



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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[Translation]

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Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Connie AU)
(Fax: 2869 6794)

Dear Miss AU,

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene
Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Animal Rights
The Government's Response to Follow-up Actions
Raised by the Subcommittee**

Thank you for the Secretariat's letter dated 8 April 2021. In response to the matters raised by Members at the Subcommittee meeting on 22 March 2021, the Government's response is set out as follows.

- (a) Among Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's (AFCD) 17 rehoming partners, 10 of them provide animal rehoming/shelter facilities, handling dogs, cats, rabbits and reptiles etc. We understand these animal welfare organisations (AWO) (not including the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA)) can in total accommodate up to around 820 dogs, 220 cats, 80 rabbits and 300 reptiles. Furthermore, over the past 3 years, SPCA collected or rescued on average around 1 000 dogs, 1 700 cats and 2 700 other animals every year. The Government does not have an exhaustive list of AWOs that provide animal rehoming/shelter facilities in Hong Kong.
- (b) AFCD provides financial assistance to AWOs under a subvention scheme, to conduct projects related to promotion of animal welfare

and animal management, including establishing and operating rehoming centres and publicity programmes, to enhance public awareness on responsible pet ownership, animal welfare and adoption, etc. Please refer to Annex for subvention provided to AWOs under said scheme in the past three years. In addition, AFCD provides subvention to SPCA, to support activities and programmes related to stray animal management, combating animal cruelty, public education on animal welfare, etc. In 2018-19, AFCD provided subvention of \$1 million to SPCA, whilst in 2019-20 and 2020-21, annual subvention of \$1.5 million was provided to SPCA.

Furthermore, the Development Bureau manages the Funding Scheme to Support the Use of Vacant Government Sites by Non-government Organisations and has approved a total funding of around \$18 million, as well as short-term tenancies at nominal rent, to support two rehoming partners to construct animal re-homing shelters on vacant government sites.

- (c) According to the 2018 Thematic Household Survey Report No. 66, 82.3% of dogs kept by households were de-sexed (182 000/221 100), whilst 77.2% of cats kept by households were de-sexed (142 100/184 100).

Yours sincerely,

[Signed]

(Amor WONG)
for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c.
Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

(i) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2017-18 and released in 2018-19)

	AWO	Programme	Amount released (\$)
1.	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programme	83,329
2.	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	130,000
3.	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To enhance rehoming facilities	82,000
4.	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	47,960
5.	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	48,000
6.	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	28,000
7.	Hong Kong Cats	To produce educational materials for promotion of animal welfare and adoption	16,522
8.	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	45,000
9.	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	45,000
10.	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	45,000
Total			570,811

(ii) **Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2018-19 and released in 2019-20)**

	AWO	Programme	Amount released (\$)
1.	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity programme	117,552
2.	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	250,000
3.	Lifelong Animal Protection Charity	To educate children on responsible pet ownership and adoption	120,000
4.	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	118,450
5.	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	150,000
6.	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	53,500
7.	Hong Kong Cats	To conduct publicity for adoption	4,408
8.	Society for Abandoned Animals	To refurbish the electric power system of the animal centre	120,000
9.	Kirsten's Zoo	To provide preventive care and food for rescued and rehomed animals	120,000
10.	Animal Friends	To provide medical treatment for rehoming animals	150,000
11.	Hong Kong Saving Cat and Dog Association	To enhance public awareness on animal welfare and adoption	50,000
Total			1,253,910

(iii) Subvention from AFCD to AWOs (applied for in 2019-20 and released in 2020-21)

	AWO	Programme	Amount Released (\$)
1.	Hong Kong Society of Herpetology Foundation	To run the animal adoption centre, provide food and veterinary care for rehoming animals and conduct education and publicity	160,000
2.	Hong Kong Dog Rescue	To provide preventive care and food for rehoming animals	211,809
3.	Lifelong Animal Protection	Improvement of adoption centre facilities	98,500
4.	Hong Kong Rabbit Society	To produce educational materials and provide medical treatment for sick rabbits	150,000
5.	Sai Kung Stray Friends	To provide preventive medical treatment and food for rehoming dogs	150,000
6.	Cheung Chau Animal Care	To operate a rehome scheme and conduct education and publicity programmes	60,000
7.	Hong Kong Cats	To promote adoption	5,669
8.	Society for Abandoned Animals	Public education to enhance animal welfare	146,951
9.	Kirsten's Zoo	Preventive care and food for rescue and rehoming of animals	150,000
10.	Paws United Charity	Medical costs for rehoming animals and promotion of adoption	150,000
11.	Hong Kong Animal Adoption Centre	Animal Adoption Project 2020	100,000
Total			1,382,929