



TRANSFORMING PET OWNERSHIP BEHAVIOUR: A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO CAT LICENSING AND STERILISATION

RCO-NPARKS-2026-01

28 APR 2026
2PM - 3.30PM



ONLINE
MICROSOFT TEAMS

AGENDA

BACKGROUND

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

DELIVERABLES

ADMIN

Q & A



BACKGROUND

AVS



Animal & Veterinary Service (AVS)

A cluster under National Parks Board (NParks). It is the main touch-point on animal and veterinary matters in Singapore and the first responder for all animal-related feedback.

Some of the work we do:

Safeguarding the wellbeing of animals

AVS safeguards animal health and welfare in Singapore by managing pets, community animals, wildlife and related industries. We collaborate with pet owners, animal groups, the public, and veterinary partners to protect animals and enhance industry competencies.

Ensuring animal health

AVS prevents animal diseases through cross-boundary cooperation and integrated health programmes, keeping both animals and humans safe.

We foster harmonious coexistence between communities and animals in our City in Nature through regulation, education, and engagement.

BACKGROUND

The Cat
Management
Framework (CMF)

Launched: 1 September 2024

1

**Pet cat licensing
and microchipping**



2

**TNRM programme
for community cats**



3

**Education and outreach on
responsible pet cat ownership
and community cat caregiving**



BACKGROUND

The Cat Management Framework (CMF)

Key Objectives:

- Improve the welfare and management of pet and community cats
- Enhance traceability of pet cats
- Safeguard public and animal health
- Promote responsible cat ownership and caregiving

Transition Period for cat licensing:

- 1 September 2024 - 31 August 2026
- Keeping unlicensed pet cat(s) will be an offence after transition period.

Cat Management Framework

- Improves traceability of pet cats
- Safeguards public health and animal welfare
- Promotes responsible ownership and caregiving

2-year transition period
1 Sep 2024 - 31 Aug 2026

Cat Ownership Limits

During Transition Period
License during this period to keep all existing pet cats*

After Transition Period	
HDB Flats: Up to 2 cats (and 1 dog of an approved breed)	Private Premises: Up to 3 cats or dogs, or a combination of both

Mandatory Licensing and Microchipping

- 🐾 Free licences with lifetime validity for sterilised cats during transition period
- 🐾 Free licences covering transition period for unsterilised cats**
- 🐾 Complete pet ownership course before licence application

* And ensure that the cats' health and welfare are taken care of
** Licensing fees apply after transition period

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Scan to find out more!
<https://go.gov.sg/cat-framework>

BACKGROUND

Cat Licensing

- First-time applicants must complete a free mandatory online pet ownership course.
 - Available in multiple languages
- All pet cats must have a microchip implanted before owners can apply for a licence online.
- Cat owners are encouraged to have their cats sterilised.
 - Sterilised cats qualify for a lifetime licence.
- Pet owners can obtain licences for their animals through AVS' **Pet Animal Licensing System (PALS)**.
- Cat owners may keep all existing pet cats if they are licensed during transition period.
- No licensing fees apply during the transition period, though higher renewal fees will be charged for cats that remain unsterilised.
- Complimentary microchipping is available at community drives and supporting veterinary practices. Attendees at community drives will also need to license their pets on the spot, with support provided if necessary.

BACKGROUND

Cat Licensing

Cat licence fees (from 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2026)

Licence fees for pet cats during the two-year transition period (From 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2026)

	One-Year Licence	Two-Year Licence	Three-Year Licence	One-Time Licence
Sterilised Cats	NA	NA	NA	Free one-time licences with lifetime validity
Unsterilised Cats	Free licences covering the transition period (Licences for unsterilised cats are issued on a renewal basis)		NA	NA

BACKGROUND

Cat Licensing

Dog and cat licence fees (from 1 September 2026 onwards)

Licence fees for cats/dogs not kept in a farm*

	One-year licence	Two-year licence	Three-year licence	One-time licence**
Cats/Dogs below five months of age	S\$15 per cat/dog	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
First three cats and/or dogs	Sterilised: S\$15 per cat/dog Non-sterilised: S\$90 per cat/dog	Sterilised: S\$25 per cat/dog Non-sterilised: S\$165 per cat/dog	S\$230 per non-sterilised cat/dog	S\$35 per sterilised cat/dog
Fourth and subsequent cat/dog	S\$180 per cat/dog OR A reduced licence fee of S\$15 for the fourth cat/dog^	S\$325 per cat/dog OR A reduced licence fee of S\$25 for the fourth cat/dog^	S\$460 per non-sterilised cat/dog	S\$460 per sterilised cat/dog OR A reduced licence fee of S\$35 for the fourth cat/dog^

BACKGROUND

Cat Licensing

Paw-some Ownership Education

To raise awareness about responsible pet ownership, AVS will:

- Introduce a mandatory online pet ownership course (free)

The course covers:

- Pet care and health
- Biology such as life cycle and reproduction
- Responsible pet ownership
- Rules and legislation related to pet ownership

Scan to find out more!

