

Code of Practice for the Keeping of dogs on Construction Sites in Hong Kong

This code serves to identify the licensing and control measures which can be undertaken by both controllers of the construction sites and officers responsible for inspection in construction sites in Hong Kong in order to uphold public health, welfare standards and licensing regulations for animals.

Issued by Animal Management Division of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department [Sept 2006]

SITE CONTROL BY CONTRACTORS

- 1.1 The following practices are recommended as minimum standards for all construction sites. Adherence to the practices within the Code will allow the safe and acceptable keeping of dogs on these sites. If the Code is not being followed, then regulations under the Rabies Ordinance might have been breached, the dogs could be seized, and/or prosecution might be instituted.
- 1.2 All dogs over five months of age must be vaccinated against Rabies, micro-chipped and licensed in the name of the responsible person. (This can be done on site upon request to AFCD)
- 1.3 At least one person on site should take responsibilities at all times for the proper behaviour, welfare and legal responsibilities of any dogs kept at the site. It is recommended that the person is the representative of the company of site.
- 1.4 No dog should be abandoned. Upon closure of a site, or when it is no longer possible to keep dogs there, the animals must be re-homed and moved to a new location. Or if there is no alternative, the officer-in-charge of the site should surrender to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.
- 1.5 The keeper has liabilities to surrender his unwanted puppies to AFCD if he does not want or cannot cope with keeping the animals, rather than abandoning the puppies without giving care. The keeper should take responsible manner to prevent occurrence of unwanted puppies, including spay/neuter of all dogs by a registered veterinary surgeon.
- 1.6 The dogs must be at all times kept inside the sites.
- 1.7 Abandoning animals, keeping dogs without dog licence, allowing dogs to stray in public places or not exercising proper control on dogs in public places may contravene the Rabies Ordinance or other laws in Hong Kong. The offender who contravenes the Rabies Ordinance may be liable to a fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment of 6 months.

If you have any question or want to seek advice on controlling dogs in construction site, you can contact the Animal Management Division of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department via hotline 1823 .

INFORMATION AND NOTES

2.1 Dogs and the law

- All dogs must be licensed and implanted with a microchip.
- All dogs must be vaccinated against Rabies.
- Dogs in public places must be on leash and under control.
- Dog keepers must remove any excreta left by their dog.
- No dogs should annoy neighbours or passers-by by barking or other behaviour.
- No dogs should attack, worry or put in fear any person or animal.
- No dogs should make any noise in any domestic premises or public place to annoy to any person.

2.2 Registration of dogs

All dogs over five months of age must be licensed, vaccinated against rabies and implanted with a microchip. Licence is valid for three years and dogs must be re-vaccinated within three years with licence renewal. The licensing system protects people and animals from rabies, helps owners to recover lost dogs, assists the Government to encourage responsible dog ownership and provides services to dog keepers to the benefit of the whole community. If the ownership of dog is transferred, the new keeper must forward the dog licence for amendment within 5 days.

2.3 Relevant regulations

- The Rabies Ordinance, Cap. 421
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Ordinance, Cap. 169
- Summary Offences Ordinance, Cap. 228.
- The Dogs and Cats Ordinance, Cap 167