

Christine Grahame MSP submission of 27 February 2023

PE1938/H: Introduce compulsory microchipping of cats in Scotland

Whilst I have an entirely unavoidable commitment on the date of your meeting, I wholly support the introduction of compulsory microchipping of cats in Scotland. This would offer the same benefits to cats and their owners as those enjoyed by dogs and dog owners, whereby missing cats can be quickly reunited with their rightful owners. As a cat owner myself I know that some cats, as is their wont, make themselves welcome in other people's homes which can lead to ownership disputes – which microchipping will help avoid.

It would also enable negligent cat owners to be more easily identified which will help improve cat welfare overall.

We know that compulsory microchipping of cats is widely welcomed by the general public, yet the number of cats not microchipped in Scotland is higher than the UK average. In making it compulsory, we seek to redress this imbalance.