

# 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 <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Enter title here.
First name:	Ms Tara
Surname:	Meeres
Street or postal address:	
Telephone (business):	
Mobile telephone:	
Email address:	

## 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

I'm a registered breeder with Dogswest. I show as a hobby and occasionally breed when I'm looking for my next show dog. I do not breed for the pet market or gain and any of my pup's/dogs that go into pet homes are well vetted. I abide by the code of ethics under the ANKC.

## 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, I think this is a really bad idea. There's a lot more involved than checking a dog's health and behaviour, the new owner's and their home need to be vetted and matched with the right dog along with a trial period. I feel this can't be achieved in a Pet store.

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

Everything or as much as I could get, that's the beauty of purchasing a purebred dog from a registered AKC breeder, the breeder knows all the dog's history and most offer a return/rehome policy to all new owners as well as 24/7 advice.

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

No I don't, please refer to my above statements.

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

It shouldn't impact a great deal as there is still a lot of pet needs that need to be met...ie bedding, coats, toys, food.

## 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?

Studies all over the world show this isn't what's best for the dog's health long term, therefore I think the decision should be left up to the owner of the dog.

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?

Extensive studies have proven that dog's under the age of 6yrs can end up with joint and leg problems that will be very painful to the animal and expensive for the owner to repair.

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

I don't agree with mandatory de-sexing but if it is legislated then it should only apply to dogs born after the date of legislation.

## Centralised Registration System

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9. How will a centralised registration system benefit you?

It won't, when I breed I use dog's that are registered with the ANKC therefore I can get all the information I need from there data. People who are puppy farmer's or backyard breeders will not bother to register there dogs with the local council and will still breed.

10. Do you think it is reasonable to increase dog registration fees for dogs that are not de-sexed to encourage de-sexing? No.

Yes

Unsure

No

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

No I don't, I don't believe this system will work as it hasn't worked in other states and as stated above the puppy farmer's don't register there animals with the local council anyway. Public education towards buying animals from unregistered ANKC breeders would be a start.

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?

No, I don't agree with this enforcement as not all people with entire dog's are breeders, this seems like your giving pet owners a license to breed there dogs therefore creating backyard breeders. Also some registered ANKC breeders don't breed every year some only breed one litter every other year, this will create an added expense to an already expensive hobby.

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

I am really worried that the local public will get the wrong idea with becoming a registered breeder with the local council, there are already quite a few bogus registration's that people are selling pups under. There is only one recognised registered purebred dog Association in Australia and that is the Australian National Kennel Council.

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

Yes they should have to be a registered breeder with the Australian National Kennel Council to become a registered breeder with the council.

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

No I don't, they have no experience in dog breeding, it should be someone that has experience with different dog breeds/standards and correct breeding environment.

## Mandatory Standards for Dog Breeding, Housing, Husbandry, Transport and Sale

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16. Should people who breed dogs have to comply with minimum standards for the health and welfare of their dogs? Yes.

Yes

Unsure

No

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

They should have to be a registered breeder with the ANKC and abide by

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

Yes

Unsure

No

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

Yes, dogs shouldn't be breed for commercial gain, there should always be a lot of thought that goes into breeding a litter before being breed.

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?  
any other criteria?

Please provide reasons:

There should be a limit of how many litters are breed per year from one breeder.

Please refer to the Code of Ethic's of the ANKC.

\* 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: 

Date: 3 - 08 - 18

## Please return this form to:

**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@dlgsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:puppyfarming@dlgsc.wa.gov.au)