

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

Date : 11 March 2025 (Tuesday)
Time : 4:25 pm
Venue : Eastern District Council Conference Room

Present

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

In Regular Attendance (Government Representatives)

Mr FU Yiu-nam, Daniel	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)2, Eastern District Office
Ms NG Yan-mei, Monie	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Eastern District Office
Miss MA Siu-yee	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) (Des.), Eastern District Office
Ms TO Kit-ling, Caroline	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 CHAN Kit-man	Chief Health Inspector (Eastern)3, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr LOO Wing-tsun	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Eastern District Police Community Relation Office, 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

Ms CHENG Yin-yin, Emily	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South)2, Environmental Protection Department
Mr KONG Wai-ho, Alex	District Engineer/North East, Highways Department
Mr CHOI Kai-bong, Martin	District Engineer/North Point, Highways Department
Ms LEE Wai-leung, Carol	Assistant Housing Manager/Yue Wan (2), Housing Department

In Attendance by Invitation (Government Representative)

Ms CHAN Sze-man	Chief Health Inspector (Eastern)2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
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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.

Agenda 1. Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 7th Meeting of Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee

2. The above draft minutes were confirmed without amendments.

Agenda 2. Food and Environmental Hygiene Department – Issue of Tradesman Licence

(FEHC Paper No. 4/2025)

3. The representative of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) briefed Members on Paper No. 4/2025.

4. Members supported issuing a licence to the tradesman mentioned in the Paper. Their views and enquiries about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members enquired whether the department would consider relaxing the mechanism to allow currently unlicensed tradesmen to apply for licences.

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- (b) It was enquired whether there was a succession system for the new tradesman licence.
- (c) It was considered that the craftsmanship of watch repair should be preserved and passed on. Regarding the tradesman mentioned in the Paper, the owners' corporations and residents in the vicinity of his working area all supported him and wished to continue receiving his services, and hoped that the department would consider issuing a licence to him.
- (d) Members enquired about the arrangements for the fixed-pitch if it was not operated by the relevant tradesman.
- (e) Members enquired about the respective numbers of watch repairers in the Eastern District who were applying for a licence and those who had no intention of applying for a licence but continued to operate their business.

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

- (a) In 2009, the FEHD had carried out a fact-finding exercise on unlicensed street traders who were conducting tradesman activities to ascertain their tradesman identity, trading locations, types of businesses, length of services, etc. At present, the FEHD relied on the record to ascertain whether the registered tradesmen were eligible for the issue of licences. When issuing hawker licences, the FEHD had clearly set out the prescribed location and size criteria for fixed-pitches, as well as clear requirements when granting approval for the construction of structures. If a licence holder contravened the licensing requirements or conditions, the licence may be revoked.
- (b) According to records, during the fact-finding exercise on unlicensed street traders conducting tradesman activities in 2009, there were two tradesmen in the Eastern District, one of whom was the watch tradesman mentioned in the Paper, while the other was also a fellow, but his trading location was not supported for licensing by the relevant departments due to various reasons. The FEHD would continue to follow up on the case and maintain communication with the tradesman

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concerned.

- (c) If a tradesman was not registered in the 2009 fact-finding exercise, the FEHD would consider whether the tradesman could provide relevant information to prove the length of the tradesman activities and whether the individual met the relevant requirements for the issue of hawker licences. The FEHD would also review the actual situation before further consideration.
- (d) Under the existing policy, there was no succession or transfer arrangement for fixed-pitch hawker licences newly issued on or after 21 May 2010.

