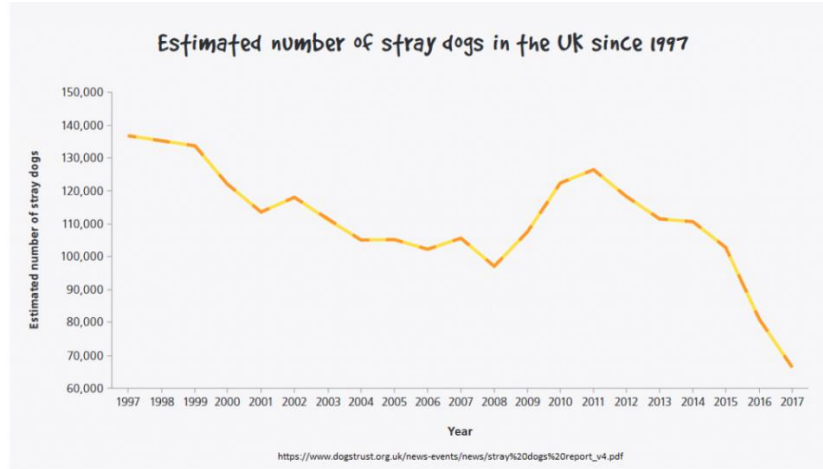


## THE BETRAYAL OF DOGS TRUST

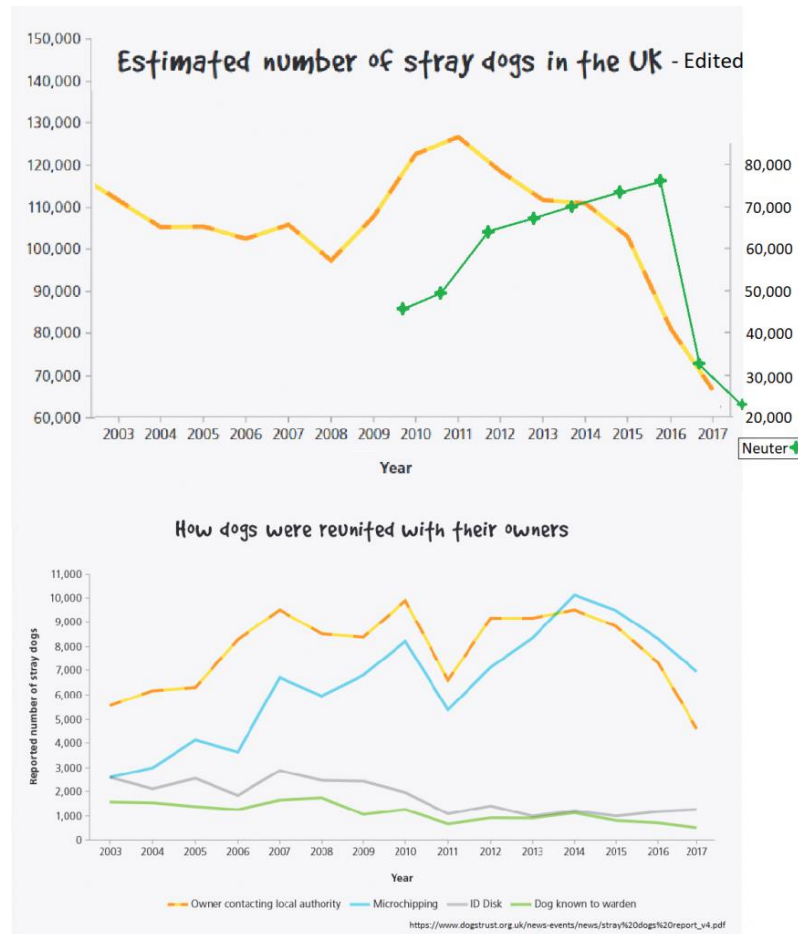
[The Dogs Trust](#), a major UK humane organization, initiated a campaign in 2009 for the mandatory microchip implant of all dogs there that went into effect starting in 2015. Their [2017 annual report](#) and their [2017 report on stray dogs](#) announces the successful reduction in stray dog and attributes it to the microchip implant mandate, despite their direct involvement in spay/neuter programs that they do not mention, that were more likely to be the actual cause of the reductions in strays, thus setting a pattern of deception that has become prevalent in promoting mandated programs. Their report shows the following history for stray dogs in the UK



