

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

Date : 23 January 2024 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Eastern District Council Conference Room

Present

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

Absent with Apologies

Ms LI Lee (absent with consent)

Mr LAM Sum-lim, MH (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 WONG Chun-tung	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Police Community Relation Office (Eastern District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr TAI Kwok-hong, Andrew	Principal Estate Officer/Hong Kong East (2)/Land Control (District Lands Office, Hong Kong East), Lands Department
Mr WONG Kwan-chun, Paul	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South)2, Environmental Protection Department
Ms DENG Shinuo, Snow	District Engineer/North Point, Highways Department
Ms LEE Wai-leung, Carol	Assistant Housing Manager/Yue Wan (2), Housing Department
Ms SO Lai-yue, Sandy	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Eastern)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

In Attendance by Invitation (Representatives from the Government and Organisations)

Miss MAK Ka-ying, Carren	Senior Administrative Officer (Municipal Solid Waste Charging Policy), Environmental Protection Department
Mr CHEANG Sin-yeung, Clarence	Administrative Officer (Municipal Solid Waste Charging Policy), Environmental Protection Department
Mr Jacky CHAN	External Affairs Manager, Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited
Ms Virgini FUNG	Manager - External Affairs, Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited
Miss CHAN Po-lam	Wetland and Fauna Conservation Officer (Special Duties 1), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Secretary

Ms LEUNG Mun-chee, Charlie	Executive Officer I (District Council)2, Eastern District Office
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Opening Remarks

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

Handling Applications for Absence

2. Ms LI Lee and Mr LAM Sum-lim submitted notifications of absence from meeting. The Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee approved their applications for absence.

Agenda Item 1. List of Government Representatives in Attendance at Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (FEHC) under Eastern District Council (FEHC Paper No. 1/2024)

3. The FEHC noted the Paper.

Agenda Item 2. Market Management Consultative Committees of Public Markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD Paper No. 2/2024)

4. The representative from the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) briefed Members on Paper No. 2/2024.
5. The Chairman announced the recommended list as follows:

Name of Markets	Required No. of Member for Recommendation	Names of the Recommended Members
Electric Road Market	2	LI Lee, Eddie TING
Java Road Market	3	Kenny YUEN, HUNG Lin-cham, LAI Nuen-san
North Point Market	2	CHENG Chi-sing, TSANG Cheuk-yi
Quarry Bay Market	2	LEE Ching-har, LAM Wing-cheung
Sai Wan Ho Market	3	HUNG Chiu-kwan, NG Ching-ching, LAM Sum-lim
Aldrich Bay Market	2	KWOK Wing-kin, LIANG Li
Chai Wan Market and Kut Shing Street Cooked Food Market	3	Anthony LU, LAM Wing-shing, LIN Cai-ying

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Yue Wan Market	3	Elaine CHIK, LAU Suk-yin, Stanley HO
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6. The Chairman asked the Secretary to submit the above list to the Market Management Consultative Committee (MMCC) for consideration.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat submitted the above list to the MMCC for consideration on 29 January 2024.)

Agenda Item 3. Implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Charging (FEHC Paper No. 3/2024)

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

8. The representative from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) briefed Members on Paper No. 3/2024.

9. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members generally supported the Municipal Solid Waste Charging (MSW charging) Scheme and its postponement to allow more time for public adaptation. They also supported the implementation of the scheme on a pilot basis and its further adjustment subject to the actual situation. The department would also have more time to explain to the public about the intent and operation details of the new policy for smoother implementation.
- (b) Members suggested enhancing recycling support near the residential buildings in the district before implementation of the new policy, including the provision of food waste bins and additional recycling points and GREEN@COMMUNITY, to tie in with the intent of the new policy. However, Members suggested providing recycling bins at spacious pavements or public spaces to expand the recycling network due to the insufficient space in single-block or “three-nil” buildings for providing recycling facilities. Besides, Members suggested providing

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incentives for motivating the public to participate in recycling, such as rewarding housing estates with outstanding recycling efforts and allowing the public to use GREEN\$ to redeem designated bags (DBs).