Agenda 3. Suggesting the Government Set Up an Additional GREEN@NORTH POINT Recycling Store

(FEHC Paper No. 5/2025)

- 6. A Member briefed the meeting on Paper No. 5/2025.
- 7. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:
 - (a) There was currently no fixed Recycling Station or Recycling Store in North Point. It was suggested that the department increase the number of fixed recycling points in North Point to facilitate residents (especially the elderly) in practicing waste reduction and recycling. Members also opposed the relocation of GREEN@QUARRY BAY to North Point.
 - (b) Members supported the setting up of fixed Recycling Stores in markets as it would enable residents to bring along their household items for recycling when they went grocery-shopping at the markets, thereby enhancing their incentive to practice recycling.
 - (c) Increasing the number of mobile recycling points was not as effective as increasing the number of fixed recycling points as not all residents could accommodate the operating hours of the mobile recycling points for recycling. However, it was recommended that the department

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should extend the operating hours of the mobile recycling points in North Point while identifying a site in North Point.

- (d) It was suggested that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) should schedule a visit to North Point with Members to identify a suitable site for setting up a fixed recycling point.
- (e) It was proposed that fixed recycling points in markets could co-operate with market tenants, for example, by offering gift vouchers to members of the public when the recycling volume reached the target, so as to attract patronage to government markets and increase the market turnover, thereby achieving a win-win situation.
- (f) It was hoped that the department would pay attention to the situation where members of the public failed to redeem gifts at the recycling points.
- (g) Members enquired about the recovery amount and the cost of recycling in North Point, GREEN@QUARRY BAY and GREEN@WAN CHAI.
- (h) It was enquired whether the recycling points of GREEN@COMMUNITY had to be located in air-conditioned places.

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

EPD

- (a) The EPD would relay the suggestion of setting up a fixed Recycling Station or Recycling Store in North Point to the section concerned.
- (b) The EPD would explore with the FEHD the feasibility of relocating GREEN@QUARRY BAY to Quarry Bay Market or North Point Market.
- (c) The EPD had placed a number of mobile recycling points in North Point with a view to increasing flexibility and facilitating recycling by residents in the neighbourhood.

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- (d) The EPD had examined the feasibility of setting up Recycling Stores in markets, and consideration had to be given to the suitability of the market environment for setting up fixed Recycling Stores. For example, vehicles collecting recyclables may require multiple daily trips to the market driveway, potentially disrupting market tenants.
- (e) Mobile recycling points were located in covered areas with more single-block buildings.
- (f) The waste recovery amount of GREEN@COMMUNITY in 2023 and 2024 were 26 000 tonnes and 41 600 tonnes respectively, while the average monthly collection amount of GREEN@TIN HAU, GREEN@EASTERN DISTRICT and GREEN@QUARRY BAY from January to November 2024 were 68, 81 and 69 tonnes respectively.
- (g) The EPD had been actively increasing the number of recycling points from some 500 in 2024 to 800 by March 2025.

FEHD

- (h) The FEHD was open to the suggestion of setting up GREEN@COMMUNITY Recycling Stores at vacant stalls in North Point Market. The FEHD would conduct a feasibility study and consult the stakeholders if relevant proposals were received from the EPD.
- (i) The FEHD was collaborating with the EPD to install food waste smart recycling bins (FWSRBs) in Java Road Market, Electric Road Market and Quarry Bay Market. Recently, the FEHD also planned to install FWSRBs in two other public markets in the Eastern District, and was conducting a feasibility study and consulting the Market Management Consultative Committees. In addition, food waste collection points had been set up at nine refuse collection points in the Eastern District. The FEHD had also been encouraging public market stall tenants to practice recycling.

9. The FEHC agreed to follow up on the agenda item upon further progress.

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(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had passed the supplementary information provided by the EPD to the FEHC for information on 2 April 2025.)

Agenda 4. Concern over Secondhand Smoke at Pedestrian Crossings in Eastern District

(FEHC Paper No. 6/2025)

10. The Chairman briefed Members on Paper No. 6/2025.
11. The Chairman thanked the department for removing the 10 litter containers located at pedestrian crossings and enquired about their specific locations. If Members identified any litter containers at pedestrian crossings in the district causing a secondhand smoke problem, they may notify the relevant department staff for action.
12. The representative of the FEHD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their views and enquiries as follows:
 - (a) The FEHD had removed 10 litter containers at pedestrian crossings at North Point Electric Road near Power Street, Sunbeam Theatre on King's Road, Java Road near Tong Shui Road, Tong Shui Road Footbridge, Tong Shui Road near Marble Road, Tai On Street, junction at Cheung Hong Street and King's Road, King's Road near Tong Shui Road, King's Road near Sunway Gardens and the pavement outside EAST Hong Kong on Taikoo Shing Road. The FEHD would review the situation from time to time, with a view to balancing the needs between smokers and non-smokers.
13. The FEHC agreed that there was no need to follow up on the agenda item.

