

INSPECTOR NOTE

Building:	
Street:	
Suburb:	PATERNOSTER
Postal Code:	
Date:	2026-10-09
Time:	10:09
Inspector:	JAMESON OCTOBER

Type:	CASE DISCUSSION NOTE
Follow-Up Date:	2026-10-12

Comments:

On 9 October 2026, the SPCA received a telephone call from 069 100 9573. The caller refused to identify herself but alleged that numerous complaints had been submitted regarding the welfare of horses belonging to Mark Truter of West Coast Beach Rides in Paternoster.

The caller claimed that she had previously submitted several complaints to the SPCA. However, no emails or correspondence relating to these alleged complaints could be traced from her. She further made derogatory remarks regarding the competence of the SPCA Inspector and alleged that Mr Truter did not have sufficient bales of feed for his horses.

Although the caller refused to provide her name or contact details, the telephone number was visible on the SPCA's telephone system. A subsequent lookup identified the number as belonging to Ninon Mostert Halverson.

Inspector Jameson October attempted to contact Ms Halverson at approximately 10:00, but the call was unanswered. She subsequently returned his call.

During this conversation, Ms Halverson alleged that people were complaining that Mr Truter did not have sufficient food for his horses. Inspector October enquired whether she had personally visited the establishment or observed the horses. She confirmed that she had not and stated that Kim Wilson had informed her that Mr Truter's horses did not have food.

Inspector October explained that he had personally inspected the establishment approximately one week earlier and had observed no animal welfare concerns. Ms Halverson then insinuated that Inspector October and Mr Truter were friends and that this was the reason no action was being taken. This allegation is strongly disputed and is without any substantiated basis.

Inspector October advised Ms Halverson that he knew Ms Wilson and would contact her directly to verify the information.

Upon contacting Ms Wilson, she categorically denied having informed Ms Halverson that Mr Truter's horses were without food. Ms Wilson explained that she had seen allegations being made by Ms Halverson against Mr Truter on Facebook and had cautioned her to be careful about making public accusations against an establishment without substantiated information.

Ms Wilson further indicated that, while she was speaking to Inspector October, she could see that Ms Halverson was attempting to contact her repeatedly.

It is also noted that Ms Halverson had not personally visited the establishment and therefore had no firsthand observations to support the allegations raised.

Regarding the availability of feed, there is currently a shortage of baled roughage in the West Coast region. Consequently, the absence of large quantities of bales on a property does not, in itself, establish that animals are being deprived of food. Mr Truter is currently providing concentrate feed to his horses.

Inspector October confirmed that, during his previous visit to the establishment approximately one week earlier, no animal welfare concerns were identified.

Additional observations:

Ms Halverson has previously engaged with the SPCA in a manner characterised by confrontational communication, derogatory remarks, personal accusations and inappropriate language. Such conduct is noted for record purposes, particularly where allegations are made against SPCA personnel without supporting evidence.

The SPCA remains committed to investigating legitimate animal welfare concerns, irrespective of the identity or conduct of a complainant. However, allegations must be assessed on their merits and supported by verifiable information wherever possible.

Further action:

Notwithstanding the lack of firsthand evidence and the conflicting information provided, Inspector October will conduct a further welfare inspection at West Coast Beach Rides to independently assess the condition of the horses and establish whether any animal welfare concerns exist.

LOUISE VAN ZYL 2026-10-09 10:09

Captured By: