

Written Submission for 22Mar2016

## Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Animal Welfare and Cruelty to Animals

Animal Friends is a registered charity organization established in 2010. We would like to urge the Government to improve the animal welfare and cruelty to animals by reviewing and changing the existing legislation, reaching-out education on desexing, and rabies vaccination to all dogs, including not licensed dogs.

動物朋友是香港註冊慈善機構,於2010年成立。我們希望政府可以重新審視和改善現存法例、落區推廣動物絕育和為所有非狗牌登記的狗隻進行狂犬病預防疫苗注射。

#### Reviewing and changing in legislation

We hope the Government will look into the Animal Welfare and Cruelty to Animals issues, from the view of "complying legislation" to "Concern of Animal Welfare" aspect. The existing legislations, are outdated and not practical in Hong Kong nowadays. We urge the Government to adapt and improve the legislation to enhance the Animal Welfare and prevent Cruelty.

### 重新審視和改善現存法例

現存有關保障動物的法例已過時及不合香港實際情況,但政府在動物福利和 處理殘酷對待案件時,亦只能以法律為依歸,所以唯有更改現時法例,動物才 可得到保障。

# Reaching-out desexing education

Animal Friends is an organization focuses on desexing. We reach out to the rural areas every week to arrange dogs and cats to have free desexing surgeries. In the past 4 years, over 7,500 cats and dogs were desexed under our program with the funding raised from the general public. Desexing is the most effective way to control the animal populations and avoid thousands of unwanted animals being

abandoned or destroyed every year. According to AFCD euthanasia figures, the no. of captured and destroyed dogs and cats are dropping.

The Government should change the focus from "destroy" to "prevent" surplus animals. The Government has budgeted general education through events and advertisement. AFCD also has designated teams to capture dogs and cats. To make use of the funding and staffing, we suggest the teams to reach out to rural areas, educate the owners directly and offer help when necessary.

#### 落區教導市民為動物進行絕育

動物朋友一向以絕育為目標,,每星期到新界偏遠地區,安排放養貓狗進行 絕育手術,過去四年已為超過7,500貓狗提供免費絕育,經費來自大眾捐款。 絕育能有效地控制貓狗數目及避免每年數以千萬計的小貓小狗出生,被遺棄 或毀滅。漁護署捕捉流浪動物和毀滅數字亦見逐年減少。

政府能夠撥出資源宣傳及教育公眾,亦可聘請外展員工負責捕捉動物,我們希望政府能善用資源和人手,主動落區向市民直接宣傳和提供協助。

### Rabies injection for all dogs in Hong Kong

Rabies is a fatal disease. Under the law, dog owners are required to have their dogs licensed, microchipped and have rabies vaccinations. However, many dogs owners/keepers do not want to register the dog. These dogs are then, not vaccinated. We urge the Government to allow dogs that has no registered owners to have the rabies vaccinations as well for preventing such fatal disease. The dogs will be micro-chipped, with the record of vaccination date.

# 為全港狗隻注射狂犬病預防針

狂犬病是可致命傳染病,根據現時法例,狗主需為狗隻取狗牌,包括植入晶片和注射狂犬病預防針。不過有很多人不願為狗隻登記,令狗隻不能得到狂犬病預防針注射。我們希望政府以公眾利益為前題,讓沒有主人登記的狗能同樣得到防疫保護,以及植入晶片記錄有關資料