

Public Submission Form

Please use this form to provide your feedback on the State Government's proposed methods to stop puppy farming in WA. These questions are taken from the consultation paper released by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries on Thursday, 3 May 2018. The paper can be accessed at the Department's website.

The information you provide will be used by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) to inform policy decisions regarding stopping puppy farming in WA. If you need help completing this form, please telephone DLGSC on (08) 6551 8700 or toll free for country callers on 1800 620 511, or email puppyfarming@dlgsc.wa.gov.au.

For a Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) telephone: 13 14 50. To ensure your input is considered, please return your feedback before the consultation period closes at 4pm on Friday 3 August 2018.

Your contact details

Title: [REDACTED]

First name: [REDACTED]

Surname: [REDACTED]

Street or postal address: [REDACTED]

Telephone (business): [REDACTED]

Mobile telephone: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

Stop Puppy Farming Questions

1. Please indicate if you are any of the following:

- Dog Owner X
- Dog Breeder X
- *Other – please specify below* *x Dogs West Member*

Transitioning Pet Shops to Adoption Centres

2. Would you purchase behaviour and health checked rescue dog from a pet shop?

NO.

No animals should be sold through Pet Shops.

You cannot buy a Horse through a Horse Supply Store.

Same should apply to all Pets & Companion Animals

3. What background information would you want on the rescue dog?

Complete Information as to birth, Previous Homes & History (Vet & Family)

All the Information suggested should be supplied by ALL Rescue Organisations.

IF Information NOT Available then a FULL Veterinary Inspection along with Animal Behavioural sit report would be required prior to Rehoming

4. Do you think transitioning pet shops to adoption centres is beneficial?

NO.

No animals should be sold through Pet Shops.

You cannot buy a Horse through a Horse Supply Store.

Same should apply to all Pets & Companion Animals N/A

5. If you are a pet shop owner or operator, what impact will this have on your business?

[Click here to enter text.]

N/A

BUT

Mandatory dog de-sexing for non-breeding dogs will have an impact

6. How do you feel about mandatory dog de-sexing for non-breeding dogs?

I am opposed to EARLY DESEXING OF ANY ANIMAL.

All Desexing should be performed in consultation with a Vet

All Dogs that have NOT Been Approved or Assessed as being suitable for Breeding should be Desexed as soon as feasible and in consultation with a Vet.

EG 9-12 Months for Small Dogs & 12-24 Months for Larger Dog Breeds

7. Exemptions from mandatory de-sexing will apply for health and welfare reasons as assessed by a veterinarian, and if the dog owner is a registered breeder. Are there any other reasons why a dog should be exempt from being de-sexed?

All Desexing should be performed in consultation with a Vet

Any Dog Registered & Undertaking Dog Sport Activities should be exempt from Mandatory Desexing.

Working & Pastoral Dogs should be exempt where they are registered with the appropriate organisations for undertaking such activities.

BUT

CONFIRMATION OF ONGOING PARTICIPATION MUST BE SUPPORTED BY EVIDENCE BASED DOCUMENTATION

**REGISTRATION WITH DOGS WEST SHOULD NOT BE THE OVERRIDING BASIS FOR ANY EXEMPTION.
DOGS NEED TO BE ACTIVE & PARTICIPATING IN DOG SPORT ACTIVITY TO RETAIN ANY EXEMPTION. (REVIEWED YEARLY)**

In order to be registered as a Breeder all dogs must be registered to the Owner where the Dog resides (Local Council & Sporting Organisation) & there must be an activity other than simple BREEDING involved.

No Breeder Licence should be granted where there is the sole activity of breeding involved. The activity other than the production of puppies.

Membership of an Organisation should NOT be the sole determination for an Exemption.

The Breeding Animals Suitability on an Individual basis should be the overriding factor.

All dogs should be assessed & qualify to be deemed to be of breeding quality.

By a Veterinarian in the first instance followed by Organisational Support as to Breeding Quality for the Breed Involved.

An example.. A Stud Book for all Dogs West Breeding Animals.

All dogs competing in Dog Sport Activity must be Vet checked & confirmed as suitable for breeding.

Must Maintain an Ongoing Participation in the Activity. (4 shows over a 12 month Period) & a least 1 Awarded Certificate (during lifetime & prior to Breeding) from a Qualified Judge which is obtained at a Sanctioned Show from Dog West or other affiliated ANKC Body.

Once a Dog has been awarded a Challenge Certificate an ongoing Veterinarian Certificate on suitability for breeding (yearly) is to be maintained.

After breeding activity is no longer viable a vet certificate of participation in dog sport activity is to be retained (yearly).

Once all Dog Sport activity is no longer viable a Vet Certificate on suitability for desexing or otherwise obtained to determine exemption from requirement to desex.

ALL DESEXING SHOULD BE PERFORMED IN CONSULTATION WITH A VET.

8. Should mandatory dog de-sexing apply to all dogs, including existing dogs, or just dogs born after a particular date?

APPLICABLE TO ALL DOGS

ALL DESEXING SHOULD BE PERFORMED IN CONSULTATION WITH A VET.

Refer above

Centralised Registration System

9. How will a centralised registration system benefit you?

WILL MAKE NO DIFFERENCE

10. Do you think it is reasonable to increase dog registration fees for dogs that are not de-sexed to encourage de-sexing?

Yes Unsure

No

NO..

The onus should be placed on those that want or desire an Exemption & the Organisation that supports their membership should have in place a system whereby the Criteria for meeting any exemption are responsible for maintaining Records in support of any Exemptions granted.

