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Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Animal Rights

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
for the meeting on 22 June 2021**

**Arrangements for pet animals whose owners are subject to quarantine
due to coronavirus disease 2019**

This information note outlines the arrangements for pet animals (including dogs, cats and other mammals) whose owners are subject to quarantine due to coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") as required by law.

2. According to the Administration's replies to Members' initial written questions during the examination of the Estimates of Expenditures 2021-2022, if a pet owner is confirmed as infected with COVID-19 or as a close contact of a COVID-19 case and has been put under mandatory quarantine in a quarantine centre, subject to the consent of the pet owner, the pet animal concerned will be collected and delivered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD") to the designated animal keeping facilities for quarantine and veterinary monitoring. The New Territories South Animal Management Centre of AFCD is used as a quarantine facility for animals while the animal keeping facility at the Hong Kong Port of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge is currently used for quarantine and veterinary monitoring for animals tested positive for COVID-19. The process of quarantine and veterinary monitoring is supervised by veterinary surgeons to safeguard the health of animals and the public. Samples will be repeatedly collected for testing of COVID-19 as appropriate and animals tested positive for COVID-19 will not be returned to their owners until they are tested negative.

3. According to the information available on AFCD's website, if a pet owner and/or any of his/her family members has/have been ordered to be quarantined at home, the pet animal concerned can stay at home and be taken care by its owner or the owner's family members. There is no need for the animal to be delivered to AFCD's designated animal keeping facilities for quarantine and veterinary monitoring.

4. The Administration will brief members on the arrangements for pet animals whose owners are subject to quarantine due to COVID-19 at the Subcommittee meeting on 22 June 2021.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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