

# Dogs West Member Submission on STOP PUPPY FARMING



Name	CAROL FILBEY
Prefix or Member #	
Breed(s)	SCHNAUZER (STANDARD SIZE)
Phone Number	
Years involved	36
Family involved?	⊠ Yes □ No
My thoughts on: Transition pet shops to adoption centres (can only sell dogs sourced from rescues).	If you are serious about stopping puppy farming then it should be made illegal with the consequences being faced in a court of law. However in my opinion, this will not happen so there should be some way of curtailing the indiscriminate breeding from puppy farms and selling through Pet Shops. Transition of Pet Shops to Adoption Centres via Rescue places will not work successfully. Rescue places often spend lots of money to rehabilitate a dog to acceptable good health and can sometimes spend hours upon hours ensuring it will settle in a new home; any money received for such an onerous amount of time is rarely ever recouped and most people would not pay for an already (mostly ) adult dog.
My thoughts on: Introduce mandatory dog de-sexing.	I do not agree with mandatory de-sexing (you have said 3 – 6 months at your meetings) as this does not give the animale time to mature either in physical or mental being and could be quite derogatory in both respects if done too early. It has been scientifically proved that sterilisation too early can lead to growth and health problems in later life. Also some people do not have their dogs sterilised and it can be detrimental at an old age for a number of reasons i.e. there may be heart problems which prevents anaesthesia being given. Dogs which are exhibited must be entire as the first reason to exhibit is to be judged by Judges, who have studied for years to enable an opinion on "quality to be that of such high standard to be bred from"this in itself can take some time achieve from several judges. Some breeds (my own ) are not be be bred from prior to reaching two years of age.
My thoughts on: Introduce a centralised registration system and Council registration to be a Breeder.	A CRS will only keep tabs on the usual people, those who abide by rules of the land and they should not be the target of the legislation. Anyone who does not wish to be "found" will not microchip their animals and consequently the idea of being able to trace the "vagrants" will fall apart. I, as a Dogswest member since 1981 request that you grant the exemption mentioned at the Consultation nights at their Offices. I should not have to register with Government Legislation (should it pass Parliament and become law) when I am already heavily regulated and monitored. Whilst I support the cause to "stop puppy farming" in its most literal and widely form, I do not support this proposal as such.
My thoughts on : Introduce mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing husbandry, transport and sale.	There should be standards, but none have been provided to pass comment on.  Dogswest already have standards that we must meet. Your opening statement at Dogswest consultation nights were that WA has some of the toughest animal welfare laws in the world and certainly within Australia. Why do you find it necessary to introduce new legislation, why not investigate and enforce legislation that is already in place. I find my biggest concern with the proposed legislation is that those currently abiding by the rules will yet again be the main targets. Those who don't will never do the right thing. Dogs that are either bred or owned by those who don't think they should have to "do their bit" will still



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continue and not microchip, not vaccinate, not sterilise and continue to laugh in the face of authority all the way to the bank leaving the poor unsuspecting buyer to either accept these terms or no purchase!

13/8/2018.

## SUBMISSION FROM

## **CAROL FILBEY & BRENDAN FILBEY**



### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I have had dogs all my life from aged of two (I am now 74) lived on a farm in Tasmania where we kept unsterilized dogs who were well supervised and kept who lived long, productive working lives amidst sheep, cattle, farm horses, pigs and birds.

I have bred AND exhibited STANDARD SCHNAUZERS for over 35 years and am currently the only REGISTERED BREEDER of these dogs in Western Australia. I take great care and consider the responsibility of this breed with the utmost importance, prospective owners are carefully screened and interviewed to ensure that I am doing the best I can possibly do to place them with responsible people who will treat them with the care and responsibility that I do. This breed is very slow to mature consequently are not bred from (nor permitted to be by the Australian National Kennel Council) until at least 2 years of age so CONSEQUENTLY I AM AGAINST MANDATORY STERILISATION BETWEEN THE AGES OF 3 – 6 months. This breed needs to develop into maturity naturally guided by good obedience and love of family and am of the believe which has been scientifically proven that early sterilisation can be detrimental to development and in fact some medical problems can occur because of it. Growth plates do not have the opportunity to develop correctly no do ligaments on larger breeds and behaviour can also be affected.

