



Auditor-General for Australia



12 July 2019

Senator Mehreen Faruqi
Senator for NSW
By email: senator.faruqi@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Faruqi

I am writing in response to your letter of 3 July 2019 requesting the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) conduct an examination of the Live Exports Branch of the Department of Agriculture with regard to allegations of mismanagement and falsification of official records.

The ANAO's [2019–20 Annual Audit Work Program](#) includes a potential performance audit topic titled [Regulation of live animal exports](#). This audit, if commenced, would examine the effectiveness of the Department of Agriculture's regulation of the treatment and handling of export livestock, including the department's implementation of recommendations from the *Review of the Regulatory Capability and Culture of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources in the Regulation of Live Animal Exports* and the *Independent Review of Conditions for the Export of Sheep to the Middle East During the Northern Hemisphere Summer*.

The work program includes 89 potential performance audit and assurance review topics, and provides details about our in-progress performance audit and assurance work. Throughout the year, I consider these identified audit priorities, recent developments in the public sector, requests for audit, and resourcing and decide which audits will commence.

If you would like to subscribe to receive updates on the status of the audit, this can be done through the following link: <https://www.anao.gov.au/work/performance-audit/regulation-live-animal-exports>.

Yours sincerely

Grant Hehir