



Council of Docked Breeds

PRESS RELEASE

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CDB applauds as vets ditch Euro pet charter

The Council of Docked Breeds (CDB) has welcomed the decision by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) not to press for Britain to sign up to the controversial European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals.

The veterinary profession's governing body had favoured UK accession to the European Convention, which would have outlawed tail docking, dew claw removal and the breeding of many popular dog breeds. However, strong concerns expressed by the CDB plus many other organisations and breed clubs prompted a change of heart. After consultation with the Kennel Club, the RCVS has decided to take no further action over the Convention.

“We applaud this sensible decision by the RCVS,” said CDB Secretary Ginette Elliott. “The European Convention would have seriously affected many of our best known breeds and brought no significant animal welfare benefits. We have long been opposed to it.

“Home Office Minister Mike O’Brien has said that he will be considering Britain’s accession to the Convention later this year. He should now take note and recognise the strength of feeling amongst all sections of the dog world. The Government must ensure that Britain steers well clear of this piece of unwelcome European legislation.”

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