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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2023 No. 468**

**The Microchipping of Cats and  
Dogs (England) Regulations 2023**

**Interpretation**

**2.** In these Regulations—

“authorised person” has the meaning given by regulation 12;

“keeper” means—

- (a) in relation to an assistance dog (within the meaning of section 173 of the Equality Act 2010)<sup>(1)</sup>—
  - (i) while the dog is training to work, or is working, as an assistance dog, the body responsible for the dog’s training and allocation;
  - (ii) after the dog has ceased working as an assistance dog, the person with whom it normally resides;
- (b) in relation to a puppy which has not yet left its mother, the owner of the puppy’s mother; and
- (c) in relation to a cat or a dog not specified in paragraph (a) or (b), the person with whom the animal normally resides.

“local authority” means—

- (a) where there is a unitary authority, within the meaning of regulation 2(3) of the Local Government Changes for England Regulations 1994<sup>(2)</sup>, that authority;
- (b) where there is not a unitary authority—
  - (i) in a non-metropolitan county, the council of that county or the council of a district within the county area;
  - (ii) in each London Borough, the council of that Borough;
  - (iii) in the City of London, the Common Council; or
  - (iv) in the Isles of Scilly, the Council of the Isle of Scilly;

“microchipped” means microchipped in accordance with regulation 3(4).

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<sup>(1)</sup> 2010 c. 15. There are amendments to section 173 of the Equality Act 2010 but none is relevant to these Regulations.

<sup>(2)</sup> S.I. 1994/867. Regulation 2 of the Local Government Changes for England Regulations 1994 was amended by S.I. 1995/1055, S.I. 1995/1748 and S.I. 1996/330.