



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for City and Government Services

Reference: City and Government Services - City and Environment Directorate

Hearing: 22 July 2026

In relation to: Domestic Animal Welfare and pet registration

Question received: 28 July 2026

Answer Due: 6 August 2026

- (1) Why are there no requirements for rabbit breeders to be registered or rabbits to be desexed when being sold as pets?
- (2) Do rabbits have to be microchipped like dogs and cats do?

Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- (1) There are currently no ACT laws requiring rabbit breeders to be registered or requiring rabbits to be desexed before sale. Instead, rabbit owners and breeders must comply with the *Animal Welfare Act 1992* and the Animal Welfare (Keeping and Breeding of Rabbits in the ACT) Mandatory Code of Practice 2024, which sets welfare standards for keeping and breeding rabbits.
- (2) No. In the ACT, mandatory microchipping and registration requirements apply to dogs and cats, but there is no requirement for pet rabbits to be microchipped.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026–2027

Signature:

Date:

7/8/26

By the Minister for City and Government Services, Tara Cheyne MLA