

**Minutes of the Third Meeting of the**  
**Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee**  
**under Eastern District Council**

Date : 21 May 2024 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Eastern District Council Conference Room

**Present**

|  |                          |  |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| Mr TING Kong-ho, Eddie, MH             | Mr LAM Wing-shing        | Mr CHAN Hoi-wing, Joseph                 |
| Mr WONG Chi-chung                      | Mr LAM Wing-cheung       | Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi                        |
| Ms HO Sau-yin, Zareenah                | Ms LIN Cai-ying          | Ms CHIK Kit-ling, Elaine                 |
| Mr YUEN Kin-chung, Kenny<br>(Chairman) | Mr HUNG Chi-kit          | Mr CHENG Chi-sing, MH<br>(Vice-chairman) |
| Ms LI Lee                              | Mr HUNG Lin-cham, MH, JP | Ms LAU Suk-yin                           |
| Ms NG Ching-ching                      | Mr HUNG Chiu-kwan        | Ms LAU Dana Sing-she                     |
| Mr HO Ngai-kam, Stanley                | Mr KWOK Ho-king, Calvin  | Mr LAU Hing-yeung, MH                    |
| Mr LAM Sum-lim, MH                     | Mr KWOK Wing-kin         | Mr LAI Nuen-san                          |

**Absent with Apologies**

Ms LEE Ching-har (absent with consent)

**In Regular Attendance (Government Representatives)**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Mr POON Cheuk-hong, Hong  | Assistant District Officer (Eastern)2, Eastern District Office   |
| Ms NG Yan-mei, Monie      | Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Eastern District Office   |
| Mr CHAO Ka-man, Stanley   | Senior Liaison Officer (1), Eastern District Office  |
| Mr LAU Chi-kan, Kenneth   | Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Eastern District Office  |
| Miss WONG Hoi-kiu, Salina | Executive Officer (District Management)1, Eastern District Office  |
| Ms CHU Sui-yin            | District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Eastern), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department             |
| Ms CHAN Kit-man           | Chief Health Inspector (Eastern)3, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department                                   |
| Mr LOO Wing-tsun          | Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Police Community Relations Office, Eastern District, Hong Kong Police Force |
| Ms LIN So-kuen, Debbie    | Principal Estate Officer/Hong Kong East/Land Control (District Lands Office, Hong Kong East), Lands Department |

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Mr WONG Kwan-chun, Paul | Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South)2,<br>Environmental Protection Department |
| Ms DENG Shinuo, Snow    | District Engineer/North Point, Highways Department  |
| Ms Chloe YEUNG          | Assistant Housing Manager/Yue Wan (1), Housing<br>Department                                      |
| Ms SO Lai-yue, Sandy    | Deputy District Leisure Manager (Eastern)2, Leisure and<br>Cultural Services Department           |

### **Secretary**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Ms LEUNG Mun-chee, Charlie | Executive Officer I (District Council)2, Eastern District<br>Office |
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### **Action**

### **Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all Members and government representatives to the meeting.

### **Handling Application for Absence**

2. Ms LEE Ching-har submitted notification of absence from meeting before the meeting on the ground of sickness. The Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (FEHC) decided to give consent to her application for absence.

### **Agenda Item 1. Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of FEHC**

3. The above draft minutes were confirmed without amendments.

### **Agenda Item 2. Food and Environmental Hygiene Department - Eastern District Action Plan 2024-25** (FEHC Paper No. 7/2024)

4. The Chairman said that the agenda item and Nos. (2), (5) and (8) under matters arising would be combined for discussion for their relevancy.