- (c) Members reflected that many members of the public, including Owners' Corporations (OCs) and the elderly, were unfamiliar with the details of the new policy. They thereby suggested enhancing publicity, organising talks in the district and collaborating with the media to educate the public on the intent and actual operation of the new policy through different channels, as well as stating that the charges would be used for environmental purposes, listing the "Frequently Asked Questions" and emphasising the benefits of the new policy to the next generation in the publicity leaflets. In addition, Members enquired whether a demonstration point would be set up in the government and schools would be invited for site visit to brief students on the operation of the new policy if a trial run were to be launched at government buildings. Besides, Members also enquired about the publicity channels other than District Council (DC) members and the Care Teams.
- (d) Members enquired whether DBs would be distributed to the public free of charge at the initial implementation stage of the new policy, and whether the amount of allowance payable to Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) households would be raised given the potential increase in financial burden to the public by the MSW charging.
- (e) Members enquired whether cleansing workers had to rewrap the waste escaped from the DBs damaged in the refuse chute in a new DB for compliance of the requirement. In addition, some Members expressed doubts about the effectiveness of monitoring the households by the property management companies (PMCs).
- (f) Members were concerned that the hygiene problem would aggravate as some members of the public were unfamiliar with the means of purchasing DBs and would fly-tip their waste. Therefore, Members suggested providing DB vending machines next to each residential building or assisting residents of public housing estates for centralised purchase of DBs.

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- (g) Members enquired about the risk-based law enforcement approach, the ways of the OCs of housing estates for monitoring the households and the adequacy of the enforcement manpower. They were concerned that it could hardly make the public comply with the new policy strictly if the enforcement efforts were insufficient.
- (h) Members suggested encouraging manufacturers to use materials and packaging design that were more readily recyclable through product design and manufacturing.
- (i) Members enquired whether there would be double charging if PMCs provided large DBs for residents to dispose of their DBs.

10. The representatives from EPD and Eastern District Office (EDO) noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their views and enquiries as follows:

EPD

- (a) The EPD thanked Members for their views and understood that comprehensive community recycling facilities would facilitate the implementation of MSW charging. Therefore, the EPD would continue to expand the community recycling network. GREEN@COMMUNITY recycling stations would include the newly developed GREEN@TSING YI and GREEN@WONG TAI SIN, which were expected to come into operation in February and the fourth quarter of 2024 respectively, with the GREEN@TSING YI being the first Recycling Store in MTR station. The recycling network had covered 80% of single-block buildings, including "three-nil" buildings at present. The EPD would also encourage owners' organisations or PMCs to provide recycling facilities. The EPD would discuss with the owners' organisations of the single-block buildings without sufficient space for providing recycling facilities.
- (b) Regarding food waste recycling, the EPD would like to enhance further the effectiveness of domestic food waste recycling. The EPD had invited owners' organisations or PMCs to apply for the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in Private Housing Estates since 29

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December 2023 to provide food waste smart recycling bins (FWSRBs) for private residential buildings (including Home Ownership Scheme courts) with more than 1 000 households. However, some PMCs had expressed concern over the potential odour emitted from the FWSRBs which would cause environmental hygiene problems. Therefore, the EPD encouraged PMCs to reach a consensus with stakeholders such as owners' organisations before applying for the government-funding scheme. In addition, the EPD had gradually installed FWSRBs in all public rental housing (PRH) estates over the territory since the fourth quarter of 2023 with scheduled completion within 2024. It was expected that half of the PRH estates in Hong Kong would be installed with FWSRBs before the Lunar New Year in 2024. Starting from June 2023, the EPD had set up food waste collection points at 5 rear lanes in Tai Kok Tsui, To Kwa Wan, Kwai Chung and Tsuen Wan for centralised collection of the food waste generated by street-level restaurants. Besides, the EPD had been collecting food waste from restaurants concentrated locations in Yuen Long, Tai Po, Sha Tin and Tuen Mun since April 2023. The scheme would be progressively extended to other districts to encourage restaurants to separate food waste to reduce expenditure on the charging.

