



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

Media Statement

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Livestock transporter prosecuted for animal cruelty

An experienced livestock transporter has been convicted of animal cruelty in relation to a charge laid in March 2008 by the then Department of Local Government and Regional Development under the *Animal Welfare Act 2002*.

Mr Ian Doak was witnessed by a veterinarian throwing a live “downer” merino ewe to the ground, from the fourth deck of his truck, at an abattoir in Narrikup.

Mr Doak was sentenced and fined \$2,500 plus costs in the Narrogin Magistrates Court on Thursday 8 October 2009, after having previously pleaded guilty before the Albany Magistrates Court on 13 May 2009.

Department of Local Government Director General, Jennifer Mathews, said that the cruel treatment of livestock is unacceptable to the community and endangers important livestock markets.

“The *Animal Welfare Act 2002* is in place to provide protection for all animals in Western Australia,” Ms Mathews said.

“Unfortunately, crimes against the treatment of livestock are not easily detected given the vastness of Western Australia and the fact that livestock are not generally in the public eye.”

“However, this result sends a strong message that the inhumane treatment of livestock is not acceptable in this State.”

Ms Mathews acknowledged the work of the Animal Welfare Branch within the Department for its investigation and enforcement of the Act.

Ends

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