

**Bill Committee on
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Bill 2006**

Follow-up actions arising from the meeting on 26 September 2006

The Administration was requested –

- (a) to provide updated statistics on prosecutions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap 169) and Regulations and penalties handed down by the court;
- (b) to reflect to the enforcement agencies the concerns raised by the deputations. Many deputations consider that the law enforcement agencies fail to appreciate the severity of offences under Cap 169 and have not enforced the provisions vigorously;
- (c) to consider providing for heavier penalties for aggravated offences or subsequent convictions under Cap 169, and give examples, if any, of existing legislation which have provisions for aggravated offences or different levels of offences;
- (d) to review Cap 169 and provide a timetable on the review. In this connection, members have raised the following views:
 - (i) abandoning animals should be made an offence under Cap 169;
 - (ii) the less complex issues concerning cruelty to animals should be addressed in the Bill and the more complex ones should be dealt with at a later stage;
 - (iii) the contents of Cap 169 should be commensurate with the changing attitude and value towards animals;
- (e) to provide the number of inspections of animal traders (including pet shops and breeders) and construction sites in recent years; and
- (f) to provide an updated response to views expressed by the deputations at the meeting.