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Since 1 January 2020 till 13 June 2020, the Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak (DVSS) vaccinated a total of 7,518 dogs with anti-rabies vaccination. 41% of this figure are booster vaccination. It is important for all dogs to be vaccinated against rabies annually. The cumulative number of dogs vaccinated from 2017 until 12 June 2020 is 158,322.

Anti-rabies vaccination is ongoing even during this RMCO. Dog owners can bring their dogs to any nearby DVSS divisional offices to get their free anti-rabies vaccination during office hours. However they have to adhere with the current SOP such as social distancing, hand sanitizer and face mask. For certain areas in Sarawak, DVSS will conduct mobile vaccinations at kampungs to reach out to the rural areas in Sarawak.

All dogs in the rabies-infected areas are mandatory to get vaccinated against rabies. To date, a total number of 64 areas in Sarawak has been declared as rabies-infected areas: Kuching (7), Sri Aman (5), Sibul (2), Miri (6), Sarikei (5), Kapit (1), Bintulu (4), Samarahan (4), Betong (3), Serian (22) and Mukah (5) since July 2017.

In accordance with the Anti-rabies Vaccination Order, all dogs in Sarawak must be vaccinated with anti-rabies vaccine. Any owner or person in charge of a dog who fails without reasonable cause to comply with the Anti-Rabies Vaccination Order shall be guilty of an offence: Penalty, a fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred Ringgit under Section 40, Veterinary Public Health Ordinance (VPHO), 1999. Dogs without evidence of vaccination may be detained or removed under this section.

Owners who let their dogs roam freely on the streets shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred Ringgit under Section 37, VPHO 1999. Dog owners must keep their dogs under effective control either by: confining it within an enclosed area from which it is impossible for the dog to escape, or tying it up securely, or leading it by a chain or lead of strong cord or leather properly secured to a collar or harness worn by the dog. The Local Authority may seize and impound any dogs which is not on a leash in accordance with the Local Authorities (Dog Licensing and Control) by-laws, 2018.

As of today, 10 areas in Sibul are rabies positive area: Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman, Lorong Permai Timur, Kampung Bahagia Jaya Teku, Sibuljaya, Batu ½ Jalan Oya, Jalan Hua Kiew, Ulu Sungai Merah, Taman Sanhill Barat, Jalan Oya Lama and Jalan Sentosa. All these 10 areas are within the 10km radius of the two previously declared rabies-infected areas in Sibul.