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Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy
Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-398
Ein cyf/Our ref JG/06451/12

William Powell AM

Chair Petition's committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

12 July 2012

Dear William,

Thank you for your letter following receipt of petition P-04-398, about the creation of an Animal Offenders Register.

This is not something that the Welsh Government has considered; discussions would need to take place with the police.

The Welsh Government is currently consulting on principles regarding the compulsory microchipping of all dogs in Wales and further, the draft Animal Welfare (Breeding of Dogs) (Wales) Regulations 2012 will require breeders to chip their animals and register as the first owner of any puppy that they breed; this will provide traceability for enforcement authorities and could help to identify 'repeat offenders'.

We, as well as many welfare organisations, strongly recommend that buyers, where possible, only purchase puppies direct from the breeder's premises. That way they can see the conditions their potential puppy was bred in, and its mother. This advice is reflected in the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs, Section 5.4 (Obtaining a Dog), which was published in November 2008.

Further Codes of Practice have been published for cats, equines, rabbits and livestock, providing guidance to owners and keepers of animals about how to meet their welfare needs.

Best wishes,

John Griffiths AC / AM
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Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development

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

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