

(Translation)

**Islands District Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting of**  
**Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Environmental Hygiene**  
**and Climate Change Committee**

Date : 28 September 2020 (Monday)

Time : 10:30 a.m.

Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room,  
14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong.

**Present**

Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine (Chairman)

Ms WONG Chau-ping (Vice-Chairman)

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP

Mr WONG Man-hon (Left at around 5:05 p.m.)

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH (Left at around 6:05 p.m.)

Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS, MH (Left at around 5:15 p.m.)

Mr CHAN Lin-wai, MH

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken (Left at around 1:10 p.m.)

Mr HO Chun-fai

Mr HO Siu-kei (Left at around 6:15 p.m.)

Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Mr TSUI Sang-hung, Sammy

Mr FONG Lung-fei

Mr LEE Ka-ho (Arrived at around 10:35 a.m.)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho (Left at around 1:10 p.m.)

**Attendance by Invitation**

Mr LEE Pak-ho Senior Health Inspector (Administration & Development) Special Duties, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Dr MOK Siu-yan, Flora Senior Nature Reserve Officer (Acting), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Dr WONG Wai-ho, Simon Wetland & Fauna Conservation Officer (Monitoring), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Dr KOON Ka-kei, Cathy Veterinary Officer (Animal Management) Development 1, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Dr Fiona M WOODHOUSE Deputy Director (Welfare), Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)

Ms OR Wai-yin, Vivian Welfare Practice Manager, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)

Ms Jennie FUNG Welfare Community Programmes Manager, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong)

Ms CHUI Yuk-ying	Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr CHEUNG King-man	Senior Engineer/Islands, Drainage Services Department
Mr CHEUNG Fei-kit	Engineer/Drainage System Planning 4, Drainage Services Department
Mr WONG Chi-yung	Senior Engineer/District, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr TSUI Tak-shing, Dickson	Engineer/District 3, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr CHAN Fai	Senior Maintenance Surveyor (Hong Kong Island & Islands), Housing Department
Mr LI Cheuk-ho, Ronald	Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Islands 2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold	Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands) 4, Housing Department
Ms LAU Hoi-shan, Nelly	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Islands)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr YAN Man-chi, Robin	Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands) 3, Housing Department
Mr YEUNG Tak-hoi	Senior Engineer/Hong Kong 3, Water Supplies Department
Ms NG Wan-ki, Maye	Engineer/Hong Kong (Headworks 2), Water Supplies Department
Dr NG Wai-chuen	Marine Conservation Officer (West) 2, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Ms Angel LAM	Manager, Oceans Conservation, World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong
Ms Kitty TAM	Senior Conservation Officer, World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong
Ms Doris WOO	Conservation Officer, Oceans, World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong

### **In Attendance**

Mr LI Ho, Thomas	Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office
Ms LEUNG Tin-ye, Christy	Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office
Mr LI Ming-yau	Senior Inspector of Works, Islands District Office
Ms LAI Wing-sau, Winsy	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr TSANG Wai-man	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Islands), Lands Department
Ms CHAN Ho-yan, Louisa	Assistant District Commander Lantau District (Administration), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LO Tim-fat, Frankie	Police Community Relations Officer (Lantau District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LEONG Seong-iam, Sammy	Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms SIN Kai-wai, Marie	Senior Transport Officer/Islands2, Transport Department
Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South)5 (Acting), Environmental Protection Department



I. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 25.5.2020

3. The Chairman said that the captioned minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by the government departments and organisations and had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

4. No amendment was proposed and the above minutes were endorsed unanimously.

(Mr LI Ka-ho arrived at around 10:35 a.m.)

II. Green Burial 2020

(Paper TAFEHCCC 35/2020)

5. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEE Pak-ho, Senior Health Inspector (Administration & Development) Special Duties of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to the meeting to present the paper.

6. Mr LEE Pak-ho briefly presented the PowerPoint slides.

7. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho enquired how long it would take for the water soluble plastic bags mentioned in the Paper to dissolve completely and whether Hong Kong citizens residing in the Mainland had to browse the website of “memorial.gov.hk” through virtual private network (VPN).

8. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

(a) Some people said that scattering cremains in a Garden of Remembrance (GoR) showed a lack of respect for the deceased. He hoped that the FEHD would provide the usage data of the burial services in order to understand the level of acceptance in the society. He supported green burial but opined that there was still much room for improvement in the arrangement. As far as he knew, there were GoRs in Canada as well. People would put the cremains of the deceased family member into the soil, plant a tree on top and erect a tablet nearby so that they could reminisce about the deceased in front of the tree. He opined that the practice was in keeping with the Chinese worshipping tradition and hoped that the FEHD would take it into account.

(b) He learnt that there would be nearly 800 columbarium niches in the Lai Chi Yuen Cemetery in Mui Wo and 33 500 niches could be provided at a vacant site at the western end of Sham Shui Kok Drive, Siu Ho Wan. He requested the FEHD to explain the planning progress in writing and enquired whether there were any other new public green burial facilities on Lantau Island.

9. Mr LEE Pak-ho made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The FEHD had conducted tests on the water soluble plastic bags used for scattering cremains at sea. The plastic bags fully dissolved in water within one to two minutes.
- (b) As to whether VPN was needed to access “memorial.gov.hk” in the Mainland and other places, the FEHD did not have any relevant information at present.
- (c) With regard to the statistics on scattering of cremains in GoRs, he said over 6 200 people had used the service in 2019, which was the highest number recorded ever.
- (d) As for the proposal of planting trees or erecting commemorative tablets, he said that commemorative plaques which were similar in nature were provided in GoRs. They should be able to meet the public’s demand.
- (e) With regard to improving the service level of GoRs, at present, GoRs were ancillary facilities of cemeteries and their areas were not large. The FEHD understood the public’s needs for the facilities, so it would reserve a place for GoRs and commemorative plaques in the columbaria that were soon to be completed. The niches in the Tsang Tsui Columbarium in Tuen Mun were commissioned in May, whereas the GoR was still under construction. The to-be-completed GoR would be the largest of its kind in Hong Kong, with an area of 40 000 square feet which could house more than 20 000 commemorative plaques. The size and the design of the new columbaria would be improved to attract more people to opt for scattering cremains in GoRs.
- (f) The niches of the Lai Chi Yuen Columbarium in Mui Wo were anticipated to be available at the end of the current year or the beginning of next year. As the development project of public niches at the western end of Sham Shui Kok Drive in Siu Ho Wan was followed up by other sections, he would provide supplementary information after the meeting.
- (g) At present, there were green burial facilities only in Cape Collinson, Diamond Hill, Kwai Chung, Fu Shan in Tai Wai, Cheung Chau, Peng Chau and Lamma Island. There were no such facilities on Lantau Island.

10. Mr Eric KWOK once again said that it was meaningful to plant trees on the soil after burying cremains of the deceased. He hoped the FEHD would consider the proposal of tree planting.

11. Mr LEE Pak-ho noted Mr Eric KWOK’s proposal and would relay it to the Headquarters.

12. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho requested the FEHD to provide the details of the water soluble plastic bags, including their sizes and the places of purchase. He also requested the FEHD to submit a written reply on the issue of using VPN later.

13. Mr LEE Pak-ho said that he would provide the supplementary information after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the FEHD had been distributed to Members for perusal after the meeting.)

### III. Extension of Sham Wan Restricted Area (Paper TAFEHCCC 66/2020)

14. The Chairman welcomed Dr MOK Siu-yan, Flora, Senior Nature Reserve Officer (Acting) and Dr WONG Wai-ho, Simon, Wetland & Fauna Conservation Officer (Monitoring) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to the meeting to respond to the question.

15. Dr Simon WONG briefly presented the paper.

16. Mr Eric KWOK supported the proposal and enquired whether the remote control camera system for monitoring the restricted area could cover the beach only or the entire bay area to prevent the entry of illegal fishing vessels or yachts. In addition, he enquired whether the AFCD would deploy unmanned reconnaissance aircraft from time to time for patrol and publicity in the bay area. Apart from education and publicity, he hoped the AFCD would take more effective actions.

17. Mr CHOW Yuk-tong said that many affected fishermen did not know the details, such as the restricted period or whether the area was open outside the period. He hoped that the AFCD would consult the fishermen on Lamma Island and explain more clearly the purpose of designating a larger restricted area. He opined that the habitat of sea turtles should not be disturbed, but the location concerned was not the only place sea turtles inhabited, otherwise the AFCD would better impose a blockade across the entire sea. He did not disapprove of the proposal, but he opined that the AFCD should communicate with the fishermen first so as to let them understand the impacts of the restriction. Conservation measures for sea turtles had also been implemented before, but the small sea turtles, once released back into the sea, would very soon be eaten by fish, or they might be injured by fishing nets. He opined that a site for sea turtle breeding should be delineated, and he hoped that the AFCD would conduct a site visit in this regard.

18. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that he supported the proposal and expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The AFCD said that it had implemented many measures to conserve sea turtles, with penalties stipulated. He enquired about the details of the penalties, whether prosecution had been instituted and the data on the

detected damages caused every year.

- (b) It had been reported that there were too many human activities or too much pollution in Sham Wan leading to a decrease in the number of sea turtles in recent years. He enquired whether sea turtles laid their eggs in Sham Wan every year.
- (c) Apart from the nuisance caused by vessels and the serious beach pollution, there was also marine refuse washed ashore at other beaches or coastal areas in Hong Kong. He enquired AFCD whether it carried out cleaning operations regularly. Many environmentalists volunteered to clean up refuse on beaches. However, it might be too late for environmental groups to initiate cleaning campaigns, so he hoped that the AFCD would undertake the cleaning operations.

19. Mr Ken WONG criticised that the fishing or trawling ban imposed by the AFCD might not be effective. Without any AFCD staff on duty at night, it would simply be pointless to report to the Police, who would then refer the case to the AFCD. He hoped that the AFCD would deploy more resources for law enforcement. At the beginning of the month, he spotted more than ten to twenty cross-border trawlers. However, upon receipt of the report, the Police said that the fishing activities of those trawlers might be legal and it had to look into the situation first before referring the case to the AFCD. On the following day, he reported to the AFCD and the Marine Department (MD) that some of the trawlers close to the shore created much noise. He opined that there was a need to educate the public and other government departments to differentiate between legal and illegal fishing. All trawlers were illegal except fishing vessels with cast nets. Even though the restricted area had been demarcated, there was no one to take law enforcement action. He enquired of the AFCD whether vessels were deployed on patrol at night.

20. Dr Flora MOK made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Regarding the area covered by the surveillance camera system, when proposing the extension of the protection area, the AFCD had taken the bay area into consideration and was looking for better locations for receiving signals. It was hoped that the entire bay could be covered by cameras on the hills of Yuen Kok and Tai Kok.
- (b) With respect to the use of unmanned reconnaissance aircraft, the AFCD had tried using unmanned aircraft for publicity and broadcast in other restricted areas in Hong Kong. It would study the feasibility of using them in Sham Wan.
- (c) As for Mr CHOW Yuk-tong's proposal to consult fishermen, the AFCD had conducted a preliminary consultation in respect of designating the entire bay area as a restricted area all year round in mid-2019. The fishermen responded that fish could be caught at the location throughout the year. After consideration of striking a balance, the AFCD proposed

that the restriction be imposed for seven months instead of all year round. As such, the bay would be open for five months during the non-breeding season of green turtles in the winter, allowing fishing vessels and yachts to enter. From April to October, i.e. the breeding season of green turtles, the bay would be designated as a restricted area for seven months in order to minimise the disturbance to sea turtles. The AFCD had consulted the representatives of relevant fishermen organisations this year, including the Lamma Island Fishing Promotion Association, which also requested that the AFCD step up law enforcement. The AFCD hoped to work with the fishermen to protect the bay together. It was exploring whether surveillance could be carried out with the assistance of the fishermen, and the relevant work was in progress.

- (d) The AFCD had posted notices about the proposal on Lamma Island. It planned to contact various stakeholders including fishermen, fishermen organisations, yacht clubs, rowing clubs and other bay users several months before the start of the restricted period every year to remind them of the effective period and the regulatory measures as well as providing the public with information about the restricted area. The bay was a breeding ground for sea turtles, and sea turtles would only breed where they were born. Therefore, the conservation of the place was very important to their life cycle. In addition, the AFCD had all along maintained communication with the Huidong Sea Turtle Reserve in Guangdong and stayed in touch with various international organisations. Satellite trackers were also installed on sea turtles to observe their breeding routes.
- (e) Regarding the penalties, unauthorised persons entering the area where restriction was in force were liable on conviction to a maximum fine of \$50,000. At present, the only designated restricted area was the beach in Sham Wan which was accessible from Tung Wan via a footpath. In the restricted months (currently from June to October), the AFCD would erect signboards and also deploy staff to carry out static guarding and patrol. People entering the restricted area would be advised to leave. The AFCD planned to erect signboards in conspicuous places at the headland of the bay to inform the public or vessels.
- (f) The last time sea turtles laid eggs in Sham Wan, Lamma Island was in 2012. From 2000 to 2020, seven sea turtles came ashore to nest and about 2 000 eggs were laid. It would take 20 to 30 years or even longer for sea turtles to reach maturity and breeding age, so protective measures should be put in place from now on to prepare for their return to breed when they matured.
- (g) With regard to the issue of refuse accumulating at Sham Wan Beach on Lamma Island after typhoons, the AFCD would deploy staff to stand guard and watch over the beach in the restricted months. Additional staff would be dispatched for emergencies, and contractors would also be arranged to

clear the refuse. The AFCD welcomed beach cleaning activities organised by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and would explore partnership with concern groups and stakeholders.

- (h) With regard to the issue of law enforcement mentioned by Mr Ken WONG, the AFCD would strive for resources to strengthen marine patrol. According to the legislation, members of the public who entered the restricted area would commit an offence. As such, it was hoped that surveillance would be enhanced, such as by installing CCTV cameras to monitor the entire bay area. When illegal entry was found, the AFCD would conduct a joint operation with the Marine Police and other departments as necessary to intercept the offenders at the mouth of the bay. The AFCD would study the use of infrared monitoring system to facilitate surveillance at night.

IV. Question on request for implementation of “Trap-Neuter-Return” programme in Peng Chau  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 37/2020)

21. The Chairman welcomed Dr KOON Ka-kei, Cathy, Veterinary Officer (Animal Management) Development 1 of the AFCD, Dr Fiona M WOODHOUSE, Deputy Director (Welfare), Ms OR Wai-yin, Vivian, Welfare Practice Manager and Ms Jennie FUNG, Welfare Community Programmes Manager of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Hong Kong) (SPCA) to the meeting to respond to the question.

