

AGENDA NUMBER:	12.6
SUBJECT:	Stop Puppy Farming
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	Shire of Nannup
NAME OF APPLICANT:	WALGA
FILE REFERENCE:	DEP 14
AUTHOR:	David Taylor – Chief Executive Officer
REPORTING OFFICER:	David Taylor – Chief Executive Officer
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:	Nil
DATE OF REPORT	12 July 2018
ATTACHMENT:	12.6.1 – Stop Puppy Farming Local Government Consultation Paper

BACKGROUND:

The State Government has committed to introduce laws to”

- a) Stop puppy farming and the supply chains that this industry.
- b) Improve the health and welfare of dogs in Western Australia.
- c) Stop the overbreeding of dogs.

The Government has prepared a Local Government Consultation Paper, and has requested WALGA coordinate a sector response in alignment with the State Local Government Partnership Agreement.

WALGA, together with Local Government Professionals WA, are members of the Ministerial Working Group overseeing the Stop Puppy Farming initiative, and have promoted the view that the Local Government section should be the subject of a consultation process separate to the public consultation process.

The Stop Puppy Farming Local Government Consultation Paper is designed for Local Governments to consider and comment on the recommended actions, and proposed implementation process of the stop puppy farming proposals.

Local Government has a long-standing involvement in animal welfare, and has a majority interest in the introduction of legislative measures to reduce overbreeding which results in unwanted and abandoned dogs, and poor animal welfare standards often associated with unregulated breeding of dogs for profit.

The State Government aims to implement the following key elements of the Puppy Farming Policy:

- a) Mandatory de-sexing of dogs unless an exemption is requested for breeding purposes or for reason stated by a registered veterinarian.
- b) A centralised registration system to ensure every dog and puppy can be identified at the point of sale or adoption, including in advertisements for sale.
- c) The transition of pet shops into adoption centres that will only sell puppies and dogs from approved rescue organisations and animal shelters

d) Mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing, husbandry, transport and sale.

COMMENT:

Local Government already has a long-standing involvement in animal welfare, and a majority interest in the introduction of legislation measures to address puppy farming and it is important that the Council provides input on this issue.

Shire staff have considered the State Government's proposals and completed the WALGA Local Government Consultation Paper (Attachment 1) for submission by the 1 August 2018 deadline.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:

Nil – Currently

Potential for introduced legislative frameworks dependent on the results of the Consultation period.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorses the City's response to the State Government 'Stop Puppy farming' consultation paper as per Attachment 12.6.1.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS:

Simple Majority

18131 STEER/FRASER

That Council endorses the City's response to the State Government 'Stop Puppy farming' consultation paper as per Attachment 12.6.1.

CARRIED (7/1)

Against: Cr Mellema

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