

(Translation)

**Islands District Council
Minutes of Meeting of
Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee**

Date : 1 April 2025 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 p.m.

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

Present

Chairman

Mr HO Siu-kei

Vice-Chairman

Mr LAU Chin-pang

Members

Mr YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP

Mr NG Man-kit

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH

Mr HUI Chun-lung, MH

Ms KWOK Wai-man, Mealoha

Mr WAN Yeung-kin

Mr WONG Man-hon, MH

Ms WONG Chau-ping, MH

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken

Mr YIP Pui-kei

Ms LAU Shun-ting

Mr LUO Chenghuan

Co-opted Member

Mr CHUK Hing-toi, MH

Attendance by Invitation

Ms AU YEUNG Wing-sum, Livia

Assistant District Officer (Islands)2,

Islands District Office

Mr TANG Wing-yan

Inspector of Works(2), Islands District Office

In Attendance

Mr MOK Mong-chan	Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office
Mr FUNG Wai-nok	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric	Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr YAU Pak-lun, Esmond	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South)5, Environmental Protection Department

Secretary

Ms LAM Long-ching, Christine	Executive Officer (District Council)2, Islands District Office
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Welcoming Remarks

The Chairman welcomed representatives of government departments and Members to the meeting.

I. Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 February 2025

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

3. Members did not have any further amendment proposals, and the captioned minutes were confirmed unanimously.

II. Question on the environmental hygiene problems of the On Tung Street Temporary Playground in Tung Chung (FEHC Paper No. 4/2025)

4. The Chairman asked Members to refer to the FEHC Paper No. 4/2025, and welcomed the guests who attended the meeting to respond to the question: Mr FUNG Wai-nok, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands) and Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric, Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1 of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD); and Ms AU YEUNG Wing-sum, Livia, Assistant District Officer (Islands)2 and Mr TANG Wing-yan, Inspector of Works (2) of the Islands District Office (IsDO). The written replies of the FEHD and the IsDO had been distributed to Members for reference before the meeting. The Leisure and Cultural Services

Department had indicated that since the venue in question was not under its jurisdiction, the Department could not provide the required information.

5. Mr LAU Chin-pang briefly presented the question.
6. Mr FUNG Wai-nok elaborated on the written reply of the FEHD.
7. Ms Livia AU YEUNG elaborated on the written reply of the IsDO.
8. Members noted that the hygiene condition at the captioned location had improved and expressed their appreciation to the FEHD and the IsDO for their proactive follow-up. However, as dogs had occasionally urinated and defecated near the lamp posts at the playground, causing unpleasant odours and leading to the rapid growth of weeds in the vicinity, Members requested the relevant departments to strengthen grass-cutting efforts at the location in question.

III. Food and Environmental Hygiene Department – Achievements of Islands District 2025 Year-end Clean-up
(FEHC Paper No. 5/2025)

9. The Chairman asked Members to refer to the FEHC Paper No. 5/2025, and invited the representative of the FEHD to briefly present the paper.
10. Mr FUNG Wai-nok briefly presented the paper.
11. Members expressed their views as follows:
 - (a) The effectiveness of the captioned Year-end Clean-up campaign was evident. Members thanked the FEHD for its cleansing efforts and hoped that the Department would continue to strengthen inspections and cleansing work at hygiene black spots in the district (including the rear lanes and public toilets) to further improve environmental hygiene in the Islands District. In addition, Members put forward the following suggestions: the Year-end Clean-up campaign should be carried out on a quarterly basis; publicity and educational efforts should be stepped up to raise public hygiene awareness; enforcement actions should be strengthened to enhance deterrence; and other local organisations (such as Care Teams, volunteer teams, and schools) should be invited to participate in the campaign.
 - (b) The FEHD conducted nighttime rodent control operations on Lamma Island from 15 December 2024 to 28 February 2025, capturing an average of 6 to 7 live rodents each night. Members considered that the nighttime operations by the FEHD had been effective. However, following the conclusion of the operations, some residents reported that the rodent problem in the district had worsened again. In this regard,

Members enquired about the reason for the suspension of the aforementioned operations by the FEHD. Members also pointed out that they had repeatedly raised their concerns with the FEHD, urging the Department to re-establish nighttime rodent control roving teams in Peng Chau and Lamma Island.

12. Mr Ric YAN responded that the FEHD would continue to enhance publicity for the Year-End Clean-Up campaign and would consider inviting other organisations to participate in the future. He added that although nighttime rodent control operations on Lamma Island had been suspended, the Department would flexibly allocate resources to step up daytime rodent control and nighttime cleansing work. The Department would monitor the rodent infestation situation closely and consider resuming nighttime rodent control operations if necessary.

13. The Chairman asked the FEHD to respond to the enquiry on the reason for the suspension of nighttime rodent control operations.

14. Mr FUNG Wai-nok responded that the FEHD organised its rodent control work in different districts based on available resources. He acknowledged Members' concerns regarding the rodent infestation situation in the Islands District, including Peng Chau and Lamma Island. The Department would strengthen rodent control in the district by targeting the three basic survival conditions of rodents, namely "food, harbourage and access". Furthermore, control measures would be intensified during the summer months when rodent infestation tended to be more severe.

