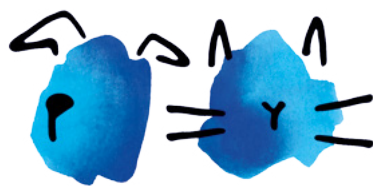


A woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark blue sweater, is holding a small brown and white dog. The dog is wearing a green collar. The woman is looking down at the dog with a smile.

COMPULSORY DOG MICROCHIPPING

FIVE YEARS ON



BATTERSEA

HERE FOR EVERY DOG AND CAT



FOREWORD



At Battersea, we believe passionately in the importance of microchipping, and the peace of mind it brings. Every year, we see hundreds of dogs (and sadly all too few cats) quickly reunited with the family that love them thanks to this simple, efficient and essentially painless procedure. This is why we campaigned to make microchipping compulsory for dogs, and why we continue to support the same for cats; as consulted on by DEFRA earlier in 2021.

The feeling of joy and relief on the face of an owner when they take back the pet is so strong and so powerful, yet Battersea still sees so many animals through our gates who never get that chance. It was a concern over the high number of unmicrochipped dogs coming into our care that first prompted us in 2016 to bring together over 50 Local Authorities from across the UK, to look at whether stray dogs could be reunited. For both rescues and Councils, it is a source of frustration and cost when stray dogs cannot return to their previous keeper as they simply cannot be found.

We are grateful to our partner Local Authorities that, 2020 apart, each year they have monitored their stray intake for a month, giving us an unrivalled snapshot into compulsory microchipping where it matters most. We were the first to challenge the simplistic assumption, often voiced by Government, that a lot of microchipping activity meant the law was working. Because for stray dogs, that is still sadly often not the case. This report

reveals starkly that only 26% of stray dogs taken in by Local Authorities, even now, are fully compliant with the Microchipping Regulations in their own country; as some 60% of stray dogs with a microchip have inaccurate records stored on the database.

However, the report also highlights the positives. Despite the widespread increase in pet ownership in 2020 during the pandemic, and the difficulty of obtaining microchipping services at times, the compliance rate remains the same as 2019. The number of stray dogs coming to notice of Councils, is reducing; down 66% since the law was introduced. This may be because more stray dogs are being scanned and reunited at vets and rescues because of their microchip. Critically, our report also reveals that accurately microchipped dogs are 54% more likely to find their owner again than unmicrochipped ones. When used properly, microchipping works and we encourage Government to recognise this in their microchipping review and to make the bold step to afford cats the same protection.

Thank you for reading this report and your interest in this important subject.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Peter Laurie'.

Peter Laurie
Chief Executive

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the 53 Local Authorities and their staff who so willingly agreed to participate in this survey.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Battersea has been tracking the progress of microchipping in the UK stray dog population since April 2016, when it became a legal requirement in England, Scotland and Wales for all dogs to be microchipped, with their details stored on a compliant database, by the age of eight weeks.¹ Our experience from 160 years of caring for dogs and looking to find them new homes is that microchipping is one of the most effective ways of reuniting a lost dog quickly with its owner, and so not only has Battersea passionately supported compulsory microchipping for dogs, but we have also advocated its extension to cats, and welcome its inclusion in the Government's Action Plan.²

¹: Microchipping has been compulsory in Northern Ireland since 2012

²: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/action-plan-for-animal-welfare>



94% of dogs with fully compliant microchips were reunited

by Local Authorities with their keepers, according to our 2021 survey.

IS MICROCHIPPING WORKING?

Microchipping works when fully implemented. 94% of stray dogs that were fully compliant with the microchipping regulations—with a microchip implanted and an accurate record on a compliant database—were reunited by Local Authorities with their keepers.³ The 66% reduction in the number of stray dogs dealt with by Local Authorities in 2021 compared to 2016 is also evidence of the impact of microchipping, as veterinary practices and rescue charities with access to microchip scanners are able to reunite more lost and stray dogs with their keepers without the need to involve Local Authorities. However:

- **23% of stray dogs still do not even have a microchip implanted.** Five years on from the law changing, this is far too many;
- **only 26% of strays were fully compliant with the microchipping regulations,** meaning that 74% of stray dogs handled by Local Authorities in Great Britain still cannot be quickly and simply reunited with their keeper solely on the basis of the microchip;
- **accurately microchipped dogs are 54% more likely to be reunited** with their keepers or owners than unmicrochipped dogs if they go missing;
- the failure of keepers to update the microchip record continues to be the main problem. **63% of stray dogs implanted with a chip have an inaccurate record.** New keepers failing to update or create a record when they acquire the dog account for 62% of all non-compliant stray dogs. This has become a long-term trend, and is likely to apply to all dogs, not just stray dogs;
- **dogs registered on a foreign database now account for 4% of all strays dealt with by UK Local Authorities and 10% of all strays in London.** These animals are potentially a serious health risk, particularly if they originate from countries endemic for rabies. If we cannot recognise the chip and contact the keeper, we have to take a low risk approach and assume that the dog has arrived from overseas. This is expensive, diverting resources from other critical areas;
- 64% of non-compliant keepers were reunited with their dogs, indicating **considerable scope for enforcement activity** to ensure keepers comply with their statutory duty to microchip their dogs.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The picture from this 2021 survey is surprisingly similar to that for 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic took hold in the UK. The number of stray dogs dealt with by the Great Britain Local Authorities that took part in our survey in 2021 was in line with the pre-pandemic trend, and the proportion that were microchipped is a little improved on 2019.⁴ This is remarkable considering the impact of the COVID-19 restrictions in 2020, when Local Authorities reported they had microchipped 77% fewer dogs and dealt with 48% fewer strays than in 2019 as it was deemed unsafe to provide these services.⁵

Indeed, many owners reported at the time a desire to comply with the microchipping regulations, yet for a time in 2020 it was extremely difficult unless the animal were chipped by the breeder or rescue (as it should be). It seems that demand for Local Authority stray dog services is rapidly returning to normal.