- (c) The EPD would launch extensive publicity before the official implementation of the MSW charging, which included advertisements on television, radio and online social media platforms, as well as erecting large outdoor billboards. The EPD would also like to seek the assistance of DC members and Care Teams for publicity so as to step up publicity at district level. The EPD would also consider emphasising more on the policy intent in the publicity messages, encouraging housing estates that were committed to recycling by way of incentives, and allowing the public to use GREEN\$ to redeem DBs, as well as shooting videos or allowing the public to visit the premises under the Demonstration Scheme to learn about the actual operation. The Secretary for Environment and Ecology had earlier visited primary schools to promote the MSW charging policy, with a view to asking students to bring the message home for effective publicity. The EPD would distribute publicity materials, such as publicity leaflets, to DC members and Care Teams through District Offices later on.

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- (d) The EPD would take risk-based enforcement approach by analysing the situation and deciding whether to carry out more publicity education or law enforcement actions depending on the circumstances if repeated fly-tippers were found at black spots with photos taken by law enforcement department or the public as evidence after the 6-month phasing-in period. The EPD had also been discussing with the FEHD and Housing Department (HD) on the enforcement approach at different locations.
- (e) Cleansing workers had to rewrap the waste in a DB if the waste had escaped from the DB damaged in the refuse chute. In addition, the EPD understood that some PMCs planned to line DBs at the communal waste reception areas (such as large waste collection bins on individual floor) for a while as a transitional arrangement since members of the public might be unfamiliar with the use of DBs at the initial implementation stage of the policy. However, the PMCs should cease such arrangement as appropriate once the public had been used to using DBs so as to avoid double payment.
- (f) The average daily waste disposal volume of a family (average 3 members) was about 13 litres with reference to the statistics from 2017 to 2021 in Hong Kong. Assuming each family used a 10-litre DB for waste disposal per day, the average monthly expenditure would be about \$33 or about \$10 per person per month. In this connection, the government would provide a subsidy of \$10 per person per month to recipients of the CSSA and Old Age Living Allowance, which could largely cover the expenditure. The EPD understood that the policy would increase the financial burden of the public and would assist the needy as far as practical.
- (g) The Green Outreach of the EPD would carry out outreach and publicity work in “three-nil” buildings. Besides, in order to assist the public in adapting to MSW charging and adjusting their waste disposal habits progressively, the government would distribute DBs to households of “three-nil” buildings, rural village houses and PRH estates during the first 6 months after the implementation of MSW charging so as to facilitate residents to develop a habit of using DBs.

EDO

- (h) The EDO fully supported the EPD for the implementation of the MSW charging policy and would assist in the publicity through various activities before and after its implementation, as well as endeavour to assist in answering public enquiries.

Agenda Item 4. Progress Report of Matters Arising from Previous FEHC Meetings under Eastern District Council
(FEHC Paper No. 4/2024)

- (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”***

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

- (a) Members suggested the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) replacing the existing uncovered noise barriers which failed to reduce the noise level of the upper floor units of the building with effective ones. Members also enquired about the retrofitting date of the noise barriers and their noise mitigation effectiveness, and hoped that the department and MTRCL would proactively study on the noise mitigation methods.
- (b) Given that residents in the vicinity of the location had been suffering from noise nuisance for years, Members enquired of the department about the floor level at which the noise level had been measured and the possibility of giving consideration to amending the Noise Control Ordinance (NCO) if it was ascertained that the noise level of the tracks complied with the statutory requirement.

12. The representatives from the MTRCL and EPD noted Members’ views and suggestions, and responded to their enquiries and views as follows:

