

RESPONSE TO PETITION

TITLE OF PETITION: BAN PUPPY FARMS

We, the undersigned residents of Tasmania, draw to the attention of the House the recent shutdown of Tasmania's largest puppy farm and surrender of 250 labradoodles. Tasmania's laws failed to protect these animals, and urgent law reform is needed to ensure a situation like this can never happen again.

Your petitioners, therefore, request the House to call on the Government to urgently introduce laws that ban puppy farms in Tasmania.

GOVERNMENT POSITION:

The Tasmanian Government is inviting feedback on potential reforms to strengthen dog regulation in Tasmania.

This Government shares the community's desire to improve animal welfare measures as part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future.

We are committed to implementing sensible reforms to prevent over breeding, improve traceability and welfare for all dogs in Tasmania, including companion dogs, greyhounds and working dogs. Other areas identified for potential change include breeding caps, earlier microchipping and standards for housing, sleeping and containment.

The Tasmanian Government has been working closely with RSPCA and TasRacing to develop the proposed reforms and has undertaken targeted consultation with key stakeholders, including TasFarmers and Dogs Tasmania, to understand how any proposed changes would affect people and industries.

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee has also provided advice on ways to strengthen Tasmania's current dog regulation.

The Discussion Paper will provide the basis for important conversations in our community, backed by sound scientific practice and research. It's an important step forward for improving dog welfare in Tasmania and I encourage everyone to have their say to inform any future reforms.

We will introduce any regulatory and legislative changes as soon as possible after feedback has been considered.

I would urge the petitioners concerned about dog welfare to have their say during this process.

Jane Howlett MP
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND WATER

Date: 20.11.2024

