



Industry Notice

5 October 2018

Information for greyhound breeders

New laws to protect dogs from harm and neglect came into effect on October 1.

The new laws are part of the Government's latest animal welfare reforms and will ensure the essential needs of breeding dogs and their puppies, including working dogs, are met.

Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries Mark Furner said the new mandatory standards would ensure breeders are doing the right thing.

"The new laws promote responsible dog breeding and ensure action can be taken when irresponsible breeding practices are identified," Mr Furner said.

"The Queensland Dog Breeder Register was introduced last year to help locate breeders who put profit before the welfare of dogs."

QRIC Commissioner Ross Barnett said Greyhound racing breeders are covered under the new laws however it is not necessary for them to subscribe to the Queensland Dog Breeder Register as their existing QRIC registration is sufficient.

Mr Furner said these new laws are the next step to ensure dog breeders are aware of, and meet, minimum acceptable animal welfare standards.

"Compliance with the standards will be mandatory, while the guidelines show dog breeders how to achieve the minimum standards or better.

"The new laws recognise that breeding dogs have specific needs and require specialised care.

"They also set minimum standards for care, shelter, socialisation and breeding, and will apply to all dog breeders including those breeding pets, working dogs, hunting dogs or for commercial purposes.

"Breeders should familiarise themselves with the compulsory standards to ensure their breeding practices meet the minimum requirements.

"Those who are already meeting their duty of care obligations under the Animal Care and Protection Act should not be significantly affected by the new standards."

Biosecurity Queensland developed the new Standards and Guidelines in consultation with Dogs Queensland, RSPCA Queensland and the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission.

The new laws amend the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Regulation 2009 to prescribe 'Queensland Racing Integrity Commission' (QRIC) as an approved entity.

If you have any information about serious misconduct in racing, contact Crime Stoppers on their toll free number 1800 333 000 or e-mail reportsomething@qric.qld.gov.au

This reduces the regulatory burden associated with dog breeder registration by recognising an accreditation scheme QRIC already conduct for their licensed greyhound breeders.

These breeders will not be required to register on the state database, but QRIC may be required to give the chief executive information about its accredited breeders.

RSPCA Queensland CEO Mark Townend said the RSPCA believes the new measures will help provide tangible guidelines that the public can refer to and ultimately this will help animal welfare into the future.

Dog breeders who fail to comply with the new laws will be investigated and penalties may apply.

Copies of the Queensland animal welfare standards and guidelines for breeding dogs and their progeny are available online at www.business.qld.gov.au or by phoning the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) on 13 25 23.

Complaints about dog breeders who are failing to meet the mandatory standards can be made to DAF on 13 25 23 or the RSPCA on 1300 264 625.

Animal welfare reports about a dog breeder or the welfare of a dog can also be lodged on the Queensland Dog Breeder Register at <https://qdbr.daf.qld.gov.au/>

QRIC registered breeders can contact; licensing@qric.qld.gov.au for further information.

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