

## **ADVICE NOTE 29**

### **Reporting to the Kennel Club**

- 1) The purpose of this advice note is to encourage veterinary surgeons to report to the Kennel Club, surgery that alters the natural conformation of a Kennel Club registered dog.

### **Correction of breed-related defects**

- 2) Upon registration with the Kennel Club, dog owners give consent to the disclosure of information by veterinary surgeons. Therefore, a veterinary surgeon is permitted to report to the Kennel Club. The Guide to Professional Conduct states:

*Registration of a dog with the Kennel Club permits a veterinary surgeon who carries out surgery to alter the natural conformation of a dog, to report this to the Kennel Club.*

- 3) Veterinary surgeons are encouraged to report any such defects, as the collection and analysis of this information by the Kennel Club assists in identifying and addressing problems associated with breeding from animals with defects, with the aim of preventing perpetuation of those defects and promoting animal welfare.

### **Client Confidentiality**

- 4) If a dog is registered with the Kennel Club, no further consent is required from the client to report the alteration of natural conformation of a dog. It is advisable to tell the client that a report will be made, as covert reporting may be construed negatively by the client.
- 5) Reporting veterinary surgeons are advised to use the standard reporting forms provided by the British Veterinary Association.

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