

Rebecca Evans AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Ffermio a Bwyd
Deputy Minister for Farming and Food



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-555
Ein cyf/Our ref RE/05117/14

William Powell AM
Chair Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

10 November 2014

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter enclosed with your email of the 14th October on a petition by Sovereign Wales and ChipMeNot, about their concerns on adverse reactions by dogs to being microchipped.

The policy intention to require microchipping (implantation of a transponder device) of dogs is to improve the welfare of animals through more responsible ownership. Having a reliable method of identifying dogs and a robust system for reunification if a dog becomes separated from its owner should contribute significantly to improving the welfare of dogs.

There are additional benefits in identification beyond the benefit of reunification. For example, identification by a reliable method will contribute to the traceability of dogs produced out of commercial breeding kennels, and facilitate the identification of owners of dogs where powers under the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 have to be used.

While evidence exists that use of transponders in some laboratory animals (mice) has led to tumour formation, the evidence for this in dogs is very limited. Millions of dogs have been microchipped without issue.

Dog owners are still free to use a tag on their dog's collar, and I would encourage them to do so.

Yours,
Rebecca

Rebecca Evans AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Ffermio a Bwyd
Deputy Minister for Farming and Food

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Printed on 100% recycled paper