

Mandatory Identification and Registration of cats and dogs



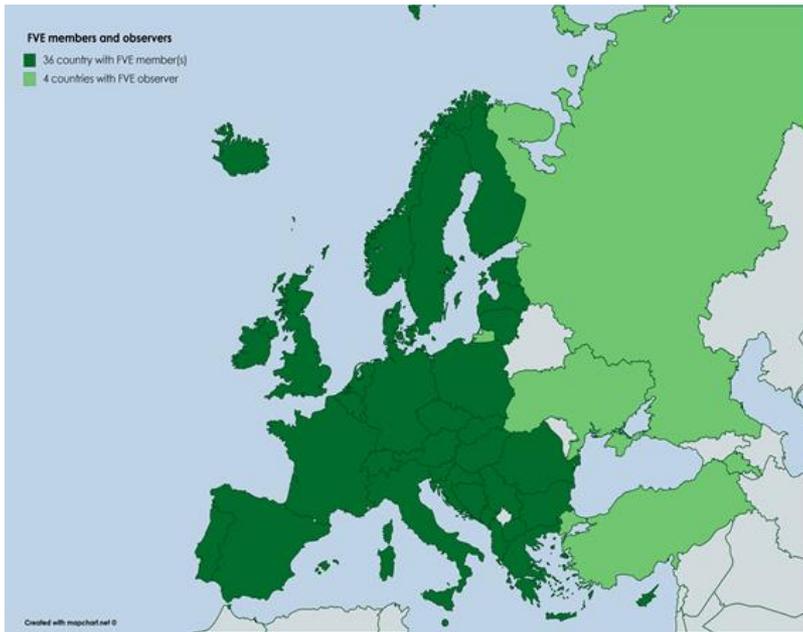
Welfare in Pet Trade

Working for the EU Platform on Animal Welfare

**Dr Andrew Robinson - FVE
Health & Welfare of Pets (dogs) in trade
Voluntary Initiative Group**



Federation of
Veterinarians of Europe



Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

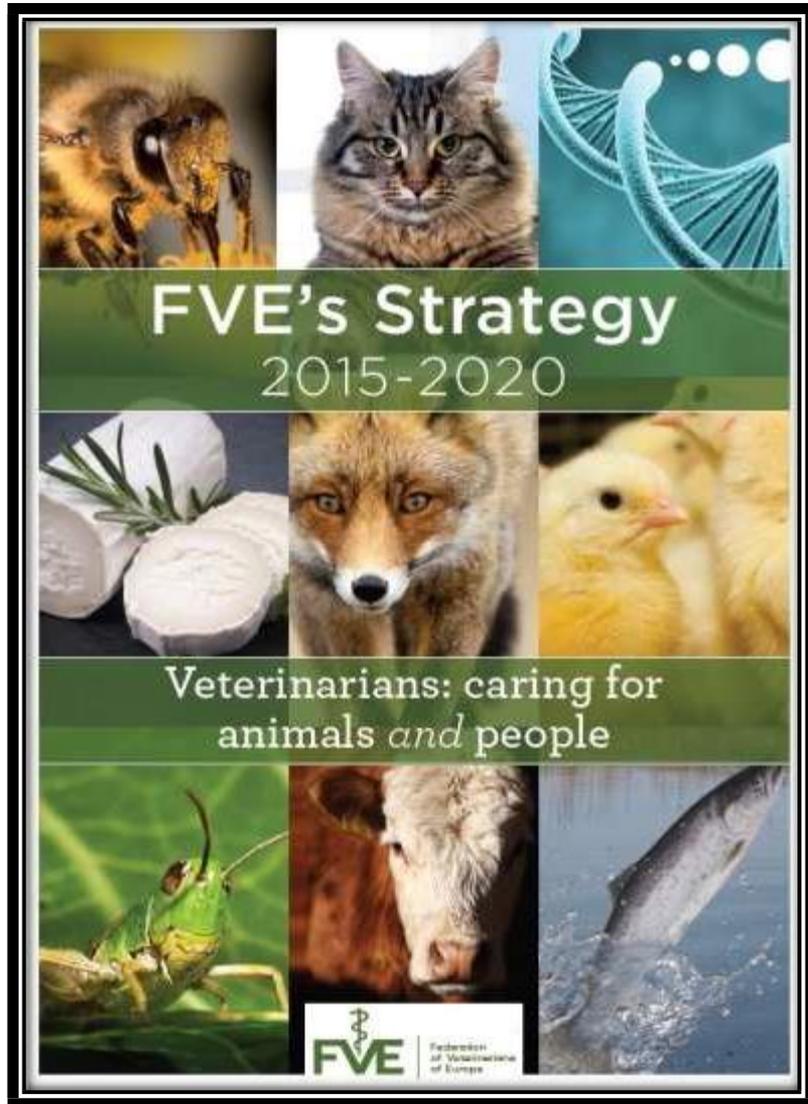
National veterinary organisations from 40 European countries

