



DOGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2011

EXPLANATORY NOTES

These notes are circulated for the information of Members with the approval of the Member in charge of the Bill, Mr P A Gawne, MHK

General Note

This Bill is promoted by the Department for Environment, Food and Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and makes minor amendments to the Dogs Act 1990 (“the 1990 Act”), either clarifying the effect of that Act or effecting deregulatory changes.

CLAUSE 1

Will give the Act resulting from the Bill its short title.

CLAUSE 2

Provides for the Act to come into force following an appointed day order and allowing that order to contain such transitional, incidental and transitory provisions considered appropriate. This clause also requires the Department to consult with the Department of Infrastructure when making any appointed day order.

CLAUSE 3

Introduces the amendments to the 1990 Act.

CLAUSE 4

Enables the Department to provide exemption from the payment for a dog licence in instances where dogs have been microchipped.

CLAUSE 5

Replaces section 2 of the 1990 Act to enable the Department, by Order, to provide for exemptions from the payment of duty for certain dogs.

CLAUSE 6

Amends section 24 of the 1990 Act to provide for bye-laws made under that Act to extend to car parks and additional open spaces, which includes churchyards where dogs should be controlled.

CLAUSE 7

Amends paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the 1990 Act to allow the Department to specify the colour of a dog licence each year without having to prescribe that colour using secondary legislation.

CLAUSE 8

Makes minor amendments to clarify the responsibilities for certain functions which lie with either the Department or the Department of Infrastructure. This clause also removes spent provisions in other enactments.