



How to... Email your State and/or Federal MP

Contacting your local State or Federal member of parliament (MP) is a quick and easy step to help put animal welfare issues onto the political agenda.

While politics can feel frustrating and pointless at times, MPs do listen to what voters in their electorate have to say. They depend on your vote for re-election, so use your voice to help bring animal welfare issues to the top of the political agenda. If you've never emailed, written or called an MP's office before, that's okay! Here are a few tips to help make your first call or email with an MP's office a success:

- 1.** Find out which electorate you're in and who the sitting MP is. Each state and territory have a directory or list of state MPs. Once you have your electorate, click through to the electorate profile and it will tell you the name of your MP. If you need to contact a Federal MP, check your electorate with the [AEC directory](#) and click through to the electorate profile.
- 2.** Introduce yourself and tell them you live in the electorate. It's important they know that you are a potential voter.
- 3.** Clearly state your position and be as brief as possible. If you've been personally impacted in anyway, it's good to add those details too. Check out our guides for more info.
- 4.** Be polite. As frustrating as it can be when politicians don't take a stand, it's important that the message be heard. Visits, emails or phone calls that contain swearing or anger will often be ignored.

You can contact your local MP about any animal welfare issue that's important to you. But can also support one of our current campaigns.

- **A ban on the global wildlife trade:** The global trade in wildlife is incredibly cruel and it can lead to the spread of zoonotic diseases like Covid-19. That's why we're asking the Australian Government to support a ban on the global trade in wildlife at the upcoming G20 summit. You can find out more.
- **Better national environmental laws:** Australia's national environmental laws are currently under a once in a decade review. These laws are designed to help protect our precious native species like the koalas from habitat destruction and extinction. But unfortunately, the law isn't working and it's failing to protect our native animals. After the devastating bushfire season, native animals need protection now more than ever. You could email your Federal MP urging them to support stronger environmental protections for animals.
- **A ban on battery cages:** Across Australia, 11 million hens are still confined in cruel battery cages. The standards for layer hens are currently under review. You could help by emailing your State MP and asking them to support a phase out of battery cages.