

How you can help?

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

Use the **AWF/RSPCA
Puppy Contract**



Only buy a puppy if you can see it with its mother, its siblings and if possible its 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 screening certificates.

Do not buy a puppy from a third party such as a dealer or pet shop. Responsible breeders will not supply these outlets.

Never purchase a puppy to rescue it from bad conditions. Sadly, this only encourages bad breeders and sellers to expand their business.

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

Never buy a puppy from someone who suggests delivering it to you 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.



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 Acts 2006 (Northern Ireland 2011)

The Animal Welfare Acts list 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

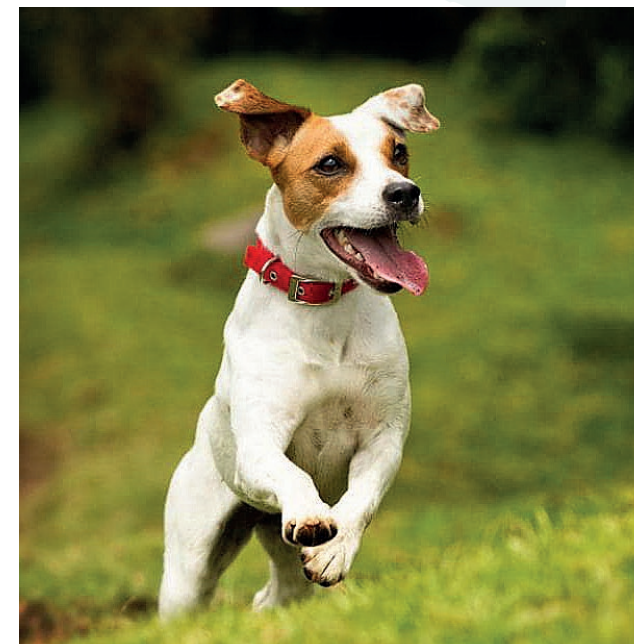
Local authorities, the police and RSPCA have power to enforce the Animal Welfare Acts.

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

The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) Regulations 2018 Guidance notes for conditions for breeding dogs

DBRG 
Dog Breeding Reform Group

**Promoting the breeding
of sound, healthy dogs**



With greater knowledge we can
improve dog breeding in the UK

Email: info@dogbreedingreformgroup.uk



@DogBRG

Registered Charitable Trust No. 1176163

www.dogbreedingreformgroup.uk

www.dogbreedingreformgroup.uk

What are the problems?



Dog breeding in the UK is a poorly regulated industry

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 and through pet shops and dealers. (A Ban on the Third Party Sale of Puppies has been promised by government)

Buying a puppy is often done with little previous research

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

Buyers may choose a type of dog because of its 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



Our Objectives

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 within the school curriculum

A ban on the sale of puppies by anyone other than the breeder

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 only breed one or two litters per year, should be **registered** with the local authority

Further statutory regulations under the **Animal Welfare Act 2006**, to effectively protect progeny from inherited diseases and harmful physical traits

A Code of Practice for Dog Breeding



How we aim to achieve those Objectives

Provide the **Standard for Dog Breeding** on the DBRG website

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

Promote the **AWF RSPCA Puppy Contract**

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

Organise **Canine Health Symposiums**

Provide information on breed-related genetic health and welfare on the DogBreedHealth website: www.dogbreedhealth.com

Promote the **Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs**

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

Respond to official consultations and advise MPs, DEFRA, and Government Ministers

Where to find more information about dog 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: www.ufaw.org.uk/dogs/dogs