5. The representative of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) briefed Members on Paper No. 7/2024.

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6. Members were pleased about the FEHD's work, and their views and enquiries about the agenda items were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members found that litter were placed next to roadside litter containers and suggested the department install CCTVs at more hygiene blackspots for greater deterrent effect.
- (b) Members would like the department to help solve the severe rodent infestation in Sai Wan Ho Market. In addition, as rat holes were found by members of the public in the parks under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), Members would like the FEHD to enhance publicity and education to the property management companies (PMCs) and the public on the means of rodent control, and share its experience with other departments.
- (c) Members opined that public feeding was the cause of rodent infestation and suggested the department step up inspection and enforcement.
- (d) Members remarked that markets were generally experiencing a downturn in business and declining patronage with outdated ancillary facilities and poor hygiene conditions at present, enquiring whether the department had any plans to assist the tenants. They would like the department to take reference from the experience of the Aberdeen Market if there were any revitalisation plans for the markets in the Eastern District.
- (e) Members said that the business of the cooked food centre in Quarry Bay Market was affected by the current escalator replacement works and would like the department to put up clear signage to facilitate public access to the cooked food centre.
- (f) Members remarked on the severe hygiene problem of private streets and would like the department to assist in litter clearance. They also enquired whether the department was empowered to clear private premises for solving the problem of "garbage apartments" in private buildings.

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- (g) Members viewed that the department had resolved the street obstruction problem in the vicinity of Kam Wa Street and Shing On Street effectively but were concerned about its continuity. Besides, Members mentioned that some tenants at Yee Fung Street, Chai Wan had placed articles next to the lift in the building and obstructed the fire escape. They enquired whether the department was empowered to caution, advise or take law enforcement actions, and whether it would conduct joint operations with the Fire Services Department (FSD) or other departments to resolve the problem.
- (h) Members would like the department to ameliorate the frequent shortage of toilet paper or soap in public toilets.
- (i) Members remarked on the reduction in the number of three-coloured recycling bins in the district.
- (j) Members said that the department had instituted 10 prosecutions against people for fouling public places by feeding birds on Tong Shui Road between January and April the current year. They enquired of the department about the presence of any repeated offenders and suggested posting the prosecution statistics in the vicinity for deterrent effect.
- (k) Members said that the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners in the vicinity of Southern Building on King's Road had persisted for years, affecting people waiting for buses nearby. Therefore, they would like the department to consider increasing the penalties with deterrent effect and enhancing publicity to ameliorate the problem.
- (l) Members would like the FEHD to conduct more joint blitz operations with other departments, such as with the estate management companies and Housing Department (HD), to tackle the problems of pigeon and rodent infestation in housing estates.
- (m) Members suggested the department review whether the relevant legislation was outdated and propose legislative amendments to better address the long-standing and deep-seated environmental hygiene problem.

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- (n) Members would like the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) to assist the public in resolving water seepage with the use of new technologies.

7. The representative of the FEHD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their enquiries and views as follows:

- (a) The FEHD had installed CCTVs at 17 locations in the Eastern District for regular review of the hygiene conditions of the locations, and would adjust the number or the locations of CCTVs when necessary.
- (b) The FEHD had frequently organised anti-rodent seminars and invited the estate management companies for attendance. The FEHD had also held regular inter-departmental meetings with government departments such as the LCSD, Water Supplies Department and HD to discuss anti-mosquito measures, and shared its means of rodent control with other departments when necessary.
- (c) The FEHD had secured resources from the Eastern District Office (EDO) to increase the number of overnight rodent control teams to step up efforts in tackling the rodent infestation in markets.
- (d) PMCs of private buildings should fulfil their management responsibility to deal with access obstruction in the buildings. Regarding the suspected obstruction to fire escape, the FEHD had referred the case to the FSD and would consider conducting joint operations subject to the circumstances of the case.
- (e) The three-coloured recycling bins were now managed by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the FEHD no longer provided them in public places.
- (f) The FEHD noted Members' views on the suggestion on reviewing and amending the legislation and would timely relay them to the relevant parties.
- (g) The FEHD was concerned about the decline in market patronage and business, as well as the changes in the public consumption pattern at present, and had set up teams to focus on market promotion or

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revitalisation and refurbishment projects. The FEHD would refer to the experience of the Aberdeen Market if the markets in the Eastern District were to be revitalised.

