

STOP PUPPY FARMING

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:	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs X Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Enter title here.
First name:	Megan
Surname:	Fletcher
Street or postal address:	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Stop Puppy Farming Questions

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

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

Yes

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

As much as possible. If a puppy, whether the mother has been sterilised. A full medical report including date of sterilisation, any operations, health problems. Also a behaviour assessment by a qualified dog trainer.

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

Yes

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

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

This is essential. There are simply too many dogs many of whom have been bred to make money. The mother dogs are not looked after, lacking good nutrition and veterinary care, and are mated every time they come into season. There are many owners who should not have dogs: they have neither the time nor the money to take them to training, and socialise and exercise them. These are the dogs that end up being a nuisance because they are stuck in the back yard and are thoroughly bored.

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?

No

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

All dogs but it will have to be phased in.

Centralised Registration System

9. How will a centralised registration system benefit you?

It will not benefit me but this is long overdue.

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

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

No

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?

Absolutely. They are the ones making the money.

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

I don't think so

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

Yes. The obvious one is if anyone at the property has been convicted of animal cruelty.

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

I think local government would be best. Most rangers get to know their patch quite well.

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

Unsure

No

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

Yes. Anyone who is convicted of animal cruelty should not be allowed to register.

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

Yes

Unsure

No

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

Yes

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:

Yes, restricted to a defined number to be worked out by a veterinarian/the RSPCA. The number of litters a bitch can have should be restricted plus their breeding life should also be restricted. The breeder should also be responsible for finding the bitch a good retirement home.

* 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: Megan Fletcher

Date: 6th May, 2018

Please return this form to:

Please return submissions by 4pm on Friday 3 August 2018

Post

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Perth Business Centre WA 6849

Email

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