

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

Date : 20 May 2025 (Tuesday)
Time : 2:30 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 Henry LAI, JP	District Officer (Eastern) , Eastern District Office
Mr FU Yiu-nam, Daniel	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)2, Eastern District Office
Miss MA Siu-yee	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), 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 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, 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 CHOI Kai-bong, Martin	District Engineer/North Point, Highways Department
Mr WONG Chun-lung	Assistant Housing Manager/Yue Wan (2) (Ag.), Housing 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.

Agenda 1. Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 8th Meeting of Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (FEHC)

2. The above draft minutes were confirmed without amendments.

Agenda 2. Food and Environmental Hygiene Department – Cleaning Pedestrian Walkways to Improve Cityscape

(FEHC Paper No. 8/2025)

Agenda 3. Food and Environmental Hygiene Department – Eastern District Action Plan 2025-26

(FEHC Paper No. 9/2025)

3. Papers No. 8/2025 and No. 9/2025 were combined for discussion for their relevancy.

4. The representative of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) briefed Members on Papers No. 8/2025 and No. 9/2025.

5. Members showed their appreciation and recognition for the FEHD's efforts. Their views and enquiries about the agenda items were summarised as follows:

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- (a) Members stated that the hygiene conditions of pedestrian walkways outside certain restaurants were unsatisfactory, and acknowledged that the FEHD frontline staff had made every effort to clean up the areas but failed to remove the stains or tackle the littering problem. They urged the department to seek solutions;
- (b) Members hoped that the department would focus on addressing the issue of water dripping from air-conditioners and the nuisance caused to members of the public waiting at bus stops, and enquired about the prosecution figures;
- (c) Members hoped that the department could tackle the mosquito problem near hillsides and parks, as well as explore how government departments could address mosquito problems on non-government land;
- (d) It was reported by members of the public that there were odour issues arising from dog fouling on streets. Members hoped that the department could step up efforts in street cleansing to mitigate the situation, and enquired whether the department could take enforcement actions on such matters;
- (e) The Rodent Absence Rates (RAR) of the Eastern District fell from 96% in the first half of the year to 94.3% in the second half of the year. In view of that, Members considered that it was necessary to pay more attention to the rodent problem. In addition, Members received reports from members of the public that rats were spotted on the floor during the renovation of the dry goods area in the Yue Wan Market, and urged the department to tackle the rodent problem in the market;
- (f) Some commercial tenants had relocated the goods previously occupying pedestrian walkways to rear staircases or private buildings areas, blocking the fire evacuation routes and obstructing public access. However, since rear staircases or private buildings areas were not public places, departmental staff were unable to take enforcement actions. As such, Members suggested that the department could collaborate with the Fire Services Department and the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) to conduct joint operations;
- (g) Members were concerned about the issues of drain odour and feral pigeons; and

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- (h) Members hoped that the department could ensure satisfactory hygiene conditions in public toilets, shorten the time required for handling water seepage cases, and collaborate with the District Services & Community Care Teams (Care Teams) on public education.

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

- (a) The Yue Wan Market was undergoing renovation works and the FEHD had implemented anti-rodent measures prior to the works. However, during the demolition and conveying process, nearby areas may be subject to vibrations, causing rats to scatter around the area. The FEHD would closely monitor and continue to follow up on the situation;
- (b) The overall RARs in Hong Kong for the first and second half of 2024 were 95.1% and 94% respectively; while the RARs in the Eastern District for the first and second half of 2024 were 96% and 94.3% respectively, which was comparable to the overall RARs of the territory. The locations covered by the Rodent Activity Survey (RAS) in the first and second half of the year varied and were subject to adjustment by the FEHD every half year. The FEHD would endeavour to tackle the rodent problem;
- (c) Under the current legislation, a dog owner or a person in charge of a dog who allowed his or her dog to urinate in any public place without cleaning up did not commit an offence, but would contravene the law if he or she allowed the dog to foul any street with faeces. The FEHD would allocate resources for strengthening the cleansing of dog walking hotspots and conducting enforcement operations, and would remind the public to protect the environment and keep clean through distributing publicity leaflets;
- (d) The FEHD staff had been conducting routine inspections on the hygiene conditions of public toilets. Nevertheless, the hygiene conditions might deteriorate in early hours when no toilet attendants were on duty. The FEHD remarked that if Members found any public toilets with poor hygiene conditions, they could report the relevant locations to the

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FEHD for follow-up actions;

