

# STOP PUPPY FARMING

## Public Submission Form

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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](mailto: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:	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms X Other <input type="checkbox"/> Enter title here.
First name:	Gail M
Surname:	JONES BHSAI
Street or postal address:	[REDACTED]
Telephone (business):	[REDACTED]
Mobile telephone:	[REDACTED]
Email address:	[REDACTED]

# Stop Puppy Farming Questions

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

- Dog Owner
- Dog Breeder
- Pet Shop Owner
- Pet Business – please specify below
- Local Govt. employee
- Local Govt. elected member
- Shelter organisation employee
- Shelter organisation volunteer
- Rescue group employee
- Rescue group volunteer
- Foster Carer
- Veterinarian
- Other – please specify below

## Transitioning Pet Shops to Adoption Centres

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

No. Because it is highly unlikely that the dog would be adequately health and temperament tested if coming from a rescue shelter. Most rescue dogs have serious behavioural issues from lack of early socialisation or lack of appropriate care and training. It is well know that alleged "Rescue" dogs are moved from state to state in an effort to rehome unsuitable candidates. The breed of many rescues is misrepresented in an effort to rehome them.

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

The processes by which the rescue shelter assesses that a dog is "fit for purpose". Overall health, back ground and long term health issues. Length of time the dog has been in rescue. Reason for being in rescue in the first place.

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

No. Animals should not be sold through pet shops.

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

N/A

## Mandatory dog de-sexing for non-breeding dogs

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

Why is mandatory sterilisation being considered for WA ? You representative in Bunbury 11.7.18 stated since records have been kept only two puppy farms have been found in WA closed and/or prosecuted. So this is definitely NOT about stopping Puppy Farming is it ?What is the agenda here. I am totally against mandatory sterilisation for many reasons. Long term health implications of early sterilisation. Takes away people rights. Decreases the gene pool in rarer breeds. Prevents responsible breeders placing dogs in a pet home with "breeders rights". Removes the ability for people to participate in their chosen hobby of showing dogs as you can only show entire animals in the Main Shows. There is no one age fits all breeds scenario.

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?

Members of Dogs West. Greyhounds used for Racing & Breeding. Working dogs.

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

There should not be mandatory sterilisation for the reasons stated above. If this law is passed it will come back so hard on the labour Government it will never recover. Another case of Government going one step too far. You have a perfectly good Dog Act you do not enforce well enough. Tweak that act if you need to make it more effective. We certainly do not need yet another level of legislation

## Centralised Registration System

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9. How will a centralised registration system benefit you?

It will not. As a Dogs West Member we already have a fully functional up and running Centralised for all of Australia registration database. At the Bunbury meeting 11.7.18 a Ranger stated that they need a Centralised Registration System to lessen their work and to allow them to know exactly where any unsterilized dogs are, then under the new Legislation they would have the POWER to enter that person's house at any time and SEIZE that dog !!! THAT will open up a whole new Pandora's Box of deplorable things.

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 as there are already increased fees for unsterilised dogs and bitches.

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

NO. If the Government had the mind to, it could easily at no extra expense, use their current registration database for all registered dogs in Australia. Add to that, the ANKC Australia wide database and the Australian Greyhound Registry and you have all the compliant dogs registered in Australia. The percentage, estimated to be 6%, of non compliant dog owners will remain non compliant no matter what Legislation is introduced. Why should 84% be expected to pay for the non compliance of 6% ? Why not reward the 84% for doing the right thing instead of punishing them by basically inventing a reason to introduce a new tax under the smoke screen of being to control Puppy Farming, of which only two have ever been found in this state. Will governments ever learn to be transparent ? This was NEVER and is certainly NOT about stopping Puppy Farming.

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?

DOG BREEDERS if you are meaning already registered Dog Breeders, such as members of Dogs West or The Greyhound Racing Association currently pay very large fees to BE a REGISTERED BREEDER governed very strictly by a Code of Ethics, breaches of which are heavily fined. Puppy Farmers will form their own Associations of which they will be a member and so become Registered Puppy Farmers if this Legislation is introduced.

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

Who will be deemed a suitable person to authorise a person/premises to become a "Registered Breeder". Rangers? I personally do not believe they will or can do this in an unbiased manner.

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.]

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

Dogs West would have more chance of doing this as they already have a proven model for doing so and it is successful. They have knowledge appropriate for the task and Government certainly has no expertise at all.



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

- a) keeping a defined number of breeding dogs?
- b) if so, what number?
- c) any other criteria?

Please provide reasons:

You can have a large number of animals very well cared for and in excellent conditions. You can have one dog kept in very sub standard conditions. So again you cannot apply one size fits all approach. Each case will vary.

\* Attach further documentation if required.

## 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  No

Signature: Gail Michelle Jones

Date: 26.7.2018

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## Please return this form to:

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**Please return submissions by 4pm on Friday 3 August 2018**

### Post

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

GPO Box 8349

Perth Business Centre WA 6849

**Email**

[puppyfarming@dlqsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:puppyfarming@dlqsc.wa.gov.au)