

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

MEDIA RELEASE

Inquiry into puppy farming in New South Wales

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 28 January 2022

Members of the community are invited to contribute to a new parliamentary inquiry established to examine puppy farming in New South Wales.

The Upper House committee is considering the provisions proposed in the Companion Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms) Bill 2021. It will also explore related animal and consumer protection issues, the adequacy of current legal and enforcement frameworks, and other policy matters. As the legislation and policy for companion animals deals with both dogs and cats, each of the issues will also be considered in relation to cats and kittens.

The Chair of the committee, the Hon Mick Veitch MLC said, "This inquiry will consider the policy and legal changes proposed in the Companion Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms) Bill 2021, which seeks to regulate the breeding of companion animals and to provide enforcement powers for the purposes of regulating puppy and/or kitten businesses in the state. This in turn will help inform the Parliament's consideration of the bill."

The committee also aims to understand the animal protection associated with puppy and/or kitten farming, as well as the consumer protection issues associated with the sale of pets from puppy and/or kitten farms online and in pet shops.

"Current legislative and enforcement frameworks set standards for the care, management and sale of companion animals, ranging from housing and security, to breeding and health care," Mr Veitch said. "It is important for the committee to understand different stakeholders' views on these frameworks to ensure they are adequate for the welfare of the dogs and cats used for breeding and for the young they produce, and also fit for purpose for breeders and owners."

Have your say

The committee invites interested individuals and organisations to have their say through the simple online questionnaire at www.bit.ly/puppy-farm-survey or by making a full written submission via the 'submissions tab' on the inquiry webpage.

The website contains further information about the inquiry, including the committee members and terms of reference, and the bill. Both the online questionnaire and submissions portal close on Sunday 6 March 2022.

-ENDS-