Subcommittee on Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) (Amendment) Regulation 2016 and Specification of Public Offices (Amendment) Notice 2016

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 7 June 2016

- 1. The Administration was requested:
 - (a) to provide the number of prosecutions instituted in the past five years (i) in respect of contravention of provisions under the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B) and (ii) against holders of Animal Trader Licence ("ATL") for breach of conditions attached to ATL; and
 - (b) to consider the suggestion of some members that while the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation must not cancel a licence without first giving the licensee an opportunity of being heard under the new regulation 5G(2), the licensee should do so "within a reasonable period of time". Members were of the view that the suggested amendment on the new regulation 5G(2) could help prevent uncooperative behaviour of licensees who might try to procrastinate the intended cancellation.
- 2. According to the Administration, it planned to make available information regarding all licensees and persons/animal welfare organizations ("AWOs") to whom/which exemption from holding an ATL was granted on Government websites for public access. Members requested the Administration to advise on what kind of information would be released for public access and whether the extent of disclosure of information for public access for body corporates and non-profit-making AWOs would be the same for individuals. Some members opined that the Administration should carefully consider the extent of information to be uploaded onto the Government websites, in particular in relation to individuals, which might arouse personal privacy concern.
- 3. The Administration was also requested to consider a member's suggestion to require licensed animal traders/dog breeders to post a notice at a conspicuous place of their premises in respect of which a licence was granted to remind patrons that the minimum age of a person to whom a licence holder could sell dogs was 16.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
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