



**Wigan<sup>♥</sup>  
Council**

## Request

Re: Microchipping of Cats and Dogs (England) Regulations 2023 made under The Animal Welfare Act 2006. The Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs may in writing authorise a local authority to enforce the regulations referred to above which were made under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

Can you please tell me if Wigan Council has authorised any of its departments or officers to carry out investigations and potentially bring prosecutions for alleged breaches of these regulation.

If so what is the procedure for bringing alleged breaches under these regulations to the Council's attention and to which department should the matter be referred please?

## Response

Wigan Council has authorised the Environmental Education & Enforcement Team to carry out investigations and potential prosecution for breaches of microchipping legislation.

With regards to dogs, this is carried out as part of our stray dog collections. If a dog is identified as not being microchipped, our kennel provider will forward details relating to the dog and the person who claimed the dog. The owner will then be issued with a notice by letter in most circumstances. If the notice is not complied with, an enforcement officer will visit the owner to discuss further actions. They may issue a further notice at this point, prior to seeking legal prosecution.

We are currently working to develop a process for the newer addition of cats to this legislation.