



**Andrew Rosindell M.P.**

*Member of Parliament for Romford*

*House of Commons, LONDON, SW1A 0AA*

*Telephone: 020 7219 8475 Romford Office: 01708 766700*

*e-mail: [andrew.rosindell.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:andrew.rosindell.mp@parliament.uk)*

**The Rt. Hon. Lord Zac Goldsmith**

Minister of State  
Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
2 Marsham Street  
LONDON  
SW1P 4DF

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Dear Zac**

**Making Cat Microchipping Compulsory**

I am getting in touch regarding the consultation on cat and dog microchipping and scanning, launched on 23 December 2020.

The consultation includes proposals to make microchipping compulsory for owned cats, which I wholeheartedly agree with and I know follows up on one of our manifesto commitments on animal welfare.

Cats roam and a microchip increases the chances of a lost or injured cat being safely reunited with their owner. Unlike collars, microchips don't come off, or put cats at risk of collar-related injuries. Furthermore, if a cat is sadly involved in a road traffic accident and taken to a vet for treatment, an up to date microchip would allow the vet to get consent for any necessary treatment from the owner.

Cats Protection's Cats and Their Stats (CATS) report highlights that a staggering 2.6 million owned cats across the UK remain unchipped. Compulsory microchipping of pet cats will improve the welfare for millions of cats and would be welcomed by cat owners across the UK.

It has also been compulsory to microchip dogs in the UK since 2016. Making it compulsory for cats would bring parity to these two popular companion animals.

I congratulate you on this and all the other great initiatives you are bringing forward to benefit companion and other animals.

Given the public and political support for compulsory microchipping of cats I hope that this can be introduced without delay through regulations this year.

Yours ever,

**Andrew Rosindell M.P.**