- (h) The FEHD had launched a pilot enforcement operation, codenamed “CLEARSKY”, in six districts in the territory including the Eastern District to curb the irregularities of dripping air-conditioners in private buildings. The FEHD had conducted the first operation at Oceanic Mansion, Fok Cheong Building, Montane Mansion, Yick Cheong Building and Yick Fat Building in Quarry Bay, and issued a number of nuisance notices within a week. The FEHD, together with the Eastern District Care Teams and District Council (DC) Members, had distributed leaflets to the public and management companies at the end of April before the operation.
- (i) Managers of private streets should take up the management responsibilities of the streets but the FEHD would provide limited sweeping service for private streets in poor hygiene conditions in the Eastern District under special circumstances and when resources permitted.
- (j) As for some Members’ observation of litter being placed on the roadside at night, the FEHD assumed that the litter might be pending collection by private contractors. Members could inform the FEHD of the locations for appropriate follow-up if the above situation was found.
- (k) The FEHD would review and increase the number of signage at Quarry Bay Municipal Services Building for the public convenience.
- (l) The FEHD would relay Member’ suggestion on using new technologies to tackle water seepage problems to the JO.

### **Agenda Item 3. Eastern District Office - Eastern District District-led Actions Scheme (DAS) 2024-25** **(FEHC Paper No. 8/2024)**

8. The Chairman said that the agenda item and Nos. (5) and (6) under matters arising would be combined for discussion for their relevancy.

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9. The representative of the EDO briefed Members on Paper No. 8/2024.
10. Members were pleased about the EDO's work, and their views and enquiries about the agenda items were summarised as follows:
  - (a) Members enquired about the publicity details of DAS and the feasibility of conducting publicity activities with DC Members.
  - (b) Members enquired whether a standardised approach or equipment would be adopted by all government departments to tackle mosquito infestation and about the effectiveness of various means or equipment for tackling mosquito infestation. They also opined that the LCSD's practice of planting mosquito repellent plants while installing mosquito trapping devices (MTDs) at the same time to tackle mosquito infestation had achieved satisfactory results, and suggested other departments referring to the practice. In addition, as the grids of the cover of some of the existing MTDs in parks were too small, Members suggested the department consider enhancing the design for better anti-mosquito effect.
  - (c) Members would also like the department to enhance control of midges apart from tackling mosquito and rodent infestation.
  - (d) Members remarked on the drainage blockage by branches and tree leaves next to the service reservoir in the Eastern District and enquired of the department about the clearance timetable.
  - (e) Members would like the department to display more publicity banners with relevant penalty information at feral pigeon and wild animal feeding blackspots for greater deterrent effect after the passage of the Wild Animals Protection (Amendment) Bill 2023.
11. The representatives of the EDO and LCSD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their enquiries and views as follows:

### EDO

- (a) The EDO planned to gradually invite Eastern DC Members to jointly

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visit various sub-districts in the Eastern District and invite the departments concerned for sharing and exchanges at the same time.

- (b) While not all anti-mosquito methods were suitable for uniform use by all government departments, the EDO was pleased to introduce individual methods through DAS if they were suitable for uniform use. For example, the EDO noted the effectiveness of In2Care® Mosquito Trap in mosquito control and had started to provide funding under DAS for the departments concerned to introduce the device at suitable government venues to enhance mosquito control two years ago. In addition, in response to public concern over dengue fever cases, the EDO had organised a health talk under DAS on 27 April the current year in collaboration with the Centre for Health Protection and FEHD to raise public awareness of dengue fever and disseminate relevant health knowledge.
- (c) The EDO would relay Members' views on the drainage blockage by branches and tree leaves next to the service reservoir in the Eastern District and the suggestion on displaying more publicity banners at the feral pigeon and wild animal feeding blackspots to the departments concerned for follow-up.

## LCSD

- (d) The protective covers of the MTDs currently in use by the LCSD met the specifications, but the LCSD would also explore other suitable options to enhance their effectiveness. Besides, as parks were outdoor venues, mosquitoes would fly to other places even if mosquito repellent plants were planted in parks. Therefore, the existing anti-mosquito measures were more effective in alleviating the mosquito infestation at outdoor venues as planting mosquito repellent plants were more suitable for indoor venues.
- (e) The LCSD noted that the public were affected by the midge problem and had enhanced midge control measures in the 15 midge-infested locations under DAS. The LCSD would continue to collect views from DC Members and the public and enhance midge control at appropriate locations.