300 000 Veterinarians

FVE Sections

- UEVP (*Practitioners*)
- UEVH (*Hygienists – Public Health Officers*)
- EASVO (*Veterinary State Officers*)
- EVERI (*Education, Research, Industry*)





www.fve.org

FVE strategy 2015-2020

- Mission
- Special reference to work on Companion Animals:

'We want to do more to improve the health and welfare of companion animals, looking at issues such as identification and registration, trade, breeding issues and strays'

Increased importance of companion animals in society

- ✓ Family members
- ✓ Bereavement when pet dies



- ✓ Health benefits
- ✓ Service dogs
- ✓ Therapeutic role
- ✓ Only contact with animals



'EVERY DOG DESERVES A CARING OWNER'



Large number of stray dogs → serious risk for animal and public health and welfare.

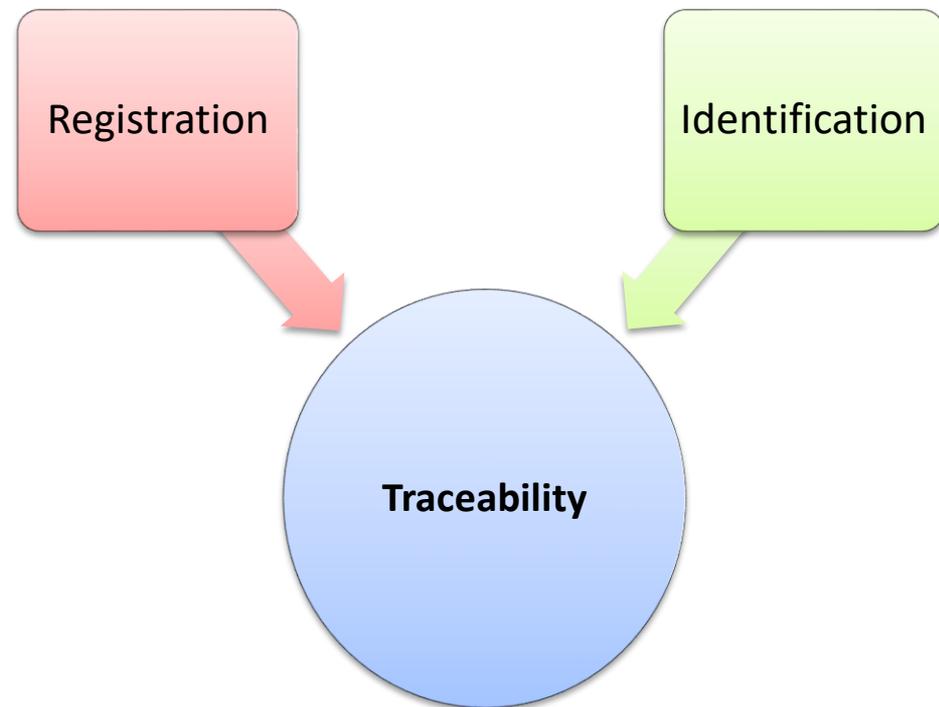
Needs integrated, comprehensive, long-term approach, aiming at managing existing populations and preventing new stray dogs with

Responsible ownership & Mandatory I&R

- [FVE/FECAVA position paper on 'every dog deserves a caring owner'](#)
- [Q&A rules of travelling with pets, the pet passport and vaccinations required](#)

Traceability and the responsible ownership of companion animals

- *Aim is to promote responsible ownership of companion animals and to disseminate reliable information*
- *Identification & Registration – the inseparable elements that enable Traceability*
- *Traceability – the key element of responsible ownership*



Voluntary initiative on improving health & welfare of pets (dogs) in trade

Members:

