

**Summary of Decisions  
Made by the Subsidised Housing Committee**

**Paper Number** : SHC 35/2003

**Paper Title** : Pet Keeping in Public Housing Estates

**Date of Meeting** : 25 September 2003

**Summary of Recommendations**

Members were invited to approve -

- (a) to maintain in the tenancy agreement the clause concerning prohibition against keeping of animal, bird or livestock inside leased premises without the prior written consent of the Landlord;
- (b) to retain the relevant misdeed item (B3) under the Marking Scheme for enforcement actions with effect from 1 November 2003 onwards;
- (c) to allow the keeping of small household pets (including desexed cats but excluding pigeons) that do not pose any health hazard and cause any nuisance subject to the 'no nuisance rule';
- (d) to uphold the continuous ban on wild lives/exotic animals/domesticated farm animals and dogs with the exception of service dogs for those residents with visual and audio disabilities;
- (e) to adopt a 'grandfathering approach' for the small dogs currently kept in estates with a set of control mechanism for effective implementation, which includes registration with the management and provision of undertaking on compliance with control rules within the prescribed one-month period, while documentary evidences on licensing, vaccination, micro-chipping and desexing for the dogs should be submitted in three months;
- (f) to require tenants who are not granted 'grandfathering permission' to dispose of their dogs within one month; and
- (g) to declassify the paper and place it on Housing Authority's homepage upon approval of the proposals.

## Decision

The above recommendations were approved with the following amendments -

- (a) tenants would be required to make statutory declaration to the effect that the dogs were actually kept before 1 August 2003;
- (b) to protect the interest of the Housing Authority, an indemnity clause would be incorporated into the temporary permission granted to tenants; and
- (c) the term “grandfathering” should not be used and be replaced by “temporary permission”.

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