TASMANIA

_____

# DOG CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL 2026

_____

## CONTENTS


**PART 1 – PRELIMINARY**

1. Short title
2. Commencement

**PART 2 – DOG CONTROL ACT 2000 AMENDED**

3. Principal Act
4. Section 15A amended (Implanting of microchips)
5. Section 50AA inserted
   50AA. Interpretation
6. Section 50 amended (Keeping several dogs)
7. Section 50A inserted
   50A. Keeping fertile bitches
8. Section 51 amended (Application for licences)
9. Section 53 amended (Consideration of application)
10. Section 54 amended (Refusing application)
11. Section 55 amended (Granting application)
12. Section 59 amended (Appeals in respect of licence)
13. Section 78A inserted
    78A. Disclosure and use of personal information
14. Section 84A inserted
    84A. Savings provision on commencement of section 4 of the *Dog Control Amendment Act 2026*

**PART 3 – DOG CONTROL REGULATIONS 2021 AMENDED**

15. Principal Regulations

16. Schedule 1 amended (Offences)

**PART 4 – REPEAL OF ACT**

17. Repeal of Act

# DOG CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL 2026

*(Brought in by the Minister for Primary Industries and Water, the Honourable Gavin Bruce Pearce)*

## A BILL FOR

**An Act to amend the *Dog Control Act 2000***

Be it enacted by Her Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:

## PART 1 – PRELIMINARY

### 1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Dog Control Amendment Act 2026*.

### 2. Commencement

The provisions of this Act commence on a day or days to be proclaimed.

## PART 2 – DOG CONTROL ACT 2000 AMENDED

### 3. Principal Act

In this Part, the *Dog Control Act 2000** is referred to as the Principal Act.

### 4. Section 15A amended (Implanting of microchips)

Section 15A(1) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "6 months" and substituting "12 weeks".

### 5. Section 50AA inserted

Before section 50 of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Division 7:

#### 50AA. Interpretation

In this Division –

***fertile bitches***, in respect of a bitch, means a bitch that is –

(a) over the age of 6 months; and

(b) not desexed.

### 6. Section 50 amended (Keeping several dogs)

Section 50 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

*No. 102 of 2000

(a) by omitting from the penalty under subsection (1) "5" and substituting "20";

(b) by omitting from subsection (2)(b) "a limited, or temporary, period" and substituting "a period, not exceeding 3 months,".

## 7. Section 50A inserted

After section 50 of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Division 7:

### 50A. Keeping fertile bitches

(1) A person must not keep, or allow to be kept, on any premises, more than 10 fertile bitches at any one time.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 20 penalty units.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to the following:

(a) a pound;

(b) a prescribed person, place or facility.

## 8. Section 51 amended (Application for licences)

Section 51 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

(2) An application for a licence is to –

(a) be in the approved form; and

(b) specify the total number of dogs to which the application relates; and

(c) of the total number of dogs referred to in paragraph (b), specify how many (if any) of those dogs are fertile bitches; and

(d) be accompanied by the appropriate fee.

**9. Section 53 amended (Consideration of application)**

Section 53 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

(2) For the purposes of considering an application for a licence, a general manager is to –

(a) take into account any objections received in respect of the application; and

(b) if the application for a licence is for the purposes of keeping 3 or more fertile bitches –

(i) consult with the Secretary of the department responsible for the administration of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*

in respect of that application; and

(ii) take into account any recommendations or advice received from the Secretary for the purposes of the consultation.

## 10. Section 54 amended (Refusing application)

Section 54 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

(2) A general manager is to refuse to grant an application for a licence if –

(a) the general manager is not satisfied that the requirements of section 55(1) are likely to be met; or

(b) the Secretary of the department responsible for the administration of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993* recommends that the application for a licence not be granted.

## 11. Section 55 amended (Granting application)

Section 55(1) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting paragraph (c) and substituting the following paragraph:

(c) requirements under the following are likely to be satisfied:

(i) the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*, as it relates to the welfare, management and keeping of dogs;

(ii) laws relating to public health and environmental protection.

## 12. Section 59 amended (Appeals in respect of licence)

Section 59 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after subsection (1) the following subsection:

(1A) Despite subsection (1), no right of review lies under that subsection against a decision by a general manager to refuse an application for a licence, or an application to renew a licence, in respect of more than 10 fertile bitches.

## 13. Section 78A inserted

After section 78 of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Part 5:

### 78A. Disclosure and use of personal information

(1) In this section –

***personal information*** has the same meaning as in the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*.

(2) A general manager may disclose personal information in respect of the owner or person in charge of a registered dog to –

(a) the Secretary of the department responsible for the administration of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*; or

(b) a person approved by the Secretary of the department responsible for the administration of the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*.

(3) The general manager may only disclose personal information under subsection (2) if the disclosure is made for one or more of the following purposes:

(a) for the purposes of administering the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*;

(b) for the purposes of promoting or investigating the welfare of the dog;

(c) for the purposes of enabling compliance with, or enforcement of, a law;

(d) for a prescribed purpose.

(4) A person to whom personal information is disclosed under subsection (2) may only collect and use the personal

information for a purpose specified in subsection (3).

## 14. Section 84A inserted

After section 84 of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted in Part 5:

### 84A. Savings provision on commencement of section 4 of the *Dog Control Amendment Act 2026*

(1) In this section –

***commencement day*** means the day on which section 15A(1), as amended by section 4 of the *Dog Control Amendment Act 2026*, commenced.

(2) On and from the commencement day, section 15A(1), as in force immediately before the commencement day, applies to the owner of a dog that was born before the commencement day.

## PART 3 – DOG CONTROL REGULATIONS 2021 AMENDED

### 15. Principal Regulations

In this Part, the *Dog Control Regulations 2021** are referred to as the Principal Regulations.

### 16. Schedule 1 amended (Offences)

Schedule 1 to the Principal Regulations is amended by omitting item 48 and substituting:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 48. | 50(1) | 4 |
| 48A. | 50A(1) | 4 |

*S.R. 2021, No. 34

## PART 4 – REPEAL OF ACT

### 17. Repeal of Act

This Act is repealed on the first anniversary of the day on which the last uncommenced provision of this Act commenced.