3: Most dog owners are also the 'keeper' of the dog in the sense that the dog normally lives with them, but the owner and the keeper could be two separate people. The Regulations put responsibility for compliance on a dog's keeper and not on its owner.

4: 25% in our 2019 research compared to 26% in 2021.

5: <https://bdch.org.uk/files/BATTERSEA-Covid-Research-Report.pdf>



BATTERSEA RECOMMENDS

KEEPERS MUST DO MORE

- Keepers must ensure their dog is microchipped, registered on a Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) compliant database and their details are up to date. This is a statutory duty and part of the responsibilities of every keeper.⁶

ENABLE LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO ENFORCE THE REGULATIONS

- Give Local Authorities sufficient resource and a legal duty to enforce the Regulations. There is currently no legal obligation placed on any statutory body to enforce.
- Produce best practice guidance for Local Authorities, drawing on the experience of those Councils that are making extensive use of their enforcement powers.
- Give Local Authorities the power to issue a conditional Fixed Penalty Notice for non-compliance. Enable them to issue this fine when keepers collect their dogs from the Local Authority, which may then be cancelled or reduced if keepers prove compliance within a set time frame. This will focus the mind more than the current 21-day notice.

⁶: Please note that the term 'keeper' is used rather than 'owner' as this is the term used in Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015. It means the person with whom the dog normally resides. A dog's owner is usually its keeper, but not always.



ENHANCING THE OBLIGATIONS OF DATABASE COMPANIES AND OTHERS

- Currently, there are only minimal requirements for a database to be compliant, and nothing obvious that tells the consumer whether they are or aren't. The Government could enhance stipulations on database companies, requiring them to implement a more systematic process of information checking and updating to ensure the accuracy of their records. This could include contacting keepers regularly to ensure their details are correct, making the process of updating information as easy as possible for keepers, and processing requests to update details quickly and within a specified timeframe.
- Ensure a single portal access to all databases to prevent vets, enforcement and rescues having to search through multiple websites after scanning to find a record. This would save significant professional time and resources.
- Address the issue of non-compliant databases operating and appearing prominently on search engines. There are currently limited enforcement mechanisms to ensure that only compliant databases are able to offer services to the public. There is potential for improving the way non-compliance is dealt with, to provide the public with certainty when using a database. For example, the use of an accreditation that databases are required to show, indicating they are compliant.
- Confer a legal duty on implanters to register microchips they have implanted onto a compliant database.
- Impose a legal duty on a puppy's first keeper (the owner of the bitch that gave birth to the puppy) to update the database with the new keeper's details when the keeper changes.
- Dogs with foreign microchips present a particular problem for disease management, especially if the keeper cannot be traced or the chip originates from a country where rabies is endemic. If an animal's chip details were recorded on a database at the point of entry into the UK, then the length of time it had been in the UK would be known. This would remove the need to quarantine and blood test some of the dogs with foreign chips which come into rescue centres, such as Battersea, or vet practices, thereby reducing costs for these organisations when dealing with such animals.

DEFRA is currently reviewing the Microchipping of Dogs Regulations in England. We urge DEFRA to give urgent attention to our recommendations and implement a plan of action as an outcome of the review.

BACKGROUND

On 6 April 2016, microchipping of dogs became compulsory in England,⁷ Scotland,⁸ and Wales.⁹ It has been compulsory in Northern Ireland since 9 April 2012.¹⁰

REGULATION REQUIREMENTS

A microchip is a small chip about the size of a grain of rice that is implanted under the dog's skin. It has a unique code which when scanned with a special reader, can be matched to the keeper's details on a central database. The microchip is inserted by a vet in a simple, quick and painless procedure. Rescue centres, animal warden and vets are all able to scan for a microchip to identify a dog and their owner.

Microchipping gives a dog the best chance of being reunited with its keeper quickly should it go missing. There are three key legal requirements in the regulations to ensure all dogs are implanted with a microchip and the database is kept up to date with keepers' details.



Every dog is implanted with a microchip

and registered by the breeder both prior to sale and by eight weeks old.¹¹ If breeders fail to comply, they can be prosecuted and fined up to £500.



The current keeper's details are recorded

on a compliant database and kept up to date.



Keepers of unchipped dogs comply with a notice

which can be issued by a Local Authority or the police, giving them 21 days to ensure the dog is chipped. Failure to comply with the notice is a criminal offence for which they can be fined up to £500.



BATTERSEA'S YEARLY SURVEY

Battersea has been conducting an annual survey with Local Authorities across the UK since 2016 to assess the impact of the legislation on the stray dog population. These surveys provide five years of evidence of the effectiveness of the law, and have revealed:

- low rates of compliance by keepers – in 2019, just 25% of stray dogs were implanted with a microchip with an up-to-date record on a compliant database. It is often this latter point where compliance falters;
- falling numbers of stray dogs dealt with by Local Authorities – microchipping has allowed veterinary practices and rescue charities with access to scanners to reunite more lost and stray dogs with their owners, thereby removing the need to involve Local Authorities;
- low levels of enforcement – most Local Authorities use their enforcement powers infrequently, and prosecution rates are low because keepers cannot be traced after the 21-day notice has lapsed and the cost of reaching the evidential threshold is disproportionate.

