

How you can help?

When choosing a new puppy, demand the highest welfare standards from breeders. Research your puppy and breeder thoroughly.

Buy a puppy only from their breeder, never from a third party.

Use the **AWF/RSPCA Puppy Contract**.



Only buy a puppy if you can see him/her with the mother, siblings and if possible the father. This will help to ensure that the puppies have been bred on site and that the adult breeding dogs are treated well. It will also indicate the parents' temperament and health.

Always check which health tests are appropriate for a breed (or cross breed) before visiting the breeder. Ask to see the health test certificates.

Never purchase a puppy to rescue him/her from bad conditions. Sadly, this only encourages bad breeders to continue breeding.

Report the breeder to the appropriate local licensing authority if standards of welfare are poor.

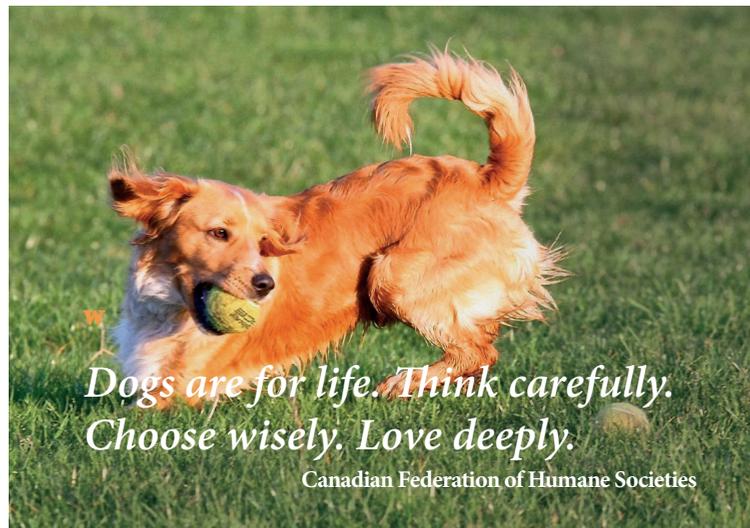
Never buy a puppy from someone who suggests delivery or meeting you halfway. This is often a cover for poor welfare at the breeding premises

In the case of a Kennel Club registered puppy, inform the breeder, breed club and Kennel Club if your dog develops a breed-related genetic disease.



Please consider a small donation to DBRG Charitable Trust via our website. This will enable us to continue our work to improve dog breeding standards.

Thank you!



*Dogs are for life. Think carefully.
Choose wisely. Love deeply.*

Canadian Federation of Humane Societies

United Kingdom Animal Welfare Legislation

The Animal Welfare Act 2006 lists an animal's needs. All owners must ensure that the following needs of their dog are met:

- The need for a suitable environment
- The need for a suitable diet
- The need to be able to exhibit normal behaviour
- Any need a dog has to be housed with, or apart from, other animals
- The need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease

Appropriately authorised officers can enforce the Animal Welfare legislation.

The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) Regulations 2018 Schedule 6 contains specific conditions for the breeding of dogs

Lucy's Law (Ban on the Third Party Sale of Puppies and Kittens) 2020

www.dbrg.uk

DBRG 
Dog Breeding Reform Group

A Voice for Dogs



**Promoting the highest standards of
dog breeding in the UK**

Email: info@dbrg.uk

  @DogBRG

Registered Charitable Trust No. 1176163

www.dbrg.uk

What are the problems?



Dog breeding in the UK is poorly regulated

Many breeders pay little regard to the welfare needs of dogs used for breeding or their puppies

Dogs are often bred without prior testing for genetic diseases which may be passed on to their puppies

Unsound dogs may be bred with exaggerated physical features which compromise their health, welfare and dignity

Puppies are marketed and sold irresponsibly on-line

Buying a puppy is often done with insufficient research

Buyers sometimes fail to follow the basic rule of seeing the puppy with its mother and siblings

Buyers may choose a type of dog because of their perceived 'cuteness' unaware that some physical features are harmful to a dog and can cause long term suffering

Buyers sometimes choose a breed which is unsuited to their location, home environment and lifestyle

Some dog owners are unaware of the lifetime financial costs of caring for a dog, especially the cost of veterinary treatment

Many dog owners are unaware of the **Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-practice-for-the-welfare-of-dogs>



Our Objectives

The enactment of legislation to properly protect dogs

Raise public awareness of the health and welfare problems associated with dog breeding

An end to the practice of 'puppy farming'

Inclusion of animal welfare education within the school curriculum

Widespread use of the DBRG **Standard for Dog Breeding and AWF RSPCA Puppy Contract**

Appropriate health screening required before dogs are selected for breeding

Only dogs which are free from serious genetic diseases may be used for breeding. Care must also be taken to maintain genetic diversity

Breeders who breed even one or two litters per year, should be **registered** with the local authority. All advertisements for the sale of puppies must be accompanied by the **registration number**

For licensed breeders all advertisements for the sale of puppies must be accompanied by a **licence number**

Further statutory regulations to effectively protect progeny from inherited diseases and harmful physical traits

Appropriate training for local authority inspectors in breed-related inherited health problems

A reduction in permitted number of litters per breeding bitch for licensed breeders to four litters

A Code of Practice for Dog Breeding



How we aim to achieve those Objectives

Provide a **Standard for Dog Breeding**

Provide a **Guide to Finding the Right Dog**

Promote the **AWF RSPCA Puppy Contract**

Promote the **BVA/KC Canine Health Schemes**

Organise regular **Canine Health Symposiums**

Provide information on breed-related genetic health and welfare on the **Dog Breed Health** website:

<http://www.dogbreedhealth.com/>

Promote the **Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs and Code of Practice for Dog Breeding**

Promote the **Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) Regulations 2018** and accompanying **Guidance Notes for Dog Breeding**

Collaborate with other welfare bodies, respond to official consultations, advise politicians

More information about breed health

VetCompass Infographics – Disease prevalence data for UK pet dogs:

www.rvc.ac.uk/vetcompass/learn-zone/infographics/canine

Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) information on breed health:

<http://www.ufaw.org>.

Cambridge Vet School Inherited Diseases in Dogs (IDID):

www.vet.cam.ac.uk/idid