22. The Chairman briefly presented the question.

23. Dr Cathy KOON presented the written reply of the AFCD.

24. Dr Fiona M WOODHOUSE responded as follows:

- (a) She appreciated the District Council (DC) for having a great foresight to support the commencement of the “Trap-Neuter-Return” trial programme (TNR programme) and opined that the programme was a success. The programme indicators set by the AFCD mainly focused on animal management based on public opinions and needs, whereas the SPCA focused on community engagement, the public’s response, the health and welfare of the animals as well as their reproductive potential. The AFCD gazetted the three-year programme in March. While the SPCA commenced the programme later than the scheduled date, the neutering rate of dogs in the area had reached 80% within the first eight months, including 37 females and 25 males. In addition, 49 puppies had been delivered to animal rehoming centres. The entire programme neutered a total of 63 female dogs, which could have reproduced 315 puppies in just one reproductive cycle. The SPCA placed importance on widening the benefits of the programme, both in terms of animal rights, such as whether puppies would die after being tortured, and in terms of population control.

As mentioned by the Chairman, if the population continued to grow, the original trial zone might not be able to cover some of the dogs, resulting in the need for residents to take care of them or a further increase of pressure on finding adoption services.

- (b) The TNR programme had no immediate impact on the dogs. After surgeries, the dogs would remain in the area and therefore Members would not receive fewer complaints immediately. She asked Members to investigate whether a complaint was about the same dog as people might repeat their complaint after encountering the same dog again. She pointed out that a long view should be taken about the impact of the programme. At present, the number of complaints received on Cheung Chau had actually decreased. When the programme was first launched, there was a lot of publicity about the programme which attracted the attention of the public, and accordingly the level of complaints also increased. She stressed that the cooperation of the local community was rather important. The SPCA had rolled out various programmes to encourage dog owners to be responsible and have their pets neutered. Ms Jennie FUNG would give an outline of the programmes later.
- (c) The SPCA supported the expansion of the TNR programme to Peng Chau and hoped that more stakeholders would be engaged. However, she agreed that it would be very difficult to expand the programme to every district in Hong Kong because of the amount of administrative work and the additional resources required every month. The SPCA discovered that the situation of Peng Chau was different from that of Cheung Chau. The dogs on Peng Chau were more integrated into the community and had more frequent contact with residents, so they would cause more issues. Therefore, the programme needed the support and concerted effort of the community and various parties.
- (d) Being the programme coordinator, the SPCA would be pleased to identify partner organisations on Peng Chau and provide support to them. If the SPCA was to implement the programme, local support would be indispensable. The SPCA would also need the assistance of reliable partners and volunteers. The SPCA would follow the current practice to carry out the trapping and neutering work every month, and the volunteers on Cheung Chau would be responsible for feeding the dogs every day. As such, the SPCA needed the assistance of volunteers who were committed and responsible.

25. Ms Jennie FUNG said that the TNR programme was implemented on Cheung Chau in 2015 with satisfactory results, although the AFCD thought otherwise. The SPCA neutered 80% of the dogs in the district in the first 8 months, including 63 female dogs which could have reproduced as many as 315 puppies in a reproductive cycle. She pointed out that newborn puppies might die from failure to adapt to the environment and some of them were adopted by residents, so the number of stray puppies was smaller than the number of puppies actually born. In the long run, the TNR programme would be

able to control the population of dogs. However, since the average life expectancy of dogs was ten years, obvious impact would not be observed in just three years. The reason for not seeing a drop in the number of complaints might be that the public was concerned about the programme and that the number of dogs in the area did not decrease. She said there were many enthusiastic volunteers on Peng Chau, and the SPCA planned to study the feasibility of implementing the TNR programme on Peng Chau or other places. However, exemption had to be applied by the AFCD under the legislation, and support from residents and local volunteers would be needed. The SPCA also implemented other programmes to help neuter domestic dogs, including the Mongrel Desexing Programme launched in 2014, the SNAP (Spay Neuter Assistance Programme) voucher programme and partnership with private veterinary clinics, under which owners could get a discount on the service after registering on the website. She pointed out that apart from one veterinary clinic in Yuen Long which specialised in neuter surgeries, other SPCA veterinary clinics also provided the same service at a low rate every day.

26. Ms Vivian OR said that the SPCA conducted a public consultation on Cheung Chau and learnt that some residents objected to the programme simply because they were concerned that the prices of their properties would decrease as a result of the programme, which was totally irrelevant to dogs. She therefore opined that the potential impact of the programme should not be underestimated or ignored. Even with the support of DC Members and some residents, the SPCA still had to conduct publicity and education work before the commencement of the programme in order to gain more support from residents to facilitate the public consultation.

27. Mr Ken WONG said that stray dogs could be seen everywhere on the beach and they were difficult to catch, but he opined that the programme was a success because the number of dogs had decreased from 49 to 42. He regretted his objection to the programme at a previous meeting. The number of stray dogs on Peng Chau had increased from more than a dozen to more than 80 at present, which reflected the seriousness of the problem. From time to time, residents complained that they were chased and bitten by dogs. He hoped that the AFCD would take into account the public sentiment and look into implementing the programme on Peng Chau to control the population of stray dogs. Regarding the issue of stray dogs fouling on the streets, he learnt that it was caused by domestic dogs kept by residents.

28. Mr YUNG Chi-ming supported the programme and opined that it had achieved notable success in Cheung Chau South as the number of stray dogs had dramatically decreased. However, there were complaints that Cheung Chau North did not see a decrease in the number of stray dogs. As such, he proposed that the AFCD should implement the programme in Cheung Chau North. He understood that it was not easy to catch stray dogs and hoped that more volunteers would be recruited for assistance.

29. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that the villagers and village representatives of Tei Po Village at Wong Lung Hang Road in Tung Chung, the Rural Committee (RC) of the area and Members had said to the FEHD and the AFCD many times that there were often dozens of stray dogs lingering in the vicinity of the village in recent years. The number far exceeded those mentioned by the AFCD, and the dogs caused serious nuisance to hikers and villagers. On 24 September, she received a call for emergency assistance

from a villager that many visitors fed the dogs in the village, affecting the environmental hygiene and attracting stray dogs to the area. The Tei Po Village was a must-pass for hikers, but the stray dogs often harassed, chased or even bit the hikers. The village representatives said that on 25 September they were informed by the department that some people who made their way via the Wong Lung Hang Country Trail were infected by virus transmitted by dogs or rodents, and thorough disinfection and cleaning had to be conducted. She said that the problem had existed for around ten years. She urged the department to address and deal with the issue expeditiously.

30. Mr Eric KWOK believed that Members in attendance and the public would agree that the welfare and survival right of animals had to be respected. The society generally considered that the problem of stray dogs was attributed to dogs. However, he believed that the main cause was the abandonment of pets. The Government published a consultation paper on the proposals of animal welfare in Hong Kong in mid-2019. He opined that the proposal of enacting legislation and penalties was advisable as this would make owners fulfill their responsibilities. For example, they must have their dogs neutered but not abandoned, otherwise they might be prosecuted. He enquired of the AFCD about the latest progress of the enactment of the relevant legislation.

31. Mr LEE Ka-ho requested that the AFCD provide the statistics on the complaints against stray dogs in Hong Kong or Islands District. He also enquired whether the trial programme was successful at other locations apart from Cheung Chau and Tai Tong and whether the programme would be extended to other locations. As mentioned by Mr Eric KWOK, there were many controversies about animal legislation in the previous year. He enquired of the AFCD whether it would consider enacting legislation or would further implement the legislation. If yes, he would like to know the progress.

32. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) As far as he knew, except the DC Members of Lantau who had not made known their stance on the TNR programme, all other Islands District Council (IDC) Members (including the two Members of Peng Chau) had expressed their support for the programme. He previously proposed to the AFCD that Cheung Chau North should be included in the trial. He would move an impromptu motion later to request the implementation of the programme in all areas in Islands District.
- (b) He opined that neutered stray dogs had a milder character. He reckoned that their chasing and biting of people was related to their foraging for food. In the past, stray dogs on Peng Chau would not linger at the beach, but they began to forage for food there ever since some people left food behind. He opined that the TNR programme did not address the root cause of the problem. DC Members of the constituency needed to find out the reason why stray dogs moved their habitat and understand the issue of feeding dogs with volunteers to avoid attracting other stray dogs to forage for food. He queried that the figures provided by the AFCD could not truly reflect the actual situation. The number of cases of stray dogs attacking people had decreased in Cheung Chau South, but it was not

reflected in the figures. As such, a longer time would be needed before examining the actual effectiveness of the TNR programme in the future.

33. Mr FONG Lung-fei agreed with Mr Eric Kwok that the existence of stray dogs were attributable to humans. He pointed out that stray dogs caused nuisance to villagers when looking for food, and no one took care of them when they were sick. He said that the attitudes of residents towards stray dogs were polarised. Some requested that the AFCD capture all stray dogs and some requested that, in his capacity as a DC Member, he should arrange for the feeding of stray dogs. As such, it was difficult to achieve a balance in handling the issue. The reproduction rate of dogs was so rapid that they could reproduce when they reached six to seven months of age, so it was very difficult to catch them all. He said that the temperament of some neutered dogs would change drastically and they might chase and bite people. He also pointed out that many dogs were ill or even found dead by the roadside. He would contact the FEHD to remove them. He proposed that the AFCD, the SPCA and the relevant bodies should look for places for the settlement of stray dogs. They should then have the dogs neutered and keep them until they died of natural causes, instead of letting them fend for themselves. He reiterated that the problem of stray dogs created by humans should be resolved by humans.

34. Ms WONG Chau-ping said the issue was caused by stray dogs looking for food everywhere and people feeding them. She said some outsiders would feed dogs at Wong Lung Hang Road from around 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. every day. She hoped that the FEHD and the relevant departments would follow up and call upon the public to refrain from feeding stray dogs.

35. Mr Randy YU said that he had also received complaints about the stray dogs in Wong Lung Hang. In other villages, there were fewer complaints lodged against stray dogs than stray cattle. While the issue of stray dogs was more serious at some places, he opined that the TNR programme was worth supporting.

36. Dr Cathy KOON made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The AFCD noted that Members preliminarily supported the implementation of the TNR programme on Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lantau Island. The AFCD would continue to liaise with various animal welfare organisations to explore the feasibility of implementing the TNR programme in Islands District and would conduct on-site inspections and local consultations.
- (b) Before the SPCA implemented the programme in Cheung Chau South in 2015, the AFCD and the SPCA had proposed implementing the programme concurrently in Cheung Chau South and Cheung Chau North. However, due to the strong objection made by residents of Cheung Chau North, the AFCD decided to implement the programme in Cheung Chau South first, and so the programme had not been implemented in Cheung Chau North. If the AFCD, after discussing with the SPCA and other welfare groups, considered it feasible to roll out the programme in Cheung

Chau North, it would commence the consultation exercise and take follow up action depending on the responses from the residents.

- (c) With regard to the stray dogs on Wong Lung Hang Road, she would relay the matter to the staff concerned. She believed that the staff concerned would conduct an on-site inspection to consider the upcoming follow-up work, including whether it would be necessary to catch the dogs or contact the FEHD to take follow-up actions such as inspection and law enforcement action in relation to environmental hygiene.
- (d) The consultation period for the amendments to the Animal Welfare Act had ended. The AFCD had consolidated the relevant views and was discussing the next stage of work with the Department of Justice.
- (e) The AFCD had been undertaking educational and promotional activities to encourage the public to be responsible pet owners. They should understand clearly that it was their responsibility to take care of their pets for their whole life. The AFCD would continue to disseminate the messages to members of the public in various districts via different channels, including advertisements in bus compartments and lightboxes in MTR stations.
- (f) With regard to the other trial locations of the TNR programme, apart from Cheung Chau South, the AFCD also implemented the programme at Tai Tong, Yuen Long, and the trial period had been completed. If animal welfare groups proposed implementing the TNR programme in other areas, the AFCD would follow up. At present, the department was studying the feasibility of setting up another trial location for the TNR programme in the vicinity of Mai Po, Yuen Long.
- (g) The AFCD kept records of the complaints related to stray dogs in various districts. If necessary, she could provide the relevant information to Members after the meeting.
- (h) The first round of the TNR programme lasted for three years. The result of the consultant's assessment showed that the targets on effectiveness had not been met. The AFCD understood that the effectiveness of the programme might not be adequately reflected by the three-year trial periods. Therefore, for future implementation of the programme, the AFCD would discuss a suitable time period with the relevant organisations. The AFCD would continue to monitor the two trial locations in Cheung Chau South and Tai Tong in Yuen Long to review the effectiveness.

37. Dr Fiona M WOODHOUSE responded as follows:

- (a) The SPCA agreed that the root of the problem lay with human behaviours. As such, the SPCA all along assisted the AFCD and animal welfare

organisations to carry out education in the community and solicit support from community leaders so as to change the behaviour of the local people.

- (b) In implementing the TNR programme, the SPCA would adopt different strategies according to the situation. For instance, if there were dogs that were seriously ill, it would not necessarily be neutered and returned. The same applied to dogs that were aggressive and causing problems, but they would be monitored and assessed. The SPCA would also capture puppies to reduce their population.
- (c) One of the greatest difficulties encountered by the SPCA in implementing the programme was that the Government had not yet formulated relevant policies. The TNR programme was on trial, and there were still many problems to be overcome. The SPCA learnt that many districts were interested in implementing the TNR programme, but it needed more NGOs and other individuals to participate in and to be the coordinators of the programme. The SPCA also hoped that the AFCD would take the lead and actively participate in the programme, rather than letting volunteers and NGOs shoulder all the responsibilities and work because only through collaboration and partnership could the maximum results be achieved.

38. Ms Vivian OR responded that the SPCA was aware of the issue of stray dogs in Cheung Chau North. She had discussed the issue with Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho and had conducted an on-site inspection. Considering the strong complaints and objections received previously, the SPCA had to review whether there was still objection. The SPCA had all along maintained liaison with and provided assistance to volunteers of the area. Hopefully, when the TNR programme was implemented in Cheung Chau North in the future, the work would be smoother.

39. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that feeding stray dogs would cause them to congregate and seriously affect environmental hygiene. She reiterated that the AFCD should seriously follow up the proposal of trapping stray dogs.

40. Mr Eric KWOK said that the main reason for the many difficulties encountered by the SPCA in implementing the TNR programme was due to the difficulty in finding responsible volunteers and community support. He believed that Members' ward offices and the RCs would be pleased to provide assistance, including recruiting volunteers or conducting publicity work. He opined that the AFCD should conduct a review and provide more support to the SPCA for the successful implementation of the TNR programme until the relevant welfare policy came into effect.

41. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that he had witnessed AFCD staff trapping dogs but most of the attempts were unsuccessful. He proposed that the AFCD should promote the concept of neutering and returning stray dogs to the people who fed the stray dogs. As pointed out by Ms WONG Chau-ping, foul smells emanated from Wong Lung Hang every morning. He had seen people feeding dogs with stinking food. He worried that the dogs might get ill and die by the roadside, causing environmental hygiene problems.

42. Mr HO Siu-kei said that in some rural villages, like the one he lived in, some dog loving villagers kept stray dogs and cooperated with the SPCA. As pointed out by Mr Eric KWOK, the failure of the TNR programme on Cheung Chau was due to the inadequate communication with the local people. He believed there were dog lovers in every district who were willing to do volunteer work and assist in neutering dogs after the new policies were implemented. He opined that there had to be cooperation with all local representatives for the work to be done well.

43. Dr Cathy KOON said that she would reflect Members' views to the AFCD officers concerned.

44. Ms Jennie FUNG responded as follows:

- (a) Regarding the concern of Ms WONG Chau-ping that stray dogs might get ill and transmit diseases to humans, she said that the SPCA would also vaccinate dogs apart from neutering them. When Members mentioned that rodents and dogs could transmit viruses, she assumed that they were referring to Leptospirosis, which could be passed onto humans from animals. Dogs vaccinated by the SPCA could be immuned from the disease. The health of both dogs and humans would be protected. It was one of the important reasons for the implementation of the TNR programme.
- (b) With regard to feeding, at present the SPCA still provided dog food at the TNR trial locations on Cheung Chau to feed dogs regularly. As a Member mentioned that people fed dogs with rotten food, she opined that it was very important to help the public to establish the correct concepts, for instance, by communicating and reaching a consensus with people who fed dogs and designating certain places for feeding. That would avoid dogs from appearing in places crowded with people and help minimise complaints and nuisance created by dogs.

45. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho requested to move an impromptu motion.

46. The Chairman approved the moving of the impromptu motion by Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho.

47. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho read out the temporary motion as follows: "The IDC requested the relevant government departments and organisations to implement the TNR programme in Islands District." The impromptu motion was seconded by Mr LEE Ka-ho.

48. Ms Amy YUNG moved an amendment to the motion as follows: "The IDC requested the relevant government departments and organisations to implement the 'Trap-Neuter-Return' programme in Islands District." The relevant amendment was seconded by Mr Eric KWOK.

49. The Chairman asked Members to vote on the amendment moved by Ms Amy YUNG by a show of hands.

50. Members voted by a show of hands. The result was 14 votes in favour, one against and one abstention. The amendment was endorsed.

(Members voted in favour included: the Chairman Ms Josephine TSANG, the Vice-chairman Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Randy YU, Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms Amy YUNG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr LEE Ka-ho and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho; Mr CHAN Lin-wai voted against and Mr CHOW Yuk-tong abstained.)

51. The Chairman requested Members to vote on the above amended motion by a show of hands. The amended motion was seconded by Mr Eric KWOK.

52. Members voted by a show of hands. The result was 14 votes in favour, one against and one abstention. The amended motion was endorsed.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Ms Josephine TSANG, the Vice-chairman Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Randy YU, Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms Amy YUNG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr LEE Ka-ho and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho; Mr CHAN Lin-wai voted against and Mr CHOW Yuk-tong abstained.)

V. Question on environmental hygiene in rural areas of Tung Chung  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 36/2020)

53. The Chairman welcomed Ms LAI Wing-sau, Winsy, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands) and Ms CHUI Yuk-ying, Chief Health Inspector (Islands) of the FEHD to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of the FEHD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

54. Ms WONG Chau-ping briefly presented the question.

55. Ms CHUI Yuk-ying briefly presented the written reply of the FEHD.

56. Mr Randy YU supported Ms WONG Chau-ping's question. He opined that the question involved rural areas on Lantau Island and proposed that the AFCD be invited for response. He approved of the AFCD's performance so far, including the reduction of the number of litter bins and the promotion of the "Take Your Litter Home" campaign. He had made similar appeals in rural areas and noticed that most hikers would take away their own rubbish. He opined that the situation mentioned in the question was caused by the fact that more people went hiking in the countryside during the epidemic. Some of them dropped litter such as plastic bottles and even face masks. He said that the volunteer team of his ward office and other hikers who were concerned about the environmental hygiene of the rural areas would bring their own litter bags to clear the rubbish. It was therefore evidenced that many people were self-disciplined and cared

for the rural environment. He enquired whether the AFCD, the FEHD or the departments concerned would step up patrol and prosecution, which he believed to be the temporary solution during the epidemic.

57. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that visitors would pass through urban areas or villages to enter country trails. The amount of rubbish and face masks abandoned had increased with the number of visitors. She hoped that the departments concerned would fulfill their responsibilities and implement improvement measures accordingly.

58. Ms CHUI Yuk-ying responded that while country parks did not fall within the purview of the FEHD, in order to support the “Take Your Litter Home” campaign in country park areas and provide convenience for visitors, the FEHD had placed litter bins and litter containers in the areas between country parks and villages which were not under the purview of the AFCD, so that visitors could dispose of their rubbish right away when they left the country parks without having to carry it for a long distance.

59. Mr Wilson WU responded that the AFCD would enhance the publicity of the “Take Your Litter Home” campaign and would step up prosecution and law enforcement against littering, hoping that the two-pronged approach would deliver results.

60. Mr FONG Lung-fei commended the concept of “Take Your Litter Home”, noting that it would help keep hiking trails in country parks clean. However, he had seen the litter bins near Pak Kung Au, Sunset Peak completely full. He enquired of the AFCD how often they cleared out the litter bins. He hoped that the departments concerned would increase the frequency of cleaning, especially after holidays, to avoid rubbish from accumulating.

61. Mr Wilson WU said that he would discuss with officers concerned to increase the frequency of cleaning according to the environment and manpower deployment to improve the hygiene condition.

62. Mr HO Siu-kei opined that it was improper to reduce the number of litter bins in country parks. He gave an example that the distance from Tung Chung to Tai O was not short, but people could only find litter bins when they reached the village area. As a result, face masks were littered at the hillside. He pointed out that there were many scenic spots in Tai O, including lookout pavilions and dolphin viewing spots, but there were not enough litter bins for public use. He opined that the relevant policies should be reviewed and hoped that the AFCD would provide more three-coloured recycle bins at the suitable locations.

63. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that before entering country trails, visitors would pass through the following places and dispose of face masks and litter, thereby causing pollution: (1) the areas surrounding Shek Lau Po Village, Shek Mun Kap Village and Lo Hon Buddhist Monastery; (2) the areas surrounding Sha Tsui Tau Village, Hau Wong Temple and San Tau Village; and (3) the areas surrounding Tei Po Village and Chek Lap Kok Village. She hoped the AFCD and the FEHD would perform their respective duties.

64. Ms CHUI Yuk-ying responded that the FEHD would provide large litter bins or small litter containers outside the country park areas so that hikers could dispose of their rubbish right away after leaving the country park areas. The FEHD would review the situation and increase the number of litter bins or litter containers as necessary.

65. Mr Wilson WU said that the AFCD would coordinate with the FEHD on improvement measures.

VI. Question on long-term flood prevention strategy for Tai O  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 38/2020)

66. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHEUNG King-man, Senior Engineer/Islands and Mr CHEUNG Fei-kit, Engineer/Drainage System Planning 4 of the Drainage Services Department (DSD); Mr WONG Chi-yung, Senior Engineer/District and Mr TSUI Tak-shing, Dickson, Engineer/District 3 of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD); and Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond, Senior Environment Protection Officer (Regional South)5 (Acting) of the EPD to the meeting to respond to the question.

67. Mr Randy YU briefly presented the question.

68. Mr Esmond YAU briefly presented the written reply of the EPD. He noted the responses of the DSD and the CEDD on flood prevention strategy and said that the EPD would continue to communicate closely with relevant departments.

69. Mr WONG Chi-yung added that the Working Group on Infrastructure under Climate Change (Working Group) was convened by the CEDD, with members including relevant works departments and the Hong Kong Observatory. With regard to the adaptation measures, the Working Group aligned the projections on the rise in mean sea level and the increase of rainfall caused by climate change, and the CEDD updated the relevant design manual in early 2018. The Working Group would continue to closely monitor the latest reports on climate change and update the design standards timely. Furthermore, in 2017, the CEDD commenced a consultancy study to conduct strategic assessment on main public infrastructures. The study had been substantially completed, and the results had been provided to the departments concerned for reference and follow-up. With regard to the feasibility study on the “Coastal Hazards under Climate Change and Extreme Weather and Formulation of Improvement Measures” (“Coastal Hazards Study”), he said that the consultant had largely identified the low-lying coastal or windy locations in Hong Kong, including Islands District. The consultant had collected the geographical information of the coastal locations and taken into account past weather data (including super typhoon Mangkhut). Currently, the consultant was conducting the computer modelling data analysis. He pointed out that the consultant was exploring and formulating protection and response measures for the locations mentioned above, taking into account cost-effectiveness, the impact on navigation channels, environment and the regions, etc. The consultant would strive to submit the preliminary research findings to the Government by the end of the year.

70. Mr CHEUNG King-man said that the DSD was concerned about the impact of

extreme weather on low-lying coastal or windy locations such as Tai O. It also strengthened protection measures, for example by building river walls and installing demountable flood barriers in Tai O to reduce the risk of flooding at Wing On Street and Tai Ping Street. After the super typhoon Mangkhut, the flood prevention measures at Shek Tsai Po Street, Fan Kwai Tong, the coast along Nam Chung and the north side of Tai Ping Street has been enhanced. Upon the completion of the Coastal Hazards Study, the DSD would make reference to the findings and propose suitable protection and response measures. The DSD had all along kept close liaison with the CEDD and other relevant departments to jointly explore improved response measures to reduce the impact of storm surges in Tai O.

71. Mr Randy YU hoped that the department would submit the study report and the proposals by the end of the year so that Members could explain in detail to the stakeholders of Tai O. In addition, the DSD said that the flood barriers installed on top of the flood walls were 3.95 metres above the chart datum. However, as far as he understood, the flood barriers could only raise the flood protection datum which was set ten years before to 3.8 metres above the chart datum, and the sea level already exceeded 3.7 metres during the attack of Mangkhut, which was close to the critical point. He enquired that whether the datum was 3.95 metres or 3.8 metres and whether it was possible to increase the height of the flood barriers in short-term when necessary. He pointed out that apart from the threat of sea flooding in Tai O, there were also torrents in the areas at Lantau Peak from time to time. If both occurred at the same time, the existing measures might not be sufficient for protection. He therefore enquired whether the above study covered mountain torrents. He learnt that flood storage ponds would be built in other districts and hoped that similar facilities would be constructed in Tai O to reduce the impact brought about by sea floods and mountain torrents occurring at the same time.

72. Mr HO Siu-kei pointed out that when Hurricane Signal No. 10 was hoisted during the attack of Hato and Mangkhut, the sea level almost rose to the critical point of the flood prevention facilities. Based on his observation, the flood prevention facilities of some areas could effectively prevent floods. He understood that the application for the installation of relevant facilities took time, but Tai O residents hoped that temporary measures would be formulated as soon as possible at the present stage to minimise the risks of typhoons and serious floods, so as to ensure their safety.

73. Mr WONG Chi-yung said that the CEDD would explore with the DSD the impact of rainwater on the relevant locations and would formulate measures with consideration given to the study findings. With regard to the protection facilities in Tai O, the consultant would review and propose suitable protection and response measures as soon as possible for reference by the departments concerned and stakeholders.

74. Mr CHEUNG King-man made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) With regard to short-term protection measures, he said that the DSD had conducted an on-site inspection with the Chairman of Tai O RC to understand the local situation, which had been relayed to the CEDD for examining and implementing suitable short-term measures.

- (b) In addition, he said that 3.8 metres referred to the Hong Kong Principal Datum while 3.95 metres referred to the chart datum. Both of them were of the same level but with different units. As for whether the flood barriers should be raised, the DSD would discuss the issue with the CEDD in the Coastal Hazards Study with a view to implementing corresponding measures based on the findings as soon as possible.

VII. Question on disposal of municipal solid waste in Hong Kong  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 39/2020)

76. The Chairman welcomed Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond, Senior Environment Protection Officer (Regional South)5 (Acting) of the EPD to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of the EPD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

77. Mr Randy YU briefly presented the question.

78. Mr Esmond YAU presented the written reply of the EPD.

79. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his concern about the Community Green Station (CGS) and enquired about when the Islands CGS would be launched and the number of activities and waste recycling to be organised. He pointed out that the clock in the Islands CGS office in Mun Tung Estate had stopped and queried whether the office was still in operation. A maintenance notice had been posted at the office the previous week and he did not understand the reason for maintenance when it was opened not long before. He requested the EPD to explain its operation.

80. Mr LEE Ka-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) It was learnt that the three landfills in Hong Kong would be saturated by 2020 and extension works would be implemented. However, they could be used for another ten years at most. He enquired the actual service lives of the landfills.
- (b) With regard to reducing waste at source, one of the targets of the EPD was to implement municipal solid waste charging (MSWC). It was expected to help reduce the per capita MSW disposal rate by nearly 20%. However, since the target of the Environment Bureau (ENB) was to reduce waste by 40% by 2022, even with the implementation of MSWC, the target might still not be met. Given the possibility that the policy might be put on hold, he enquired of the EPD whether other measures would be rolled out.
- (c) While three-coloured recycle bins were provided in various districts, he opined that the Government only made a perfunctory effort in recycling work. He said that most of the waste in the district was collected by

elderly scavengers for reselling. However, the amount of waste recycled in recent years had decreased with the price. He asked whether the Government would have new policies to subsidise the recycling industry. He pointed out that community organisations or NGOs were mainly responsible for educating the public to separate their waste for recycling. However, if no one handled the waste put into the recycle bins, the waste would end up in landfills and efforts would be in vain.