The survey was not carried out in 2020 as the country was then in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic and subject to stringent public health restrictions, significantly affecting Local Authority services and the 'normal' behaviour of

companion animal owners. However, by May 2021 many of these restrictions had been relaxed, particularly the requirement to 'stay at home', so, in discussions with Local Authority representatives, it was felt the time was right to resume the survey. Furthermore, it is important to understand what difference the increase in pet ownership during lockdown may have made.

The survey this year takes on a special significance. It provides an up-to-date assessment for the UK Government's review of the Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations, which reports in 2021. It also provides an assessment of the longer-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the microchipping of dogs, by comparing the results with our last, pre-pandemic survey in 2019.

7: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2015/9780111125243

8: www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2016/58/contents/made

9: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2015/1990/contents/made>

10: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nia/2011/9/section/2>

11: Unless they are exempted by a vet.

THE MICROCHIP STATUS OF STRAY DOGS IN 2021

53 Local Authorities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland completed this fifth Battersea survey of microchip compliance in the UK stray dog population.

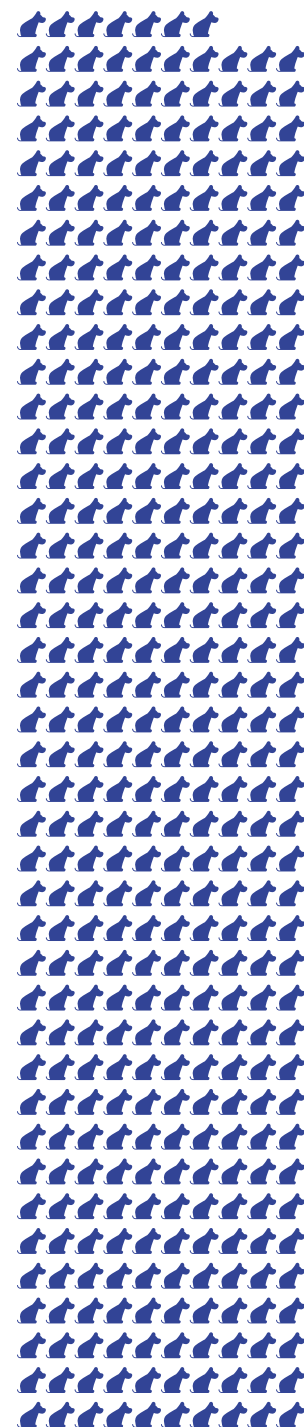
DATA SAMPLE

In total, from across these Local Authorities, 407 stray dogs were collected, scanned and checked for this survey through the month of May 2021. Where these Local Authorities have also participated in our previous surveys, 2016-2019, we can track progress and trends over a five-year period.

For every stray dog collected in May 2021 these Local Authorities recorded, as in previous years:

- whether it was microchipped;
- whether the microchip record was accurate;
- the reason for any inaccuracies;
- whether the dog was wearing a collar and tag with the owner's name and address, as this remains a legal requirement for most dogs in a public place.¹²

¹²: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/1992/901/contents/made



**407 stray dogs were
collected through the
month of May 2021**

by 53 Local Authorities,
where they were scanned and
checked for this survey.





REDUCING NUMBERS OF STRAY DOGS

This year's survey shows a continuing **reduction in the number of stray dogs** handled by Local Authorities. Looking at the 39 Local Authorities in England, Scotland and Wales (Great Britain) which participated in all five surveys (2016-2021),¹³ the number of stray dogs taken in has reduced from 895 in February 2016 to 308 in May 2021, **a reduction of 66% in five years.**

Figure 1 shows that 2021 continues the same trend line of falling numbers of strays each year since 2016. This seems, at least in part, to be due to compulsory microchipping. Agencies that have scanners to read microchips, such as veterinary practices and charities, are now able to reunite more found dogs with their keepers directly. Local Authorities would not be involved if these dogs were reunited quickly, so the number of stray dogs they deal with would go down. This is despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Local Authorities reported to Battersea a 48% reduction in strays in April-June 2020 compared with the same period in 2019.¹⁴ However, the drop in 2020 seems to have been short-lived.



**66% reduction in
stray dogs taken in from
2016 to 2021**

at the 39 Local Authorities
which participated in all five of
our surveys.

¹³: Belfast City Council has also participated in all our previous surveys. However, Northern Ireland introduced compulsory microchipping in 2012, so this data does not cover a period from before and after compulsory microchipping was introduced.

