



PATRON:
His Excellency General The Honourable
David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd)
Governor of New South Wales

5 February 2018

The Hon Niall Blair MLC
Minister for Primary Industries
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister

RE: Dogs NSW re-draft of the POCTA Standards and Guidelines

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the "Draft Breeding Standards & Guidelines." Dogs NSW has formulated responses to the proposed revision of the Standards and Guidelines of the Prevention of Cruelty to Act - in consideration of lengthy consultation with our members.

Dogs NSW offers a re-draft (see attached) of the POCTA Standards and Guidelines, which we believe will allow for successful regulation of intensive commercial breeding facilities, whilst not imposing punitive restrictions on small-scale hobby breeders. Particularly, those who as members of Dogs NSW are already regulated and accountable to the Dogs NSW Code of Ethics. This Code of Ethics has now been in place for many years and is stringently enforced by Dogs NSW through our compliance and judicial regime.

Consequently, we assert these members should not be over-burdened by a further and less relevant set of regulations that are only appropriate to Pet Shops and large-scale commercial breeding facilities.

The Dogs NSW response to the proposed changes to the POCTA regulations seeks to retain those elements of the original POCTA Standards and Guidelines that are appropriate. It further seeks to distinguish between hobby breeding and intensive commercial breeding where more than ten breeding bitches or queens are involved.

In conclusion, Dogs NSW supports the Government initiative to ensure the welfare of all puppies bred in NSW and particularly supports the revision of the POCTA Standards and Guidelines to ensure that substandard puppy farms are eliminated, and intensive Commercial Breeding Facilities are regulated appropriately.

We look further to further discussion on how we may assist the Government in their commendable efforts to ensure improved health and welfare for all canines in NSW.

For any further queries in relation to this matter, please contact this Office by email at info@dogsnsw.org.au.

Yours sincerely

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