81. Mr Randy YU agreed with Mr LEE Ka-ho's view. He also thanked the EPD for its reply. However, he could not sense the urgency to resolve the problem in the EPD's reply. He had high hopes on the blueprint published in 2013 and hoped that the per capita waste disposal rate could be reduced to 0.8 kg by 2022. However, after learning that the actual per capita disposal rate had increased from 1.27 kg in 2011 to 1.5 kg in 2018, he worried that the target would not be met within two years. He opined that the attitude of the EPD was passive and it often waited for NGOs to apply for partnership. Not only no progress had been made in seven years, but the situation had deteriorated. He opined that the EPD's recent promotion of proper disposal of face masks and "Plastic-Free Takeaway, Use Reusable Tableware" on social media was indeed an improvement. However, as no breakthroughs had been made on the publicity strategy after the roll-out of the very popular "Big Waster" mascot several years ago, the EPD had failed to encourage people to change their habits effectively. He opined that MSWC could be effective but it had not been endorsed by the Legislative Council because of all sorts of reasons. Even if it could be implemented in 2021, it would be difficult to reduce the per capita waste disposal rate by 40% in 2022. He enquired of the EPD whether it had other publicity programmes to educate the public about waste recycling and waste reduction at source. He expressed his discontent that upon being asked when the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 2 would be implemented, the EPD only replied that it would carry out a review in due course. He opined that as the progress of Phase 1 was already behind schedule, there was a pressing need for a review. He queried if the measures of waste reduction at source achieved significant results, whether the development of phase 2 would still be necessary. He urged the Government to coordinate and cooperate proactively and requested the EPD to give a response again.

82. Mr Eric KWOK said that no progress had been made in the EPD's work on waste reduction at source ever since the super incinerator project at Shek Kwu Chau was approved. The per capita waste disposal rate had actually gone up instead of down. While the EPD implemented the CGS in the previous year, like Mr FONG Lung-fei, he was doubtful about whether the facility of the Islands CGS in Mun Tung Estate in Tung Chung was in operation. He was dissatisfied with the ENB, which did not encourage the development of the recycling industry. He queried whether the ENB opined that the issue of environmental protection could be resolved simply by building super incinerators to incinerate waste.

83. Mr Esmond YAU made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The facilities of the Islands CGS situated at Mun Tung Road in Tung Chung included office, multi-purpose activity room, piazza, supplies loading area and temporary storage room, etc. Maintenance might be

necessary because of the problems emerged at the beginning of operation. As far as he understood it, the Islands CGS had been operated by the OIWA Limited since the middle of the year. The main services of the CGS was to instill a green lifestyle into the community through environmental education and publicity in order to promote the behavioral changes necessary for a green community and achieve waste reduction at source. The Islands CGS also had to support the recycling work in the district and arrange resource collection vehicles to collect recyclable materials for recycling. Generally speaking, the EPD would first look for a site for the construction of the CGS facilities, then engage NGOs as the operator to provide recycling services and organise publicity activities like workshops to promote environmental education in the community.

- (b) With regard to when the landfills would be saturated, he did not have the information at hand and would provide the information after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The EPD provided the information about the landfills to Mr LEE Ka-ho after the meeting.)

- (c) He stressed that MSWC could effectively change the public's behaviour to achieve waste reduction at source. Even if the measure was not approved, the EPD would continue to improve other waste reduction programmes so as to facilitate the public to recover recyclables, including improving the community recycling network by providing CGS facilities. At present, the programme was implemented in nine districts only, but the EPD would endeavor to install such facilities in the rest of the districts. A pilot scheme would be rolled out to serve the residents of the districts during the transitional period. In addition, the EPD hoped that community recycling centres would be set up in all 18 districts in Hong Kong before the end of the year to provide recycling services and carry out publicity and education work in order to enhance the environmental awareness of the public. Outreaching teams of the EPD would proactively liaise with property management companies and arrange recycling demonstrations in the districts with a view to comprehensively enhancing the community recycling networks. He reiterated that the EPD would not stay put simply because MSWC was shelved. With regard to IWMF Phase 2 development, decisions would be made after reviewing the results of Phase 1 and the relevant measures. The EPD noted that there were cases of recyclers disposing of the waste collected from three-coloured recycle bins to landfills because there were no buyers for the recycled waste. As such, collection services of waste paper, waste plastic and food waste were rolled out to promote recycling.

84. Ms Amy YUNG hoped that the relevant departments would communicate more with DC Members. She said that a community smart recycling vehicle visited Discovery Bay on 22 September, but she only knew it two days before. She immediately sent an email to the relevant unit of the EPD to request for information for posting on her social media platform. She later discovered that the community smart recycling vehicle

could not collect recyclable waste but was intended for publicity and distribution of pamphlets only. She opined that the arrangement was a waste of resources and pointed out that residents had an urgent need for recycling services. In addition, the community smart recycling vehicle only stayed for three days in Discovery Bay and not many residents were aware of it, so it was not very effective. She criticised the EPD for not giving the timetable of the publicity programme and having a passive attitude. She proposed that DC Members should be invited to assist in distributing leaflets and reposting the relevant information to social media platforms.

85. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that not many Tung Chung residents knew about the Islands CGS. He hoped that the facility could provide regular recycling services after reopening, instead of operating for one or two days in every one or two months. He pointed out that there was one private recycle yard in Tung Chung, the usage rate of which was low possibly because the management was poor. He understood that some residents hoped that the Government would undertake recycling. He hoped the EPD would oversee the responsible organisations of the Islands CGS, for example, by setting targets for the daily recycling volume and providing guidance on the publicity strategy and methods of recycling. He said that the EPD previously asked for Members' endorsement of a paper about land tenure, and he would consider objecting to it because of the EPD's unsatisfactory performance.

86. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that the facility of the Islands CGS had been completed for a while, but it was commissioned only recently. He requested the EPD to provide basic information such as the activities organised by the operator and the quantity of recovered recyclables so that Members could review its performance. Apart from MSWC, the ENB also implemented other waste reduction programmes. He enquired whether clear targets had been set to allow Members to know better the EPD's work progress.

87. Mr Randy YU proposed letting the EPD give a simple response first. The EPD could provide a detailed response after its representative relayed Members' enquiries to the ENB and the sections concerned. The performance of various areas of Islands District with regard to the collection of food waste was satisfactory, which showed that the environmental awareness of the residents was high. If there were programmes that could not be implemented in other districts, he proposed that the EPD could carry out a trial run in Islands District. At present, only Tung Chung was provided with the Islands CGS facilities. There were no such facilities on Cheung Chau, Lamma Island, Peng Chau and South Lantau because of the geographical environments. He enquired whether other facilities would be provided instead. In addition, the per capita waste disposal rate in 2018 was 1.5 kg. Even after the implementation of MSWC, which could reduce the rate by 20%, the number would still be 1.2 kg. The target of reducing the rate to 0.8 kg in 2022 could hardly be achieved. He enquired of the EPD whether there were other remedial measures. IDC had endorsed the Government's construction of the IWMF Phase 1. However, almost all of the proposed works of the amenity facilities pledged had not yet been implemented. He hoped the EPD would follow up and meet with the stakeholders and local people.

88. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that the outcome of the pilot recycling scheme of the Swire Group was satisfactory. He proposed that the EPD should consider placing the

same kind of machines at the front of the Islands CGS office to recycle plastic bottles, newspapers and glass bottles, etc. and offering a rebate of \$0.1 or \$0.2 via Octopus to encourage the members of the public to recycle waste.

89. Mr Esmond YAU said that he would relay the proposals of providing additional recycling machines, etc. to the sections concerned. He added that a section under the EPD was responsible for monitoring whether the targets of CGS were achieved or not and finding out whether the operators had organised a certain number of workshops and recycling campaigns each month. He did not have the information of the recycling quantity of the Islands CGS at hand, and he would provide it after the meeting. He thanked Mr Randy YU for his proposal. After the relevant sections looked at how to reduce the per capita waste disposal rate and whether CGS facilities would be established in areas outside Tung Chung, the EPD would submit a written reply to the IDC.

(Post-meeting note: The EPD provided the supplementary information about the Islands CGS to Mr LEE Ka-ho after the meeting and relayed Mr FONG Lung-fei's proposal on recycling machines to the relevant sections. Regarding the reduction of the per capita waste disposal rate, the EPD provided further explanation to Mr Randy YU after the meeting.)

#### VIII. Question on long-term strategies of Hong Kong for addressing climate change (Paper TAFEHCCC 40/2020)

90. The Chairman welcomed Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond, Senior Environment Protection Officer (Regional South)<sup>5</sup> (Acting) of the EPD to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of the EPD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

91. Mr Randy YU briefly presented the question.

92. Mr Esmond YAU presented the written reply of the EPD.

93. Mr Randy YU expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He believed that it would require further efforts to reduce the per capita carbon emission from the current 5.4 tonnes to 3.8 tonnes or less. He hoped that the ENB and the EPD would continue to follow up.
- (b) He opined that the development of renewable energy was fraught with obstacles. With regard to the Feed-in Tariff (FiT) Scheme, it would be more cost-effective to implement for village houses. There should not be many other users who had joined the Scheme unless some organisations or buildings were particularly environmentally conscious. According to the reply of the EPD, it had received over 10 000 FiT applications, of which only 2 000 or so were from non-village house residences. He understood that it was not easy to develop renewable energy. According

to the existing statistics, the 5% target utilisation rate of renewable energy might not be achievable in 2030.

- (c) With regard to waste-to-energy, he opined that the objective could not be achieved by relying on waste-to-energy facilities alone. He enquired of the EPD whether there were other revolutionary ways to achieve the target and hoped that the EPD would submit a written reply after the meeting.

94. Mr Esmond YAU responded as follows:

- (a) The Hong Kong Climate Action Plan 2030+ mainly stipulated the carbon emission target in 2030, i.e. to lower the carbon intensity level in 2005 by 65-70%. At present, around 70% of the carbon emissions in Hong Kong originated from electricity generation. The major means to reduce carbon emissions was by changing the fuel mix. For environmental reasons, power companies were no longer allowed to build new coal-fired generating units after 1997. To meet the demand for electricity in the future and improve the environment, the ratio of natural gas in power generation had been increased from around 20% in 2014 to 50% at present. The ratio of nuclear electricity was maintained at 25%, and the remaining 25% was coal-fired electricity which would meet the rest of the demand. The above measures would contribute to lowering the carbon intensity in 2020 to 50-60% of the level in 2005. Power companies would phase out the use of coal-fired generating units in the next ten years and switch to natural gas and non-fossil fuels. To conclude the above, the carbon reduction target in 2030 would hopefully be achieved.
- (b) With regard to renewable energy, the development of large-scale renewable energy facilities in Hong Kong was restricted by the geographical constraints. Nevertheless, the EPD would proactively encourage various departments to promote renewable energy. It was hoped that the Government would take the lead in developing major renewable energy projects to help reduce carbon emissions.

IX. Question on request for replacement of all drainage pipes and condensation drain pipes for air conditioners on external walls of Yat Tung (I) Estate  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 41/2020)

95. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Fai, Senior Maintenance Surveyor (Hong Kong Island & Islands) of the Housing Department (HD) to the meeting to respond to the question.

96. Mr Eric KWOK briefly presented the question.

97. Mr CHAN Fai responded as follows:

- (a) The Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) had all along closely monitored

the conditions of the pipes on external walls, including sewage pipes and condensation drain pipes for air conditioners. If a rupture or leakage was found, repairs would be carried out immediately in order to ensure the environmental hygiene and safety of the estate.

- (b) Under the COVID-19 epidemic, the HA understood that residents were very concerned about the conditions of the drainage pipes of their buildings. It therefore had taken the initiative to examine all public pipes of Yat Tung (I) Estate. The programme commenced in September of the current year and was expected to be completed in early November. If residents found or worried about leakages or abnormalities in the pipes of their units, they were welcome to contact the Estate Office. The HD would arrange staff to conduct inspection and suitable repairs in the unit in order to resolve the issue as early as possible to avoid the spread of the virus.
- (c) Condensation drain pipes for air conditioners had been installed for all blocks upon the completion of Yat Tung (I) Estate. Their sizes, widths and materials used were similar to those of other estates completed in the same year. The diameters of the main condensation drain pipes for air conditioners in Yat Tung (I) Estate were around 38 to 40 mm, which were similar to the ones in the newly constructed housing estates such as Mun Tung Estate and Ying Tung Estate. The pipes were adequate to drain the condensation from air conditioners in operation. However, when installing air conditioners for the households of Yat Tung (I) Estate, for the sake of convenience or cost saving, many workers did not erect a supporting bracket or frame under the air conditioner. Instead, they placed the air conditioner directly on the platform and connected the flexible hose to the main condensation drain pipe which was in a lower position. The workers drilled through the main condensation drain pipe and inserted the flexible hose into it directly. Such improper practice would damage the main pipe and caused leakage. The flexible hose would also come loose easily. As a result of the flexible hose being inserted too deep or stuck with cement or dust, the draining function of the main pipe would also be affected.
- (d) According to the maintenance experience of the HD, it was found that the problem could be resolved by reconnecting the flexible hose after removing the dirt. The HD therefore urged residents who had their flexible hoses connected improperly to reconnect the flexible hoses as soon as possible and install supporting brackets or frames under their air conditioners upon replacement. They had to connect the flexible hoses to the building's condensation drain pipes for air conditioners properly. If the HD noticed that the environmental hygiene nearby was affected by water dripping from air conditioners or flexible hoses coming loose, it would immediately take follow-up action and request the residents to rectify the dripping problem as soon as possible. According to past experience, most of the residents were very cooperative. Upon receiving

the advice or reminder from the HD, most of them were willing to rectify the issue of water dripping from air conditioners expeditiously. As for uncooperative residents, the HD would issue warning letters and take corresponding action in accordance with the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement in Public Housing Estates (the Marking Scheme).

- (e) At present, the sewage pipes and condensation drain pipes for air conditioners in all blocks of Yat Tung (I) Estate functioned properly. However, as they had been in use for more than 20 years, there would be a certain degree of wear and tear. When the HD carried out major maintenance on external walls or enhancement works for the housing estate in the future, the condensation drain pipes for air conditioners would be replaced altogether depending on their conditions.

98. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Many walls of Yat Tung Estate had become blackened, meaning that there were cracked pipes causing water seepage. At present, there were improper connections of air conditioner pipes at every building. Even if the pipes were replaced by the HD, proper connection and drainage could not be ensured.
- (b) He requested the HD to conduct an on-site inspection in Yat Tung Estate in the morning. Water could be seen dripping from air conditioners like it was raining. He said that two or three months before, a pipe joint in Po Yat House ruptured and water kept leaking from it. It took more than a month to have it repaired. He opined that the problem was caused by the quality of the pipes, and there were potential problems in both Yat Tung (I) Estate and Yat Tung (II) Estate. He hoped that the HD would resolve all issues altogether rather than conducting minor repairs one by one.
- (c) At present, the issue of water dripping from air conditioners was very serious in many places, leading to the breeding and infestation of mosquitoes and insects, which affected environmental hygiene. Fewer people would use air conditioners when autumn arrived, so the situation might improve. However, it would deteriorate again when summer came. He proposed that the HD should deal with the issue altogether when it carried out pipe inspection in the autumn as improper pipe connections would easily breed bacteria and mould, causing blockage of pipes.

99. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He thanked the HD for indicating that when major maintenance on external walls or enhancement works of the housing estates were carried out in the future, it would actively consider inspecting and replacing the condensation drain pipes for air conditioners and the soil drains.

However, he said that ever since he was elected a Member in 2006, he had received complaints about water dripping from air conditioners or pipe rupture every year. He said that what was shown in the photograph attached was just a tip of the iceberg and the issue had persisted for more than three years. During the period, he continually reported the issue and lodged complaints to the management company as well as the property maintenance section of the HD, which only prioritised other units with more serious issues. He worried that if the seepage problem was not dealt with at present, the stench would become overwhelming and mould would accumulate in a few years' times.

- (b) He estimated that the cost of maintenance for each case was around \$5,000. However, pipes would easily crack again when they became brittle. He therefore hoped that the HD would replace all pipes in one go to resolve the issues once and for all. He proposed that the HD should require residents to declare the conditions of the connections of their air conditioner pipes and enforce the Marking Scheme against offenders. He opined that the HD was too lenient to the tenants of public housing estates and did not implement the Marking Scheme vigorously. He said that the security staff had said to him many times that as the HD was unwilling to enforce the Marking Scheme, they were unable to take further action. He urged the HD to enforce the Marking Scheme strictly and carry out estate management effectively.

100. Mr CHAN Fai responded that the HD would immediately deal with the leakage of pipes or drains. In September, the HD initiated the proactive examination mechanism to carry out comprehensive inspection for locations with leakage, minor seepage or stains. As the pipes had been in use for a long time, there would be some wear and tear. The HD would not turn a blind eye to them. However, inconvenience to households would be caused during maintenance. He agreed with Mr FONG and Mr KWOK's views that pipe leakage had to be dealt with expeditiously to eradicate the problem. The HD wished to make use of the opportunity of fighting COVID-19 to carry out comprehensive examination proactively to identify the seepage problems. If residents found any persistent blackspots, they could contact the Estate Office, which would deal with each case immediately and would not turn a blind eye to the problem. In addition, the HD was open to carrying out enhancement works to condensation drain pipes for air conditioners during major maintenance on external walls in the housing estates. The Estate Management Advisory Committee and stakeholders such as residents would be consulted before the commencement of the works.

X. Question on community hygiene of Ying Tung Estate  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 42/2020)

101. The Chairman welcomed Ms LAI Wing-sau, Winsy, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands) and Mr LI Cheuk-ho, Ronald, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Islands 2 of the FEHD as well as Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold, Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands) 4 of the HD to the

meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of the FEHD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

102. Mr Sammy TSUI briefly presented the question.

103. Mr Ronald LI briefly presented the written reply of the FEHD.

104. Mr Arnold HAU made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) In 2018, in accordance with the established policy, the HA leased the Ying Tung Estate Market to a contractor who was responsible for the operation, management and cleaning of the market, including carrying out routine pest control work in accordance with the cleaning report.
- (b) The Estate Office of Ying Tung Estate (Estate Office) arranged cleaning staff to collect household refuse twice a day, once in the morning from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and once in the evening from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. In addition, in response to the recent epidemic and hygiene conditions, pesticide was sprayed across the entire estate on 17, 26 August and 4 September 2020 to keep the environment clean.
- (c) The Estate Office had placed rodenticide at the refuse rooms and refuse collection points on the ground floor of each estate block. Inspection was conducted with FEHD staff on the planters in the estate and no rodent holes were found.
- (d) Eight solar mosquito killers were installed on the ground floor and the podium of Ying Tung Estate to prevent infestation of mosquitoes. Nine new mosquito killers had also been installed in the estate, so the anti-mosquito facilities in the estate were rather sufficient.
- (e) To tackle the epidemic, the Estate Office stepped up the cleaning and disinfection work in the estate in August and September, including cleaning the ground six times and the nullahs four times with high pressure water jet. The ground and the nullahs in the vicinity of the market and the kindergarten in Ying Yuet House were cleaned in the same way as needed on 5 and 30 August. The Estate Office had also stepped up the mosquito prevention measures. Anti-mosquito fogging was carried out and mosquito larvicidal oil was placed six times in August and four times since September.

105. Mr Sammy TSUI enquired about the market contractor's mode of operation.

106. Mr Arnold HAU said that the current market contractor was Wang On Majorluck Limited which was responsible for the operation and cleaning of the market. If necessary, he could provide the cleaning reports to Members for perusal after the meeting.

107. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Although the HD and the management company had carried out anti-mosquito operations and placed mosquito larvicidal oil, the issue remained unresolved. He understood that even daily anti-mosquito work could not guarantee complete eradication of mosquitoes, but some residents thought that the HD did not deal with the issue because they had not seen the placement of mosquito larvicidal oil. He therefore proposed installing additional mosquito killers or mosquito trapping devices so that residents would know that follow-up action had been taken by the HD.
- (b) The new housing estates were near the reclamation area, so many cockroaches would appear during rainy days or the approach of typhoons, especially in the areas near the market. He raised the issue with the management company, which took action immediately. He hoped that the HD would continue to pay more attention to the matter.
- (c) He said that there might be a misunderstanding on the part of the residents because they did not see the cleaning staff collect the refuse. He proposed posting a timetable on each floor of the buildings. He thanked the FEHD for its cleaning work outside the housing estates. While the area within the estates did not fall within the purview of the FEHD, he hoped that the FEHD would provide professional advice to the HD and the management company to improve the hygiene condition.

108. Mr Eric KWOK thanked the FEHD and the HD for their collaboration in conducting pest and rodent control work in Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate. He agreed with Mr FONG Lung-fei's proposal of keeping cats in the community to deter rodent infestation. With regard to the mosquito infestation, he said that it was the rainy season and he discovered that there was much stagnant water accumulated in the construction site outside Ying Tung Estate in the previous week. As it would take only four to five days for larvae to turn into mosquitoes, even if anti-mosquito work was conducted daily, there would still be mosquitoes in the construction site. As such, he proposed that the Secretariat should write to the CEDD requesting follow-up on the issue of stagnant water in the construction site.

109. The Chairman urged the FEHD to step up patrol at the reclamation area to avoid the deterioration of hygiene condition.

110. Mr Ronald LI said that the FEHD and the HD conducted patrol in the vicinity of the housing estate and exchanged views from time to time. With regard to the issue of stagnant water in the construction site, the FEHD would conduct inspection regularly and required the person-in-charge to implement mosquito prevention measures. Prosecution would be instituted against any violation of the regulations.

111. Mr Arnold HAU said that there were 17 anti-mosquito facilities in Ying Tung Estate, which were sufficient when compared with other public housing estates. With regard to Mr Eric KWOK's views, he agreed that as the CEDD was carrying out reclamation works near Ying Tung Estate, puddles would be formed in the mud after rain.

They would become the breeding ground of mosquitoes and cause a mosquito infestation to Ying Tung Estate. The HD would continue to conduct anti-mosquito operations jointly with the CEDD and the FEHD, and Members might be invited to participate. In addition, he would follow up on the proposal of posting the timetable of refuse collection in the estate blocks.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat of the IDC had conveyed the Committee's views to the CEDD.)

XI. Question on fishing activities in Hong Kong waters  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 43/2020)

112. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEONG Seong-iam, Sammy, Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District) of the HKPF (the Police) and Mr TANG Wing-kai, Ricky, Fisheries Officer (Enforcement) 1 of the AFCD to the meeting to respond to the question.

113. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho briefly presented the question.

114. Mr Ricky TANG responded that with regard to how the public could identify lawful fishing vessels, according to the Fisheries Protection Ordinance, vessels had to apply for the Certificate of Registration of Local Fishing Vessel from the AFCD to fish legally in Hong Kong. The AFCD would specify on the Certificate the registration number of the vessel and the permitted fishing areas and methods in Hong Kong waters. Information of registered local fishing vessels could be found on the AFCD website, the link was attached in the written reply. The AFCD would deploy resources to tackle illegal fishing activities in response to the intelligence or complaints received. Mr LEUNG previously mentioned that he had seen people use strong lights to fish near the beach. The MD would follow up on the issue. In addition, according to the conditions stipulated on the Certificate of Registration of Local Fishing Vessel, fishing was permitted in most of Hong Kong waters. However, some waters, such as beaches and marine parks, might be governed by other legislations.

115. Mr Sammy LEONG responded as follows:

- (a) The Police provided a written reply in July of the current year. As at September, the Police had conducted more than 250 operations in the southern waters to tackle illegal fishing. As mentioned by the AFCD, theoretically speaking, most people would not be able to identify lawful fishing vessels. Even the Police had to attend the scene to understand the situation, and so the Police encouraged members of the public to report the case when they spotted suspicious vessels. Apart from Cheung Chau, some villagers on Lamma Island said that they had witnessed people fishing for sea urchins. Villagers suspected that they entered Hong Kong from the Mainland illegally. The Police urged the public to immediately report any suspected illegal fishing vessels to the Police so that they could conduct an investigation at the scene.

- (b) With regard to fishing with strong lights which led to light pollution, the Police held meetings with the fisheries industry in May and June and pointed out that using lighting equipment at night would cause light pollution, and generators would make a lot of noise, which would bother the residents. The Police provided information on a number of new lighting equipment at the meeting. The lighting equipment was furnished with light screens which ensured that the light was directed towards the sea without forming a big glowing sphere of light that affected the residents nearby. However, the Police could not impose the mandatory replacement of all lighting equipment by the industry.

116. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that he would convey the Police's message to residents that reports should be made to the Police if suspicious vessels were found. He proposed that the AFCD should conduct publicity campaigns jointly with the HKPF and the MD to remind the public what they should do if they spot suspected illegal fishing activities in the Islands District's waters or non-Hong Kong vessels fishing in Hong Kong waters. The publicity work should be similar to that of illegal parking. Some residents might discover suspicious vessels while jogging at night. If they had more information, they might be able to decide whether a report should be made. He urged the relevant departments to take follow-up action.

117. Mr Eric KWOK said that the issue of illegal fishing had been discussed for a long time. However, it was regrettable that the issue remained unresolved and worsened. The current year's fishing moratorium ran from early May to mid-August. One day, he got off work at around 8-9 p.m. and returned to South Lantau from Pak Kung Au (i.e. Tung Chung Road facing Cheung Sha). He saw that the entire sea, from Tai A Chau and Siu A Chau to Cheung Sha and Pui O, was full of fishing vessels. He did not know whether the vessels were from the Mainland or Hong Kong. Some fishermen told him that a large number of fishing vessels came from the Mainland to Hong Kong to fish for cuttlefish exploitatively. The fishing moratorium was carried out strictly in the Mainland and as a result fishermen came to fish in Hong Kong waters. As the coastal defense of Hong Kong was more lax, especially at night, they could just come and go at will. He enquired of the Police about the cooperation mechanism with the Fisheries Department of the Mainland and the number of cases detected. If the Police could not provide the information immediately, he hoped they would provide a written reply. He understood that the Police had to catch the fishermen red-handed with their illegal fish haul in order to determine whether the illegal fishing vessels were liable or not. He proposed that apart from setting up a notification mechanism with the Mainland, the Police could also establish a mutual aid surveillance group with fishermen. The fishermen could immediately inform the Police at once when they found a problem, and the Police could then take enforcement action. He believed that it would make the efforts more effective in stopping fishermen from fishing illegally in Hong Kong. Considering the mature development of unmanned aircraft, he asked why the Police did not make use of them for investigation. If only Marine Police launches were used, illegal fishing vessels would quickly escape back to the Mainland waters. He queried that the Police had not attempted to tackle the issue with new approaches. In the previous year, he called the Marine Police to report suspected illegal fishing vessels off

Pui O. However, the Marine Police could not identify the vessels, and the fishing vessels had already fled before the Marine Police launches arrived.

118. Mr Ken WONG said that he had suggested to the AFCD at other meetings that a marine reserve be established at Tai A Chau and Siu A Chau. He queried that the AFCD did not strive for resources and could not even tackle the issue of illegal fishing. He said that illegal fishing vessels from the Mainland covered up all identifiable information and refused to stop for investigation, which made law enforcement very difficult and dangerous. He enquired whether there was an established mechanism in the Mainland to deal with vessels that crossed the border. He proposed that the vessels should be dealt with by the law enforcement agencies of the Mainland. He had witnessed a vessel ramming a Marine Police vessel and escaping back to the Mainland waters in an instant, putting others in immense danger.

119. Ms Amy YUNG agreed with Mr Ken WONG's views. Vessels were seen dredging the seabed for clams not only on Peng Chau, but also in Tai Pak Wan, Discovery Bay. She opined that such activity was an act of illegal fishing. She enquired whether a report should be made to the Police every time she witnessed it. She hoped that the relevant departments could provide solutions to prevent Mainland vessels from illegal fishing which affected local marine resources.

120. The Chairman expressed members' concern that illegal fishing vessels from the Mainland would treat Hong Kong waters as somewhere they could conduct fishing activities with no regard to the fishing moratorium. He urged the relevant departments to prevent Mainland fishing vessels from engaging in illegal fishing activities in Hong Kong and decide which departments should be responsible for law enforcement. He hoped that the departments would provide responses.

121. Mr Ricky TANG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The AFCD conducted patrol in Hong Kong waters from time to time to tackle illegal fishing activities, including in the morning, evening and overnight hours. With the information or intelligence gathered, the AFCD would also identify illegal fishing blackspots, such as the waters along the southern boundary, and conduct patrols to prevent Mainland vessels from fishing illegally. The AFCD had received complaints of illegal fishing in the south of Lantau Island. However, after investigation, it was proven that the fishing vessels concerned could fish legally in Hong Kong. The AFCD encouraged the public to provide information to facilitate an on-site investigation on whether the fishing vessels concerned conducted fishing activities legally in Hong Kong.
- (b) If Mainland fishing vessels were found carrying out illegal fishing activities in Hong Kong waters or near the border, the AFCD would conduct a pursuit. The AFCD and the Coast Guard of Guangdong Province had put a notification mechanism in place and jointly conducted law enforcement operations from time to time to prevent Mainland fishing vessels from carrying out illegal fishing activities in Hong Kong.

- (c) The AFCD was trying out technologies, such as real-time satellite information or Automatic Identification System (AIS), to assist law enforcement. The AFCD would continue to use new technologies for planning law enforcement operations.
- (d) The AFCD always maintained communication with fishermen organisations to gather intelligence on illegal fishing and enhance law enforcement operations.