And the following data is taken from [their other reports](#) for UK strays and the services they provided that relate to the trend. Spay/neuter is obviously in use and is never mentioned in Dogs Trust Report on Strays, yet it is known to reduce stray populations. One other aspect of the data that is interesting is that there is substantial correlation between the Microchip and Neutered services so that it is statistically difficult to prove which caused the improvement, especially with population effects that have lags. But in this case the spay/neuter produced results too soon for them to be plausibly claimed by the microchip mandate.

Survey Year Ending March 31st	Strays	Euthanized	Service Year Ending Dec. 31st	Neutered Services	Microchip Services
2009	107,228	9,310			
2010	<a href="#">122,000</a>	6,404	2009	45,814	
2011	<a href="#">126,000</a>	7,121	2010	48,520	10,677
2012	<a href="#">118,000</a>		2011	64,691	62,367
2013	<a href="#">111,000</a>	8,985	2012	67,244	144,600
2014	110,675	7,805	2013	68,619	90,968
2015	102,363	5,142	2014	73,549	264,240
2016	81,050	3,463	2015	77,047	196,214
2017	66,277	2,231	2016	33,457	107,826
2018	56,043	1,462	2017	22,789	

It takes one more chart from the Dogs Trust report on stray dogs, combined with an edited version of the chart above, to tell the story of what really happened to the dogs in the UK when the Dogs Trust launched their Microchip Campaign in 2009 and mandates for microchip implants into them became mandatory starting in February 2015. Neuter services effect intake (population) while microchip returns to owner effect the disposition of the dogs (reunions).



The number of spay/neuter services provided were increased until they reached the point where the stray population went into significant decline starting in 2014. It was even further increased through the end of 2015. When the microchip mandate started going into effect in February 2015, it did not result in an increase in the number of dogs returned to their owner because the stray population was already in decline.

Total returns to owner improved only as a percentage of a declining stray population. The number of dogs returned to owner by microchip ID actually declined during the period before, during and after the mandate was implemented. Microchip returns to owner dropped slightly less than the population dropped during the 2014 through 2017 period of rapid population drop so that would show an increase as a percentage of the stray population, also. The most improvement that could be attributed to microchip implant would be a [return benefit of 0.2%](#) and a euthanasia benefit to 0.007% of the UK dog population, annually. That would be about 600 dogs. And that would be likely offset somewhat by reduced adoption. Considering the millions of dogs that were implanted to achieve that, it would be much more cost effective to establish and maintain effective spay/neuter programs.

The [Dogs Trust Stray Dogs Survey of 2018](#) showed further reductions in the stray population that made the returns to owner even less significant.

Survey Year Ending March 31st	2017	2018
Strays	66,277	56,043
MC Returns Surveyed	6,910	5,775
Total Returns Surveyed	14,309	10,551
Total Returns Reported	32,434	22,325
Estimated MC Returns	15,704	12,219
MC Returns per Dog Implanted	0.194%	0.151%
Lifetime Return Benefit	2.72%	2.12%

Dogs Trust also ignored the increase in their shelter deaths that occurred when the mandate was implemented. With a decrease in the stray population, there should be more resources for them and their conditions should improve, but that does not appear to be what happened. The death rates of shelter dogs has gone on the increase. Shelter death is an issue in itself and as an indicator of the general health of the general population.

Any illness or death coincident with a microchip implant is subject to mandatory reporting. Yet they seem to dismiss all of them as just another death in the shelter.