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MTRCL

- (a) The MTRCL had established procedures in place for regular maintenance and inspection of trains and tracks to ensure normal operation for providing quality railway services. The MTRCL had implemented a number of measures to reduce the noise generated by trains in contact with the tracks, including imposing speed restriction on the section after 11 pm, retrofitting the wheels with noise mitigation device, grinding the tracks and wheels on a regular basis as necessary, and replacing the tracks at locations if so required. The MTRCL would continue to closely monitor the train operation at the section and ensure that the railway network was kept in good shape through stringent maintenance and repairs to minimise train noise as far as possible.
- (b) The MTRCL had installed a number of lubrication fittings at the Chai Wan Depot to enhance the lubricity of the wheels and tracks to reduce the noise generated by trains running in and out of the depot. The MTRCL would continue to monitor the situation and its effectiveness closely after the installation of the lubrication fittings to ensure that the measures could reduce traffic noise and meet railway safety requirements.
- (c) Given that the section between Heng Fa Chuen and Chai Wan Stations was elevated, the MTRCL had taken a number of mitigation measures in respect of sound sources, including retrofitting noise barriers at the elevated section between Heng Fa Chuen and Chai Wan Stations near Tsui Wan Estate, to minimise the impact on nearby residents. According to the EPD's measurement, the sound level emitted by trains at the above section complied with the statutory standard. The MTRCL would also closely monitor the situation of the section and adopt a stringent maintenance and repairs programme to reduce the noise level and ensure railway safety.

EPD

- (d) Noise generated by running MTR trains was regulated by the NCO. The EPD might issue a Noise Abatement Notice (NAN) to the MTRCL requiring it to take practicable measures to mitigate the noise as far as

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possible in order to comply with the relevant requirements under the NCO if the noise level exceeded the limit. The MTRCL might be liable to prosecution if failing to comply with the requirements of the NAN.

- (e) Upon receipt of complaints from residents that their flats were affected by train noise, the EPD would deploy staff to visit the premises for train noise measurement. However, the EPD had not found any cases of exceeded noise levels so far.
- (f) The EPD had been communicating with the MTRCL to consider other noise mitigation measures and would provide information on the floor level where train noise had been measured after the meeting.

EPD/MTRCL

13. The agenda items would be followed up on upon further progress.

(Post-meeting note: (i) The Secretariat wrote to the EPD and MTRCL on 25 January 2024.

(ii) The EPD and MTRCL submitted supplementary information to the FEHC on 19 February 2024.)

- (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”***

14. Members noted the written reply of the department, and their views and enquiries about the agenda items were summarised as follows:

- (a) In view of the serious ageing building problem with a large number of water seepage cases in the Eastern District, Members enquired about the number of water seepage cases in the district, as well as the methods and effectiveness of tackling the water seepage problem.

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- (b) Members enquired about the ways to handle water seepage on top-storey flats and details of cases of unidentifiable sources.
- (c) Members enquired about the ways to deal with cases where colour water had failed to penetrate to the lower flat, and whether consideration would be given to conducting reversible pressure tests along with the colour water tests so as to facilitate the Water Supplies Department for expeditious follow-up.
- (d) Members remarked that owners or occupants were most interested to obtain the Nuisance Notice to resolve water seepage problems and enquired about the number of the notices issued by the department.
- (e) Members would like the department to brief on the technologies and methods for handling water seepage, as well as the frequency of adopting each kind of technology in each quarter and a comparison with last year's statistics at the next meeting. Members opined that the department should make more use of the new technologies if they were effective in identifying the source of water seepage as the owners or occupants of some private premises eventually had had to engage a third party loss adjusters for investigation due to the department's failure in identifying the source of water seepage.
- (f) Members invited the Joint Offices for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) representatives to attend the next meeting to discuss the agenda items and provide relevant statistics for Members' reference.

JO 15. The agenda items would be followed up on at the next meeting.

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

EPD 16. The agenda item was combined with agenda item 3 for discussion, and would be continued to be followed up on upon further progress.

(iv) "Relocation of Oil Street Refuse Collection Point and Demolition of Public Toilet"

17. Members enquired of the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) about the preliminary findings of the feasibility study. If the ArchSD was unable to

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provide the findings, Members enquired about the time for the provision and works timetable.

18. The representatives from the FEHD and Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their enquiries and views as follows:

FEHD

- (a) According to the North Point Oil Street "Comprehensive Development Area" Outline Zoning Plan by the Planning Department (PlanD), land had been reserved for constructing a refuse collection point (RCP), which was temporarily managed by the LCSD from March 2019 onwards. The ArchSD's consultant had been engaged for a feasibility study due to site constraints, including height restriction beneath the flyover and the presence of an underground drainage reserve. However, the preliminary report showed that the feasibility of constructing a RCP at the location was relatively low. The FEHD would discuss it with the ArchSD or PlanD, and would report to the FEHC at the next meeting.

