

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)812/20-21
(These minutes have been
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB2/PS/2/16

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Animal Rights

**Minutes of the meeting
held on Wednesday, 13 January 2021, at 10:00 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH

Member absent : Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

Clerk in attendance : Miss Connie AU
Senior Council Secretary (2) 6

Staff in attendance : Mr Ronald LAU
Council Secretary (2) 5

Miss Michelle TANG
Council Secretary (2) 6

Miss Meisy KWOK
Legislative Assistant (2) 6

Miss LEE Wai-yan
Clerical Assistant (2) 6

Action

I. Election of Chairman (and Deputy Chairman)

Mr CHAN Hak-kan, the member with the highest precedence among those who were present at the meeting, presided over the election of the Chairman of the Subcommittee. He invited nominations for the chairmanship of the Subcommittee.

2. Mr CHAN Hak-kan was nominated by Mr LAU Kwok-fan and the nomination was seconded by Mr SHIU Ka-fai. Mr CHAN accepted the nomination. As Mr CHAN was nominated for the chairmanship, Mr Steven HO, the member who had the second highest precedence among those who were present at the meeting, presided over the election of Chairman.

3. As there was no other nomination, Mr Steven HO declared Mr CHAN Hak-kan elected as Chairman of the Subcommittee. Mr CHAN then took the chair.

4. Members agreed that there was no need to elect a Deputy Chairman.

II. Schedule of meetings and items for discussion

(LC Paper No. CB(2)689/17-18)

5. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

6. The Chairman informed members that the Administration had provided a list of items proposed for discussion by the Subcommittee which was tabled at the meeting. Members in general raised no objection to the items proposed by the Administration. Members suggested that the Subcommittee could also consider discussing the following issues:

- (a) the latest development on the proposed amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169) and the promotion of responsible pet ownership through the introduction of a positive "duty of care" on pet owners;
- (b) proposed extension of the "Trap-Neuter-Return" trial programme to cats;

Action

- (c) enforcement actions in respect of the statutory requirement on microchipping of dogs and the proposed extension of such a requirement to cats;
- (d) management of stray cattle and nuisances caused by wild animals (including wild pigs and monkeys); and
- (e) issues relating to the provision of government-run animal welfare facilities (such as facilities for housing stray animals and for providing veterinary services and hospice services).

(Post-meeting note: The list of items for discussion proposed by the Administration was issued to members on 15 January 2021 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)668/20-21(01).)

7. The Chairman advised that he and the Clerk would work out the meeting arrangements with the Administration as appropriate, taking into account members' suggestions. Members would be informed of the date for the next meeting in due course.

(Post-meeting note: Members were informed on 26 January 2021 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)712/20-21 that the next meeting of the Subcommittee would be held on Monday, 8 February 2021 at 10:45 am.)

III. Any other business

8. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:13 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
23 February 2021

**Proceedings of the meeting of
the Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Animal Rights
on Wednesday, 13 January 2021, at 10:00 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

| Time marker | Speaker(s) | Subject(s) | Action required |
|---|--|---|-----------------|
| <i>Agenda item I – Election of Chairman (and Deputy Chairman)</i> | | | |
| 000343-000558 | Mr CHAN Hak-kan Mr LAU Kwok-fan Mr SHIU Ka-fai Mr Steven HO | Election of Chairman | |
| <i>Agenda item II – Schedule of meetings and items for discussion</i> | | | |
| 000559-000657 | Chairman Mr SHIU Ka-fai | Expressing concern about the recent animal cruelty cases, Mr SHIU Ka-fai suggested that arrangements be made for the early discussion of the latest development on the proposed amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance (Cap. 169). | |
| 000658-000855 | Chairman Mr Steven HO | Echoing the view of Mr SHIU Ka-fai, Mr Steven HO considered that the management of stray cattle and nuisances caused by wild animals (including wild pigs and monkeys) as well as issues relating to the feeding of wild animals by members of the public should also be discussed. | |
| 000856-001046 | Chairman Mr SHIU Ka-fai | Mr SHIU Ka-fai considered that issues relating to responsible pet ownership could be discussed. The Chairman said that according to his understanding, the Administration had proposed to amend Cap. 169 to, amongst others, impose a positive "duty of care" on animal keepers. The Chairman considered that the Administration should brief members on the progress of the proposed legislative amendment and related implementation issues in respect of the positive "duty of care". The Chairman and Mr SHIU shared a similar view that the "Trap-Neuter-Return" trial programme for stray dogs should be extended to cats and they hoped to discuss the subject. | |
| 001047-001315 | Chairman Mr Steven HO | Mr Steven HO hoped that the Subcommittee could discuss the Administration's enforcement actions in respect of the statutory requirement on microchipping of dogs as well as the suggestion of extending the relevant requirement to cats. Mr HO also expressed concern about the measures that the Administration had put in place to safeguard the health of veterinarians and related practitioners against coronavirus disease 2019. The Chairman responded | |

| Time marker | Speaker(s) | Subject(s) | Action required |
|---|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| | | <p>that consideration might be given to invite the Administration to provide a written response in this regard.</p> <p>In response to Mr HO's further suggestion of exploring the liability that should be imposed on pet owners in respect of traffic accidents involving their pets, the Chairman advised that the Administration would introduce legislative amendments to enlarge the scope of "animal" under section 56 of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) soon to require a driver to stop in the case of a traffic accident involving damage to a dog or a cat, and that Mr HO might consider raising his concern at the Bills Committee, if formed, to study the Bill in detail after its introduction into the Legislative Council.</p> | |
| 001316-001617 | Chairman Mr Steven HO | <p>The Chairman considered that issues relating to the provision of government-run animal welfare facilities (such as facilities for housing stray animals and for providing veterinary services and hospice services) could be explored at future meetings.</p> <p>Expressing concurrence with the Chairman, Mr Steven HO suggested that the Administration should also provide information regarding the policies and measures on the provision of similar facilities in other countries or places for members' reference. Mr HO wished to clarify the differentiation between livestock and pet animals.</p> | |
| <i>Agenda item III – Any other business</i> | | | |
| 001618-001640 | Chairman | Closing remarks | |