



## Queensland Dog Breeder Register

### Dog breeder registration for pounds and shelters

Many Queenslanders are concerned about the welfare of dogs and puppies sold and supplied in Queensland, so the Queensland Government has introduced new laws that promote the responsible breeding of dogs.

From **26 May 2017**, all dog breeders must be registered on the Queensland Dog Breeder Register within 28 days of their puppies being born. A dog breeder is a person who has a female dog with a litter.

The laws require all people who advertise, sell or give away their dogs or puppies in Queensland to have a unique identifying number (a supply number) that identifies the registered breeder or origin of that dog.

Implementing compliance with the new laws involves a partnership between Queensland local governments, Biosecurity Queensland and RSPCA Queensland.

**Note:** The new laws only apply to dogs born on or after 26 May 2017. Dogs born before this date are not affected.

Pounds or shelters should always check for a supply number in the microchip information of every dog they rehome. If the dog has a supply number in its microchip information, that supply number must be used whenever the dog is advertised, sold or given away.

Pounds and shelters that rehome dogs must also register online and obtain a breeder identification number to be used as their supply number. This supply number must be used for dogs that they advertise, sell or give away that do not already have a supply number in their microchip information.

Some local governments partner with RSPCA Queensland or other shelter organisations to rehome dogs. In this case, a negotiated business arrangement would determine which organisation provides the supply number for dogs that do not already have one in their microchip information.

#### Q&As

##### What is defined as a pound or shelter?

A **pound** is a place managed by local government for the purpose of impounding animals.

A **shelter** is a place that provides shelter or finds homes for stray, abandoned or unwanted dogs. This may apply to animal welfare organisations and some veterinary practices.



##### Does a pound or shelter have to register as a breeder for dogs that are collected roaming and not claimed?

Pounds and shelters will need to register as a breeder and use their supply number if/when they advertise, sell or give away dogs that **do not** already have a supply number in their microchip information.

##### If a local government provides dogs to a shelter for rehoming, does the local government need a supply number?

Local governments do not need to provide a supply number when sending a dog to a shelter to be rehomed. The shelter will use its own supply number when rehoming the dog.

Local governments and shelters should always check for a supply number in the microchip information of the dog.

## **What type of supply number should a pound or shelter use?**

Pounds and shelters should apply for a breeder identification number on the Queensland Dog Breeder Register. This is their supply number and can be used for all dogs they rehome that **do not** already have a supply number in their microchip information.

## **If a dog comes into a pound without a supply number, who is in breach of the new laws?**

If the dog was born on or after 26 May 2017, the breeder is in breach of the laws. The breeder breaches the law if they do not register within 28 days of the dog being born, and advertise, sell or give away the dog without providing a supply number and including the supply number in the dog's mandatory microchip information.

## **Does a person breach the law if they find a dog on the street or in their yard and they want to give it to a pound or shelter?**

No. A person does not breach the law if they find a dog and give that dog to a pound or shelter to be rehomed.

## **When a dog is released from a pound or shelter to a person claiming to be its owner or to the person responsible for the dog, is the pound or shelter deemed to be a 'supplier' for the purpose of these new laws?**

No. Returning an impounded dog to a person claiming to be its owner or responsible person would not be considered as supplying the dog to that person, and is not covered by the new laws.

## **Will microchip registers make the supply number and breeder identification available when the dog's microchip is checked?**

Yes. It is mandatory to include the supply number (for dogs born on or after 26 May 2017) in the dog's microchip information. This information will be available from the registry.

## **Can a local government make it a requirement for a person registering a new dog to provide a supply number as part of their dog's registration information?**

Yes. The additional information required by local governments to register a dog is at the discretion of the relevant local government.

## **Will pounds and shelters be able to recover costs for surrendered dogs and puppies?**

Yes. The new provisions will not affect how local governments or shelters recover costs for services provided.

## **Will pounds and shelters need to renew their supply number every 12 months?**

Yes. The registration period is for 12 months.

## **Will this apply to dogs born before 26 May 2017?**

No. The new laws only apply to dogs born on or after 26 May 2017. The laws cannot be applied retrospectively. However, supply numbers can be provided for older dogs.

## **More information**

For more information, visit the Biosecurity Queensland website at [www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au](http://www.biosecurity.qld.gov.au) or call **13 25 23**.

To confirm a supply number or report concerns, visit the Queensland Dog Breeder Register website at [qdbbr.daf.qld.gov.au](http://qdbbr.daf.qld.gov.au).

