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**Date:** 22 March 2022

Dear Consultee

## Consultation on cat and dog microchipping legislation in England

I am writing to invite your views on proposals for changes to the current microchipping legislation for dogs, which will also apply to cats once compulsory cat microchipping is introduced.

The following documents may be found on GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/cat-and-dog-microchipping-consultation>

- consultation letter
- consultation document
- privacy notice

We welcome your views and comments on the proposals.

## Responses

To submit your consultation response, please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space at: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/companion-animal-welfare-and-sentience/consultation-on-cat-and-dog-microchipping-leg>

(Citizen Space is an on-line consultation tool).

Alternatively, please post your response to:

Consultation Coordinator  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Foss House  
Kings Pool

1 to 2 Peasholme Green  
York  
YO1 7PX

Or email: [caws.consultations@defra.gov.uk](mailto:caws.consultations@defra.gov.uk)

Responses should be received by **17 May 2022**.

## Consultation criteria

This consultation will be conducted in line with the Cabinet Office Consultations Principles. These can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>.

This consultation is seeking views on potential changes to the legislative requirements for statutory microchipping of dogs in England. These requirements will also apply to cats when compulsory cat microchipping is introduced.

This consultation will remain open for 8 weeks.

A summary of responses to this consultation will be published on the government website at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) within 12 weeks of the consultation closing. The summary will include a list of organisations that responded but not personal names, addresses or other contact details.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to:

Consultation Coordinator  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Foss House  
Kings Pool  
1 to 2 Peasholme Green  
York  
YO1 7PX

Or email: [consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk)

## Confidentiality and data protection

Please find the Consultations Privacy Notice uploaded alongside this consultation.

This consultation document and consultation process have been planned to adhere to the Consultation Principles issued by the Cabinet Office.

Representative groups are asked to give a summary of the people and organisations they represent and where relevant who else they have consulted in reaching their conclusions when they respond.

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal data, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes. These are primarily the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA).

We have obligations, mainly under the EIRs, FOIA and DPA, to disclose information to particular recipients or to the public in certain circumstances.

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, as a public authority, the Department is bound by the Freedom of Information Act and may therefore be obliged to disclose all or some of the information you provide.

In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential.

If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please address them to:

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Or email: [consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk)

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, please contact us as above.

Yours faithfully

**Companion Animal Welfare Team**  
**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**