

PUPPY FARMING — WORKING DOGS

602. Hon COLIN TINCKNELL to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Local Government:

- (1) Does the minister believe that farmers in Western Australia should have exemptions and/or special provisions for working dogs under the proposed puppy farming legislation, similar to the Victorian legislation?
- (2) How many prosecutions have there been in WA in the last five years against dog breeders who have committed acts of cruelty that the proposed legislation will seek to reduce?
- (3) How many of these instances were able to avoid prosecution due to the inadequacies of current legislation?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I am going to see whether in respect of the second part of the member's question I can get some more information for him, but I will give him what I have to date.

- (1) Submissions closed on 3 August 2018, following a three-month consultation period. This matter is currently under consideration.
- (2)–(3) Cruelty against animals is an offence under the Animal Welfare Act 2002. The Minister for Agriculture and Food is responsible for that legislation, so between us we will have a conversation and I will see whether we can get the member the information about the prosecutions.