

Welsh Dogs Advisory Group

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Mr Bryan Thomas,
Director
Director of Environmental Services and Housing
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion,
Penmorfa,
Aberaeron,
Ceredigion.
SA46 0PA

6th October 2011

Dear Mr Thomas

We are a group of ethical dog breeders living in Wales who are concerned that legislation is not being enforced with regard to so called unlicensed 'puppy farms' and that there may be some divergence in the criteria for licensing puppy farm operations.

Our aims are:

- 1) To act as a conduit between responsible dog owners in Wales and the Welsh Assembly.
- 2) To work to improve the welfare of dogs in Wales
- 3) To provide expertise to any relevant body on dog related matters
- 4) To promote responsible dog ownership through education.
- 5) To help protect the rights of people and their dogs in legitimate leisure activities
- 6) To work with authorities to ensure legislation is practical, makes best use of resources and is capable of achieving its aims.

We have noticed that there is no uniform approach to licensing within the various local authorities in Wales. As can be seen from the above one of our aims #6 is "To work with authorities to ensure legislation is practical, makes best use of resources and is capable of achieving its aims."

To further our understanding of the licensing procedures and other criteria taken into consideration by your department for approving commercial dog breeders and, the enforcement processes and procedures, we would be grateful if your department could provide us with that relevant information.

If you need clarification on any point please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Richardson', written in a cursive style.

Colin Richardson