<https://go.gov.sg/rpo-course>



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Guide to Licensing Fees

Licence Validity

- Lifetime for sterilised cats
- Limited for unsterilised cats

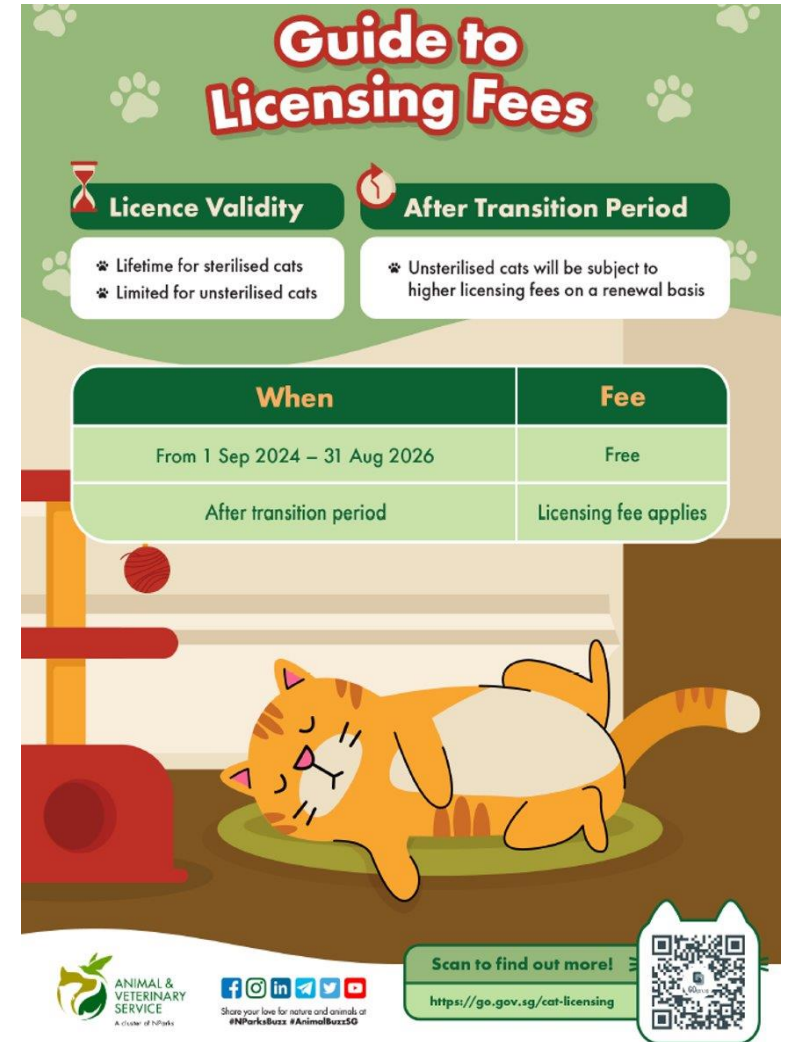
After Transition Period

- Unsterilised cats will be subject to higher licensing fees on a renewal basis

When	Fee
From 1 Sep 2024 – 31 Aug 2026	Free
After transition period	Licensing fee applies

Scan to find out more!

<https://go.gov.sg/cat-licensing>



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BACKGROUND

Pet Cat Sterilisation Support (PCSS) Programme

Launched: 1 September 2024

Programme Objective

Prevent unintended breeding through free sterilisation and microchipping services for lower-income households.

Services Provided:

- Free sterilisation procedures
- Free microchipping services
- Two-way transport (where required)

Eligibility Criteria - any one of the following:

- Occupiers of public rental flats
- Blue CHAS card holders
- Financial assistance recipients (on MSF, CDC programmes)

Strategic Impact:

- Prevents pet cat overpopulation at source
- Minimises downstream animal welfare issues and disamenities
- Reduces financial barriers to responsible pet ownership for vulnerable households



BACKGROUND

Pet Cat Sterilisation Support (PCSS) Programme



Pet Cat Sterilisation Support (PCSS) Programme

Collaboration between AVS and various partners to provide free sterilisation and microchipping for pet cats belonging to low-income households

Starting 1 Sep 2024

Purr-pose of PCSS

- 🐾 Early intervention to **prevent unintended cat breeding**
- 🐾 Address **potential animal welfare issues**
- 🐾 Prevent complications from the **overpopulation of pet cats**