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

(FEHC Paper No. 7/2025)

- (i) ***“Requesting the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for Expeditious Adoption of Humane and Technological Approach for***

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Controlling Feral Pigeons Requesting Government Departments to Follow Up on Feral Pigeon Nuisance in Braemar Hill

Agriculture,
Fisheries and
Conservation
Department
(AFCD)/FEHD

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

(ii) "Concern over Street Obstruction and Environmental Hygiene Problems caused by Loading/Unloading Activities in City Garden Road"

FEHD/Hong
Kong Police
Force/Eastern
District Office
(EDO)

15. The agenda item would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

(iii) "Suggestion for Provision of Food Waste Recycling Facilities at Refuse Collection Points Managed by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in Eastern District"

FEHD/EPD

16. The agenda item would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

(iv) "Concern over Low Occupancy Rate and Business Environment of Quarry Bay Market"

FEHD

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

(v) "Disposal of Domestic Waste on Shau Kei Wan Road"

FEHD

18. The agenda item would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

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- (vi) ***“Concern over Serious Rodent Infestation at King’s Road, North Point in Eastern District and Suggesting the Government Enhance Anti-rodent Measures”***

FEHD

19. The agenda item would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

- (vii) ***“Concern over Environmental Hygiene Problem under Fuk Yuen Street Footbridge in Fortress Hill”***

FEHD/EDO/
Social Welfare
Department

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

- (viii) ***“Concern over Illegal Cultivation on Government Land in Eastern District”***

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

- (a) It was expected that the department would step up inspections to eradicate illegal cultivation.
- (b) Member enquired the department about the number of drone inspections of government land off Heng Fa Chuen and whether close inspections would be conducted at weekends.
- (c) It was recommended that the department should conduct drone inspections to enhance efficiency.
- (d) Members inquired how the department addressed illegal cultivators who continued to illegally open up other land despite receiving statutory notices from the department.
- (e) Members enquired whether the department had instituted prosecution against illegal cultivation on government land off Heng Fa Chuen.
- (f) Members enquired about the frequency of inspections and the action officer for the inspections.

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22. The representative of the District Lands Office (DLO), Hong Kong East noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their views and enquiries as follows:

- (a) Regarding the case of unlawful occupation of government land off Heng Fa Chuen, upon receipt of the case, the DLO had deployed staff to carry out on-site inspection and found that there was unlawful occupation of government land. Generally speaking, the DLO would only consider using drones to assist in the on-site inspection if the DLO staff was unable to enter the relevant government land. Therefore, the DLO did not use drones to inspect the government land off Heng Fa Chuen.
- (b) The DLO's contractor would assist in the inspection during weekends.
- (c) The DLO had to confirm the identity of the persons involved in order to institute a prosecution. However, the prosecution could not be launched due to insufficient evidence to confirm the identity.
- (d) After clearing the unlawfully occupied government land in question, the DLO would arrange to inspect the land once or twice a week to prevent the recurrence.

DLO

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

(ix) ***“Environmental Hygiene Issues on the Slope in the Vicinity of the Former Nga Choy Hang Village in Braemar Hill”***

DLO/Drainage
Services
Department/
Highways
Department/
Civil Engineering
and Development
Department/
AFCD/FEHD

24. The agenda item would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

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Agenda 6. Any Other Business

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

Agenda 7. Date of Next Meeting

26. The ninth FEHC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 20 May 2025 (Tuesday).

27. The meeting ended at 6:11 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat
May 2025