
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

Under section 6 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006 (c. 45), working dogs may be exempted by regulations from the prohibition upon the removal of the whole or any part of a dog's tail, otherwise than for the purpose of its medical treatment.

Regulation 3 sets out the requirements to be observed before a veterinary surgeon may certify that the dog is a working dog. Regulation 3(1)(a) and Schedule 1 specify the types of dog that are capable of being certified, and regulation 3(1)(c) and 3(2) describes the further evidence (concerning the likelihood that the dog will be used for certain work) that is required to be shown to a veterinary surgeon in order to obtain such a certificate. Regulation 4 requires a veterinary surgeon to certify the fact that he or she has docked a dog's tail. Regulation 5 prescribes the way in which a dog whose tail is docked is to be identified by microchipping. Schedule 2 prescribes the form in which the certificate is to be given.

A regulatory appraisal has been prepared. Copies may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer, the Welsh Assembly Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ.