

No more shooting of dogs

Penang council gets greenlight to use tranquilliser guns for strays

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GEORGE TOWN: The Penang Municipal Council will do away with the open shooting of strays after obtaining a permit for tranquilliser guns from the Bukit Aman police, said its Public Health Standing Committee alternate chairman Ong Ah Teong.

"This is a more humane method. We are also calling for tenders to buy the guns from licensed firearm

dealers," he said.

Ong said a special five-man team has been formed to handle the task, adding that the permit was obtained at the right time as the council had been bombarded with complaints about the open shooting of strays.

"The strays will be kept at a shelter, which is currently being built at River Road.

"They will be neutered or spayed, and then put up for adoption by the Penang Animal Sanctuary Society (Pass)."

He added that the Seberang Prai Municipal Council, which was currently using air tranquilliser guns, was also looking into adopting a similar method.

Pass committee member Nornee Lim, who lauded the council for its humane method in bringing in the strays, said it was not easy to control the stray population in the state.

She also discouraged people from buying expensive pedigree dogs and urged them go to the shelters

and adopt the dogs which have been neutered and vaccinated.

"The society has been allocated a 0.93ha plot of land in Relau to build a shelter which has a capacity to hold 1,400 animals.

"We are still collecting funds for the shelter. Our annual-cum-fund raising dinner will be held at the Bayview Beach Resort in Batu Ferringhi on April 28," she said yesterday.

For more information, call 04-263-4190 or 019-4304516.