¹⁴: <https://bdch.org.uk/files/BATTERSEA-Covid-Research-Report.pdf>

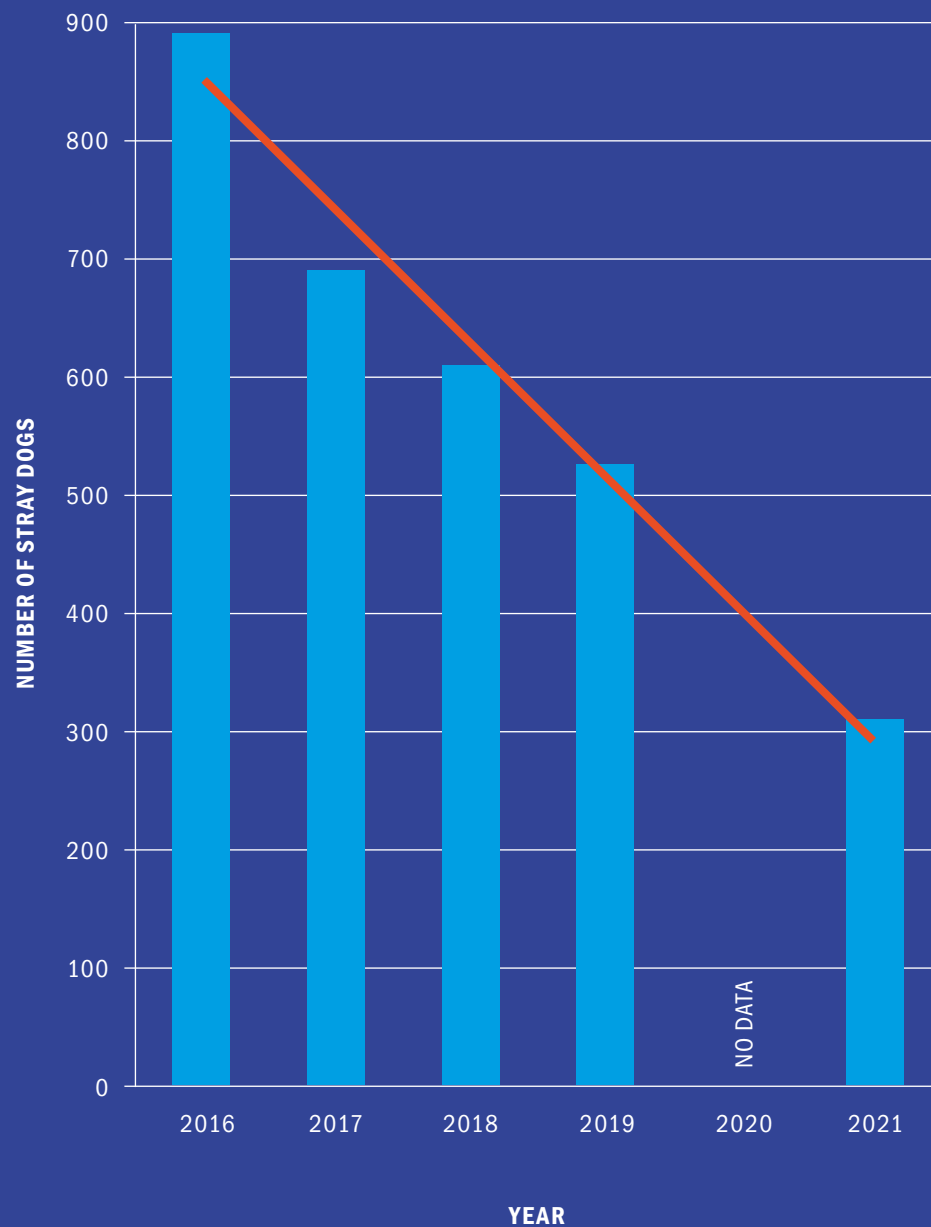
FIGURE 1

Figure 1: Number of stray dogs dealt with by 39 Local Authorities in Great Britain which participated in all five Battersea surveys 2016-21.



THE IMPACT OF MICROCHIPPING COMPLIANCE ON REUNITING STRAY DOGS

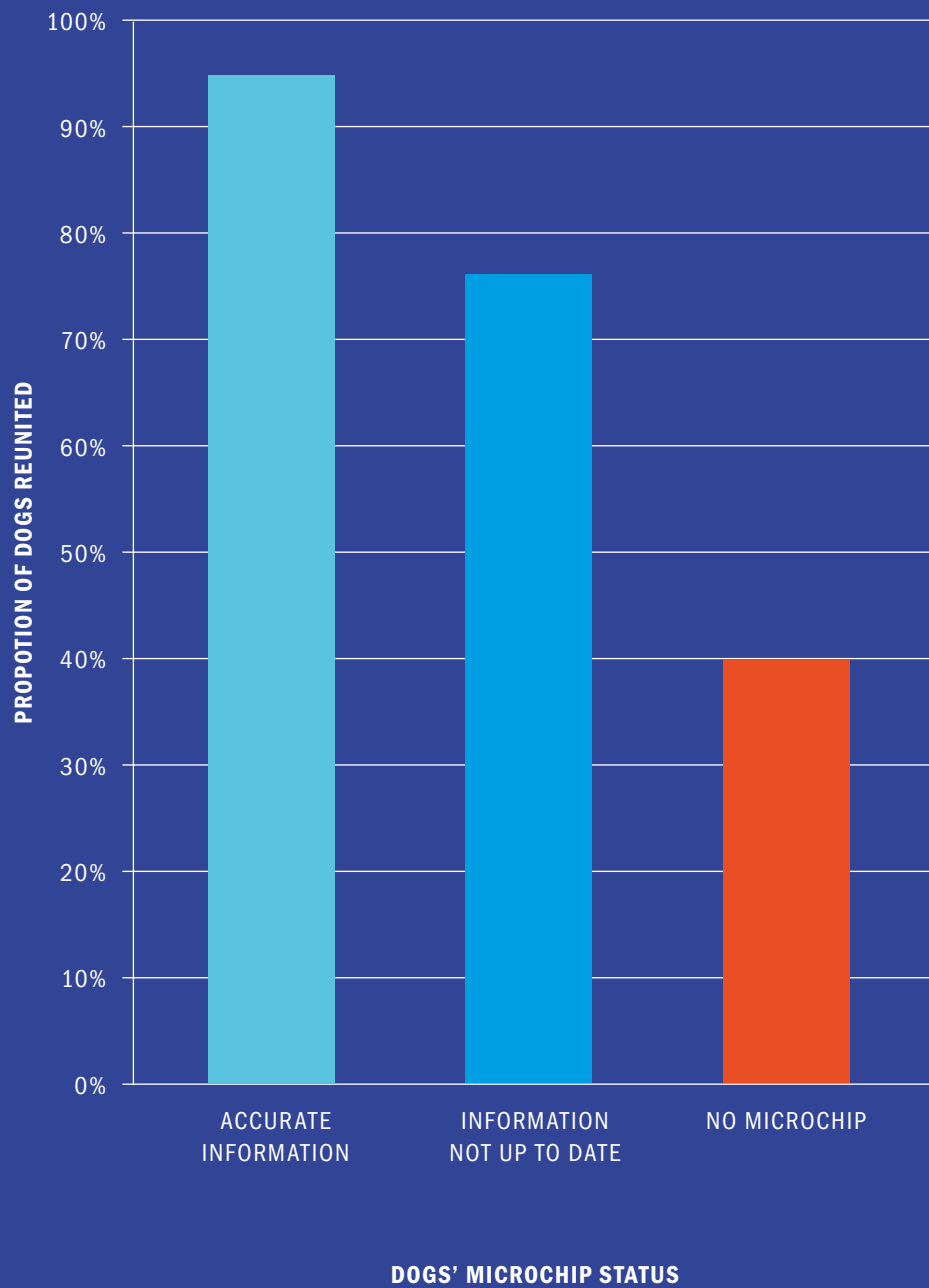
Figure 2 shows the reunite rates (with their keeper or owner) for dogs with varying levels of compliance with the microchipping regulations.