122. Mr Sammy LEONG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) With regard to Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's proposal about publicity, he opined that it was feasible and would follow up on it.
- (b) With respect to Mr Eric KWOK's enquiry about the cooperation between the Police and the Mainland in solving cases, he opined that he might not be able to provide the information because although the Hong Kong Police and the Mainland departments would set aside some time, for example, certain hours within the month, for joint operations against illegal fishing activities, they would act independently without the need to account to each other. He would gather as much information as he could, but he supposed that the Mainland might not be able to provide information on the successful interceptions of fishing vessels that crossed the border.
- (c) Regarding the use of unmanned aircraft for surveillance, the HKPF encountered difficulties in purchasing new equipment, but he would relay the proposal to the HKPF.
- (d) As for the concern expressed by Ms Amy YUNG, the Police understood that the issue actually existed. Even if members of public or Members made a report, the fishing vessels would have already escaped when the Police arrived. He said that the border of Hong Kong waters was more than 400 to 500 nautical miles long and the Police had its regular duties. When special information on crimes was received, whether about smuggling, illegal immigration or illegal fishing, officers would be dispatched to the scene in order to assist the public in resolving the issue as far as possible with the limited resources available.

123. Mr Eric KWOK proposed setting up a fishermen's mutual aid monitoring organisation as fishermen had professional knowledge to identify illegal fishing vessels. The MD or the Marine Police could join forces to safeguard the resources of Hong Kong by setting up a liaison group to hold meetings regularly for information exchange and establishing a notification mechanism with Mainland departments. In addition, according to his observations in the vicinity of Shek Kwu Chau over the past few years, fishing vessels at Tai A Chau and Siu A Chau near the waters of Cheung Sha would have all fled before the arrival of the Marine Police, and the vessels that stayed behind were all legal fishing vessels.

124. Mr Sammy LEONG responded that he would raise the issue of the swiftness of the operations with relevant teams in the hope of enhancing efficiency. At present, there are many fishermen's mutual aid associations of various sizes in Hong Kong, with which the Police Community Relations Office would hold meetings and exchange views regularly to gather more information about crimes.

125. Mr Ricky TANG responded that the AFCD would hold liaison meetings with fishermen organisations from various regions each year to gather information about illegal fishing in various districts and even throughout the territory. Fishermen's groups and individual fishermen would also report incidents of illegal fishing.

XII. Question on Help-desk Service for Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 44/2020)

126. The Chairman welcomed Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond, Senior Environment Protection Officer (Regional South)5 (Acting) of the EPD to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of the EPD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

127. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho briefly presented the question and expressed his views on the written reply of the EPD as follows:

- (a) He enquired of the EPD why it cooperated only with private housing estates, but not with public housing estates, in implementing the Fund Scheme for Food Waste Recycling in Housing Estates (Fund Scheme).
- (b) He proposed that the department use QR codes to provide website addresses to save Members' time inputting the addresses.
- (c) He proposed a territory-wide implementation of the Funding Scheme similar to that of projects like Big Waster and Food Wise Charter. He said that as public housing estates were government accommodation, it was odd that the Funding Scheme was not implemented in public housing estates. He read the relevant working report and found that the result of cooperating with more expensive private housing estates was not satisfactory.
- (d) Some areas of the Islands District, including Cheung Chau, had implemented food waste recycling schemes. He enquired whether the EPD had the data or whether it would rate the schemes. He said that from 2011 to 2013, two organisations had implemented food waste recycling schemes in Mui Wo and Cheung Chau respectively. He enquired whether there were other participating environmental organisations.

128. Mr Esmond YAU responded as follows:

- (a) The Funding Scheme was subsidised by the Environment and Conversation Fund (ECF). The ECF mainly subsidised private housing estates and therefore the Funding Scheme did not cover public housing estates. The Funding Scheme was a pilot program that gave housing estates a platform to participate in food waste recycling.
- (b) With regard to the territory-wide implementation of food waste collection projects, the EPD would implement the second phase of the territory-wide pilot scheme on food waste collection on a larger scale at the end of 2020. Apart from commercial and industrial food waste, domestic food waste would also be collected gradually and transported directly to the Organic Resources Recovery Centre (ORRC) for recycling into energy. The scheme would be implemented in stages to collect and transport mainly food waste separated at source from Hong Kong Island, Lantau Island, Kowloon and the New Territories every day. The EPD planned to engage contractors to provide vehicle fleets to collect food waste, and it had started to invite more stakeholders to participate in the second phase of the pilot scheme. At present, there are about 150 more organisations that have expressed interest in taking part than in the first phase. The EPD would invite all private and public housing estates with experience in food waste separation at the source to take part and encourage the commercial and industrial sectors to provide support.
- (c) So far there were eight organisations in the Islands District had expressed an interest in taking part in the second phase of the pilot scheme. The food waste collected would be transported to the ORRC for treatment.

129. Ms Amy YUNG said that Discovery Bay had participated in the scheme. Food waste recycling machines were placed at locations designated by Management Offices and residents would take their food waste there for recycling. However, she said that the capacity of the food waste recycling machines were limited, and residents had to wait in a queue for a very long time. Eventually, as there were a large number of participants, owners in Discovery Bay pooled their money to purchase machines with greater capacity, which showed the strong environmental awareness of the residents. She hoped that the EPD would expand the scheme to collect food waste from commercial and industrial sectors, hotels and restaurants in Siu Ho Wan for recycling. She enquired whether the EPD would consider collecting food waste from Islands' residents if facilities were installed in the district.

130. Mr LEE Ka-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The EPD's website showed that about 30-odd housing estates took part in the Fund Scheme. He enquired whether the Fund Scheme were still being implemented in the housing estates that had been granted the fund earlier or whether it had ended.
- (b) The EPD said that the Fund Scheme no longer accepted new applications. He enquired whether the Fund Scheme would be extended to public

housing estates, which occupied large areas. He said that the Government should take the lead in implementing the Fund Scheme and hoped that the EPD would provide the schedule of implementing the Fund Scheme in public housing estates. He opined that if the pilot scheme was to be implemented in private housing estates, it would have a smaller reach and would not be very effective.

131. Mr Randy YU expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He opined that Islands District's residents would support the food waste recycling scheme and they were more environmentally aware than urban residents. He saw Mui Wo residents request for recycling bins only to find that they had all been distributed. The supply was outstripped by the demand. As far as he understood it, over 80% of the restaurants in Mui Wo participated in the scheme.
- (b) He agreed that the scheme had to be led by the Government and opined that the Government was being passive. For instance, residents' organisations had to take the initiative to submit applications and NGOs had to undertake the implementation. The EPD said that the second phase of the pilot scheme on food waste collection, which was on a larger scale, would be implemented at the end of 2020. He enquired whether the second phase of the recycling plant would also be completed at the end of the current year and where the selected site was. He noted that the commercial and industrial food waste of Islands District would be transported to the ORRC at Siu Ho Wan for treatment. He enquired about the arrangements of domestic food waste and reiterated that the EPD should be more proactive when implementing similar programmes.

132. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said he understood that the ECF mainly subsidised private housing estates. However, he opined that it was not necessary to rely on the subsidies of the ECF, and funding applications could be submitted to other departments or the Legislative Council. He opined that the environmental awareness of Islands District's residents was stronger. Another reason for the easier implementation of the scheme in Islands District was that the facilities were close to residences, so residents could walk to them and walk back home after processing the waste. Private housing estates could also install such facilities in the estate areas. However, residents in some areas would have to carry their food waste and travel in a vehicle to the facilities and then take another ride back home. He believed that if the Islands District was the first district to implement the pilot scheme and the results turned out to be satisfactory, the scheme would also be smoothly implemented in the other 17 districts. He hoped that the EPD would continue to implement the projects within a short period of time (around six to nine months).

133. Ms Amy YUNG said that residents could in fact learn how to handle domestic food waste on their own from the Internet. For instance, liquid waste with water added could be used to water plants and food waste could be used for cultivation after mixing with soil. She said that many village house residents in Islands District owned farmlands. Recycling bins could be placed on farmlands to collect food waste for

fermentation. She opined that the practice was worthwhile to promote because many people liked to grow flowers or fruit trees and they were likely to support the scheme.

134. Mr Esmond YAU made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The EPD noted that Members hoped the Government would take the lead in implementing the scheme in Islands District so that more housing estates would participate in recycling. He would follow up with the colleagues involved in the scheme's implementation in public housing estates.
- (b) With regard to the ORRC Phase 2 (ORRC2), there was no information to provide at present.

(Post-meeting note: The EPD had provided the information of the ORRC2 to Mr Randy YU after the meeting.)

- (c) The second phase of the pilot scheme would be implemented from the end of the current year to the beginning of the following year. Domestic food waste would be collected and then transported to the ORRC for treatment. The EPD encouraged private and public housing estates to participate.
- (d) While no new applications would be accepted for Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates, the participating housing estates could continue to use the food waste treatment facilities to turn food waste into compost for gardening. The EPD also encouraged housing estates that had participated in the scheme to continue to effectively separate food waste at source and participate in the free food waste collection pilot scheme that will rolled out by the Government shortly.

135. Ms Amy YUNG said that the EPD had not yet responded to her proposal of letting residents handle domestic food waste on their own to alleviate the burden of the Government.

136. Mr Randy YU pointed out that the EPD had also not responded to his question.

137. Mr Esmond YAU made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Regarding Ms Amy YUNG's proposal, he would discuss with the relevant sections on how to enhance publicity and education on the handling of domestic food waste.
- (b) With regard to the Mr Randy YU's question about the ORRC2, he did not have the information at hand. He would provide it after the meeting.

138. The Chairman requested the EPD to respond to Members' questions in writing after the meeting.

(Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho and Mr Ken WONG left at 1:10 p.m.)

XIII. Motion on request for clearance of silt in fishing vessel berthing area of River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 45/2020)

139. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHEUNG King-man, Senior Engineer/Islands of the DSD to the meeting to respond to the question. The motion was moved by Mr WONG Man-hon and was seconded by Mr HO Chun-fai.

140. Mr WONG Man-hon briefly presented the motion.

141. Ms Amy YUNG enquired whether “On 7 June this year...seconded by Mr HO Chun-fai” was a part of the motion.

142. Mr WONG Man-hon said that the motion was “Regarding the accumulation of sand and silt in River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O, I move the motion to request the clearance of silt in the fishing vessel berthing area of River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O.” He pointed out that the issue of silt had existed for more than ten years and had a serious impact on fishermen and villagers. He hoped that the DSD would handle the issue as soon as possible.

143. Ms Amy YUNG said that the motion and its background information should be stated separately to avoid misunderstanding. She proposed that the Secretariat organise a course on how to write questions and motions. She was surprised that the motion was written in one whole paragraph and suggested that Members should vote by show of hands only after clarifying which part was the motion. She also enquired of the Secretariat and Assistant District Officer (ADO) whether they had vetted the motion in advance and whether such practice was proper or not.

144. Mr Thomas LI said that the District Council Standing Order (the Standing Order) stipulated the procedure of moving a motion, but there were no requirements on the format. The Secretariat respected Members’ writing styles. As the motion had not breached the Standing Order, the IsDO had no comment on the wording used.

145. Ms Amy YUNG said that she had requested the Secretariat to standardise the formats for a motion and the seconding of a motion. However, two mistakes were found that day. She opined that the Standing Order would not stipulate such matters, but the Secretariat should know the established format. She said the Paper was indeed a laughing stock. She urged the ADO or the Secretariat to check carefully before submitting papers so that meetings could operate more smoothly.

146. Mr HO Chun-fai opined that Members expressing their opinions about the motion format would help improve the meeting practice. However, the existing issue was not too serious and proposed that the Chairman should ask Members to vote.

147. The Chairman said that the motion did not violate the Standing Order and enquired of Members whether they had any amendments or opinions on the motion

moved by Mr WONG Man-hon.

148. Ms Amy YUNG said that she respected ADO's opinions. However, as the sentence "See photographs attached" was enclosed within the quotation marks, the whole paragraph should be treated as the motion and the photographs attached should be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

149. Mr Thomas LI said that the motion and the photographs attached would be filed for record, just like how the questions were handled.

150. The Chairman said that if Members moved any amendments to the motion, they first had to vote on whether to approve the amendments before voting on the motion.

151. The Vice-Chairman proposed that the motion be amended to: "Regarding the accumulation of sand and silt in River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O, I move the motion to request the clearance of silt in the fishing vessel berthing area of River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O."

152. The Chairman asked Members to vote by a show of hands on the amendment moved by the Vice-Chairman. The voting result was 9 votes in favour, 0 against and 5 abstentions. The amendment was endorsed.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Ms Josephine TSANG, the Vice-Chairman Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Randy YU, Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai and Mr HO Siu-kei; Members who abstained included: Ms Amy YUNG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Mr LEE Ka-ho.)

153. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that as mentioned by Ms Amy YUNG, the motion was not clear, and he would like to have a copy of the amended motion. He opined that the usual way to write a motion was to start a new paragraph after "I move the motion" and that the motion should be enclosed in quotation marks. The background information and the motion were not clearly demarcated in the paper and the format was closer to that of a question. While the Vice-Chairman moved an amendment, the paragraph did not begin with "I move the motion", which was different from the usual motion format. He therefore requested the Secretariat to clarify the contents of the motion.

154. Mr Sammy TSUI did not think there was any difference between the amended and the original motions. As far as he understood it, "I move the motion to request the clearance of silt in the fishing vessel berthing area of River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O." was the motion.

155. Mr Eric KWOK suggested that the Chairman, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, should request Mr WONG Man-hon to clarify the motion and there was no need to move an amendment. He worried that the earlier voting procedure might not comply with the Rules of Procedure.

156. Mr WONG Man-hon said that the Vice-Chairman had already moved an

amendment.

157. The Vice-Chairman said if Members thought that the amended motion was not clear, she could provide the written text.

158. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to distribute the text of the Vice-Chairman's amended motion to Members for perusal.

159. Ms Amy YUNG suggested that the ADO should learn how to write questions and motions and handle meeting business.

160. Mr Sammy TSUI proposed that the motion be amended to: "Regarding the accumulation of sand and silt in River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O, request is made for the clearance of silt in the fishing vessel berthing area of River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O."

161. The Vice-Chairman reiterated her amended motion: "Regarding the accumulation of sand and silt in River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O, I move the motion to request the clearance of silt in the fishing vessel berthing area of River Silver in Mui Wo and Ham Tin River in Pui O." She also opined that there was nothing wrong with keeping "I move the motion". Since her amended motion did not violate the Rules of Procedure, there was no need for changes.

