

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Animal Welfare and Cruelty to Animals

Summary of views expressed/suggestions made by deputations at the meeting on 22 March 2016

	Major views expressed/suggestions made	Administration's response
(1)	<p>The Administration should make reference to animal protection legislation in developed countries/places, to comprehensively review and amend the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) and other existing animal welfare related ordinances for the purpose of catching up with international standard, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) reviewing the definition of cruelty to animals; (b) making intentional abandonment of animals an offence of animal cruelty; (c) increasing the maximum penalties under the existing ordinances so as to increase the deterrent effect; (d) emphasizing the responsibility of animal owners; and (e) setting up a dedicated bureau/department to formulate policies on animal rights. 	
(2)	<p>Regarding the proposed amendments to the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B), the Administration should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) consider raising the threshold for granting the new animal 	

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	<p>breeder licences;</p> <p>(b) consider issuing a single animal breeder licence with a high threshold to facilitate easier enforcement of the Regulations and better protection of animal rights and welfare;</p> <p>(c) consider introducing an examination system and quota for the granting and renewal of licences; and</p> <p>(d) consider imposing a total ban on animal trading and breeding.</p>	
(3)	<p>The Administration should establish "animal police" teams specially tasked to investigate cases of animal cruelty and abandonment, enhance the training of frontline enforcement officers on handling relevant cases, with a view to preventing the occurrence of animal cruelty and abandonment.</p>	
(4)	<p>The Administration should co-operate with District Councils and animal rights organizations to fully implement the "Trap-Neuter-Return" programme, i.e. to extend the programme to all the 18 districts, and use more humane means to deal with the problem of stray animals.</p>	
(5)	<p>The Administration should step up publicity and public education on animal care and responsible pet ownership. It should promote animal adoption, with a view to reducing the number of animal trading.</p>	
(6)	<p>The Administration should examine the extension of the</p>	

	Major views expressed/suggestions made	Administration's response
	<p>microchipping and licensing schemes to cats and other kinds of animals which are commonly kept as pets, so as to help owners reclaim their missing pets, prevent the abandonment of pets by irresponsible owners and institute prosecutions against those owners who abandoned pets without a good reason.</p>	
(7)	<p>The Administration should set up under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department more Animal Management Centres, and explore the provision of subsidy to recognized animal adoption organizations so that they can have sufficient resources for keeping abandoned animals, thereby reducing the number of animals eventually euthanized.</p>	
(8)	<p>The Administration should review the cooperation with animal welfare organizations, and consider providing them with more financial assistance for improving the work of animal welfare organizations in the promotion of animal welfare and animal adoption.</p>	
(9)	<p>The Administration should review the work of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and put in place a mechanism to evaluate its effectiveness in safeguarding animal welfare.</p>	
(10)	<p>The Administration should increase the room for survival for animals, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) reviewing the policy on the keeping of animals by tenants living in public rental housing; (b) examining the practice of allowing animal owners to board 	

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	<p>public transport with their animals; and</p> <p>(c) constructing more facilities for pets, such as animal parks and public toilets for dogs.</p>	
(11)	<p>Regarding captive animals, the Administration should consider:</p> <p>(a) improving the welfare of captive animals kept in the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens in areas of nutrition, environment, health, behavior and mental state;</p> <p>(b) phasing out animal exhibits at the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens, with a view to closing down the Zoo eventually;</p> <p>(c) establishing an independent body to monitor the operation of Ocean Park;</p> <p>(d) forbidding any form of performance by captive animals; and</p> <p>(e) enacting legislation on prohibiting the breeding of captive animals in Hong Kong.</p>	

Deputations making oral representation to the Subcommittee

Deputations/Individuals	LC Paper No.
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The Democratic Party	-
Labour Party	-
Animals Asia	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Animal-Friendly Alliance	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(02) LC Paper No. CB(2)1155/15-16(01)
Non-Profit Making Veterinary Services Society Limited	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(03)
Hong Kong Scottish Fold Sickness Concern Group	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(04)
New People's Party	LC Paper No. CB(2)1173/15-16(01)
Hong Kong Dolphin Conservation Society	-
Animal Earth	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(05)
Give Dog a Home	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(06) LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01)
Cat is Cat	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(07)
Liberal Party Pet's Rights Concern Unit	-
Animals Protector	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(08)
馬鞍山社區流浪動物關注組	LC Paper No. CB(2)1133/15-16(01)
Miss Gabee MAK Shuk-ching	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(09) LC Paper No. CB(2)1145/15-16(01)
Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong	-
Doctor Pet	LC Paper No. CB(2)1173/15-16(02)
Cheung Chau Animal Care	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(10) LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Ho Man Tin District Ranger Animals Unit	LC Paper No. CB(2)1133/15-16(02)
Behavioural Enrichment Coalition	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(11)
Deputations/Individuals	LC Paper No.
Society for Abandoned Animals Limited	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(12)

	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(13) LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
The Localists' Regiment of Animals Protection	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(14) LC Paper No. CB(2)1212/15-16(01) - (<i>Restricted to members only</i>)
Dog Rights Concern Group	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(15) LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Animal Friends	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(16)
Animal Power	-
Protection of Animals Lantau South	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Mr CHAN Kai-wai, Sai Kung District Council Member	LC Paper No. CB(2)1173/15-16(03)
熱血貓民	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(17)
Mr LO Tsz-hang	-
Animal Saver HK	LC Paper No. CB(2)1173/15-16(04)
Civic Party Animal Rights Concern Group	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(19)
STOP! Save HK's Cats and Dogs	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(20) LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Mr LI Shing-tak	-
The Hong Kong Veterinary Association	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(22) LC Paper No. CB(2)1222/15-16(01)
Deputations/Individuals	LC Paper No.
Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	-

Cats Society (Hong Kong) Limited	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(25)
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Written submissions received from deputations/individuals not attending the Subcommittee meeting

Deputations/Individuals	LC Paper No.
Miss KONG Mei-ting	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(18)
Miss Judy CHAN Ka-ling	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(21)
Joanna TSANG	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(23)
Animal Welfare Advisory Group	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(24)
HOME4CAT	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(26)
Apeiron CHEUNG	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(27)
Mongrel Club	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(28)
18 Districts Animal Protection Commissioners	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(03)
139B Concern Group	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(03)
AELLA Asia	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(29)
Companion Animal Federation	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Concern Group for Pets	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Green Animals Association Limited	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Hong Kong Rescue Puppies	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Home Dog Home	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Deputations/Individuals	LC Paper No.
Hong Kong Alley Cats	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01)

	LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Hong Kong Animal Adoption Centre	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Hong Kong Cats	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Hong Kong Dog Rescue	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Lifelong Animal Protection	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
Sai Kung Stray Friends	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(01) LC Paper No. CB(2)1403/15-16(01)
AFCD Watch	LC Paper No. CB(2)1112/15-16(30)

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
5 May 2016