- **9 seats for Member States**
(13 involved: Belgium, Denmark, France, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Portugal, Hungary, Netherlands)
- **3 NGOs** (RSPCA, Vier Pforten, Eurogroup for Animals)
- **[1 Business Organisation \(FVE\)](#)**
- **1 Independent expert** (University of Milano)
- **Secretariat** (Eurogroup for Animals and [FVE](#))



Welfare in Pet Trade

Working for the EU Platform on Animal Welfare

Objectives (extract)

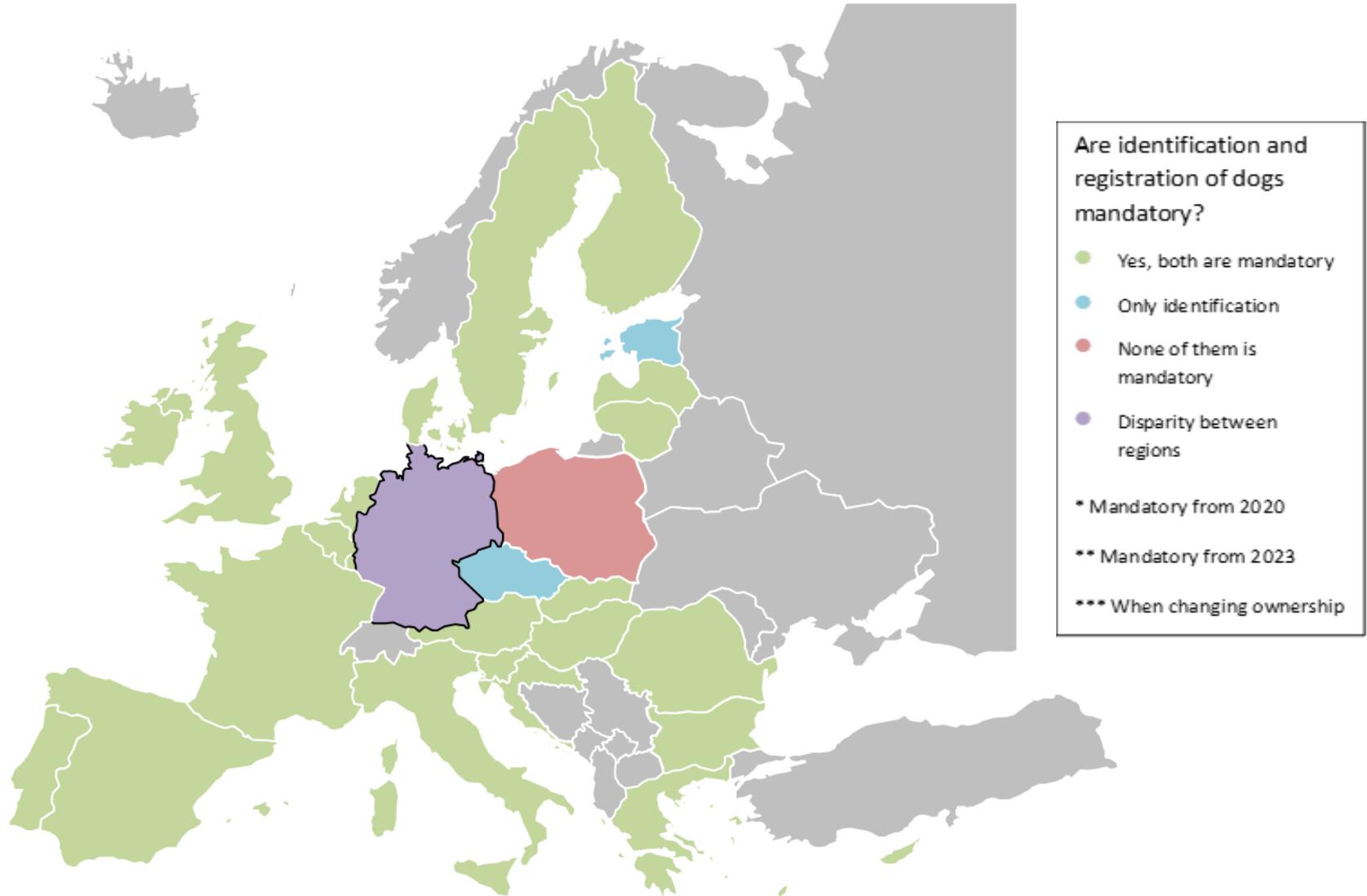