To qualify, cat owners should meet any of the following criteria:

- ✓ Under the Public Rental Scheme
- ✓ Receiving MSF/CDC financial assistance
- ✓ Holding a blue CHAS card

Scan to find out more!
<https://go.gov.sg/avs-pcss>

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30kg

QR code

BACKGROUND

Education and Outreach

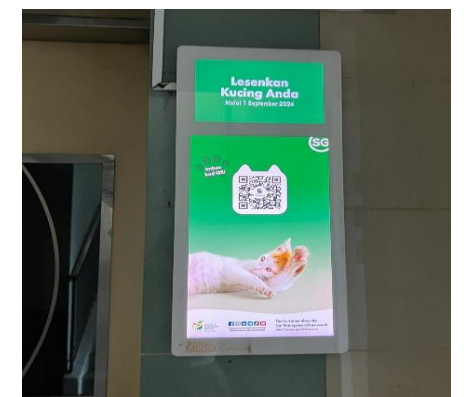
AVS conducts comprehensive public outreach to raise CMF awareness through multiple channels. Community engagement involves standalone roadshows and participation in community events with interactive mini-games and educational materials. Strategic publicity campaigns include traditional media coverage, nationwide digital display panels at HDB lift lobbies, and targeted lift decals and bus stop advertisements in high-feedback areas. AVS partners with Key Opinion Leaders for social media promotion and distributes educational materials through veterinary clinics and pet shops. This multi-pronged approach ensures broad awareness while addressing specific problem areas.



Roadshows at community animal events or schools



Infographics on CMF as decals and digital display panels at lift lobbies



RESEARCH OBJECTIVES / DELIVERABLES

Primary objective

Design behavioural interventions that drive voluntary compliance in cat licensing and sterilisation while enhancing traceability, animal welfare and community wellbeing, thus strengthening Singapore's pet management framework.

Core research activities

Identify key barriers and motivators influencing cat licensing and sterilisation decisions across Singapore communities.

Develop demographic-specific interventions and validate their effectiveness through testing

Evaluate impact, refine approaches, and prepare successful strategies for scaling up.

Extension potential (Optional)

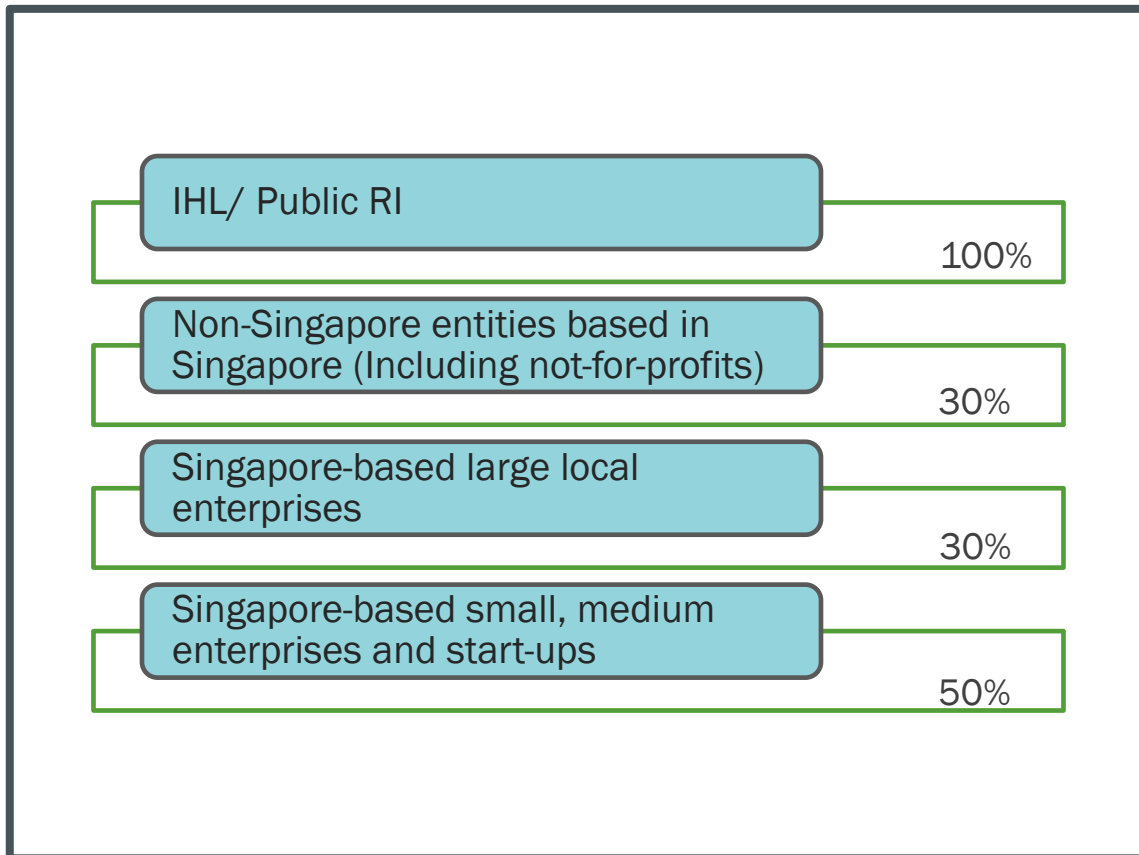
Leverage successful cat interventions for dog licensing and sterilisation initiatives.

