

Question on large amount of garbage on the beach in Discovery Bay

(Paper IDC 135/2016)

Written Reply from Marine Department

Regarding Ms Amy Yung's question on large amount of garbage on the beach in Discovery Bay, our reply to enquiry 1 and 2 is as follows :

1. The Marine Department (MD) is responsible for clean-up of floating refuse at sea and provides domestic waste collection services to vessels at anchorages and inside typhoon shelters without charge. The MD has received a number of reports concerning large amount refuse accumulated at beaches of the southern part of the Lantau Island in June and July this year. The refuse is suspected drifting to the beaches from sea. We have enhanced the patrol at the Southern waters and deployed scavenging vessels to step up scavenging of floating refuse at the Southern foreshore waters. So far, no excessive accumulation of floating refuse was found at sea or coastal areas. MD, as a member of the government's Interdepartmental Working Group on Clean Shorelines, would work together with relevant departments on cleanup floating refuse at sea and investigate the source. MD would closely monitor the cleanliness condition of sea and deploy resources to step up the cleansing service whenever necessary.
2. MD is responsible for clean-up of floating refuse at sea. The amount of refuse collected on beaches is not available for MD to provide.

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