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## 政府總部民政事務局

香港添馬添美道二號政府總部西翼十二樓

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> > 7 May 2014

Ms Alice LEUNG
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Fax no.: 2509 9055)

Dear Ms LEUNG,

## Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs Letter from Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Thank you for your letter dated 30 April 2014 to the Secretary for Home Affairs on the above issue. I am authorised to reply as follows:

There are a number of venues under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department which keep different kinds of animals and are free for the public to visit. These include Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Walk-through-Aviary of Hong Kong Park, Bird Lake of Kowloon Park, Reptile House of Tuen Mun Park and Aviary Pagoda of Yuen Long Park.

The Hon. Tang Ka-piu raised the issue of Ocean Park's admission fee in his letter. According to our understanding, Ocean Park implements concessionary measures to facilitate the lower-income groups to visit the Park. For example, the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients and their family members, as well as member organisations of the Social Welfare Department can purchase admission tickets at a concessionary price of \$20. In addition, the Park provides sponsorship to students in financial difficulty so that they can participate in activities organised by the Ocean Park Academy Hong Kong free of charge and visit the different kinds of animals kept by the Park.

Establishing a large-scale zoological garden entails substantial resources implications. Apart from the one-off capital cost for the construction, such a zoo also requires substantial land resources, engagement of professional husbandry and veterinary staff, and considerable recurrent expenditure. The Government has no plan to establish a publicly funded large-scale zoo at this stage.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Linda Law)

for Secretary for Home Affairs