**Agenda Item 4. Suggestion for Provision of Food Waste Recycling Facilities at Refuse Collection Points Managed by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in Eastern District**  
**(FEHC Paper No. 9/2024)**

12. The Chairman said that the agenda item and No. (3) under matters arising would be combined for discussion for their relevancy.

13. A Member briefed the meeting on Paper No. 9/2024.

14. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda items were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members learnt that the system of the food waste smart recycling bins (FWSRBs) would notify the contactor when the bins were fully loaded or malfunctioned. However, some members of the public had reflected on the long processing time, enquiring whether the FWSRBs were managed by the EPD or contractor and about the cleansing frequency.
- (b) Members enquired whether there were any plans to set up food waste recycling facilities at other refuse collection points (RCPs) in the Eastern District; if yes, about the set-up timetable; if not, about the reasons. Members would like the department to increase the number of food waste recycling facilities in the Eastern District to facilitate the public in practising recycling.
- (c) Members enquired of the department about the locations planned for setting up food waste recycling facilities in 2024 and would like to provide views and inform the public of the locations.
- (d) Members would like the department to share the public usage and effectiveness of the food waste recycling facilities, and were pleased to assist in the promotion if the food waste recycling rates in some sub-districts were unsatisfactory. They would also like the department to publicise the facility locations more often.
- (e) Due to the lack in large-scale recycling facilities in single-block buildings, Members suggested the department set up food waste

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recycling facilities in the vicinity of old single-block buildings in Shau Kei Wan, Sai Wan Ho and North Point first.

- (f) Members remarked that some food waste recycling spots not only were poorly lit but also lacked publicity by the department. They would like the department to make improvements and disseminate information on food waste recycling facilities to DC Members to assist in the promotion.
- (g) Members suggested extending the operating hours of the food waste recycling spots and setting up food waste recycling facilities in public places, such as the LCSD's parks, to facilitate the public in practising recycling.
- (h) Members suggested the department provide additional mobile food waste recycling bins and transported them to various locations in the urban area to facilitate the public in practising recycling.
- (i) Members were concerned about the hygiene problems arising from the public failure to cover the purple food waste recycling bins after using them.

15. The representatives of the EPD and FEHD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their enquiries and views as follows:

### EPD

- (a) For residential buildings without sufficient space to install FWSRBs, the EPD would collect domestic food waste at public collection points. The EPD had set up FWSRBs at GREEN@EASTERN since the end of December last year with over 20 000 individuals participating in food waste recycling as at March in the current year. To further facilitate residents in practising food waste recycling, starting from 31 March 2024, the EPD had set up five nighttime food waste mobile collection spots operating with a fixed destination and time schedules in locations in the vicinity of single-block buildings and packed with eateries in the Eastern District for concurrently collecting food waste generated by nearby households and eateries. In addition, the EPD had set up food waste collection points at 65 RCPs under the FEHD, and the number

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would increase to nearly 100 in the second quarter of 2024 for the use of public and eateries. The EPD had set up food waste collection points at seven RCPs in the Eastern District at present, including Tanner Road, Hing Man Street, Java Road, Marble Road, Quarry Bay Market, Kam Wa Street and Sai Wan Ho Street RCPs. The EPD would continue to explore the feasibility of setting up more public food waste collection points at other suitable government venues.

- (b) The EPD noted that Members would like to enhance the publicity on the locations of food waste recycling facilities, as well as their enquiries about the effectiveness of the facilities and the management of FWSRBs. The EPD would provide supplementary information in due course.
- (c) There were two types of food waste recycling facilities at present, namely the FWSRB mainly installed at large housing estates and the food waste recycling bin installed at RCPs and mobile collection spots. The collected food waste from both facilities had to be delivered to the Organic Resources Recovery Centre (O·PARK1) for treatment.
- (d) A number of factors should be taken into consideration for the locations of food waste recycling facilities, such as the need for adequate space and water and electricity supply for the FWSRB installation. The installation of FWSRB or food waste recycling bins should not cause inconvenience to the venue operation or residents nearby. The EPD had received complaints about odour nuisance from food waste recycling facilities and had strived to increase the number of food waste recycling facilities.

