

Dear Productivity Commission,

My name is Anna Travinskaia and I am an advocate for animal welfare. I am writing in response to the Commission's draft report concerning the motivations for philanthropic giving in Australia and the potential opportunities for its growth. I am particularly passionate about the extension of Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status to animal welfare and vegan charities, making them eligible for tax-deductible donations.

I found the report inspiring as it illuminates the potential for positive changes within Australia's philanthropic sector. Being an active participant in this space, my driving force is the desire to make a significant difference in addressing societal challenges. I believe the proposed changes to expand the DGR eligibility, specifically to charities working to prevent harm, could lead to substantial improvements in this regard.

I am in agreement with the draft report's conclusion that the existing DGR system requires reform. The proposed simpler system, as outlined in Draft Recommendation 6.1, promises more equitable and consistent outcomes. I am particularly encouraged by the proposed inclusion of animal welfare charities within the DGR framework. The current system unfairly excludes many charities focused on animal welfare policy and advocacy work from receiving DGR status because they do not provide direct care or rehabilitation to animals. This limitation has prevented these organisations from attracting substantial donations or applying for grants where DGR status is a prerequisite.

Animal charities consistently rank within the top three causes supported by Australian donors. I believe that a broader range of Australians - including those from younger generations - are deeply passionate about animal welfare. The proposed changes to expand DGR eligibility could not only create a positive impact but also enable charities to connect with new communities. Increased DGR eligibility will enable access to new fundraising channels like workplace giving, corporate fundraising, major donor and philanthropic giving, as well as Instagram and Facebook fundraisers, PayPal Giving Fund, and various third-party fundraising and crowdfunding platforms, which are currently inaccessible without DGR status.

Thank you for considering my comments. I eagerly anticipate the final report and the potential positive impact it can inspire within the non-profit sector.

Kind Regards,

Anna Travinskaia