



本署檔案 Our Ref. : AF GR LSK05/47/2/20
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Date : 26-11-2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

Stray dogs Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Trial Programme

The Government has been adopting a multi-pronged approach to manage stray animals, including the implementation of public education to promote the concept of long-term commitment to care for pets before raising pets, promoting “Responsible Pet Ownership” and properly caring for animals, promoting desexing, encouraging adoption, and transferring suitable animals to animal welfare organizations (AWOs) for adoption by the public. After the implementation of the above measures, the number of stray dogs and cats caught in response to complaints has decreased by 67% and 78% respectively in the past five years. This shows that our work in this area, along with that of AWOs, has achieved certain success.

In recent years, some AWOs have recommended the Government to conduct a “Trap-Neuter-Return” programme for stray dogs. Since the programme needs the support of the community in order to be effective, we have consulted different District Councils about the programme. According to the feedback in the past, some District Council members reported that some residents did not support the implementation of the programme in their community.

In the past three years, we assisted two AWOs to conduct trial programmes in two sites with the consent of local residents to evaluate the effectiveness of the programme in reducing the number of stray dogs and related complaints. We worked with the two AWOs to set up the procedures, operational models, implementation details, complaint handling, record keeping, monitoring and performance targets for evaluation prior to the commencement of the trial programme. We commissioned an independent consultant to evaluate and analyse the data

to assess whether the results could achieve the set targets. Please refer to the following link for the results:

<https://www.legco.gov.hk/yr17-18/english/panels/fseh/papers/fseh20180508cb2-1318-3-e.pdf>

Although the previous trial programmes did not meet the original performance targets, we are opened-minded and willing to assist any AWO interested in conducting such programmes to manage the stray dog population in other specific locations. We would share with the proponents the experience of the trial programmes in the past three years and help them introduce the programme to the relevant District Councils and local stakeholders with a view to obtaining their support and seeking the necessary legislative exemption from the Legislative Council.

If your organization finds that there are a certain number of stray dogs (about 30 or more) in a certain location, it may be suitable for the trial of the programme. Please provide us a map marked with the proposed site area for the programme by post, fax or email. Please also estimate the number of dogs involved so that we can make a preliminary assessment.

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