



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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**WRITTEN STATEMENT  
BY  
THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

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**TITLE**        **Animal Welfare (Breeding of Dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2013**

**DATE**        **5<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

**BY**            **Alun Davies, Minister for Natural Resources and Food**

I have asked for the draft Animal Welfare (Breeding of Dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2013, as laid on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013, to be withdrawn with immediate effect.

My objective is to improve the welfare of dogs in licensed breeding establishments to ensure that the welfare of puppies born on the premises is optimised and that those puppies are properly developed and socialised. In order to achieve this I am determined that our statutory framework is underpinned by efficient and enforceable regulations.

It has been brought to my attention that there is a lack of clarity within the current regulations regarding a minimum staff: dog ratio. In order that the proper legal processes are followed and to ensure my policy intentions are clear, I have taken the decision to withdraw the regulations at this time.

I have asked my officials to undertake a further short consultation over the summer months. Meetings will be held with key stakeholders to ensure we have the policy intent firmly clarified and I intend bringing revised draft regulations and a supporting impact assessment back to the National Assembly in the Autumn.

I will ensure that we have a robust and effective statutory framework in place that will improve dog welfare in these establishments. I am confident that there will be minimal disruption and look forward to introducing this forward thinking legislation later this year.