

**FROM: ChipMeNot UK (www.chipmenot.org.uk)**  
**Press Release 24th April 2012**  
**Attn: News Desks**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

– BEGINS –

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **ANTI DOG CHIP CAMPAIGN GROUP SLAMS GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS**

Chip Me Not UK – the campaign against compulsory microchipping today slammed the Westminster Government's proposal to compulsorily chip all puppies [1].

Charlie Williams of ChipMeNot said:

“Introducing compulsory chipping of dogs will not address any issues relating to dangerous dogs. There is already a law in place (the Control of Dogs Order 1992 [2]) that requires all dogs to wear a collar and tag containing contact details of the owner. Non-compliance with this law already carries a fine of up to £5,000. Anyone that can read can read a tag – microchips require an expensive reader. Collar tags do not fail, migrate around the body or cause medical complications, whereas chips do. Responsible ownership cannot be legislated into existence. Compulsory chipping would simply be a burden on law abiding owners. Dogs bred by the people that such measures supposedly aim to target would not be chipped and enforcement of the law would be costly and ineffective.”

ChipMeNot have concerns about the health risks of chipping and point out that compulsory chipping would grant those that chip dogs immunity from prosecution under section 4(3)(b) of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 [3].

ChipMeNot believe that rather than waste money on impossible to maintain private databases of owners, money should be used on education and directly targeting irresponsible owners.

ChipMeNot UK have laid out their concerns in a Dog Manifesto that can be downloaded at :  
<http://www.chipmenot.org.uk/documents/DOGmanifesto.pdf>

As Barbara Haywood writes on the Dog Politics website:

“If microchips conjure images of tearful and happy reunions - then you are the willing victim of a very successful marketing campaign - one that plays on your fears.”

For further information, contact Charlie Williams of ChipMeNot UK at  
[press@ChipMeNot.org.uk](mailto:press@ChipMeNot.org.uk)

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#### **References:**

[1] Tackling Irresponsible Dog Ownership - Written Statement 23/4/12  
<http://www.theyworkforyou.com/wms/?id=2012-04-23a.30WS.7>

[2] The Control of Dogs Order 1992  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1992/901/made>

[3] Section 4 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/45/section/4>