

From: John Carr
Sent: Tuesday, 31 May 2022 6:58 PM
To: Puppy Farms <puppyfarms@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: John Carr response to question taken on notice

Hi Talina

here is my response to the question I took on notice ...

Re: Question on Notice on Page 16

The CHAIR: How do you see that being worded in the legislation? Do you have a view?

JOHN CARR: It is probably difficult to put in the legislation but I think it is something that might need to be discussed more.

The CHAIR: I am happy for you to take that on notice if you want to go away and think about it and then get back us.

JOHN CARR: Yes, I will take that on notice

I would like to thank the CHAIR for allowing me to take this question on notice

I have not had any involvement myself with the Puppy Farming Taskforce myself, but I have heard about what they do through various sources, and in particular how they pursue breeders over infractions of the Code of Ethics for Breeding Dogs and Cats.

Having a Taskforce that raids these properties with surprise raids, and talking big on prosecutions brings into question a fair due process. The amount of legislation they cover is overwhelming to most people who breed dogs, and we really need to move away from making everything a person does with a breeding animal a statute. Much of the legislation already written would be better served to breeders as a code of best practise that is not directly enforceable.

Where people are prosecuted it needs to be done fairly and truthfully and only if there is no other option that can be considered. And there needs to be oversight of that prosecution body. Animal matters are extremely difficult to defend fairly as they are strict liability charges, and it can be very difficult and enormously expensive to find a legal representative who is knowledgeable in defending animal matters, or

a vet who will participate as an expert witness in defending charges brought on by an organisation such as the RSPCA.

I would prefer a different tact used by our Authorities to bring breeders to compliance that is more friendly and encouraging to all breeders rather than trying to raise breeding standards through an atmosphere of fear.

And my view is that the current Code of Ethics infringes too far on to our liberties as breeders where everything we do has a statute attached