

MEMO

From Chief Inspector, Police Dog Unit
Ref. (50) in CP/PDU 135/2
Tel. No. 26590482
Fax. No. 26749780
Date 15.7.99

To Legislative Council
(Attn.: Ms. Leung Siukum)
Your Ref. in CB1/SS/10/98
dated 8.7.99 *Fax. No.* 28696794
Total Pages 1

Comments on Dangerous Dogs Regulation

Your above quoted memo and the Dangerous dogs Regulation and Dogs and Cats (Amendment) Ordinance 1997 refer.

2. The following are my views on the subject legislation:

- (a) The original proposal to classify dangerous dogs by breeds should be retained. The classification by size would be opposed by most dog owners and in addition, would not serve the original purpose of the proposed amendments.
- (b) To target the problem caused by large mongrel dogs, amendments should be made to make it easier to prosecute owners who fail to exercise proper control over their dogs.

(Kong Cheuk Chau)
Chief Inspector
Police Dog Unit

MEMO

From CIP PDU
Ref. (2) *in* CP/PDU 4/1 Pt.3
Tel. No. 2659 0482
Fax. No. 2674 9780
Date 17 July 1999

To Legislative Council
(Attn.: Ms. Leung Siu kum *)*
Your Ref. *in* CB1/SS/10/98
dated 8.7.99 *Fax. No.* 28696794
Total Pages

Comments on Dangerous Dogs Regulation

Since the writing of my last correspondence to the Members expressing my views on the captioned legislative amendments, I have been made aware of additional information and facts on the subject which were not available to me before and I now wish to clarify and further expand on those views.

2. The category of “dangerous dogs” which I refer to under 2(a) of my last correspondence refers to the known fighting breeds and I have been informed that these breeds have already been included in the proposed amendments. Whether the classification of dogs should be based on size or breeds, the following points should be taken into consideration:

- a) Based on up to date information provided by the Agriculture and Fisheries Department, a large proportion of serious dog bite cases which occur in Hong Kong are committed by large dogs (those which are over 20kg) and include dogs which are loosely termed as “mongrels” The classification of potentially dangerous dogs by breeds would exclude this group of dogs which in my opinion, are problematic in some areas of Hong Kong. In a densely populated environment such as Hong Kong, the classification by size would be more appropriate and offers a more comprehensive protection to the public; and
- b) Even the breeds which, by tradition, have a friendly disposition may on rare occasions turn on people and again, the classification by size would make sense.

3. I believe that the issue of the prosecution of owners who fail to exercise proper control over the dogs has already been taken into consideration by the authors of the new amendments.

4. Thank you for your attention.

(KONG Cheuk-chau)

CIP PDU

cc SES (Ms Dora Fu)

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