

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

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**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Animal Welfare  
and Cruelty to Animals**

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat  
for the meeting on 22 March 2016**

**Government's effort in the promotion  
of responsible pet ownership**

According to the Administration's reply to a written question on safeguarding and promoting animal welfare raised at the Council meeting of 28 October 2015, it has been striving to promote in the community a culture of care for animals with a view to protecting animal welfare. To this end, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD") has established a dedicated team to devise, implement and fortify public education and publicity programmes for disseminating messages that help promote care for animals and responsible pet ownership, in a bid to reduce cases of animal abandonment. The measures include appealing to the public to carefully consider whether they are able to take life-long care of the pet before purchasing it, advising against abandoning pets or surrendering them without a good cause, and emphasizing the need for dog licensing, rabies vaccination and the benefits of neutering.

2. In 2015-2016, AFCD has earmarked a provision of \$5 million for the implementation of the relevant education and publicity activities, including producing Announcements in the Public Interest on television and radio, placing advertisements on different platforms such as cinemas, public transport, bus stops, magazines and websites, organizing promotional events jointly with different animal welfare organizations in shopping arcades and outdoor venues, conducting village and community campaigns, as well as holding talks in schools and housing estates. AFCD has also revamped its website to further promote respect for animals and provide information on proper care for animals. Through the above-mentioned education and publicity programmes, the number

of animals surrendered by owners and the number of stray animals caught in the past five years have dropped by 38% and 36% respectively.

3. The issue of responsible pet ownership has not been discussed in the Council. The Administration will brief the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Animal Welfare and Cruelty to Animals on the Government's efforts in the promotion of responsible pet ownership at the Subcommittee meeting on 22 March 2016.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
16 March 2016