

**Submission  
No 155**

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

**Name:** Miss Ann Camer

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Good evening,

My name is Charlotte and I reside in Sydney. Thank you very much for your time in reading my submission. I am writing to support the Companion Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms) Bill 2021.

I was disgusted when I read of the story where RSPCA had discovered the deaths and cruelty that befell a litter of corgis in Sydney. The post specifically advised that 'two puppies were discovered in waste disposal bins of the unit complex' and that some corgis still had the elastic bands tied around their tails. The perpetrator had already docked 11 of the puppies and was planning to sell them the corgis for \$7000 each.

One mother of the litter was severely underweight as her abdominal tuck and ribs were visible. A different mother was overweight and her puppies were crammed in small crate. Some of the corgis also passed away because of sepsis.

RSPCA also seized dogs in a puppy farm in Inverell and Wagga, where based on the video the dogs had no bedding but were all sleeping on top of each other in a corner of a small closet-like room with debris scattered on the floor in the room adjacent to the one they slept in. A person in the video explained that puppies in a small crate also had no water. There was also a photo of a dog with an untreated eye infection and the mother of the litter passed away and received no veterinary care.

In 2018, dog rescuers in the Hunter Valley rescued 19 dogs from a farm. One of them had an untreated broken jaw, another dog needed to have his eye removed and another had a broken penis shaft.

I work with dogs every week and I cannot imagine how people can turn a blind eye on dogs that are suffering, sleeping next to their own faeces, living every minute with an untreated infection such as a broken jaw and not being able to fully experience their socialisation period. Their socialization period is from 6-12/14 weeks of age which is critical for their development and learning which helps shape how they see their future. Dogs that are experiencing neglect and cruelty during this socialisation period could cause behavioural issues in the future that are not of their own doing only to end up in a shelter.

The examples mentioned above of seized dogs from a farm are only the tip of the iceberg. The current legislation doesn't allow for registration requirements and no caps on the number of dogs. There could be more cruelty and death befalling the dogs in puppy farms day in and day out but there is no oversight, and no one can put a stop unless members of the public or RSPCA or rescuers see it happening or hear concerns/suspicious from the public.

Thank you for your time again and I truly hope that this much needed change that the public has been yearning for becomes a reality.