Such organisations can absorb or pass on their costs to their memberships seeking exemptions

11. Do you support increasing dog registration fees to fund a streamlined centralised registration system and to fund enforcement activities?

[Click here to enter text.]

In Part

12. Do you think it is reasonable for dog breeders to pay an annual registration fee to cover the cost of monitoring and enforcing dog breeder compliance?

[Click here to enter text.]

Yes. Within reason & a centralised payment not controlled by Local Government

13. Are there any other benefits, costs and/or issues associated with breeder registration that are not captured in this table? Please detail.

[Click here to enter text.]

14. Should there be any restrictions on who can register as a dog breeder? If so, what should these be?

[Click here to enter text.]

Member of an Accredited Dog Sport Association or Pastoral/Working Dog Association

Must have greater involvement than a mere Registration Body

General Public have no interest nor Involvement in the Breeding of animals & unless participations in Dog Sport activity then there should be no objection to Mandatory Desexing at an appropriate time.

Outsourcing or Remote Housing of Breeding animals should be actively discouraged & Registered (Council) owner should be a full member of the Dog Sport Organisation to maintain any exemptions granted.

Otherwise the OWNER (Breeder) needs to maintain the animal at their premises or maintain FULL Ownership of the animal by Contractual agreement with the party who houses the Dog for council registration purposes.

Any such contractual agreements should be lodged with the Council where dog housed & Registered. Breeder takes Full Responsibility for compliance with the Dogs Council Registration & Obligations imposed as an owner under the Dog Act. The owner of the Property where the dog is housed takes similar responsibility for Registration & Care.

In effect the Dog becomes a Join Ownership between Property Owner & Breeder.

15. Do you think local government is best placed to enforce dog breeder registration? Why, or why not?

[Click here to enter text.]

Yes. In Part

If Grant exemptions then strict adherence should be enforced.

Property Inspections should be mandatory & undertaken yearly (as a minimum).

Recognition of Organisations is an important aspect of control, BUT the Organisation must be held accountable IF it is to maintain an accreditation

Evidence will be required to be supplied to Local Council by the Organisation in order to maintain any Exemption.

Council may charge a fee for such Processing of such exemptions, which should be applicable to only those dogs that require an exemption.

Across the Board increase in Registration Fees are inappropriate & a burden on the general public that do not require exemptions.

As with the Requirement to complete an application for an Increase in the number of dogs held any exemptions can be treated in a similar fashion.

Mandatory Standards for Dog Breeding, Housing, Husbandry, Transport and Sale
16. Should people who breed dogs have to comply with minimum standards for the health and welfare of their dogs?

Yes X Unsure

No

YES

I believe in line with the Greyhound Standards that NO Bitch should be used for breeding more than 3 Times in its Lifetime & should not be caused to whelp more than twice in any 2 year period.

A dog that is not sufficiently mature enough to Desex should likewise NOT be suitable for Breeding.

If Desexing is not to occur prior to 18 months to 2 years then likewise a Bitch should not be considered suitable to breed nor allowed to have a Litter until 18 months to 2 years of age.

Any Recognised Organisation must comply & uphold such standards

17. Should there be any restrictions on who can register as a dog breeder? If so, what should these be?

[Click here to enter text.]

Only those that are involved with Dog Sports & are recognised Full Members of an Accredited Organisation or Association.

18. Should the number of litters that a bitch can produce be restricted by law?

Yes x Unsure

No

YES

In line with the Greyhound Industry I believe 3 Litters in the Lifetime of any Bitch is Sufficient

19. Should people who breed dogs for commercial gain be required to meet additional Mandatory Dog Breeding Standards?

YES

No Dog should be used for Commercial Gain & any Litters beyond 2 in any 12 month period

beyond which this should immediately identify the Owners of the Dogs Involved as Commercial Breeders.

Identified Commercial Breeders should have greater burden of proof on their activity with all Commercial Breeders required to be licenced with their Local Council & have a Permit to Run a Business from Home.

20. If you said 'yes' to question 19, should this be based on:

- a) keeping a defined number of breeding dogs? **Yes**
- b) if so, what number? **Maximum of 6 in Total**
- c) any other criteria? **Maximum of 4 Females & No more than 6 dogs in Total whether Breeding or Not**

Please provide reasons:

[Click here to enter text.]

* Attach further documentation if required.

In recognition of Compliance with an Approved Organisations Rules & Regulations & Upholding a Code of Conduct a degree of relaxation in the Number of Dogs taht may be housed at any 1 property needs to be considered within the Dog Act..

For Example: Residential Property outside Kennel Zones with Block Size.

250-500sqm Maximum of 2 dogs allowed

500-750sqm Maximum of 3 Dogs

750-1000sqm Maximum of 4 Dogs

for every 500sqm thereafter an additional dog is permitted without a permit up to a maximum of 6 dogs without a Kennel Permit being applied for.

For any property where the owners are NOT members of an Approved Organisation then a limit of 2 Dogs without a permit should remain.

Permits for Non Members of an Approved Organisation may still be applied for.

Owner of Property continues to be bound by Local Council Bylaws in relation to Noise and/or Nuisance provisions.

Local Council cannot override ownewrship rights simple to deter numbers,

withiut valid & sustainable evidence to support a restriction on numbers.

Confidentiality

Your submission will be made public and published in full on the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries website unless you ask for it to be confidential. Submissions that contain defamatory or offensive material will not be published.

Do you wish this information to remain private and confidential: Yes X No

I wiush for my Personal Information to remain private.

Signature:

Date:

Please return this form to:

Please return submissions by 4pm on Friday 3 August 2018

Post

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Email

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