Figure 2 shows that compliance significantly affects reunite success rates:

- **accurately microchipped dogs are 54% more likely to be reunited** with their keepers or owners than unmicrochipped dogs if they go missing;
- **94% of strays that were fully compliant with the microchipping regulations**, having a microchip implanted and an up-to-date record on a compliant database, were reunited with their keepers;
- **77% of partially compliant animals, having an out of date or inaccurate record on the database, were reunited.** Even though the information is out of date, it at least gives Local Authorities a starting point for tracing the current keepers;
- **only 40% of animals with no microchip at all were reunited.**

The impact of full compliance with the microchipping regulations on Local Authorities' ability to easily and quickly reunite stray dogs is clear, with fully compliant animals **54% more likely to be reunited with their keeper**. It is also apparent that there is a high level of contact between Local Authorities and non-compliant keepers, providing considerable scope for enforcement activity.

However, as the next section shows, only a minority of dogs are fully compliant.

FIGURE 2**Figure 2:** Compliance with the microchipping regulations and reuniting success rates.

HOW MANY STRAY DOGS CAN BE IDENTIFIED ACCURATELY BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES?

All 52 of the Local Authorities in Great Britain which responded to this year's survey provided information on the microchip status of the stray dogs they handled.¹⁵ Figure 3 shows the extent to which the stray population this year was compliant with the regulations.

Figure 3 shows a similar picture to previous years:

- **26% of stray dogs collected by Local Authorities in 2021 were microchipped as the regulations require**, with an up-to-date record on a compliant database enabling the keeper to be identified and contacted;
- **23% of stray dogs did not have a microchip implanted.** In 2019, the figure was 31%, so a small improvement but well short of what we should expect by now following the change in the law in 2016;
- **44% of stray dogs had a microchip implanted but an inaccurate and out of date record on the database.** In 2019, this figure was also 44%, showing no improvement in the rate at which keepers maintain the microchip record of their dogs.

As in previous years, in addition to the low rate of microchipping, just 2% of stray dogs had a collar and tag with accurate information on the tag despite it having been compulsory in law since 1992.¹⁶

In view of the restricted access to microchipping services in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the similarity of the picture in 2021 compared to 2019 is heartening. Local Authorities reported to Battersea in 2020 that they had microchipped 77% fewer dogs in April-June compared to the same period in 2019.¹⁷ This 2021 survey suggests that the situation is quickly normalising as public health restrictions relax.

Nevertheless, **74% of stray dogs handled by Local Authorities in Great Britain still cannot be easily and simply reunited with their keeper solely on the basis of the microchip**, as the law requires them to be.

¹⁵: This section does not include data for Belfast, as we are focusing on the impact of the 2016 law change.

¹⁶: www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1992/901/contents/made

