



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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31 December 2013

Secretary for Food and Health (Attn: Miss Diane WONG) Food and Health Bureau 17/F, East Wing Central Government Offices 2 Tim Mei Avenue Tamar Hong Kong

Dear Miss WONG,

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Follow-up to the visit to the New Territories North Animal Management Centre

At the instruction of Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan, Chairman of the Panel, I am writing to request the Administration to provide written information in response to the following enquiries and requests raised by members during their visit to the New Territories North Animal Management Centre ("AMC") on 23 December 2013 -

- the number of stray dogs and cats caught, the number of abandoned (a) dogs and cats received by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD "), as well as the numbers of dogs and cats reclaimed by their owners, re-homed through animal welfare organizations and euthanized over the past year;
- (b) for those captured dogs and cats which are assessed to be suitable for re-homing but eventually could not be re-homed, the actual average number of days they are detained in the animal management centres before euthanasia; and information on overseas practice in this respect;
- (c) the criteria adopted by AFCD for assessing whether a stray dog or cat is suitable for re-homing;

- (d) AFCD's guidelines on handling and catching stray dogs and cats;
- (e) breakdown on the number of staff by ranks in AFCD deployed for undertaking duties related to the management of stray animals; and
- (f) details of the training provided for Field Assistants and Workmen who are responsible for catching stray animals.

I should be grateful if the Administration would provide soft copy of the above information via email to <u>echeung@legco.gov.hk</u> by Tuesday, 14 January 2014 for onward circulation to Panel members. Please note that unless the Administration advises otherwise, the response provided will be distributed to the media and the public, and made available on the website of the Legislative Council.

Yours sincerely,

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for Clerk to Panel

c.c. Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan (Chairman)
Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Fax No.: 2311 3731)