LCSD

- (b) The LCSD would monitor the demolition progress of the Oil Street RCP by the FEHD and timely follow up on it.

FEHD/LCSD

19. The agenda item would be followed up on at the next meeting.

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

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

- (a) Members considered that the government's policy should protect animals and ensure public safety at the same time in view of the worrying situation of wild pig attack.
- (b) Members thanked the department for its efforts as the situation of wild

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pig sightings on Yiu Hing Road and Braemar Hill Road had improved. However, there were still wild pigs sightings in the vicinity of Tung Hei Court the current month whereas in Braemar Hill area every day at dusk or in the evening. Some schools were also disturbed by wild pigs, and there were concerns that wild pigs would enter the schools and attack the students. Therefore, Members would like the department to continue to step up enforcement against wild pig feeders and publicity on the cessation of wild pig feeding to prevent the public from wild pig nuisance.

- (c) Members enquired about the number of wild pigs in Hong Kong, the locations of wild pigs captured in the Eastern District and the locations where prosecutions against wild pig feeders were instituted.

21. The representatives from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and FEHD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their enquiries and views as follows:

AFCD

- (a) The AFCD captured 51 wild pigs causing nuisance in the urban area and took enforcement action against five wild pig feeders in the Eastern District in 2023. The wild pig problem in the Eastern District had improved as the number of complaints about wild pigs in the district received by the AFCD had dropped to 41 in 2023, down from 165 at its peak in 2021. The AFCD would continue to monitor the situation in response to public complaints and at known wild pig spots, and take enforcement actions against wild pig feeders.
- (b) All wild pigs captured in the urban areas would be euthanised starting from the second half of 2021. There were 41 and 51 wild pigs being euthanised in the Eastern District in 2022 and 2023 respectively. The AFCD would also update the locations of each capture operation on the website.
- (c) The AFCD had captured relatively more wild pigs in Siu Sai Wan, Mount Parker Road and Evelyn Towers in the Eastern District in the past two years. The AFCD would assess the locations and behaviour of

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wild pigs before arranging capture operations. Wild pigs were readily attracted to urban areas by feeding behaviour, and would often go into the community once accustomed to human feeding. It was difficult for them to regain their ability to forage on their own in the mountains. Therefore, the AFCD would capture and euthanise wild pigs wandering in urban areas. In addition, the AFCD would continue to prosecute people who fed wild pigs illegally and take follow-up actions on the locations of wild pig sightings mentioned by Members at the meeting.

- (d) There were five prosecutions instituted in the Eastern District in the past, with two on Oi Man Street and Cloud View Road and three on Greig Road, Quarry Bay. The number of wild pigs at Evelyn Towers had been reduced to less than 10 after the AFCD's operation there in September 2023. The AFCD would continue to follow up on the situation of wild pigs there.
- (e) There were about 2 500 wild pigs in Hong Kong without any breakdown by districts as wild pigs would move around.
- (f) The AFCD noted the locations of wild pigs sighted at Tung Hei Court, Evelyn Towers and Braemar Hill and would continue to take follow-up actions.

FEHD

- (g) The FEHD had placed wildlife-resistant refuse collection bins or foot-pedal type litter containers at individual locations to prevent wild pigs from foraging in the litter containers in the hope of improving the environmental hygiene of the locations.
- (h) The FEHD would issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs) under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance to members of the public who were found to have dirtied public places while feeding animals. The FEHD would also continue to deploy plainclothes enforcement officers for enforcement actions at the relevant animal feeding locations.

