

VICTORIAN LEGISLATIVE REFORM UPDATE

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OUTLINE

1. What has happened in Victoria?
2. When will the reforms take place?
3. How has Victoria implemented the reforms?
4. Who have we talked to?
5. What challenges and opportunities did we face?
6. What's next?



WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN VICTORIA?

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AMENDMENT (PUPPY FARMS AND PET SHOPS) ACT 2017

Key Changes:

- New definitions: Recreational Breeders, Microbreeders
- Fertile female dog limits:
 - 10 with Council approval alone
 - Up to 50 with Ministerial approval
- Pet shops only able to source animals from approved sources
- New applicable organisation and approved obedience training organisation provisions
- New advertising provisions
- New enforcement provisions

New Schemes:

- Foster Carers
- Animal Sale Permits
- Declared Bird Organisations
- Pet Exchange Register



TIMING FOR THE REFORMS

New provision	Commencement date
Transitional breeding provisions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 limit for new businesses • Dog acquisition limitations 	10 April 2018
New schemes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial breeding (11-50) • Animal Sales Permits • Declared bird organisations • Foster Carers 	10 April 2018
Increased transparency of applicable organisations and dog obedience training organisations	10 April 2018
Pet Shop limitations	1 July 2018
Pet Exchange Register	1 July 2019
New advertising provisions	1 July 2019
Final Breeding provisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial breeding approvals 	10 April 2020



IMPLEMENTATION OF REFORMS AND NEW SCHEMES

- Regulation updates
 - 10 April 2018
 - 1 July 2019
- Domestic Animal Business Code of Practice updates
 - Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Businesses
 - Code of Practice for the Operation of Pet Shops
- New schemes:
 - Commercial Dog Breeders
 - Animal Sale Permits
 - Declared Bird Organisations
 - Foster Carers
 - Pet Exchange Register



IMPLEMENTATION

COMMERCIAL DOG BREEDER APPLICATIONS



1. New commercial dog breeder scheme
 - 11-50 relevant fertile females
2. Application process
 - 40 day legislated process
3. Assistance from Animal Welfare Victoria
 - Templates
 - Training
 - Council officers
 - Applicants/breeders
 - Guidance notes

IMPLEMENTATION VARIOUS SCHEMES

1. Animal Sale Permits

- Permits required to sell pets
- Process – including online applications
- Benefits and Challenges



2. Declared Bird Organisations

- New process for caged bird sales in Victoria
- Published in the Government Gazette
- Good uptake of scheme



3. Foster Carer Registration

- Implemented by Council – not compulsory
- New definition of Foster Carers
- Benefits and Challenges



IMPLEMENTATION

PET EXCHANGE REGISTER (PER)

New database to maintain a register of cat and dog transactions

- domestic animal businesses
- registered foster carers,
- recreational breeders,
- micro-breeders
- others who sell or give away dogs or cats in Victoria



- All businesses and individuals selling dogs or cats will be impacted
- Law enforcement officers will have access to all details on the database for investigations
- The public will be able to access limited information regarding advertisers of dogs & cats
- **Outcome:** Improved information sharing between enforcement agencies
- **Outcome:** Improved traceability for dogs and cats.



CONSULTATION



A word cloud featuring various animal welfare organizations and terms. The words are arranged in a horizontal, somewhat circular pattern. The most prominent words are 'BirdOrganisations' on the left and 'CatOrganisations' on the right, both in a light blue font. Other words include 'RescueOrganisations' in light blue, 'DogsVictoria' in dark red, 'Vets' in light blue, 'RSPCA' in green, 'MAV' in orange, 'PIAA' in orange, 'Council' in light pink, 'WelfareGroups' in dark red, 'PetShops' in light pink, 'Pounds' in light pink, 'shelters' in dark red, 'Microchips' in light pink, 'AMOS' in orange, 'CFCN' in light pink, 'Breeders' in light pink, and 'AVA' in dark red.

BirdOrganisations
Breeders
AMOS
Microchips
shelters
CFCN
RSPCA
Vets
MAV
PIAA
DogsVictoria
Council
RescueOrganisations
Pounds
WelfareGroups
PetShops
CatOrganisations
AVA



CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities

1. Updated regulation
2. Increase in data for compliance
3. Greater traceability
4. More opportunities for collaboration
5. More opportunities to rehome previously unwanted animals

Challenges

1. Ensuring consistency with other states and territories
2. Ensuring all affected stakeholders are aware of the changes
3. Significant increase in compliance activity
4. Pet Exchange Register - Large scale IT project

WHERE TO NEXT?

- Final set of regulation change
- Further training and assistance
- Hiring new compliance staff
- Further development of standard operating procedures



QUESTIONS?



www.animalwelfare.vic.gov.au

