforcement.
  - d. Stop the breeding of greyhounds intended to be used for racing. Approximately 40% of the 11,000 greyhounds bred in Australia each year are surplus to requirements. The greyhound racing industry must stop offering financial incentives for breeding. If we stop the breeding today, the industry will be ready to transition by 2025.
4. Immediately ban the use of juvenile animals in rodeos, racing, and captivity (e.g. circuses).
  5. End all rodeos by 2025 with phase out activities to commence immediately and redirect all current rodeo funding towards activities clearly related to the phase out.
  6. Increase investment in comparable, cruelty-free community events in rural Queensland.
  7. End the use of animals in zoos (including petting zoos), circuses and marine parks by 2025, with phase out activities to commence immediately-
    - a. steadily phase-out government support of all circuses, zoos and marine parks that do not exist in the service of the animals involved.
    - b. where possible, relocate animals used in zoos (including petting zoos), circuses and marine parks to sanctuary and conservation parks that exist solely for the service of animals.
    - c. investigate means to stop the domestic and international trade of animals for use in zoos, circuses and marine parks, into and out of Queensland.
  8. Amend the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* to remove exemptions allowing rodeos to continue unregulated; to ensure that all facilities holding animals meet high standards; and to ensure animal welfare is not negatively impacted during any transition period. Ensure appropriate care and quality of life of all animals in captivity so that breeding programs for threatened species still provide a worthwhile quality of life for the animals involved.
  9. Support transitioning industries with appropriate funding, including redirecting existing funding as well as providing the necessary additional new funding, which includes the necessary range of financial support to ensure the safe rehoming of

animals already caught up in these industries.

10. Launch large-scale community educational initiatives, especially in schools, to raise awareness of the negative impacts of these industries and promote cruelty-free alternatives. Develop educational programs that teach the value of animals in their natural habitat rather than in captive conditions.

## 9. Provide loving homes for companion animals

Companion animals are cherished members of Queensland families, and research shows they have positive effects on human mental and physical health. The Animal Justice Party will work for a kinder, animal friendly Queensland by championing the welfare and wellbeing of beloved companions.

### **Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:**

1. Work to protect companion animals through guaranteed State funding for local council pounds and rehoming shelters to manage lost and homeless companions. No animal should be euthanized for being lost, and time spent in pounds must be short and comfortable.
2. Create an advisory committee of large and small rescue organisations with a view to creating a budget to assist the rescue and rehoming of companion animals.
3. Aim for all Queensland shelters to become no-kill shelters and support local council partnerships with animal rescue organizations focusing on rehoming.
4. Establish a statewide fund for subsidised desexing and mandatory microchipping. Further subsidise costs for rescued animals.
5. Promote effective and humane population control of cats by supporting 'trap, neuter, release/rehome' (TNR) and monitoring programs across the community. Shooting and poisons are inhumane and ineffective. Support programs to provide education on responsible cat guardianship.
6. Stop puppy farms, kitten farms, and dubious, unregistered for-profit breeders.
7. Strengthen the existing Breeder ID system to encompass all breeders to ensure they meet strict welfare requirements with ample fresh air, indoor and outdoor space, comfortable living quarters, socialization, record keeping and limits to the number of litters per female in her lifetime. There will be NO exemptions to this scheme.
8. Limit the number of animals bred each year until Queensland shelters and pounds are empty, then investigate reforms to de-commercialise the breeding of companion animals.

9. Mandate that working and bred animals cannot be killed once deemed 'unusable' and must live as a companion animal or be rehomed within Queensland.
10. Phase out the online advertising and sale of non-rescue companion animals, and sales from all Queensland 'pet' shops by 2023. 'Pet' shops will instead receive incentives to encourage partnerships with local rescue organizations to promote rehoming of rescued companions and collection of charitable donations.
11. Launch an inquiry into the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* including the reporting and management of declared "dangerous dogs" or "menacing dogs".
  - a. The inquiry would have the objective to understand alternatives to seizing and destroying these animals.
  - b. Alternatives may include mediation and conciliation, independent assessments by external behaviourism, intermediate measures such as training and socialization, taking into account natural behaviour, and improvements to living arrangements.

