

Common Cause to Reduce Respiratory Problems

Original link: <http://www.skk.se/sv/nyheter/2015/8/Gemensam-sak-for-att-minska-andningsproblem/>

Aug. 28, 2015 In late July 2015 an open letter, signed by more than 500 veterinarians, was sent to the Swedish Kennel Club (SKK), and the Swedish Board of Agriculture. In the letter the veterinarians are expressing their concern about the health of many brachycephalic dogs in Sweden.

There has now been a first meeting regarding the issue. The meeting was attended by representatives for the SKK, the Swedish Board of Agriculture, as well as for the veterinarians having signed the open letter. The meeting was constructive and held in a very positive spirit. All parties are in full agreement on the fundamental issues, in brief, that breathing difficulty is a very serious animal welfare problem involving a great suffering for the individuals affected and that vigorous action must be taken to rectify these problems.

The meeting identified a number of issues that will be further processed in separate working groups. The issues that these working groups will work with are: information-gathering and compiling material regarding the presence of respiratory problems, registration/reporting obligations of certain diagnoses/procedures, puppy health certificates with more focus on exterior exaggerations, health certificates for dogs in breeding, consumer information and education.

The issue will be further discussed at the previously planned collaboration session between the SKK, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), the Swedish Board of Agriculture, the Swedish Veterinary Association and the Swedish Society of Veterinary Medicine on September 10.

Later this fall, participants in today's meeting are to meet again to follow up on the work.