

INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Sandra Blacklidge

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I respectfully ask that serious consideration be given to banning the breeding of companion animals by any breeder who is not registered with Dogs NSW or Cats NSW. Or at the very least that non-registered breeders be restricted to a very low maximum number of breeding females and that Government funding is provided to employ personnel who will have the authority to enter the premises of Council-licensed breeders to check on the conditions in which the animals are being kept and to ensure that the animals are healthy and being properly cared for.

The explosion in the number of so-called "designer dogs" for sale is a prime example of people only interested in breeding for profit. In the overwhelming majority of cases, the breeding animals and the puppies they produce will not have been health-checked. As a consequence, rescue groups and shelters see many of those puppies being abandoned as they get older and start to display serious health issues.

Also, it is those breeders who are not registered with Dogs NSW or Cats NSW who are supplying puppies and kittens to pet shops. Which is yet another reason why pet shops should never be allowed to sell dogs and cats. There is no traceability back to the breeder, should a serious health issue arise after an animal has been sold.

Too often we see where yet another puppy farm has been exposed as a nightmare of filth and inhumane treatment, with the making of as much money as possible being the only thing the breeder cares about.

Large-scale breeding operations continue to churn out so many puppies and kittens, and all the while the Council pounds, other shelters, and rescue groups are overwhelmed with numbers of unwanted animals. Something needs to be done to bring these numbers down, so banning puppy/kitten farms (or at the very least tightening restrictions on them) is vital.