As I have mentioned in my personal submission filled in on-line, it you wish to "STOP PUPPY FARMING" then make it illegal with the usual consequences of the law should anyone continue to do so.

This breed does not flourish well if left to live its life in and out of kennels so I sometimes place dogs (both male and female) as pups, that I consider are of such quality as to perhaps excel in the exhibition ring and go on to eventually be bred from and continue the breeding lines which I have spent the past 35+ years building up a gene pool from IMPORTED American, Russian, English and European breed lines at great expense. As I am the only breeder in Western Australia I rarely have any competition against my breed so I have found it necessary to travel Interstate to compete and regularly visit Melbourne for Championship shows at Melbourne Royal and the Schnauzer Club of Victoria (Inc). This is a very costly exercise which I am prepared to pay for the preservation of a breed that has a very small and limited gene pool within Australia. I would therefore ask that any of my breed that I have placed in family homes so they can enjoy a "normal" lifestyle should also be exempt from mandatory sterilisation and a link of some sort should be able to identify these dogs as part of my "kennel population". These dogs are all registered with their respective Local Government Council and microchipped so do not break any regulations. These owners who have these dogs should not be required to register as "Breeders" as that is not there intention. I do any breeding that these dogs may be part of.

le 3/8/2018.

I am generally in favour of family pets whether or they be mixed breeds or not be sterilised but consider that each case should be evaluated by their Veterinary Doctor of choice. However the age should also be left to the discretion of the consulting Vet.

As far as a Central Registry is concerned, we hold a Kennel Licence in the City of Canning to keep up to "X" number of dogs and pay a yearly registration fee of \$200.00 which covers our dogs registrations and our kennel licence. We advise the shire each year of the numbers of dogs including microchip numbers we have in our ownership and our personal dogs get recorded on their database.

Should you not maintain this practise we will suddenly have to pay a per dog licence which many of us may find prohibitive, especially as the very nature of having dog kennels usually allows our numbers to fluctuate from time to time depending on new pups being born and elderly dogs still surviving. (My breed has a lifespan which can reach 16-17 years). As a DogsWest member , my dogs are already Registered on their main database which is an Australian National Kennel Control requirement so I don't see any need to re-register on your Central Registry. We understand you will seek to extract that data from Dogswest. I also seek your commitment to maintain the current practice of the bulk registration, particularly as most people in the various kennel zones are dog breeders for the preservation of the pure bred dog. Historically dogs from kennel zones prove to be very little work for Local Government as there would be very few, if any call outs to dogs owned by residents.

#### MINIMUM STANDARDS

Kennel Zoning is unique to Western Australia and is set at the very edge of the boundary between City of Canning (for Canning residents) and Cockburn Shire which in days gone by was almost a "cut lunch and water bag" from anywhere to help assist with noise. We have managed to keep noise to a minimum in our kennels as land is around one acre per residence. It works well and people from interstate often pass comments on how lucky we are to have such Zones. We who lives in these Zones have spent many thousands of dollars to maintain our lifestyle always compliant with Local Government and are subject to inspections from time to time to ensure our kennels are kept in a clean and correct manner with required sizes for kennels and yards. Most of us far exceed these requirements as we like our dogs to live a life of luxury (even in kennels, as such). This ensures the health, happiness and safety of our dogs. Please keep in mind the value of the kennel zones for those of us who provide a valuable service to the community in terms of boarding dog breeding and also other businesses such as grooming, therapies, training and just simply relaxing in safety. There is a great model for dog care here in our establishments where breeders can live, exchange ideas, help each other and boarding kennels can exist with very little impact on others and the environment.

Thankyou for the opportunity to submit my thoughts on your proposed legislation.

Carol Filbey

2/2/2018.