Many animals are endangered due to misunderstandings of basic animal behaviour and are also used as collateral in neighbourhood disputes. We will promote a more compassionate, companion animal friendly Queensland by fostering community understanding of what makes our companions tick and why they act as they do, why some people are scared of animals and how we can coexist happily with each other through education, consideration and communication.

12. Investigate options to run community "guardian and companion" education sessions teaching animal behaviour, socialization, first aid, training and caring for animals for adults and children.
13. Run animal adoption campaigns for pound, rescue and shelter animals including information sessions in schools.
14. Support the Queensland Government to end the discrimination against tenants with companion animals by reforming residential tenancy laws as quickly as possible, following the example set in Victoria.
15. Promote reforms allowing companion animals to travel on public transport services with responsible persons, starting with Translink.
16. Investigate ways to allow the inclusion of companion animals into retirement living facilities to promote residents' mental wellbeing and safeguard the welfare

of their companions.

## 10. Promote AJP's core values of Kindness, Equality, Rationality and Nonviolence

The four core values of the Animal Justice Party are Kindness, Equality, Rationality and Nonviolence. This means that we oppose violence and oppression in all of its forms and our candidates will work to make Queensland safer not only for animals but for us humans too. Violence and oppression is often interconnected, so a society that is cruel to animals is likely to be cruel to people and vice versa. There is a lot to be done to stop interpersonal violence and oppression which comes in many forms.

### Our commitments for the 2020 Queensland Election are:

1. Support and fast-track the Government's *Path to Treaty* with Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Queensland. It is not the place of the Animal Justice Party to unilaterally decide on social issues of special concern to Indigenous Australians. Instead, our MPs and other representatives will consult directly with local Indigenous leaders on relevant social issues not covered by existing policies on animals or nature. The AJP supports measures which empower Indigenous Australians and seeks to consult with First Nations communities on issues like treaty, constitutional reform, education, health, incarceration and others, recognising the complexity and diversity of views across Queensland and Australia. The AJP supports establishing a Queensland-based Makarrata Commission, as described nationally in the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*, to facilitate truth-telling and agreement-making between First Nations peoples and the Queensland Government. Queensland must meet its obligations under the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the AJP supports the articles therein. With Indigenous Australians 15 to 26 times more likely to be incarcerated than non-Indigenous Australians, major reform is required. Our candidates understand that holistic approaches are needed to end the violence and discrimination.
2. Listen to experts and victims on ways to end family violence in Queensland. We will also push for increased government funding for services and shelters, especially to increase the number of shelters accepting companion animals, who are often used as collateral to prevent survivors from leaving. This is a real barrier with around 25% of people refusing to leave an abusive relationship without their companion animal. Providing legal personhood to animals will ensure that companions are valued as family members and do not remain in the care of the perpetrator of family violence due to claims of 'ownership'.
3. Reinvigorate our democracy and stamp out corruption in all of its forms. Corruption is insidious and undermines the rule of law, destroys public confidence in government and

seeks to give power, influence and resources to a privileged few with criminal and unethical intent to the detriment of the broader community. Corruption is also often detrimental to animal and environmental protection.

4. Make Queenslanders safe from gun violence. Currently there are more than 200,000 weapon licences in Queensland and more guns in Australia than before the Port Arthur massacre. While shooters actively push to open up state forests to gun and bow hunting the Animal Justice Party will stand strong against the influence of the gun lobby.
5. Scrutinise the slaughterhouse industry and the hazardous environment it creates for Queensland workers. We will fund further studies to test findings that slaughterhouse workers have a greater propensity for human-directed aggression. We will work with businesses and communities to transition Queenslanders into kinder, more meaningful employment. The Animal Justice Party will also make publicly accessible CCTV recording mandatory in all slaughterhouse facilities and work to end the exploitation of workers in dangerous and dehumanising environments.