- (e) The FEHD would liaise with the Care Teams to explore potential collaboration opportunities on issues such as mosquito and rodent infestations, as well as water dripping from air-conditioners;
- (f) Upon the commencement of the Wild Animals Protection (Amendment) Ordinance 2024, the FEHD had initiated one prosecution in the Eastern District for fouling public places by feeding feral pigeons;
- (g) As for the environmental hygiene problems caused by restaurants, the FEHD had already allowed some of the restaurants in the Eastern District to place refuse containers at rear lanes, subject to compliance with the FEHD's requirements. Moreover, for stains on road surfaces caused by restaurants, the FEHD would follow up with the restaurants concerned. If the stains on the ground could not be removed, the FEHD would liaise with the Highways Department (HyD) for replacing the pavers or repaving the surface where appropriate;
- (h) The FEHD would prioritise enforcement operations at pedestrian crossings or bus terminals affected by water drippings from air conditioners, and would use video recorders with infrared night-vision function during these operations to help identify sources of water dripping and enhance enforcement efficiency;
- (i) Regarding the issue of drain odour, the FEHD would conduct inspections at the locations mentioned by Members. The FEHD was responsible for the clearing of refuse and sludge in gullies. If the odour originated from the drains, the case would be referred to the Drainage Services Department (DSD) for follow-up actions; and
- (j) The FEHD noted Members' views and would follow up with them after the meeting.

Agenda 4. Eastern District Office - Projects Related to Environmental Hygiene under the Eastern District District-led Actions Scheme

(FEHC Paper No. 10/2025)

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7. The representative of the Eastern District Office (EDO) briefed the meeting on Paper No. 10/2025.

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

- (a) Members suggested that the department should consider in advance whether planting trees would lead to the breeding of mosquitoes in the surrounding environment;
- (b) Some recycling staff placed recyclables on the pavement and road near Hing Man Street Refuse Collection Point. Members suggested that the department could conduct joint operations and step up enforcement to enhance the deterrent effect; and
- (c) Members enquired whether the department had provided relevant facilities in parks to mitigate the impact of dog excreta on the environment, thereby avoiding potential disputes among park users.

9. The representatives of the EDO noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their views and enquiries as follows:

- (a) The EDO would relay Members' views to the departments concerned and explore follow-up solutions.

Agenda 5. Concern over Illegal Bicycle Parking on King's Road

(FEHC Paper No. 11/2025)

10. A Member briefed the meeting on Paper No. 11/2025.

11. Members' views and enquiries about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members suggested that the FEHD staff could report any abandoned bicycles immediately to the District Lands Office, Hong Kong East (DLO/HKE) for action during street cleansing;
- (b) Since persons who abandoned their bicycles might relocate them to

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another railing upon the DLO/HKE affixing a statutory notice to their bicycles, Members urged the department to explore solutions to address the problem of abandoned bicycles effectively in the short term; and

- (c) Members enquired about the number of days allowed for people to remove the abandoned bicycle as required by the statutory notice.

12. The representatives of the DLO/HKE and FEHD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their views and enquiries as follows:

DLO/HKE

- (a) Regarding the handling of illegal bicycle parking, the DLO/HKE would arrange staff to conduct on-site inspections upon receipt of the case. If any usable bicycle was found locked to a public railing/lamppost/sign post and parked on a public road, the DLO/HKE would, as empowered by Section 6 of the Land (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 28), post a statutory notice on the bicycle illegally occupying government land, requiring the occupation of government land to cease before a date specified in the notice, failing which the bicycle would be lawfully removed. If the DLO/HKE found any damaged bicycles that were illegally parked, such cases would be referred to the FEHD for follow-up actions. If the FEHD found any usable bicycles locked to a public railing/lamppost/sign post and parked on a public road, it would also refer the case to the DLO/HKE for follow-up actions;
- (b) According to legal advice, the Lands Department (LandsD) was required to post the statutory notice for at least one day in accordance with the Land (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 28) before taking any land enforcement actions and removing the bicycle in question in case of non-compliance; and

FEHD

- (c) If the FEHD found any damaged bicycles abandoned at a public place, it would post a notice requiring the owner to remove the bicycle before a date specified in the notice, or the FEHD would dispose of the bicycle in accordance with Section 9 of the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354). Generally speaking, the FEHD would require the owner

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to remove the abandoned bicycle within five days. If the FEHD staff found any bicycles parked or locked at a public place, it would refer the case to the LandsD for follow-up actions.

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

Agenda 6. Progress Report of Matters Arising from Previous FEHC Meetings under the Eastern District Council

(FEHC Paper No. 12/2025)

- (i) ***“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”***

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/HKPF/
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/
Environmental
Protection
Department
(EPD)

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

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(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.

(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. Members noted the written reply from the DLO/HKE.

DLO/HKE 22. 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/HKE/
DSD/HyD/
Civil Engineering
and Development
Department/
AFCD/FEHD 23. The agenda item would continue to be followed up on upon further progress.

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- (x) ***“Suggesting the Government Set Up an Additional GREEN@NORTH POINT Recycling Store”***

EPD/FEHD

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

Agenda 7. Any Other Business

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

Agenda 8. Date of Next Meeting

26. The tenth FEHC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 15 July 2025 (Tuesday).

27. The meeting ended at 4:15 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat
July 2025