



## AFFIDAVIT – VETERINARY REPORT

I, **Dr. George Birch**, hereby make oath and declare in English as follows:

**1.**

I am an adult male veterinarian registered with the South African Veterinary Council (SAVC) under registration number D06/5077. I hold a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree (BVSc), with 16 years of experience. I am currently employed by the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. I am competent to provide veterinary services and experienced in identifying clinical signs of neglect and cruelty in animals.

**2.**

The facts contained in this affidavit fall within my personal knowledge unless indicated otherwise or unless it appears so from the context. The facts are also, to the best of my knowledge and belief, both true and correct.

**3.**

On 16 January 2026, I conducted a full clinical examination on a dog admitted into the care of the Cape of Good Hope SPCA. The animal had been surrendered from a property situated at 21 Pilot Way, Strandfontein, by Inspector Jeffrey Mfini, under case number INSP226750.

### 3.1. ANIMAL INFORMATION:

The details of the animal are as follows:

- **Admission Number:** A91012
- **Species:** Canine
- **Breed:** German Shepherd Dog cross-breed
- **Sex and Reproductive Status:** Female, sterilisation status unknown
- **Estimated Age:** Adult, approximately 8 years old
- **Colour and Markings:** Black and Tan
- **Microchip:** Unknown
- **Name:** Molly

### 3.2. CLINICAL EXAMINATION FINDINGS:

Upon clinical examination, the following findings were recorded:

- **Body Condition Score:** 2/9 (indicating that she was severely underweight)
- **Weight:** 20 kg
- **Behaviour:** Fair
- **External Parasites:** None observed
- **Dentition:** Within normal limits
- **Nails:** The nails were markedly overgrown, indicating a lack of regular maintenance.

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I, **Dr. George Birch**, hereby further make oath and declare in English as follows:

**Additional significant clinical findings included the following:**

Additional significant clinical findings included widespread dermatological abnormalities.

- These consisted of hair loss, severe crusting, and erythema around the muzzle, periocular and periaural regions, including the inner pinnae.
- Patchy hair loss was observed over the dorsolateral aspects of both hind limbs as well as over the lower limbs.
- A chronic, deep wound was present on the right thigh.

4.

**VETERINARY OPINION:**

The primary medical concerns noted during examination were the severe underweight condition, multifocal dermatitis, and a wound on the right thigh.

The cause of the animal's weight loss is likely multifactorial and may include chronic disease and/or inadequate husbandry. The distribution and severity of the dermatological lesions are suggestive of a possible immune-mediated condition, allergic dermatitis, or potential external parasitic involvement. The lesion on the right thigh is suspicious for cellulitis or an abscess.

The duration of the animal's suffering is difficult to determine with certainty due to the unknown aetiology of the conditions observed. However, the extent and severity of the dermatological disease and the chronic nature of the wound indicate that the animal has experienced ongoing and prolonged skin irritation, discomfort, and pain, particularly in relation to the right thigh wound.

5.

**PROGNOSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The prognosis regarding the animal's weight is guarded to fair, as it is most likely related to chronic disease and/or long-term husbandry concerns. Dermatological conditions of this nature are often difficult to manage, even in a private veterinary setting, and a definitive diagnosis is essential. The prognosis for the suspected abscess on the right thigh is considered good with appropriate treatment.

Recommended management would include a full evaluation of husbandry conditions, diagnostic testing including histopathology, and therapeutic drug trials in conjunction with symptomatic treatment aimed at improving the animal's comfort and welfare.

6.

**CONCLUSION**

In my professional veterinary opinion, the animal's severely underweight condition, the extent and chronic appearance of the dermatitis, and the presence of a chronic wound are indicative of neglect, particularly in circumstances where appropriate veterinary medical care does not appear to have been sought timeously.

7.

**I know and understand the content of this declaration.  
I have no objection to taking the prescribed oath.  
I consider the prescribed oath to be binding on my conscience.**

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I, **Dr. George Birch**, hereby further make oath and declare in English as follows:

  
DEPONENT

The deponent has acknowledged that he knows and understands the contents of this affidavit/declaration, which was signed and sworn to before me at GRASSY PARK on this the 19 day of MARCH 2026 the regulations contained in Government Notice No R1258 of 21 July 1972, as amended, and Government Notice No R1648 of 19 August 1977, as amended, having been complied with.

  
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

Full names: \_\_\_\_\_



JUSTIN DE VOS

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS  
Peace Officer - Law Enforcement

Business address: \_\_\_\_\_

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