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FEHD/AFCD

22. The agenda items would 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”***

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

- (a) Members enquired about the number of cases involving imposition of fines for feeding feral pigeons as there were numerous feral pigeon congregation black spots in the Eastern District, including Tong Shui Road, Braemar Hill, City Garden Park and Harbour North in North Point.
- (b) Members enquired whether the department could only give advice if the feral pigeon feeders carried the food with plastic bags but not dirtying places; if so, they suggested the department raising the penalties to ameliorate the environmental problem.
- (c) In view of the congregation of feral pigeons in PRH estates, Members enquired whether the HD staff could take enforcement actions against feral pigeon feeders, such as allotment of penalty points and imposition of fixed penalty.
- (d) Food remnants left behind by the public after feeding feral pigeons would lead to rodent infestation. Therefore, Members suggested enhancing publicity to educate the public not to feed feral pigeons so as to avoid the need to handle the problems of feral pigeons and rodent infestation at the same time.
- (e) The two-year Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Feral Pigeons (the Trial Programme) launched by the AFCD in 2021 should be completed in 2023. Members enquired about the effectiveness of the Trial Programme and the statistics released by the City University of

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Hong Kong, and whether the Trial Programme would be extended to North Point or the whole territory if it were proven statistically effective. Members would like the AFCD representatives to attend the next meeting to brief on the effectiveness.

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

- (a) The FEHD remarked that it had been paying attention to the situation of public places being fouled by bird feeding in the Eastern District. Its dedicated enforcement teams would carry out inspections at different locations in the Eastern District in plainclothes. The FEHD had issued 15 FPNs to members of the public who dirtied public places by bird feeding, with the enforcement actions covering a wide range of areas including feral pigeon congregation black spots in Tong Shui Road. The FEHD welcomed Members' information on the feral pigeon congregation black spots and would arrange staff for continued inspection and law enforcement at the locations.
- (b) The FEHD would pay attention to hygiene problems caused by feral pigeons during routine inspections or upon receipt of complaints, and would conduct investigations and take follow-up actions to maintain environmental hygiene.
- (c) The FEHD would provide regular street sweeping and cleansing services at the locations frequented by feral pigeons, and use diluted bleach for cleansing to enhance cleanliness. The FEHD enforcement officers would issue FPNs to offenders who were found to have dirtied public places by feeding birds.

AFCD/FEHD

25. The agenda items would be followed up on at the next meeting.

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

26. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Dogs fouled various places in the Eastern District with faeces, including

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Braemar Hill and footbridge on Aldrich Street near Lime Gala in Shau Kei Wan. Therefore, Members suggested the department enhance cleansing of the locations, provide additional dog excreta collection bins and dog latrines at dog-walking hot spots, enhance publicity to educate the public to clean up properly after the dog, and formulate deterring penalties so as to enhance the awareness of dog walkers of environmental hygiene.

- (b) Members enquired whether the number of dog latrines were reduced as dog owners were expected to have cleaned up after their dogs with the hoses provided in pet parks themselves.

27. The representatives from the FEHD and LCSD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their enquiries and views as follows:

FEHD

- (a) The FEHD would continue to arrange large and mini street washing vehicles to cleanse the streets of dog-walking hot spots on a regular basis. Plainclothes enforcement officers would also be deployed to carry out enforcement actions at the locations while inspections and routine cleansing works would also be stepped up.
- (b) Dog walkers who failed to clean up after their dogs would commit an offence and the FEHD would issue FPNs to them. In addition, the FEHD had no guidelines for teaching the public about cleaning up after their dogs but would enhance street cleansing at dog-walking hot spots, including using diluted bleach to cleanse the relevant public places when necessary. The FEHD had also provided dog excreta collection bins and dog latrines at various locations in the Eastern District for the convenience of dog walkers. Members might also suggest locations for additional dog latrines for the FEHD to study on the feasibility.
- (c) The FEHD attached great importance to education and publicity work, including the distribution of publicity leaflets to dog walkers and foreign domestic helpers, to remind the public of the need to clean up after their dogs, or else they would be prosecuted.

LCSD

- (d) Given that dog walking was allowed in the "Inclusive Park for Pets", the

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LCSD would carry out regular cleansing of the footpaths in the Park, provide dog excreta collection bins and dog latrines at suitable locations, and step up efforts in reminding dog walkers to clean up after their dogs.

FEHD

28. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

Agenda Item 5. Any Other Business

29. There was no other discussion item for the FEHC.

Agenda Item 6. Date of Next Meeting

30. The 2nd FEHC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 19 March 2024 (Tuesday).

31. The meeting ended at 5:15 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat
March 2024