¹⁷: www.bdch.org.uk/files/BATTERSEA-Covid-Research-Report.pdf

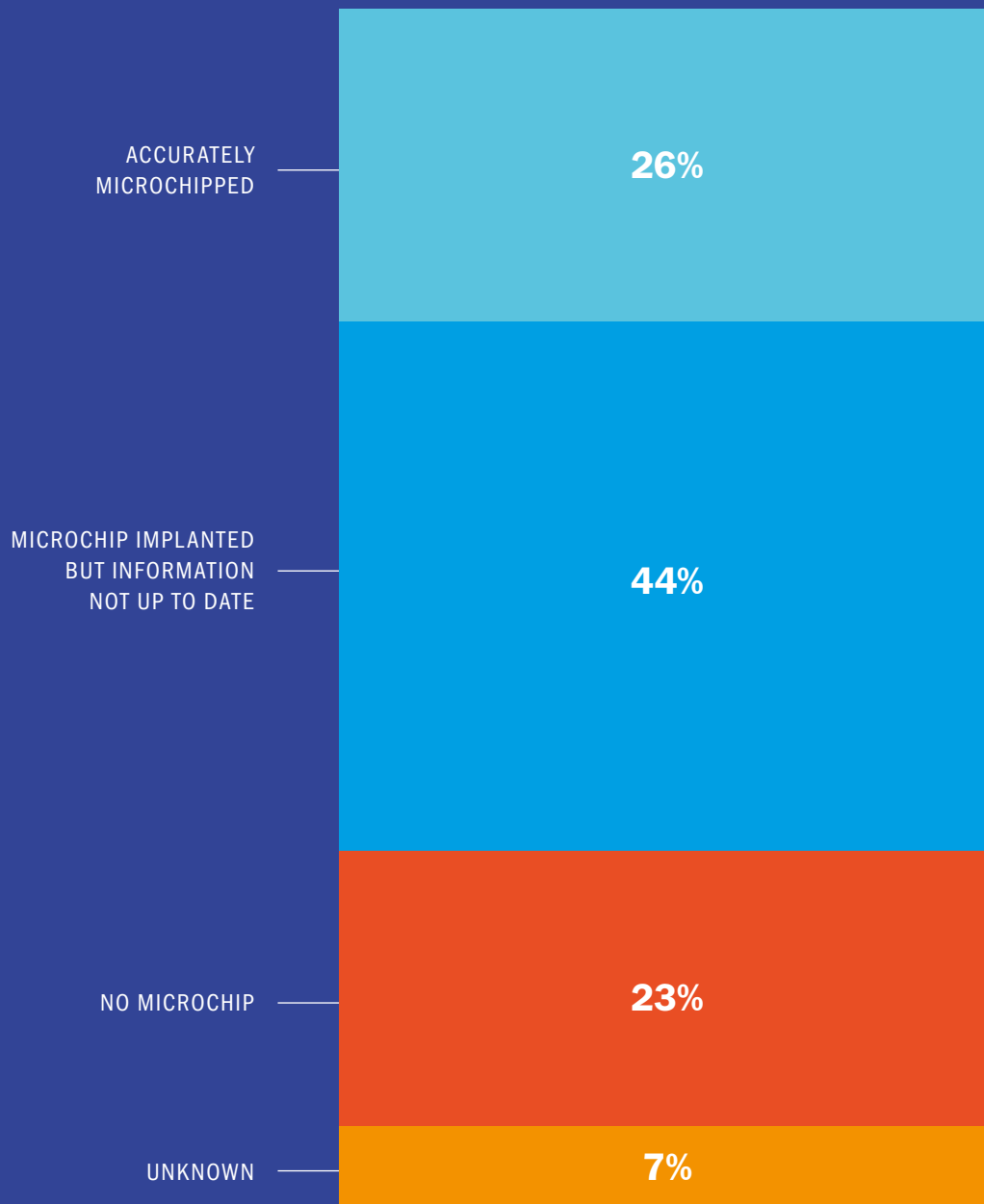
FIGURE 3

Figure 3: Microchip compliance in stray dogs handled by 52 Local Authorities in Great Britain in 2021.



WHAT ARE THE DATABASE PROBLEMS?

While most dogs are now implanted with a microchip, 63% of those chips have an inaccurate or out of date record on the database, making keepers hard to trace. Figure 4 shows the different problems with databases.

Figure 4 shows:

- the main problem continues to be new keepers failing to update the microchip record when they acquire their dog. Together with those that also fail to register a newly microchipped dog, new keepers are ultimately responsible for 62% of all the inaccurate records on the database. In some cases, they may believe that the breeder has done this, however it is vital that they check and then take action themselves as it is they who are responsible for their own dog;
- existing keepers not updating the record when they change their address or phone number account for 27% of inaccurate records;
- stray dogs registered to a foreign database have become a more significant problem this year, accounting for 9% of inaccurate records. These animals now make up 4% of all the strays dealt with by UK Local Authorities, and 10% of all strays dealt with by London Local Authorities. If these are dogs that have come into this country illegally, they pose potentially serious health and safety risks;
- this year is the first time we have measured how many dogs are registered on a non-compliant database or on more than one database. This was recorded in just 2% of cases, which is encouraging.



**63% of microchips
have an inaccurate or
out of date record**

making keepers hard to
trace and reducing the chance
of being reunited.