Year Ending March 31st	Care	Rehome	Return	Death	Death/Care
2009	16,238	14,169	190	260	0.0160
2010	15,886	13,909	178	226	0.0142
2011	16,813	14,590	237	276	0.0164
2012	15,986	13,830	178	309	0.0193
2013	16,879	14,826	202	199	0.0118
2014	16,892	14,865	220	238	0.0141
2015	14,630	12,419	203	214	0.0146
2016	15,196	12,987	204	188	0.0124
2017	15,343	13,067	226	270	0.0176
2018	15,446	13,141	242	312	0.0202
2019	15,015	12,624	310	331	0.0220

The 2018 shelter death rate is the highest of their last 10 years and the 2019 deaths show another 10% increase. While there are [reports of reports no longer available](#) that Dogs Trust has had as many as 334 death in 2007(2008), the number of dogs cared for was given as 16,177 so the rate of death was lower at 0.0206, making 2019 the highest death rate on any record we could find.

The average shelter deaths rates from 2009-2015 as compared to 2017-2018 show an increase of 57 dog deaths per year in the Dogs Trust shelters. For the year ending March 31, 2018 only 35% of stays had

microchip implants so they would be implanted in the shelter system. Based on the Dogs Trust intake of strays (6,452 dogs), they would have implanted approximately 4,194 microchips. If 57 dogs died as a result, that would be a death rate of 1 per 74 implants, or 1.4%. If applied to the 40% of strays that probably entered the entire UK shelter system, that would be 204 dog deaths probably associated with microchip implant. Yet there appears to be no such adverse event reports made as required by the dog microchip mandate laws.

If the deaths in the shelter are not occurring in direct association with the implant, this raises more ominous questions about the effect the implant of microchips has on the general population. Is this an increased vulnerability to, and transmission of infectious disease? Is it some effect of the inflammatory burden of the microchip? Inflammatory markers can be measured. There are those who say, once a pet is implanted with a microchip, the markers never return to baseline. Do implants cause dogs to have more behavioral problems? Who will stand up for the dogs of the UK? Who will protect our pets?

There also appears to be a disturbing aspect to what is going on with the reduction in spay/neuter after the implementation of the the microchip mandate. Have they cut back on spay/neuter programs because they know that reductions in the population and euthanasia also negate the return benefits of the microchip? The histories say that the 2017 and 2018 levels are too low. It will be a dangerous backfire if the stray population starts to grow again. But then, it will create plenty of customers for microchip implant. The seed money has been spent, who will pay from here?

We are still awaiting the publication of the Dogs Trust Stray Dog Survey for the year ending March 31, 2019. What is happening with the stray population? Extrapolation suggests it could fall to 50,000 dogs or so, but who knows when the effects of the reduction in spay/neuter services will kick in? Maybe this year, maybe next. And will the UK be left with a growing population of increasingly ill dogs?

How did this mandate even get passed? It was never brought up in a General Election. [Our friends in the UK](#) give us this answer:

*The micro-chipping has been brought in via regulations in the UK. This meant that no MPs had to vote for the policy, it just went through as a "Statutory Instrument" and if no MPs spoke out against it, then it just sails through. That is what happened.*

*The driving force behind the policy was the animal charities in the UK, primarily the Dogs Trust. These groups collect money from dog lovers who believe their money will go to help dogs but clearly it does not. When the policy was being pushed by the Dogs Trust, their Veterinary Director was also in the Pet Advisory Committee (PAC), that advises Parliament, and he was also chairman of the Microchip Advisory Group, an RFID industry group comprised of Database Owners, Major Implanters and Major Manufacturers (see <https://web.archive.org/web/20160329232154/http://microchip-implants.co.uk/index.php/who-is-involved-in-mag-the-microchip-advisory-group>).*

*We have been shocked by how willing so many people have been to chip a member of their family and at this time there appears to be no political will to overturn such awful regulations.*

So who is Sir Chris Laurence and how could he be allowed to harm so many? Microchips produced by PAC members shown in the link above are associated with approximately 48% of the adverse events reported 2016-2018.

The [CEO of the Dogs Trust passed away unexpectedly](#) on October 31, 2018 and the organization may be going through some adjustment. We hope to see some answers to our questions about why this organization has been promoting this program the way it has and hope to see some more information about the benefits of spay/neuter.