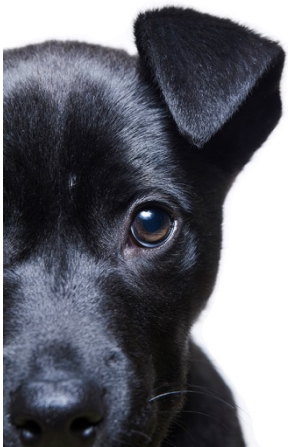


STOP PUPPY FARMING

Dogs West Consultation



The Department's role

WHO ARE WE

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries:

- regulates local governments in WA.
- administers certain pieces of legislation including the Dog Act.

OUR ROLE

Progress the puppy farming project on behalf of the Minister for Local Government.

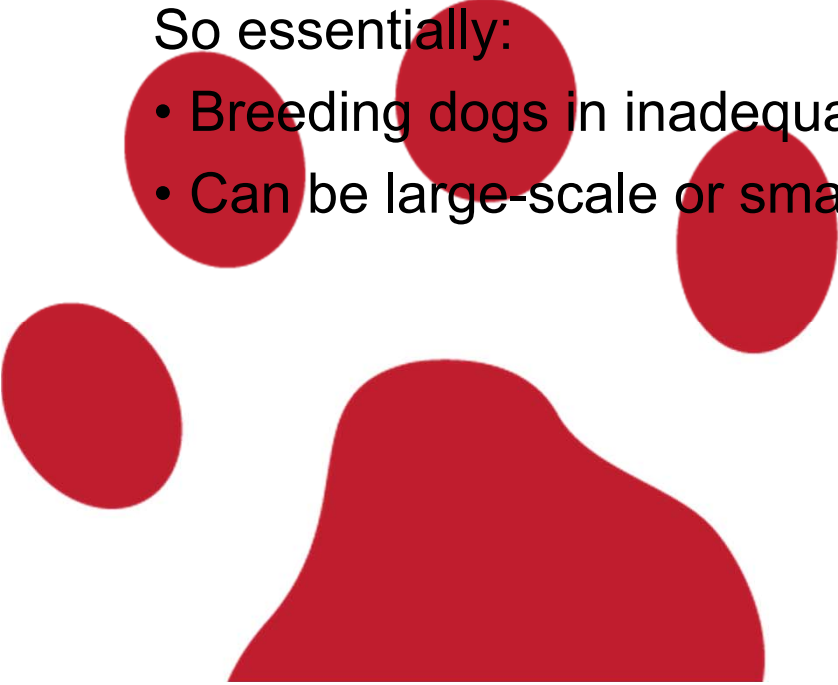
What is PUPPY FARMING?

A large, stylized red paw print graphic is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the slide. It consists of a large, irregular red shape for the main pad and four smaller, oval-shaped red shapes for the toes, arranged in a pattern that suggests a dog's paw.

RSPCA defines puppy farming as:

'an intensive dog breeding facility that is operated under inadequate conditions that fail to meet the dogs' behavioural, social and/or physiological needs'.

So essentially:

- Breeding dogs in inadequate conditions.
 - Can be large-scale or small-scale operations.
- 
- A second, smaller red paw print graphic is located in the lower left quadrant of the slide. It follows the same design as the larger paw print, with a large main pad and four smaller toe pads.

Current legislation

Dog Act 1976

Scope of Dog Act:

- Control and management of dogs

The Act is enforced by local governments.

Relevant provisions:

- Restriction on dog numbers
- Requirement to register as a kennel establishment if have more than the relevant number of dogs

Animal Welfare Act 2002

Scope of Animal Welfare Act:

- Prevention of cruelty to animals.

The Act is enforced by inspectors appointed under the Act.

Relevant provisions:

- Section 19 – a person must not be cruel to an animal – includes doing an act to cause harm or not providing adequate food, water, and shelter.

Current legislation

Australian Consumer Law

The *Fair Trading Act 2010 (WA)* adopts Schedule 2 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth)*. Schedule 2 is referred to as the Australian Consumer Law.

- The Australian Consumer Law is relevant in cases where:
 - Someone has engaged in conduct that is misleading or deceptive or is likely to mislead or deceive.
For example: someone has advertised that they are a registered breeder with a particular organisation (when in fact they are not).
 - A guarantee has been made that is false or misleading; in situations where a seller has made an express warranty or promise about the quality, condition, performance or characteristics of the dog.
For example, in situations where the seller has guaranteed that the dog is healthy and it later transpires that the dog has a terminal or serious health issue.

The **STOP** PUPPY FARMING project

Government Election Commitments:	Relevant Legislation:	Relevant Department:
Introduce a centralised registration system to identify every dog and puppy	Dog Act 1976	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Introduce mandatory dog de-sexing	Dog Act 1976	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Transition pet shops to adoption centres (can only sell dogs sourced from rescues)	Dog Act 1976	Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
Introduce mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing, husbandry, transport and sale	Animal Welfare Act 2002	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

STOP PUPPY FARMING IMPLEMENTATION WORKING GROUP

Dogs West

RSPCA

Australian Federation for Livestock Working Dogs Pet Industry Association of Australia

Local Government Professionals Australia WA

Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (Consumer Protection division)

Australian Veterinary Association

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Animal Welfare Regulation division)