162. Mr LEE Ka-ho hoped that the Secretariat would clarify whether the motion began with the quotation mark or with "I move the motion". Although the Rules of Procedure did not stipulate the paper format, the Secretariat was indeed duty-bound to guard the gate and review the motions.

163. Mr Thomas LI consolidated the amendments to the motion, namely a deletion of the first three paragraphs and the last paragraph. He said the Standing Order did not stipulate that motions had to begin with "I move the motion". While the motion should contain the words "move the motion", "I move the motion" could be placed at the beginning or in the middle of the paragraph depending on the situation. As Members had voted to endorse the Vice-chairman's amended motion, and the Vice-Chairman had provided the text for clarification, he proposed that the Chairman could conduct voting on the amended motion.

164. Mr Sammy TSUI enquired what the difference was between the motion moved by Mr WONG Man-hon and the amended motion.

165. Mr WONG Man-hon said that the Vice-Chairman had amended the motion, so the amended version should be put to the vote.

166. The Chairman asked Members to vote by a show of hands on the above amended motion, which was seconded by Mr Randy YU. The voting result was 9 votes in favour, 0 against and 5 abstentions. The amended motion was endorsed.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Ms Josephine TSANG, the Vice-

Chairman Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Randy YU, Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai and Mr HO Siu-kei; Members who abstained included: Ms Amy YUNG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Mr LEE Ka-ho.)

(Mr WONG Man-hon left at 5:05 p.m.)

XIV. Question on greening work and clearance of undergrowth at Chung Yan Road  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 46/2020)

167. The Chairman welcomed Ms LAI Wing-sau, Winsy, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands) and Mr LI Cheuk-ho, Ronald, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Islands 2 of the FEHD; Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South)5 (Acting) of the EPD; Mr TSANG Wai-man, Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Islands) (DLO) of the Lands Department; and Ms LAU Hoi-shan, Nelly, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Islands)2 of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to the meeting to respond to the question. The written replies of the EPD, the FEHD, the Highways Department (HyD), the DLO and the LCSD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

168. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question. He said that every time after the miscellaneous articles were cleared by the FEHD, scavengers would put them back. Fortunately, the FEHD continued to conduct clearance for a week and at present no scavengers would place articles there haphazardly again. He expressed his appreciation to the FEHD and said the main purpose of the question was to enquire whether the FEHD cleared the weeds regularly.

169. Ms Nelly LAU presented the written reply of the LCSD.

170. Mr Ronald LI said that the FEHD was always concerned about the public area of Chung Yan Road under its purview and had stepped up its pest control work. As for scavengers occupying public areas with their miscellaneous articles, it was a more complicated street management issue that required the cooperation of various departments to resolve completely. After repeated advice from the FEHD staff, scavengers would move their belongings when cleaning work was conducted. The FEHD would continue to participate in joint operations proactively.

171. Mr FONG Lung-fei thanked the relevant departments for trimming weeds over the previous few months and the most recent one was conducted in the previous week. Most of the weeds along the sides of the Yu Tung Road cycling track had been removed. Some residents said that the environment of Chung Yan Road had been improved after the weeds were trimmed, and he hoped that it would stay that way. He opined that the departments should not plant only ivy trees because ivy trees were evergreen and sometimes slightly yellowish. Without regular pruning and irrigation, they would grow irregularly. He proposed planting small yellow chrysanthemums as the scenery would be very beautiful when covered in yellow flowers. Besides, the plant required little

maintenance and its prolific growth could also prevent the growth of weeds. He also proposed that the LCSD should not plant shrubs in the green belts in the vicinity of Yat Tung Estate as he had seen many rodents in the green belt near Chung Yan Road. He hoped that the shrubs would be cleared so that rodents would have nowhere to hide and their infestation could be prevented. He also proposed installing amenities to beautify the roads.

(Mr YUNG Chi-ming left at around 5:15 p.m.)

XV. Question on tree pruning and removal of clothes from trees in Yat Tung Estate  
(Paper TAFEHCCC48/2020)

172. The Chairman welcomed Mr YAN Man-chi, Robin, Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands) 3 of the HD to the meeting to respond to the question.

173. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question.

174. Mr Robin YAN said that every year the HD arranges for a tree maintenance service contractor to visit Yat Tung Estate regularly to assess the trees and provide advice depending on the environment of the housing estate, the types of trees, the actual growth conditions and the weather. The number of tree pruning exercises varied each year. The HD would act according to the individual situation. For instance, when referrals were received from residents or Members, the tree contractor would be arranged to conduct assessment on the trees concerned to determine whether pruning was necessary. At present, if clothes were found hanging on trees during patrols, the Yat Tung Estate Management Office would have them removed. The HD would also coordinate with the tree contractor to help remove foreign objects found during pruning.

175. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that many Chinese banyans were planted outside the Yat Tung Estate buildings. They grew fast and prolifically. While they were evergreen trees, they blocked the sunlight and wind from entering the flats on the first to fourth floors and thus making people depressed easily. Some residents said that all they could see were trees when looking out of their windows. Therefore, he hoped that the HD would prune the foliage of the trees without affecting their growth, while residents could enjoy sunlight and fresh air. He proposed that the HD should not plant Chinese Banyans again when carrying out future greening works in the estate.

176. Mr Eric KWOK said that there were also many Chinese Banyans in Yat Tung (I) Estate. As it was summer and the rainfall was abundant, the Chinese Banyans had flourished and their aerial roots had grown very long. He appreciated the new property management company for pruning the trees in the housing estate frequently and he hoped that the horizontal branches and aerial roots could also be pruned. He said that he had to write to the LCSD every time to have the weeds cut along Yu Tung Road from Hong Yat House to Mun Tung Estate. He said that there were many trees on both sides of the road from Hong Yat House to Mun Tung Estate. He would write to the HyD to request the trimming of the weeds. He hoped that the DLO would regularly clear the weeds on

the grasslands on both sides of the bus stop opposite Mun Tung Estate until the site was used for the MTR development project.

177. Mr Robin YAN said that the HD would follow up on the issue of the large trees on the road off Ching Yat House and Fook Yat House with the Estate Management Office and the tree contractor. He would arrange the Estate Management Office to contact Mr Eric KWOK to ascertain the exact location of the trees. He said that the HD would conduct pruning based on two major principles. The first principle was the health condition of the tree itself. If assessment found that the tree had many withered or excessive branches, pruning would be arranged. The second principle was whether the tree posed any danger or inconvenience to the residents nearby. For instance, when branches extended into a flat, the HD would discuss pruning the branches with the tree contractor.

XVI. Question on drinking water condition in Shui Lo Cho of Yi O  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 49/2020)

178. The Chairman welcomed Mr YEUNG Tak-hoi, Senior Engineer/Hong Kong 3 and Ms NG Wan-ki, Maye, Engineer/Hong Kong (Headworks 2) of the Water Supplies Department (WSD) to the meeting to respond to the question.

179. Mr HO Siu-kei briefly presented the question.

180. Mr YEUNG Tak-hoi made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) There were two intakes in Shui Lo Cho in Yi O, namely Tin Chi and Man Cheung Po which was at the upstream of the former. Both were within the catchment area of the WSD.
- (b) The WSD attached great importance to the water quality of Shui Lo Cho. Many measures had been implemented to ensure that the drinking water supply in Tai O remained uncontaminated. At the IDC meeting in November 2017, the WSD's proposal to install fences and CCTV cameras at the entrance of Tin Chi was endorsed, and the works were completed in April 2019. In addition, the WSD conducted regular patrols and would increase the patrol frequency in the summer. Warning signs and banners were erected at prominent locations along the path from the Yi O Pier to the catchment area to remind the public that it was an offence to contaminate the water source in the catchment area. Previously on 12 July and 9 August of the current year, the WSD conducted surprise inspections at Tin Chi jointly with the HKPF. On both occasions, no visitors were found to have committed offences against the Waterworks Ordinance or carried out activities polluting the water source at the location. On 26 September, the WSD conducted another surprise inspection at the location. Several foreigners were found attempting to enter Tin Chi, and they left on their own after advice was given. Apart from promoting the protection of water resources through the media, the

WSD also distributed leaflets during patrols to people going to the catchment area, reminding them that in accordance with the Waterworks Ordinance, any person who bathed or washed in the waterworks should be guilty of an offence and liable upon conviction to a maximum fine of HK\$50,000 and imprisonment for two years.

- (c) The raw water supplied to Tai O residents came from the catchment areas of Shui Lo Cho and Shek Pik Reservoir. The raw water went through stringent treatment by the Tai O Water Treatment Works (WTW), including filtration and disinfection, to ensure the drinking water complied with the Hong Kong Drinking Water Standards in terms of quality and was safe for consumption.

181. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that Shui Lo Cho was a scenic place. It was not dangerous to walk up the stream which attracted many hikers. He pointed out that if hikers went uphill from Tin Chi, they could reach Man Cheung Po and then leave by using other routes. He enquired of the WSD what measures to be implemented to completely stop visitors from entering. Every summer, many visitors would gather at Tin Chi, and it would affect the water quality. He enquired whether the WSD would arrange staff to station there in the summer or send its staff there regularly to advise or prosecute offenders. He opined that the vicinity of Tin Chi should be completely enclosed, and the simple reliance on fences and CCTV cameras alone did not help much. He requested the WSD deploy more staff for patrol.

182. Mr Eric KWOK thanked the WSD for the installation of fences and a 24-hour monitoring system to prevent the water source of Shui Lo Cho from being contaminated. He enquired of the WSD whether the CCTV screens were monitored by designated staff round the clock. If not, he proposed the installation of alarm sensors which would sound an alarm and broadcast the message in three languages that the regulations were violated when someone trespassed on the specified area. He believed it would have certain deterrent effect. He proposed that the WSD consult the Correctional Services Department for professional advice, and he enquired whether there were successful prosecutions recently.

183. Mr YEUNG Tak-hoi made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The WSD also intended to install alarm sensors. However, the issue of network reception in the area had to be resolved first. The proposal would be followed up in due course.
- (b) With regard to law enforcement, there were 15 successful prosecutions from 2014 to 2017. The signals of the monitoring system would be sent to the control room in the Siu Ho Wan WTW. While the system was not monitored by dedicated staff around the clock, the staff on duty would step up their patrol at Shui Lo Cho if they found visitors conducting any activities that would contaminate the water source.

184. Mr Randy YU said that at the end of 2017, the WSD had installed fences and

CCTV cameras at the catchment area to replace the security guards who had used to be on duty from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day. In the past, most visitors would wait until the security guards were off duty before entering the area. However, since the withdrawal of the security guards and the installation of the 24-hour CCTV surveillance system, there had not been any successful prosecutions. Instead, there were 15 prosecutions in 2017. He agreed with Mr FONG Lung-fei that visitors could easily arrive at the catchment area from Tin Chi to Man Cheung Po, and it would be easier for the water source to be contaminated. He understood that the raw water was safe for consumption after treatment by the WTW. However, residents would still have a bad feeling if the water was possibly contaminated before filtration. Taking Singapore as an example, he said that polluted water would be used only for irrigation after treatment by the WTW. He proposed that before the issue was resolved, the WSD should supply the filtered raw water of Shek Pik Reservoir to Tai O residents instead.

185. Mr YEUNG Tak-ho said that the existing water resources should be best utilized. The raw water of the Tai O WTW came from the catchment areas of Tin Chi and Shek Pik Reservoir, each of them accounted for about half of the water drawn in the summer. In dry seasons, as there was less water in Tin Chi, raw water mainly came from Shek Pik Reservoir. The staff of the Siu Ho Wan WTW monitored the installed CCTV cameras regularly. In the previous year, no visitors were found contaminating the water source. He noted that there were people who played with water in the catchment area in the current year, so the WSD would step up its patrol and take Mr Eric KWOK's proposal on board looking into procuring suitable alarm sensors as soon as possible.

186. Mr HO Siu-kei worried that visitors might contaminate the water source by defecating and urinating in the water for the sake of convenience. He proposed that before the issue was thoroughly resolved, the water supplied to Tai O residents should be obtained only from Shek Pik Reservoir so that they would feel at ease consuming the water.

187. Mr YEUNG Tak-hoi said that the WSD would proactively follow up on the proposals and consider deploying staff to station at the catchment area in the summer.

188. Mr Randy YU requested the WSD to explain in writing how it would ensure that the drinking water of Tai O was not drawn from Tin Chi before the contamination of the raw water in Tin Chi was thoroughly resolved. According to past experience, the peak hours of entry into the catchment area were from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. He proposed that if the WSD decided to station its staff there in the summer, the duty hours should be extended to dusk.

189. The Chairman requested the representatives of the WSD to relay Members' proposals to the sections concerned and submit a written reply.

(Post-meeting note: The WSD had decided to deploy its staff to station at Tin Chi in the remaining summer months of the current year and extend the duty hours to dusk. The arrangement had been effective since 12 October 2020, and the duty hours were from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. every day. The WSD would conduct review on the arrangement

by the following summer. The WSD had also begun to liaise with various alarm sensor suppliers to conduct feasibility study based on factors such as the geographical location of the catchment area of Tin Chi, the transmission and reception of signals, additional electrical installations, etc.)

XVII. Question on protecting Chinese white dolphins  
(Paper TAFEHCCC 69/2020)

190. The Chairman welcomed Ms Angel LAM, Manager, Oceans Conservation, Ms Doris WOO, Conservation Officer, Oceans and Ms Kitty TAM, Senior Conservation Officer of the World Wide Fund For Nature Hong Kong (WWF Hong Kong); Dr NG Wai-chuen, Marine Conservation Officer (West) 2 of the AFCD; and Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond, Senior Environment Protection Officer (Regional South)<sup>5</sup> (Acting) of the EPD to the meeting to respond to the question. The Planning Department had provided the written reply before the meeting stating that the issue did not fall within its purview. The written reply of the WWF Hong Kong had been provided to Members for perusal before the meeting.

191. Ms Amy YUNG briefly presented the question.

192. Ms Doris WOO presented the written reply of the WWF Hong Kong.

193. Dr NG Wai-chuen responded as follows:

(a) With regard to conservation work and cross-border cooperation, the AFCD implemented the Conservation Programme for the Chinese White Dolphin in Hong Kong before. It had also launched a number of initiatives in respect of management, public education, research and cross-border cooperation. As for habitat conservation in Hong Kong waters, there were six marine parks and one marine reserve in the territory at present. In order to further protect Chinese white dolphins in Hong Kong waters, the Government planned to establish more marine parks to conserve their habitat. In addition to the Brothers Marine Park and the Southwest Lantau Marine Park, which were designated in 2016 and on 1 April of the current year respectively, the Government also planned to designate the proposed South Lantau Marine Park in 2022 as well as a new marine park in the North Lantau waters that would tie in with the Three Runway System, which was targeted for full operation in 2024. These established and proposed marine parks had covered the important habitats for dolphins and finless porpoises. Under proper management, the number of habitats of Chinese white dolphins and finless porpoises, which were under statutory protection, would substantially increase. The above measures would contribute to the survival and prosperity of dolphins in Hong Kong and surrounding waters.