Welfare in Pet Trade

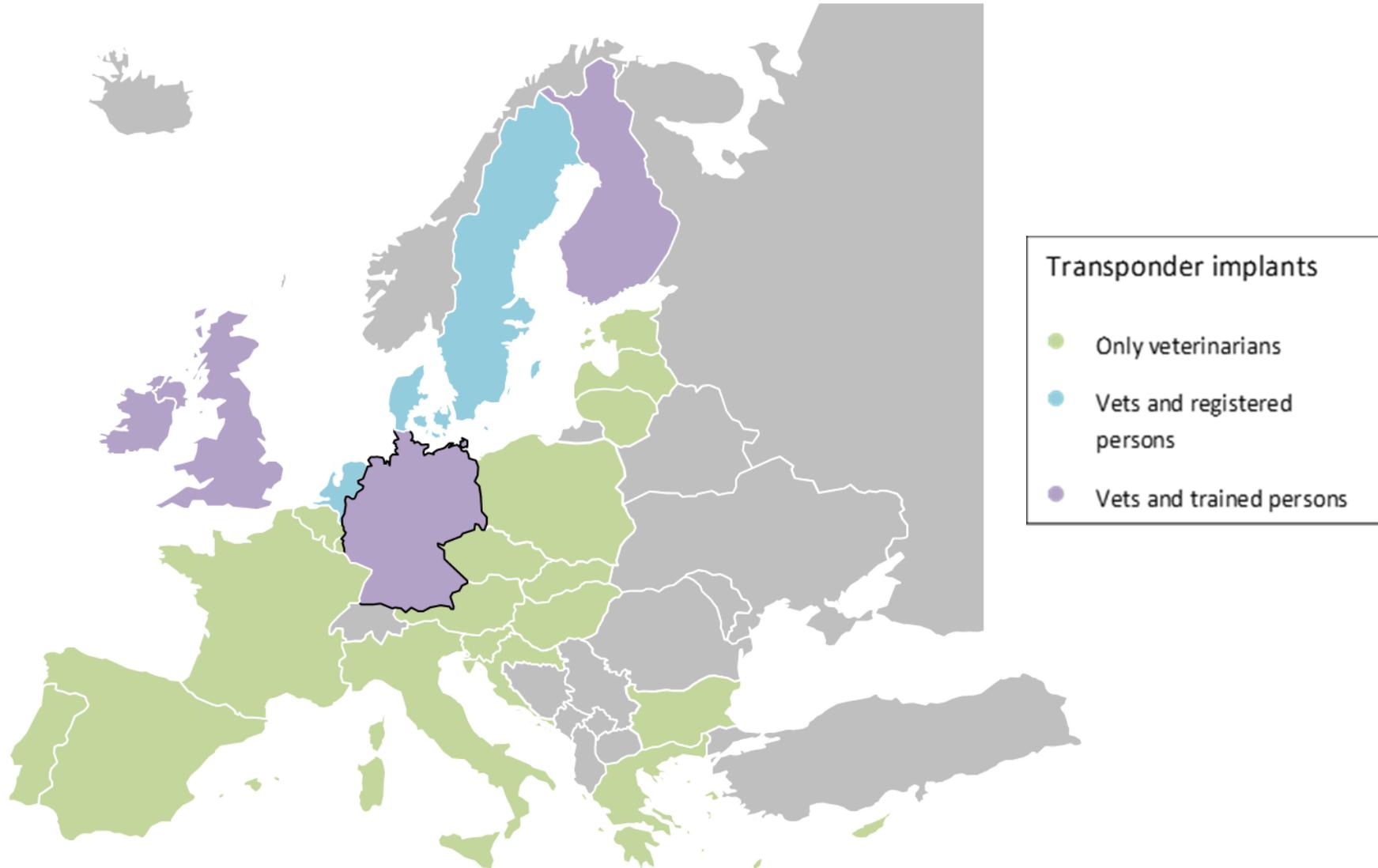
Working for the EU Platform on Animal Welfare

- Exchange of good practices on enforcement of **Identification and Registration**
- Improving communication & cooperation between Member States with regard to pet trade
- Greater exchangeability of data from **I&R systems**,
- Development of guides/guidelines for **I&R, breeding, online pet trade, socialization and transport of pets.**
- Improving the use of the TRACES system.