## FEHD

- (e) The EPD was responsible for the management of food waste recycling points. The FEHD had actively facilitated the Food Waste Recycling Schemes (FWRS) launched by the EPD. The EPD had worked with the FEHD to set up food waste collection points at RCPs to collect food waste from neighbouring eateries and households on a trial basis since the fourth quarter of 2022. The FWRS had been extended to the Eastern District in October last year and two food waste collection points had been set up at the RCPs in the Eastern District. The EPD was progressively setting up food waste collection points at RCPs under the

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FEHD, and would provide five more collection points in early May at RCPs in the Eastern District, namely Java Road, Marble Road, Quarry Bay Market, Kam Wa Street and Sai Wan Ho Street RCPs for public use. The FEHD would continue to facilitate the EPD in the implementation of food waste recycling depending on the available space at the RCPs.

16. The FEHC agreed to follow up on the agenda items upon further progress.

(Post-meeting note: The EPD had provided supplementary information to the FEHC on 24 June 2024.)

### **Agenda Item 5. Progress Report of Matters Arising from Previous FEHC Meetings under Eastern District Council**

(FEHC Paper No. 10/2024)

- (i) ***“Request to Improve the Noise Pollution Arising from the Arrivals of Trains at and their Departures from Heng Fa Chuen MTR Station  
Requesting the MTRC to Retrofit a Noise Shelter to the Section between Heng Fa Chuen Station and Chai Wan Station to Reduce Noise Pollution”***

EPD/Mass  
Transit Railway  
Corporation  
Limited

17. The agenda items would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

- (ii) ***“Request the Government for a Complete Advancement of the Services and Responsibilities of the ‘Joint Offices’ so as to Enhance Support of Citizens for Handling Water Seepage in Buildings  
Requesting the Joint Office to Improve the Source-identification Success Rate of Water Seepage  
Requesting the Joint Offices for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints to Resume Services Immediately in Full Swing to Assist Members of the Public in Dealing with Hygiene Problems Caused by Water Seepage”***

JO

18. The agenda items had been combined with agenda item 2 for discussion and would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

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(iii) ***“Request to Make Good Preparation before the Implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Charging”***

EPD 19. The agenda item had been combined with agenda item 4 for discussion and would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

(iv) ***“Relocation of Oil Street Refuse Collection Point and Demolition of Public Toilet”***

FEHD/LCSD 20. The agenda item would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

(v) ***“Intrusion of Wild Pigs into Residential Communities  
Request for Follow-Up on Wild Pig Issue in Braemar Hill”***

FEHD/  
Agriculture,  
Fisheries and  
Conservation  
Department  
(AFCD) 21. The agenda items had been combined with agenda items 2 and 3 for discussion and would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

(vi) ***“Requesting the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for  
Expeditious Adoption of Humane and Technological Approach for  
Controlling Feral Pigeons  
Requesting Government Departments to Follow Up on Feral Pigeon  
Nuisance in Braemar Hill”***

AFCD/FEHD 22. The agenda items had been combined with agenda items 2 and 3 for discussion and would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

(vii) ***“Enhancing Measures to Cope with Dog Fouling on Pavements in Braemar Hill”***

FEHD 23. The agenda item had been combined with agenda item 2 for discussion and would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

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*(viii) “Concern over Street Obstruction and Environmental Hygiene Problems caused by Loading/Unloading Activities in City Garden Road”*

FEHD/Hong  
Kong Police  
Force/EDO

24. The agenda item had been combined with agenda item 2 for discussion and would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

**Agenda Item 6. Any Other Business**

25. There was no other discussion item for the current meeting.

**Agenda Item 7. Date of Next Meeting**

26. The fourth FEHC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 23 July 2024 (Tuesday).

27. The meeting ended at 4:25 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat  
July 2024