Our Ref: 248-98#16 E1516370

TO ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

CIRCULAR NO 07-2015

COMPULSORY MICROCHIPPING FOR ALL DOGS AS OF 1 NOVEMBER 2015

Local governments are reminded that from 1 November 2015 it is compulsory for all dogs to be microchipped.

Amendments to the *Dog Act 1976* made in November 2013 provided that from 1 November 2015 the owner of a dog that has reached three months of age must ensure that the dog is microchipped.

A dog is exempt from the microchipping requirement if a veterinarian issues a certificate stating that the implantation of a microchip may adversely affect the health and welfare of the dog. The certificate cannot apply in respect of a dog that is under three months of age.

When a person registers their dog, they will be required to provide proof that the dog has been microchipped by providing their local government with the microchip number.

I encourage you to inform dog owners in your community of this requirement in the lead up to November re-registrations. More information about the *Dog Act 1976* and microchipping is available on the Department of Local Government and Communities website: www.dlgc.wa.gov.au.

For enquiries, please contact DLGC legislation officer Steven de la Nougerede on 6552 1759 or steven.delanougerede@dlgc.wa.gov.au.

Jennifer Mathews
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Z June 2015