## LEGISLATIVE REFORM: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

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# OUTLINE

- 1. Where are we now?
- 2. Legislative changes and Parliamentary Inquiries
  - Puppy Farms and Pet Shops
  - Restricted Breed Dogs
- 3. Codes of Practice
  - Case Study: Greyhounds



# WHERE ARE WE NOW?

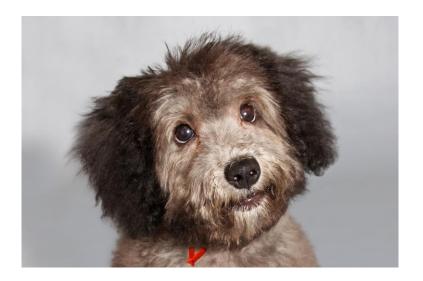
OVERVIEW OF RECENT VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT LEGISLATIVE REFORM

- Two key pieces of legislation in the last two years
  - Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Bill 2016 – Still before Parliament
  - Domestic Animals Amendment (Restricted Breed Dogs) Act 2017 – Came into effect on 30 September 2017
- Two parliamentary inquiries
  - Parliamentary Inquiry into the regulatory and legislative framework relating to Restricted Breed dogs *complete*
  - Parliamentary Inquiry into the Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Bill 2016 - *complete*
- One Code of Practice revision underway

#### LEGISLATIVE REFORM AND PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

DOMESTIC ANIMALS AMENDMENT (PUPPY FARMS AND PET SHOPS) BILL 2016

- Significant legislative reform for domestic animals
  - October 2016: initial Bill introduced into Parliament
  - October 2016: self referral to parliamentary committee
  - December 2016: parliamentary Inquiry report tabled
  - June 2017: Government response
  - Late 2017: anticipated reintroduction to Parliament



## LEGISLATIVE REFORM AND PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

#### PUPPY FARMS AND PET SHOPS LEGISLATION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



# • Opportunities:

- clarify and simplify requirements
- improve legislation
- fresh eyes
- thorough stakeholder engagement
- Challenges:
  - delays
  - uncertainty for industry
  - communication during an evolving policy space

## LEGISLATIVE REFORM AND PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

#### **RESTRICTED BREED DOGS**

- 2015 Parliamentary Inquiry into the legislative and regulatory framework relating to restricted breed dogs
  - Key recommendation to change to *Domestic Animals Act 1994* to allow Pit Bull Terrier registration
- Legislative change occurred on 30 September 2017
- Opportunities:
  - meet community expectations
  - responsible pet ownership
- Challenges
  - broad parliamentary inquiry



# **CODES OF PRACTICE**

# CASE STUDY: GREYHOUND CODE OF PRACTICE

- New Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds
- First domestic animal Code of Practice to be made under the Subordinate Legislation Act
- Department continues to consult with key stakeholders



## **CODES OF PRACTICE**

#### **GREYHOUND CODE OF PRACTICE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**



- Opportunities:
  - improve animal welfare outcomes for greyhounds
  - simplify and clarify requirements
  - stakeholder engagement and site visits
- Challenges:
  - workable outcomes for industry
  - meet community expectations

# **QUESTIONS?**

