Order of the Day

3. CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL AMENDMENTS

3.1. Dogs (Amendment) Bill 2016 – Council amendments considered and approved

Mr Boot to move.

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The President: Item 3, Consideration of Council Amendments, and I call on Mr Boot to move in relation to the Dogs (Amendment) Bill 2016.

Mr Boot: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I can confirm that the Department is content with the two amendments and I believe they bring greater clarity and certainty to the Bill as constructed.

The amendment to clause 5 clarifies that any stray dog is considered such if it is outside the curtilage of the keeper's dwelling house; not just the dwelling house, as was the original clause. It was identified that this is particularly important in relation to open-plan estates, and addresses that particular issue.

In relation to clause 8, it was identified that the requirement to have a dog microchipped within 24 hours if that dog had been gifted or sold was too onerous. The extension of that period to 72 hours will address this issue where a weekend or bank holiday falls.

I would like to put on record the Department's appreciation to both Mr Coleman and Mr Crookall from the Legislative Council, who sought the amendments before the House today which provide the necessary clarification and certainty; and to Mr Cretney, Member of the Department, for steering the Bill through the Legislative Council.

Mr Speaker, I beg to move that the amendments are approved.

The Speaker: Hon. Member for Garff, Mr Perkins.

Mr Perkins: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I beg to second and reserve my remarks.

The Speaker: In which case, Hon. Members, the motion is that the amendments to the Dogs (Amendment) Bill 2016 be agreed. Those in favour, please say aye; those against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.