August 2020

Thank you for contacting me about compulsory microchip scanning of dogs by vets and Tuk’s Law**.**

I was very sorry to hear about the death of this young rescue dog. I appreciate that this must have been distressing for Tuk’s keeper.

Ministers agree with the British Veterinary Association (BVA) that it is good practise for vets to scan dogs presented to them in order to check details of their owner. With approximately 90 per cent of dogs estimated to be microchipped, it is second nature for many vets to perform a scan, particularly for a first-time visit. Indeed, this is widely practised throughout the UK.

I understand that as such, the Government does not plan to mandate vets to scan dogs presented to them. This position is supported by professional veterinary bodies and local authorities.

It is welcome that the BVA has undertaken to remind veterinary practices to scan dogs in line with best practice, and to help owners understand how important it is to keep their pet microchipping records up to date.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.



Yours faithfully,

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**