



Frequently Asked Questions

What will I earn?

Salaries vary across the country and depend largely on the funding that the individual SPCA receives from their community. The salary will also take into account the experience, skill and abilities of the Inspector.

However, it is important to remember that as a welfare organisation, receiving no government funding, that salaries will not be comparable with the commercial sector such as banks, veterinary services or the like. This career is unlikely to be suited for people who are primarily financially motivated individuals.



I love animals, but can't bear seeing them suffering. Can I become an Inspector?

It is obviously essential that you have the utmost compassion for animals to work in this field. However as an Inspector you will be in the front-line of investigating allegations of animal cruelty. Often these investigations will result in the rescue and confiscation of animals from abusive situations.

You will definitely be exposed to seeing animals suffering – and it will be your job to end this suffering. It is the SPCA Inspector who is usually the person who picks up the injured, abused, sick and dying animals – and removes them to a place of safety.

The SPCA Inspector has to be ready, willing and able to witness enormous suffering – and then get right into the situation to end that suffering and rescue the animals involved.



Have I got to be fit to work for the SPCA?

There are various positions within the SPCA, and the requirements for administration posts will be different to the positions relating directly to animal care. An SPCA Inspector is expected to be able to perform all functions of their duties – including:-

- Running after an animal – such as a horse on the road
- Climbing (walls, mountains etc.) and entering into small areas (between buildings, drain pipes) to rescue animals
- Walking long distances to inspect animals in the veld and on farms
- Lifting and carrying animals and equipment
- Swimming and hiking – especially in rescues and disasters

I have young children but want to pursue a career as an Inspector – will this work?

It can work, but you would have to ensure that you have a really good support network. An SPCA Inspector work long, often irregular hours. There will be times that you are on after-hour call out duties, and you will always have to be available in the case of disasters (flooding, fires etc.)

You may find it too demanding to properly care for the demands of young children, as well as functioning as a full-time inspector. You have to ensure that there is a good, working balance that does not compromise the needs of either parties.