

**From:** Carrie and Guy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 June 2019 7:32 PM  
**To:** dog.standards@dpird.wa.gov.au  
**Subject:** Changes to e-collar and prong use

Dear Sir, Madam,

I am writing in regards to the proposed changes to legislation on the use of prong collars and e collars for dogs in WA.

We have a large rescue dog, who was in a rescue centre for a year before we had him, with little exposure to new people, surroundings, other dogs etc. He had very little boundaries or training when we first got him and all he wanted to do was run off after the wildlife we have here in the hills, and co-habit with us, rather than how he is now, as part of the family.

We called a trainer who introduced us to the e collar which helped immensely to establish and to cement his recall which was essential for us here. We rarely need to use the collar now for recall as he has been trained with it so well, but he wears it every day as a back up, since we all have bad days and i want complete control of my dog in every situation. It is essentially an invisible collar which when used as it is supposed to, is an amazing aid in training a dog for all sorts of situations. Our dog was unmanageable before we used these tools, and we really had very little control over him looking back. Now I have an obedient, happy, loyal and fun loving dog for us and our 2 young children. These tools helped him understand where this boundaries were, and as a result he is a happier, more rounded personality. He almost needs that training and the collar reinforcement, so he knows where he stands.

I firmly believe in balanced training, which involves us feeding our dog his usual food by hand when he is working for it on a walk etc, and using the e collar/prong to guide him out of unwanted behaviour. There is no way a vibrant, energetic, healthy dog like ours is going to be interested in a piece of food over the chase he could get from a kangaroo, but with the e collar, he knows there are boundaries of what he is allowed to do.

I have tested these tools on myself and can honestly say I think more harm can be done from other types of harness, if a dog is to react unfavourably to something.

I am wholeheartedly against these changes and hope for the sake of many dogs like ours, that these changes on the use of these training tools (ecollar and prong collar) are not implemented.

Kind regards

Carole and Guy Anderson