ADMIN – PROJECT DURATION

- Funding timeline: 18 to 24 months
- Projects with shorter durations will be viewed more favourably for competitive advantage.



ADMIN – FUNDING



- This grant is open to the research community across all Singapore-based institutions and companies.
- Total project funding available up to \$200,000 (direct and indirect costs)
- Supportable Direct Costs:
 - Expenditure on manpower
 - Equipment
 - Other Operating Expenses
 - Overseas Travel
- Please refer to Annex B on Non-Fundable Direct Costs
- Indirect Costs - Only applicable to IHLs / public RIs (30%)
- Funding support levels for Singapore not-for-profits are based on their size
- Lead PI should ensure that the proposed budget is correct
- Proposals exceeding the funding support limit will not be considered.

ADMIN – EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

Strength and Quality of Proposal

- **Research Approach** – The proposal should demonstrate clear relevance to addressing NParks' research objectives using technically sound and appropriate methodology that builds upon existing published research and ongoing work.
- **Potential for Application, Deployment or Commercialisation/Export** – The proposed research should generate outcomes suitable for practical deployment in policy, operational, or commercial contexts.
- **Execution Plan** – The proposal should present clear and practical implementation plans with reasonable, achievable timelines and realistic budgets to deliver research outcomes in a timely manner.

Strength and Quality of Research Team

- The proposed research team should possess the relevant expertise and experience necessary to effectively complete all project tasks.

Value-Added Research Components

- Proposals demonstrating scientific novelty, breakthrough potential, and additional valuable outcomes beyond NParks' stated deliverables will be favourably considered.

ADMIN – PROJECT REPORTS AND PAYMENT MILESTONES



Fund disbursement will be according to the payment schedule agreed upon when signing the Project Agreement.



Project funds will be disbursed on reimbursement basis



Progress reports and statements of expenditure will need to be submitted at each payment milestone.

ADMIN – AUDITS

Default Audit Period

- **Standard Duration:** Maximum 3 years per audit period
- **Project-Based:** Audit requirements determined by total project duration

Extended Project Audit Rules

For approved extensions of projects ≤ 3 years:

- **Single Audit Period:** Covers full project duration if both conditions met:
 - No additional resources required
 - Extension within 12 months of original end date
- **Separate Audit:** Required if either condition not met

Project Duration	Audit Period	
	Mid-term Audit	Final Audit
≤ 3 years	N.A.	Project Start Date to Project End Date
> 3 years	Project Start Date to 3 rd FY ending 31 st Mar ¹	4 th FY beginning 1 st Apr to Project End Date

ADMIN – DATA MANAGEMENT

To safeguard against data leaks/breaches, NParks may require Institutions and/or collaborators to:

- a) Attain specified data and/or cybersecurity standards certification before starting the project, receiving data, or executing data collection for the Research.
- b) Conduct an independent external audit assessment upon completion or termination of the Research.

Exact requirements will be determined after evaluation and NParks will officially inform selected applicants in writing. Failure to obtain required certifications may affect project progress, leading to payment delays and potential award termination.

ADMIN – SUBMISSION



Deadline & Format

Due Date: 12 June 2026, 6:00PM
Singapore time (UTC +08:00)

Format: Microsoft Word using
prescribed Project Proposal Template
only

Submit to: ALICIA_TAY@nparks.gov.sg
and LIN_HUI_LING@nparks.gov.sg

**Late or alternative submission
methods will not be accepted**



File Naming

Required Format: FP_<RCO
Number>_<Name of Lead PI> (e.g.
FP_2025001_Dr_John_Smith)



Completeness Requirements

Full Submission: All relevant forms
and attachments must be included

Template Compliance: Use Project
Proposal Template (Appendix 1)

Disqualification Risk: Incomplete or
non-compliant submissions may be
rejected

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



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