

LOCAL GOVERNMENT — STOP PUPPY FARMING CONSULTATION

3435. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Local Government:

I refer to the Stop Puppy Farming Consultation being held by the department, and ask:

- (a) How many pet shops are currently in Western Australia;
- (b) How many pet shops in Western Australia source their dogs from puppy farms; and
- (c) Can you please provide a breakdown of what percentage of dogs in Western Australia are acquired from:
  - (i) Pet shops;
  - (ii) Puppy farms;
  - (iii) Rescue shelters / organisations;
  - (iv) Registered breeders located in Western Australia;
  - (v) Registered breeders located in other States;
  - (vi) Interstate, other than from a registered breeder;
  - (vii) Gumtree/facebook marketplace or other trading websites; and
  - (viii) Other sources (please list the source and percentage)?

**Mr D.A. Templeman replied:**

- (a) Approximately 67 (including the large retailers such as Better Pets N Gardens, City Farmers, Pet Barn and Pet Stock) and approximately 15 sell dogs.
- (b) It is unknown how many pet shops source dogs from ‘puppy farms’.
- (c) (i)–(viii) Little data exists on where people source their dogs in Australia. There is no data that is specific to Western Australia.

A survey undertaken by Animal Medicines Australia in 2016 of 2000 pet owners found the following:

Breeder: 36%  
Friend/Neighbor: 17%  
Animal shelter: 16%  
Pet shop: 14%  
Inherited: 3%  
Found/stray: 2%  
Vet: 1%  
Other: 10%

*(‘Pet Ownership in Australia 2016’ Animal Medicines Australia)*

Based on this study, the Australian National Kennel Council has approximated that 15% of dogs are sourced from registered pedigree breeders.

A University of Adelaide study undertaken in 2014 found that new dog owners sourced their puppies from:

Breeder: 44%  
Online: 29%  
Family/ friends: 8%  
Pet shop: 5%