

**Submission  
No 116**

## **INQUIRY INTO PUPPY FARMING IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Mrs Jennifer Valentine

**Date Received:** 26 February 2022

---

The current framework regulating dog and cat breeders in New South Wales is clearly not sufficient to protect animals. The current rules establish no limits on the number of animals being bred on puppy farms or the total number of litters that an individual animal may be forced to produce. Breeders can simply apply for permission from their local council, which then approves or denies the application on planning and environmental grounds without any consideration for animal welfare. Regulations are needed to address animal welfare and community health issues created by factory-style breeding farms. There have been numerous raids on puppy farms across the state in recent years. The RSPCA seized 79 dogs from a farm in the Central West region of New South Wales last year, and all the animals were admitted to veterinary hospitals. In 2020, eyewitness accounts surfaced from a puppy farm in Inverell, where a 10-month-old boxer named Strawberry had allegedly rotted from the inside out after becoming sick during a pregnancy. The RSPCA raided this facility and another in Wagga Wagga. Each of these raids puts huge stress on the resources of veterinarians, foster carers, the legal system, and the RSPCA.

I urge New South Wales to join Victoria and Western Australia by enacting amendments to restrict breeding and prohibit pet shops from selling companion animals not from rehoming organisations.