Oscar's Law

WA Rangers Association

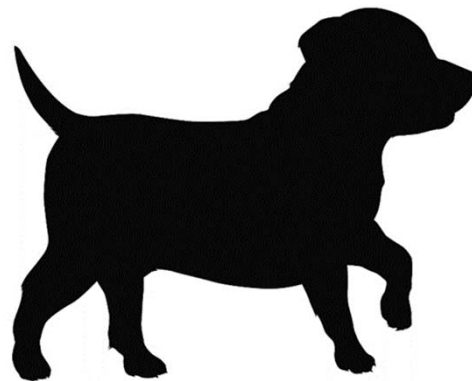
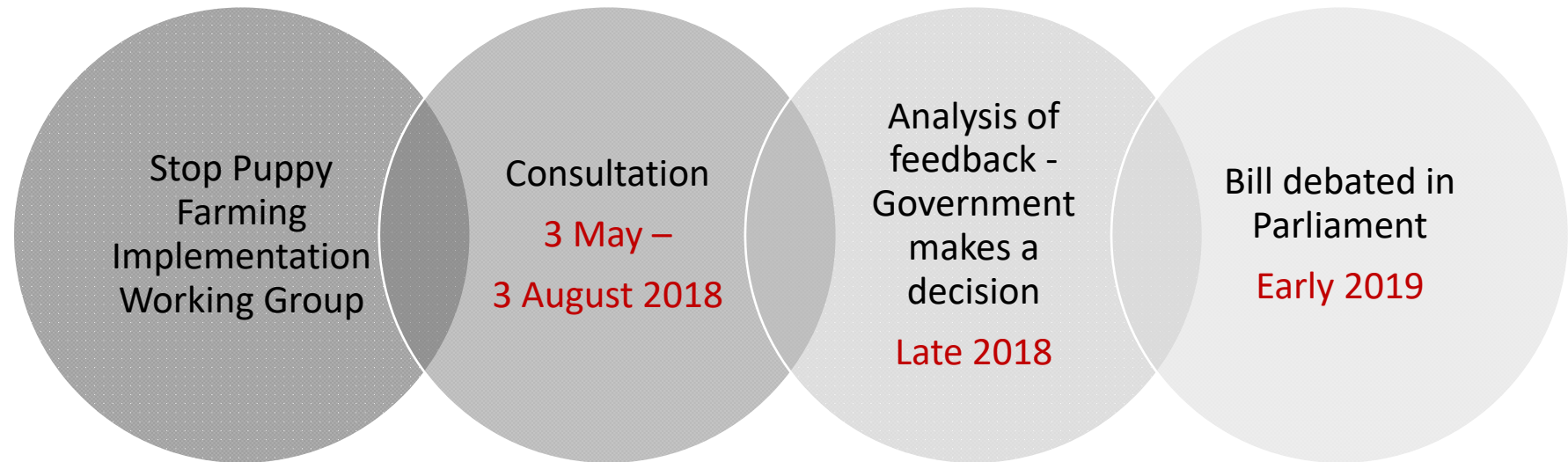
ROLE:

- Provide feedback, advice and insights
- Develop solutions
- Share information
- Assist with promotion

Dogs Refuge Home WA (Shenton Park)

WALGA

The Process and Timeframes



Consultation - Why consult?

- How should we implement these provisions? What should these initiatives look like, how should they apply, in a WA context?
- What are the benefits you see in introducing these provisions?
- What are the issues and concerns with the provisions? Are there any solutions?

Consultation - How are we consulting?

• **Community**

Consultation Paper:

- Online survey – to date over 1600 responses
- Submission form and written submissions – emailed or mailed
- Five community workshops across the State

• **Targeted**

Implementation Working Group has helped us identify who our key stakeholders are, and helped facilitate those openings to consult with them.

- Supplementary paper
- Written submissions
- Targeted workshops

Mandatory dog de-sexing for non-breeding dogs

- Dogs will be required to be de-sexed by the time they reach a specific age unless they are exempt.
- Proposed exemptions to mandatory de-sexing:
 - Dogs intended to be used for breeding purposes will be exempt from de-sexing. Dog breeders will be required to register as a dog breeder in order for their dog to be exempt.
 - Exemptions will be granted to dogs if de-sexing will have a negative impact on their health or development.

What we are seeking **feedback** on

- Age of mandatory de-sexing
- Age for registration and microchipping
- Additional exemptions
- De-sexing vouchers
- Enforcement



Centralised registration system

- Introduce a centralized registration system to ensure every dog and puppy can be identified at the point of sale or adoption.
- Centralised registration system will record:
 - Dog registrations
 - Dog breeder registrations
 - Any change in the ownership of dogs or puppies

What we are seeking **feedback** on

- General
 - Who should have access to the system and what access should they have?
 - What additional information should be included on the system?
- Dog Registrations
 - Dog registration information to be included in the system
 - Updating dog registration information in the system
 - Transitioning existing dog registers
- Dog Breeder Registrations
 - Application and approval of dog breeder registrations
 - Conditions of dog breeder registration
 - Exemptions
- Transferring a dog



Transition Pet Shops to Adoption Centres

- Currently, pet shops are not restricted on where they can source dogs.
- Under this proposal, pet shops will only be to source dogs from 'accredited' rescue organisations and shelters.
- Implications:
 - Shelters and rescues will need to be accredited by the State Government.
 - Dogs will need to be assessed for health and behaviour before they are provided to a pet shop to be sold.

What we are seeking **feedback** on

- The accreditation of rescue organisations or shelters
- The assessment of the health and behaviour of dogs
- The period to transition pet shops to adoption centres
- The arrangements that will need to be developed between pet shops and rescue organisations and shelters
- Enforcement, including who will be responsible and how enforcement will be undertaken



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

- Introduce mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing, husbandry, transport and sale.
- These Standards will establish minimum requirements for the health and welfare of dogs used for breeding, and their puppies.

What we are seeking **feedback** on

- The concept of having Standards.
- What should the Standards cover if we do have them?
- Should there be a limit on the number of breeding dogs someone has?
- DPIRD consultation on the content of the Standards will come later – separate consultation process.



Thank you!