Mandatory I&R (dogs) in the EU



Transponder implants



WHY THE EU LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK SHOULD MAKE BOTH IDENTIFICATION & REGISTRATION MANDATORY?



Welfare in Pet Trade

Working for the EU Platform on Animal Welfare

- *Without proper I&R we cannot validate the vaccinations, control and eradicate zoonoses or control animal welfare*
- *Passport is the ideal document to keep an overview of the health information*
- *Central registration reduces risk of fraud*
- *Responsible breeding and trade of dogs and cats is impossible without the proper I&R*





Welfare in Pet Trade

Working for the EU Platform on Animal Welfare

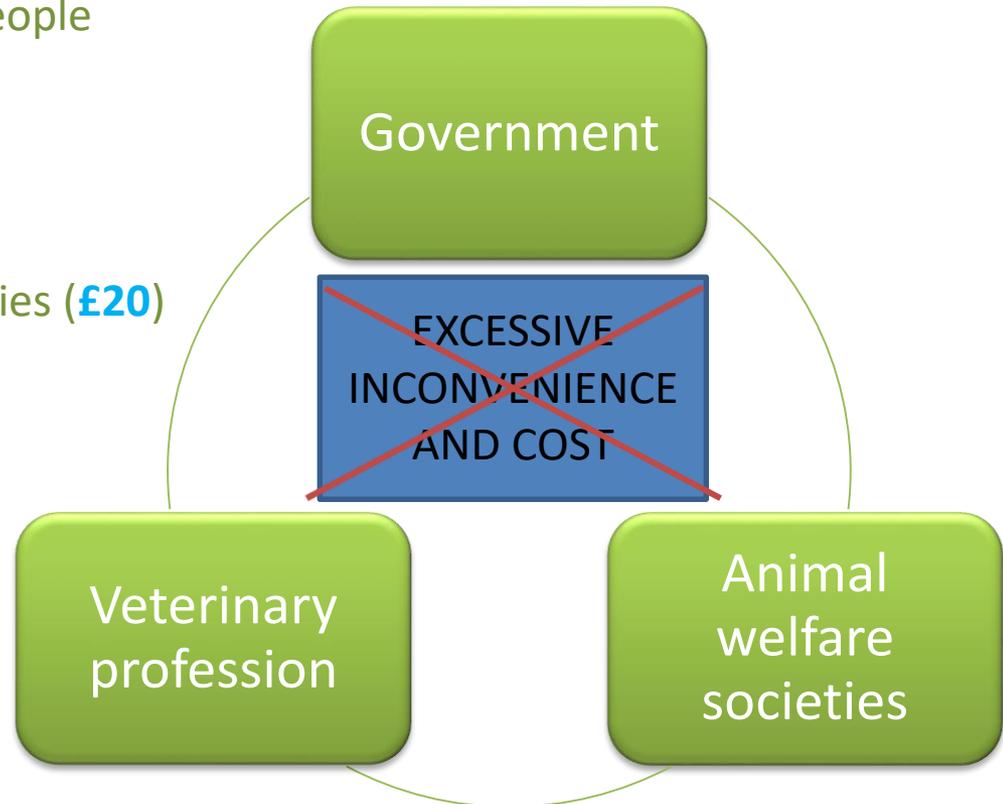
- *Having a European system (e.g. by **European Commission** or **Europetnet**) in place would facilitate crosscheck of national data*
- *Going to full electronic identification and electronic passport containing vaccinations, breeder, owners, DNA, medical dossier etc...*



MANDATORY IDENTIFICATION IN THE UK

6 April 2016 → all dogs over **8 weeks** of age have to be **identichipped**

- The burden and cost to the dog owners must be minimal
- Veterinary professionals and trained people can implant the chip
- Fine for non compliance - **£500**
- Cost for change of owner/address - varies (**£20**)



Dovecote Veterinary Hospital Free microchipping initiative



- Identichip FOC for both cats and dogs
- From **February 2014** until the law became effective in **April 2016**

- **Animal care identichip** → reliable, month's free insurance
- Information → a letter to local clients, the notice boards and the website 'About my area', Facebook 'Warnings'
- Ads for free microchipping with booster reminders



2.50 euro?

Difficult to know exact cost but generated a lot of good will with the clients





Welfare in Pet Trade

Working for the EU Platform on Animal Welfare

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Federation of
Veterinarians of Europe