

**From:** [Hughes, Charlie](#)  
**To:** [Rhys Campbell](#)  
**Subject:** FW: London Assembly (Plenary) - Motion 3.1 - Dog Control Public Space Protection Orders and Stray Dogs - 13 November 2025  
**Date:** 05 May 2026 12:01:10  
**Attachments:** [108 Motions letter - London Boroughs - Plenary 13 November 2025 - LB Lewisham.pdf](#)

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Dear Rhys,  
Hope you're well. Please find our response below –

*Lewisham Council recognises the concerns raised in the motion, particularly around canine welfare, proportionality in enforcement, and the importance of microchipping in addressing dog abandonment.*

*In Lewisham, our current Dog Control PSPO does not relate to stray dogs. Stray dogs are addressed through separate national legislation, and our PSPO is focused on managing specific issues of safety and anti-social behaviour in public spaces. The Order was developed following consultation and is applied proportionately: the majority of Lewisham's parks and open spaces remain off-lead areas for dogs, with restrictions limited to clearly defined locations such as children's play areas, or where an authorised officer directs a dog to be placed on a lead in the interests of safety.*

*We are mindful of the Assembly's concerns that PSPOs should not unfairly restrict responsible dog owners or have unintended consequences for animal welfare or equalities. These considerations are factored into both the design of our PSPO and how it is enforced, and they will remain central to our approach in any future review.*

*In relation to microchipping, we agree that it plays an important role in deterring abandonment and reuniting stray dogs with their owners. One of the key challenges we encounter locally is not only non-compliance but also failures to keep microchip records up to date. Where dogs are found to be un-microchipped, or where details are inaccurate, enforcement action is taken in line with the Microchipping of Cats and Dogs (England) Regulations 2023.*

*Alongside enforcement, we have previously worked with partner organisations such as Battersea Dogs & Cats Home and the RSPCA to offer free microchipping at community events. We intend to continue exploring opportunities to promote microchipping through awareness-raising activity, chip-checking and, where possible, registration updates in partnership with third-sector organisations.*

*We will take the points raised in the Assembly's motion into account as part of our next review of dog-related PSPO arrangements, ensuring that our policies remain proportionate, evidence-based and mindful of welfare and equalities impacts.*

Best wishes,  
Charlie

Charlie Hughes (he/him)  
**Head of Mayor's Office**  
**Mayor's Office**