(b) With regard to conservation of marine resources, the AFCD had

implemented a number of management programmes, including prohibition of trawl fishing and placement of artificial reefs in Hong Kong waters, so as to increase fishery resources and improve the marine habitat, thereby allowing dolphins to have better food sources.

- (c) Apart from management within Hong Kong waters, from the point of view of the species' population, Chinese white dolphins in Hong Kong were a part of the white dolphin population of the Pearl River Estuary, in which there were about 2 000 dolphins. They were widely distributed and migrated both ways beyond Hong Kong waters, so the conservation of Chinese white dolphins required cooperation between the Mainland and Hong Kong. The AFCD had continued to conduct cross-border conservation with the Mainland, which included holding regular meetings with the management authorities of the Guangdong Province to exchange information on environmental issues and discuss the conservation of Chinese white dolphins. Joint law enforcement operations were also carried out to tackle illegal fishing activities in both places in order to protect the marine resources and habitats. As part of its cross-border publicity activities, the AFCD co-organised the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Marine Life Drawing Competition which aimed at enhancing the conservation awareness of students and the public through arts. Regarding conservation at regional level, Chinese white dolphins were listed as the national Grade I protected species. The Ministry of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China (currently the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China) formulated the Chinese White Dolphins Conservation Action Plan (2017-2026) in October 2017 in order to protect the Chinese white dolphins in Chinese waters and their habitat. In the Pearl River Estuary Region, Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao were forming a Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Alliance for Protection of Chinese White Dolphins which would serve as a platform for exchanges and strengthen the coordination and cooperation among organisations with a view to jointly promoting the conservation of the Chinese white dolphin population in the Pearl River Estuary.
- (d) The WWF Hong Kong released the Emergency Action Plan for the Pearl River Delta Population of Chinese White Dolphin (Emergency Action Plan), putting forward a series of proposals on conservation measures to enhance the Chinese white dolphin conservation work of Guangdong and Hong Kong. The conservation measures proposed by the WWF Hong Kong shared a common direction with the AFCD's conservation work. For example, in terms of enhancement of habitat protection, the proposed measures were along the same lines as the AFCD's plan to establish more marine parks. As for other proposed measures, since other stakeholders such as the shipping industry and fishermen's groups were involved, the AFCD had to consult other departments and the public first before further exploring the feasibility of the proposals.

- (e) As for the recent cases of stranded dolphins, the AFCD worked together with the Ocean Peak Conservation Foundation Hong Kong to handle and review the cases of stranded cetaceans in Hong Kong Waters. So far in 2020, 37 stranded cetacean cases had been recorded, of which nine were Chinese white dolphins, 22 were finless porpoises and six involved other species. The number of stranded Chinese white dolphins so far in the current year was nine. The figure was higher than the seven cases recorded in 2019, but the increase was not significant. According to the record in the past ten years, there were 5 to 15 cases of stranded Chinese white dolphins, and the bodies were mainly found in western Hong Kong Waters, including the coast of Lantau Island, Tuen Mun and Lamma Island waters, which matched the habitats of the dolphins. As the bodies of the stranded cetaceans had usually been largely decomposed when found, the causes of death could not be determined in most of the cases. At present, the AFCD did not have information on the causes of death in the stranding cases in 2020. Out of the 55 stranding cases recorded in 2019, 43 deaths had undetermined causes and seven were from injuries possibly involving impact by vessels. The causes of death in the rest of the cases included drowning, entanglement by objects, infection by pathogen and other diseases. The AFCD would continue to closely monitor stranding events of cetaceans in Hong Kong waters and find out their long-term changes and trends.

194. Mr Esmond YAU responded that the conservation of Chinese white dolphins and the investigation of the causes of death were mainly the AFCD's responsibilities, which had been explained in detail previously. As for the Emergency Action Plan the WWF Hong Kong released, the EPD and the AFCD noted the conservation measures proposed. In the future formulation and review of conservation measures for Chinese white dolphins, the two departments would be pleased to listen to the opinions of stakeholders and refer to relevant information to ensure that the measures adopted would achieve the purpose of conservation.

195. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He was shocked that there were only 2 000 Chinese white dolphins left. He felt very guilty that Hong Kong's development had led to the possible extinction of a dolphin population. The Emergency Action Plan pointed out that one of the major threats faced by white dolphins was the loss of habitat and degeneration. He opined that the construction of the third runway and the Shek Kwu Chau incinerator had caused a certain degree of harm to the environment. While the construction of the third runway would be compensated by the establishment of a marine park and the South Lantau Marine Reserve at Shek Kwu Chau, it proved that there was something wrong about the projects, or else there would be no need to make compensation.
- (b) He enquired of the AFCD how it exchanged information and took law enforcement action against illegal fishing vessels with the Mainland

Fisheries Department. During the discussion of the agenda item about fishing in Hong Kong waters, the MD and the Marine Police responded that in accordance with the Basic Law and the principle of “one country, two systems”, they would not conduct joint law enforcement operations with the Mainland authorities. However, the AFCD said a while ago that joint law enforcement action would be carried out. He hoped that the AFCD would clarify whether joint law enforcement action would be taken with the Mainland. In addition, he enquired whether the AFCD would use or suggest the Marine Police use video cameras or unmanned reconnaissance aircraft to monitor whether there were illegal fishing vessels entering or conducting illegal fishing activities in the marine reserve at Tai A Chau and Siu A Chau, and whether it would conduct regular and surprise inspections in the entire waters of the South Lantau Coastal Protection Area to safeguard the fishery resources in South Lantau.

- (c) It was mentioned in the Emergency Action Plan that one of the major threats to white dolphins was underwater noise nuisance. Mr Eric KWOK referred to the report released by the AFCD in 2012, titled Monitoring of Marine Mammals in Hong Kong Waters 2011-12, which pointed out that if the South Lantau high-speed ferry traffic route between Shek Kwu Chau and Cheung Sha could be diverted further south, i.e. to the waters south of Shek Kwu Chau and Soko Islands, the diversion could protect white dolphins and finless porpoises effectively as well as reduce human interference and safeguard the waters through which dolphins move between their feeding grounds. He enquired about the progress of the relevant measures. As for monitoring high speed craft, he proposed using average speed cameras to detect whether vessels exceeded the speed limits and imposing penalties on speeding vessels. He also enquired whether the AFCD would propose that the Marine Police deploy more officers for patrols after the establishment of the South Lantau Marine Reserve.
- (d) He pointed out that the construction of the Shek Kwu Chau incinerator was in full swing. As the protected white-bellied sea eagles and Chinese white dolphins at Shek Kwu Chau might be affected by the noises and the lighting of the works, he enquired of the EPD about the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). He once saw bright lights emitted from the reclamation area off Shek Kwu Chau causing light pollution when he was heading to the direction of Cheung Sha from Pak Kung Au on Tung Chung Road. He enquired whether the EPD had required the contractors to strictly comply with the requirements of the EIA report and whether it regularly monitored the noisy work carried out by the contractors. He asked the Chairman to require the EPD to report to the IDC regularly on the progress of the super incinerator works on Shek Kwu Chau.

196. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to take note of Mr Eric KWOK’s proposal.

197. Ms Amy YUNG enquired whether the AFCD agreed with the direction of the proposals and the timetable given in the Emergency Action Plan. She agreed with the WWF that Chinese white dolphins were National Grade I protected species and therefore had to be properly protected, instead of adopting compensatory measures after the works were completed. She wished to know the AFCD's views. She urged government departments to think carefully before implementing super white elephant projects, such as the third runway which was not sure to be ready for operation in the next ten years. With regard to the issues of light pollution and underwater noise nuisance raised by Mr Eric KWOK, she enquired of the AFCD and the EPD what mitigation measures would be implemented and whether the departments would take into account the impact of the economy and the works on Chinese white dolphins, the National Grade I protected species, before the commencement of works or feasibility studies in the future.

198. Mr LEE Ka-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The AFCD anticipated that marine parks could help protect marine life. However, the Brothers Marine Park would be established only after the works were completed, so it was obviously a compensatory measure. Considering that the number of Chinese white dolphins kept decreasing in recent years, he enquired whether the AFCD had any measures to tackle the issue.
- (b) He proposed expanding the areas of the marine parks because if they were too small, they would not be very helpful to the habitat and conservation of Chinese white dolphins. The existing marine parks in Hong Kong were all very small in size. Chinese white dolphins would not know that the AFCD had established marine parks for them and swim into the park area.

199. Dr NG Wai-chuen made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Regarding the marine park programme, at present there were six marine parks and one marine reserve with a total area of about 4 050 hectares. Including the two proposed marine parks (i.e. the South Lantau Marine Park and the one which tied in with the third runway system), the total area would exceed 8 500 hectares, covering the main habitats of Chinese white dolphins and finless porpoises in Hong Kong. It would be helpful to their reproduction in Hong Kong waters.
- (b) The AFCD and the Mainland Fisheries Department would conduct joint law enforcement operations regularly. As far as he understood it, if illegal Mainland fishing vessels were found in Hong Kong waters, the law enforcement team of the AFCD would arrest the offenders. If unsuccessful, the relevant information would be passed on to the Mainland Departments for follow-up action.
- (c) He thanked Members for their proposal to install video cameras to monitor marine parks. The AFCD would consider installing the system in

suitable marine parks to detect illegal activities in the area.

200. Ms Angel LAM noted that the AFCD had implemented many conservation measures and the relevant marine parks would be established by 2023. However, she pointed out that the proposed marine parks did not cover the extremely important core area identified in the Emergency Action Plan. She hoped the AFCD would consider expanding the existing or proposed marine parks and pro-actively formulate conservation policies according to the habitat of white dolphins, their needs and the threats to their survival, rather than simply regarding the marine parks as a compensatory measure.

201. Ms Amy YUNG agreed with the WWF Hong Kong's views. She urged the AFCD and other government departments concerned to take a careful look at the report and conduct conservation pro-actively instead of adopting compensatory measures after damaging the environment.

202. Mr Eric KWOK said that the AFCD did not respond to his enquiry about the southward diversion of the high-speed ferry traffic route. He opined that it was an urgent matter and expressed his support for the Emergency Action Plan of the WWF Hong Kong. He regretted that human beings had, over a few years, caused the extinction of species that had existed for hundreds of millions of years. He believed that the IDC would lend its full support to the conservation action. He once again enquired of the EPD how it would ensure that the contractors would comply with the EIA requirements and whether the noise level of the works was monitored regularly. He expressed his discontent with the EPD for not regularly reporting to the IDC on the progress of the Shek Kwu Chau incinerator works. He requested a response from the EPD representatives.

203. Mr Esmond YAU made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The EPD would regularly monitor the impact of the incinerator works on white-bellied sea eagles and finless porpoises in accordance with the EIA. Apart from installing a system at the construction site to monitor the noise in the water, there were also dedicated personnel to monitor the data closely and upload them onto the website regularly.
- (b) It was learnt that the results of the regular monitoring did not show that the light nuisance had any impact on white-bellied sea eagles. He would reflect the issue to the group concerned.
- (c) With regard to the request of regular reporting on the progress of the Shek Kwu Chau incinerator works to the IDC, he said that he would relay the request to the group concerned.

204. Dr NG Wai-chuen made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Both the AFCD's report of Monitoring of Marine Mammals in Hong Kong Waters 2011-12 and the WWF Research Report mentioned the impact of high-speed craft off South Lantau on white dolphins or finless porpoises. As for the proposal of diverting the ferry traffic route south, the AFCD had

to conduct consultation before exploring the feasibility of the proposal as it would involve the interests and livelihoods of the shipping industry, fishermen organisations and other stakeholders.

- (b) With regard to the proposal of establishing marine parks, the AFCD at present did not plan to develop any other marine parks after establishing the two new ones in 2022 and 2024. If the conditions were met and the proposal was supported by various stakeholders, the AFCD would proactively fulfil its role in nature conservation and explore the idea of setting up more nature reserves.

205. Ms Doris WOO made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The WWF Hong Kong was always concerned about the impact of high-speed craft on local cetaceans and the feasible measures to reduce sea traffic. It organised a seminar in 2017, inviting government departments, scholars from various disciplines and other stakeholders to discuss the issue of high-speed craft traversing the habitat of white dolphins and finless porpoises. At present, there were three more feasible options: first, to move the traffic route slightly further south, which meant that vessels should sail south of Soko Islands and Shek Kwu Chau; second, to introduce a speed limit zone in the area where white dolphins and finless porpoises often appeared, requiring high-speed craft to slow down to avoid hitting white dolphins and finless porpoises and causing noise nuisance; third, since the utilisation rate of high-speed craft had decreased by nearly 30% after the completion of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, shipping companies were advised to reduce their service frequency at night hours when there were fewer passengers to save cost and reduce the impact on white dolphins and finless porpoises. As for the concrete plan for route diversion, the WWF Hong Kong hoped to discuss the issue with the AFCD, the EPD and the MD. Input from relevant departments and scholars on the proposed measures was welcome.
- (b) Some cetacean scholars discovered that since the commencement of the Shek Kwu Chau incinerator works, the occurrence of finless porpoises in the area had decreased, which might be related to construction vessels and associated works and vessel noise. She requested the EPD and the relevant departments include underwater noise as part of the EIA. Apart from continuously monitoring the underwater noise level during construction and operational phases, noise propagation model should also be established beforehand to assess the level and the zone of influence of the underwater noise to ensure that the works would not seriously affect marine life in the vicinity. If the impact could not be reduced to an acceptable level, due consideration should be given to whether the works should be implemented.

206. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his support for the measures adopted by the WWF Hong Kong. He urged the AFCD and the EPD to follow up on the proposal of moving

the route of high-speed craft further south and seek support from the shipping companies and other stakeholders as soon as possible to avert the extinction of Chinese white dolphins.

(Mr CHOW Yuk-tong left at around 6:05 p.m.; Mr HO Siu-kei left at around 6:15 p.m.)

XXII. Any Other Business

207. Ms Christy LEUNG asked Members to note that, in order to tie in with the Phase 2 development of North Lantau Hospital, the temporary sitting-out area on On Tung Street, which was funded by District Minor Works, would close at an earlier date on 8 October.

XXIII. Date of Next Meeting

208. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 10:30 a.m. on 23 November 2020 (Monday).

- End -