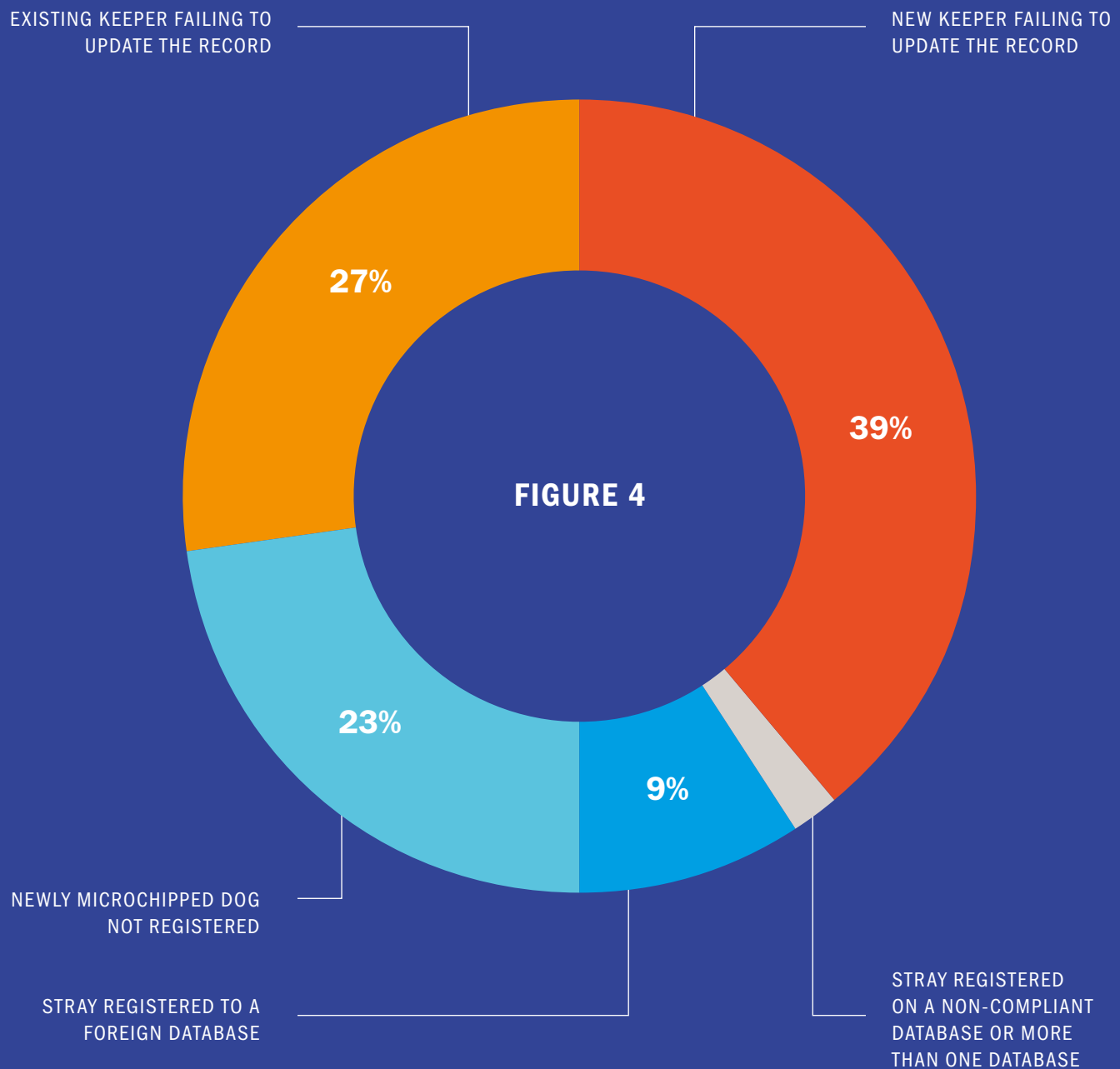


Figure 4: Reasons for inaccurately registered stray dogs reported by 52 Local Authorities in Great Britain in 2021.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The level of compliance with the microchipping regulations within the stray dog population in 2021 is remarkably similar to that of 2019, which is both unexpected and positive.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the public health restrictions imposed in 2020, when access to microchipping services was severely limited, it is reassuring that microchipping in the stray dog population is back in line with pre-pandemic levels.

However, in our view the levels of full compliance were unsatisfactory before the COVID-19 pandemic, and therefore are still unsatisfactory today.

Less positively, the number of stray dogs dealt with by Local Authorities in May this year is in line with the pre-pandemic trend, despite having dropped by 48% during lockdown in 2020. This is probably as a result of owners returning to work away from home and more dogs being walked off-lead as public health restrictions are relaxed.

Demand for Local Authority stray dog services appears to be quickly returning to normal and, as it does, the need to tackle the implementation issues around the microchipping regulations becomes more pressing. It is imperative that Councils do not use the dip in 2020 as a basis to make ongoing decisions around resources for

managing stray dogs, which remains their legal responsibility.

The value of microchipping is clearly demonstrated in the data showing that 94% of stray dogs are reunited with their keepers in cases where they are microchipped in full compliance with the regulations. This means **accurately microchipped dogs are 54% more likely to be reunited** with their keepers or owners than unmicrochipped dogs if they go missing. However, these dogs make up a minority of the stray population dealt with by Local Authorities. **74% of stray dogs dealt with by Local Authorities are still not compliant with the microchipping regulations**, either not being chipped or having an inaccurate record on the database.

Perhaps the most significant finding from every survey since 2016, including 2021, is the extent to which the microchip databases are inaccurate. While most dogs are now implanted with a microchip, **63% of those chips have an inaccurate or out of date record on the database**, making keepers hard to trace. There has been little change in this level of compliance over



74% of stray dogs are not compliant with regulations

by either not being chipped or having an inaccurate record on the database.



Microchipped dogs are 54% more likely to be reunited

with their keepers or owners than unmicrochipped dogs if they go missing.

the last four years, indicating that this is a particularly challenging aspect of the legislation to implement effectively. This has become a long-term trend, and is likely to apply to all dogs, not just stray dogs.

One issue that has increased in significance this year is the number of dogs registered on a foreign database. 4% of all strays dealt with by UK Local Authorities, and 10% of all strays in London, are now registered on a foreign database. These animals present potentially very significant health risks if they have entered the UK illegally. Managing this disease threat imposes costs on organisations such as Battersea when the keepers cannot be traced, particularly if the animal originates from a country which is endemic for rabies, as these dogs must be quarantined, and blood tested before finding a new home. The increase may be for other reasons, such as the purchase of cheaper microchips by an implanter from overseas, however if they cannot be scanned then the Local Authority, vet or rescue must carry out expensive quarantine procedures.



