

Topic: Pause for paws. Feedback to consultation paper

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In review of recent consultation paper, I would like to give the following feedback.

I very much support the use of collars and tags on dogs and cats in public places.

I very much support the mandatory sterilisation of cats and would like to see the introduction of something similar be in use for dogs to combat backyard breeding. Introducing mandatory sterilisation of dogs unless formal permission sought from the owner. I know that the Dogs Home in Perth is always so busy with so many homeless dogs. Sterilisation would also provide a health service to the dog, by reducing the risk of disease to the dog.

I support a move to allow greyhounds to be unmuzzled in public places. I have met many greyhounds both in attending greyhound events and coming across them in public settings. The greyhounds I have met have been exceedingly gentle with people and with my large mixed breed dog. I have adopted a greyhound (6 weeks ago). The greyhound as I have her in Tasmania is allowed to go muzzle free as she has undergone assessment. She is friendly with people and with dogs (we have met many different sizes and shapes of dogs, including the small fluffy type). The greyhound has been so gentle and careful around children. It has been the greyhounds first 6 weeks in pet life and she has been friendly with everyone she meets. I am very grateful that she can go without a muzzle as she finds it very uncomfortable. It should be at the discretion of the owner to muzzle the greyhound as they see fit. A blanket requirement for greyhounds to be muzzled seems outdated. Likewise assessment of greyhounds known by their family to undergo assessment to be allowed to be unmuzzled seems outdated. The requirement for muzzling needs to be based on the individual dog and not the greyhound breed. Often these dogs are the most gentle one will come across! A blanket requirement of muzzling greyhounds promotes the breed as uncertainty of character, which contributes to public uncertainty of the breed (for those that are new to greyhounds). Public perception of greyhounds is important as there are so, so many that are needing homes.

Kind Regards,

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