



Parliamentary Inquiry into restricted dog breed legislation

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- The Home partners with Councils to assist with the delivery of BSL and the Domestic Animals Act.

As the largest animal shelter in Victoria, the Home aims to promote the welfare of dogs and cats in the community by:

- Reuniting owner with lost animals.
- Promoting responsible pet ownership with a focus on identification.
- Appropriate care and management of unclaimed animals with emphasis on animal welfare and community safety.



The Home supports 'deed not breed'

- Dogs of any breed can be involved in bites incidents.
- Breed legislation can have the effect of driving pit bull type dogs underground.
- Difficultly around determination of breed.
- There is a risk the current framework has led to dogs not being identified and registered as restricted breed.



Welfare of dogs during extended impoundment

- Length of time in the pound
- Experience and attitudes of owners
- Detrimental effect on animals
- Cost to councils
- Effect on staff



Supports the AVA submission Dangerous Dogs – A Sensible Solution

- This provides an evidence based review of dog aggression and bite behaviour.
- Provides for a methodical approach to dealing with dogs involved in bite incidents.
- Places accountability upon the owner.
- Shared data between chip registries and local councils.
- Mandatory de-sexing.



Community Education and Engagement

- Community education is key in ensuring reduction in the number of dog bites long term.
 - Currently not a concerted approach
 - Offered by multiple agencies
- Government policy to include in curriculum from kindergarten onwards.
- Improved integration of animal management and animal welfare systems