BATTERSEA RECOMMENDS

DEFRA is currently reviewing the Microchipping of Dogs Regulations in England. We urge DEFRA to give urgent attention to our recommendations and implement a plan of action as an outcome of the review.

KEEPERS MUST DO MORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keepers must ensure their dog is microchipped, registered on a Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) compliant database and their details are up to date. This is a statutory duty and part of the responsibilities of every keeper.¹⁸
ENABLE LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO ENFORCE THE REGULATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give Local Authorities sufficient resource and a legal duty to enforce the Regulations. There is currently no legal obligation placed on any statutory body to enforce. Produce best practice guidance for Local Authorities, drawing on the experience of those Councils that are making extensive use of their enforcement powers. Give Local Authorities the power to issue a conditional Fixed Penalty Notice for non-compliance. Enable them to issue this fine when keepers collect their dogs from the Local Authority, which may then be cancelled or reduced if keepers prove compliance within a set time frame. This will focus the mind more than the current 21-day notice.
ENHANCING THE OBLIGATIONS OF DATABASE COMPANIES AND OTHERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently, there are only minimal requirements for a database to be compliant, and nothing obvious that tells the consumer whether they are or aren't. The Government could enhance stipulations on database companies, requiring them to implement a more systematic process of information checking and updating to ensure the accuracy of their records. This could include contacting keepers regularly to ensure their details are correct, making the process of updating information as easy as possible for keepers, and processing requests to update details quickly and within a specified timeframe. Ensure a single portal access to all databases to prevent vets, enforcement and rescues having to search through multiple websites after scanning to find a record. This would save significant professional time and resources. Address the issue of non-compliant databases operating and appearing prominently on search engines. There are currently limited enforcement mechanisms to ensure that only compliant databases are able to offer services to the public. There is potential for improving the way non-compliance is dealt with, to provide the public with certainty when using a database. For example, the use of an accreditation that databases are required to show, indicating they are compliant. Confer a legal duty on implanters to register microchips they have implanted onto a compliant database. Impose a legal duty on a puppy's first keeper (the owner of the bitch that gave birth to the puppy) to update the database with the new keeper's details when the keeper changes. Dogs with foreign microchips present a particular problem for disease management, especially if the keeper cannot be traced or the chip originates from a country where rabies is endemic. If an animal's chip details were recorded on a database at the point of entry into the UK, then the length of time it had been in the UK would be known. This would remove the need to quarantine and blood test some of the dogs with foreign chips which come into rescue centres, such as Battersea, or vet practices, thereby reducing costs for these organisations when dealing with such animals.

¹⁸: Please note that the term 'keeper' is used rather than 'owner' as this is the term used in Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015. It means the person with whom the dog normally resides. A dog's owner is usually its keeper, but not always.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX 1: LOCAL AUTHORITIES PARTICIPATING IN THE BATTERSEA STRAY DOG MICROCHIPPING SURVEY 2021

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ▪ Barking & Dagenham | ▪ Isle of Wight* |
| ▪ Barnet* | ▪ Islington* |
| ▪ Basildon* | ▪ Kirklees |
| ▪ Basingstoke & Deane* | ▪ Lambeth* |
| ▪ Bassetlaw | ▪ Lewisham* |
| ▪ Belfast* | ▪ Merton |
| ▪ Birmingham City* | ▪ New Forest |
| ▪ Bradford* | ▪ Newham* |
| ▪ Brent | ▪ North Lincolnshire* |
| ▪ Brighton & Hove* | ▪ Northumberland* |
| ▪ Broxbourne* | ▪ Portsmouth* |
| ▪ Camden* | ▪ Reading* |
| ▪ Cardiff* | ▪ Richmond (London) |
| ▪ Coventry* | ▪ Rotherham* |
| ▪ Croydon* | ▪ Rushmoor* |
| ▪ Durham* | ▪ Sheffield* |
| ▪ Eastleigh* | ▪ Southampton* |
| ▪ Enfield | ▪ Southend on Sea* |
| ▪ Fareham | ▪ Stockton on Tees* |
| ▪ Gosport | ▪ Swindon |
| ▪ Hackney | ▪ Test Valley* |
| ▪ Harrogate* | ▪ Trafford* |
| ▪ Hillingdon* | ▪ Wandsworth* |
| ▪ Hounslow* | ▪ West Lancashire* |
| ▪ Hull* | ▪ Westminster |
| ▪ Hyndburn* | ▪ Winchester* |
| ▪ Inverclyde* | |

APPENDIX 2: COMPLIANT MICROCHIP DATABASES

Conditions placed on compliant microchip databases include:

- to maintain records
- answer telephone and online requests at all times
- back up all data to a secure off-site facility every day.

The full details of the requirements can be found here:

- England:
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/108/contents/made
- Wales:
www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2015/1990/contents/made
- Scotland:
www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2016/58/contents/made

The compliant microchip databases are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Animal Microchips | ▪ Pet Chip Register |
| ▪ Animal Tracker | ▪ Pet Identity UK |
| ▪ Chipworks | ▪ Petlog |
| ▪ Identibase | ▪ PetScanner |
| ▪ MicroChip Central | ▪ ProtectedPet |
| ▪ MicroDogID | ▪ SmartTrace |
| ▪ MyPet | ▪ UK PETtrac |
| ▪ National Veterinary Data Service | ▪ We Trace Pets |

This list was taken from www.gov.uk/get-your-dog-microchipped on 28 June 2021.

*Authorities that also participated in Battersea's 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 microchipping surveys.





FURTHER INFORMATION

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