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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Government to build facilities for animal welfare groups and pet farms

21 Nov 2016 – The Government is building facilities to provide spaces for animal welfare groups to operate animal shelters, and for pet farms. Most of the animal welfare groups and pet farms currently located in Loyang and Seletar will need to move out of their current premises when their leases expire by end 2017, as their sites are needed for redevelopment. To facilitate the move, the Government will build and lease the facilities to the animal welfare groups and pet farms for monthly rentals. This means they need not raise funds to pay a lump sum to buy land and construct their own facilities.

2 The facilities, which will be managed by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA), will be located in Sungei Tengah. They will be ready by end 2017. There will be sufficient space for the existing number of animals from the animal welfare groups and pet farms in Loyang and Seletar. The Government-built facilities will ensure that the spaces adhere to animal welfare standards.

3 The new facilities will have two storeys, instead of one storey like the current premises. In land scarce Singapore, the new two-storey facilities will make more intensive use of the land. There is also scope to plan for sharing of common facilities such as dog runs, which will further optimise land use. AVA is seeking the views of various stakeholders on the design specifications of the facilities and will continue to engage them.

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