15. The Chairman requested the FEHD to maintain communication with Members concerned on the arrangements for rodent control work in a timely manner.

IV. Food and Environmental Hygiene Department – Cleaning pedestrian walkways to improve cityscape
(FEHC Paper No. 6/2025)

16. The Chairman asked Members to refer to the FEHC Paper No. 6/2025, and invited the representative of the FEHD to present the paper.

17. Mr FUNG Wai-nok briefly presented the paper.

18. Members expressed their views as follows:

- (a) Given the current heavy traffic on Yu Tung Road in Tung Chung and the fact that there were only two traffic lanes, Members suggested that the FEHD should arrange for street washing vehicles to wash the streets during non-peak hours and review the parking locations of such vehicles to minimise the impact on the traffic. In addition, Members enquired which sections of Yu Tung Road were being cleaned by the Department's street washing vehicles and whether the Department

would consider extending the use of compact street washing vehicles to other areas in the future, particularly locations near construction sites in Tung Chung urban areas, to remove the dust and mud from road surfaces.

- (b) Given the relatively high usage rate of the road section from Chung Yan Road to Chui Kwan Drive near the North Lantau Hospital in Tung Chung, Members suggested that the FEHD should consider extending the use of compact street washing vehicles to that section in the future.
- (c) Members enquired whether the 81 locations selected by the FEHD for the captioned measures included locations on other outlying islands, such as Lamma Island. In addition, Members considered the frequency of street washing on Lamma Island insufficient and therefore asked whether the FEHD would deploy additional manpower to carry out street washing on the island, or arrange for street washing vehicles to clean the streets there.

19. The Chairman enquired whether the FEHD would arrange street cleansing services at other locations as needed, in addition to the currently selected 81 locations.

20. Mr FUNG Wai-nok gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Conventional street washing vehicles utilised high-pressure water jets and cleaning agents to remove dust and stains from the road surface, and were generally used for cleaning wider roads. In contrast, the body of a compact street washing vehicle was shorter than that of a conventional one, enabling it to operate on narrower, rugged or steep roads. Currently, the FEHD arranged for conventional street washing vehicles to clean Shun Tung Road in Tung Chung, while compact street washing vehicles were deployed to clean the pavements and cycle tracks in the vicinity of Yu Tung Road. Since Yu Tung Road was relatively narrow, the compact street washing vehicles would be parked at nearby locations to supply water to the cleansing workers, who would then perform manual cleansing tasks. In addition, when drawing up the street washing schedule, the Department would take into account factors such as traffic conditions in the vicinity of the roads concerned and potential noise nuisance that might generate from the cleansing work, so as to minimise the impact on the public.
- (b) Although compact street washing vehicles could not be used on outlying islands where vehicles could not access, the FEHD would carry out street cleansing by other means. The Department would also consider extending the use of compact street washing vehicles to other road sections in Tung Chung (such as Shun Tung Road, Tung Chung Waterfront Road, Ying Hei Road and Man Tung Road), as well as to other areas on the outlying islands (such as Mui Wo and Tai O), with a

view to continuously improving street hygiene in the Islands District.

V. Any Other Business

21. Members expressed their views as follows:

- (a) Members understood that it was currently difficult for the FEHD to deploy manpower to clean the roads in rural villages on a daily basis, but they hoped that the Department would strengthen its cleansing efforts. Furthermore, Members noted that the dog excreta collection bins near Wong Lung Hang Stream, Ma Wan New Village and Pa Mei Village in Tung Chung were often overflowing, and therefore requested the Department to step up the related clearance work.
- (b) With regard to Members' feedback to the FEHD earlier about the accumulation of a large amount of rubbish in the planter beside Yu Tung Road in Tung Chung, Members commended the Department for its prompt follow-up actions and called on the Department to strengthen the cleansing of roadside planters.
- (c) Members indicated that they had recently received a significant number of complaints from Cheung Chau residents regarding several food premises along Pak She Praya Road placing large amounts of miscellaneous items (such as tables, chairs and umbrellas) outside their premises, obstructing the access of emergency vehicles and residents. In this regard, Members suggested that if the food premises concerned failed to make improvement after being advised, the FEHD should issue fixed penalty notices to them or enforce the demerit points system to achieve a deterrent effect.
- (d) Residents of Cheung Chau had occasionally reported that some shops in Cheung Chau South were occupying the bicycle parking spaces nearby. In this regard, Members requested the FEHD to advise the shop operators of these shops against illegally extending their business areas, which might affect residents' use of the aforementioned bicycle parking spaces.

22. Mr FUNG Wai-nok responded that the FEHD would strengthen the cleansing of roads in rural villages, as well as enhance the clearance of dog excreta collection bins near Wong Lung Hang Stream, Ma Wan New Village and Pa Mei Village. In addition, the Department would conduct on-site inspections in Cheung Chau to assess the obstruction caused by the food premises, strengthen regulatory work, and take enforcement actions where necessary.

(Post-meeting note: The FEHD had installed an additional dog excreta collection bin at a suitable location near Ma Wan New Village, and had stepped up clearance work at

the location concerned to facilitate dog walkers and maintain street cleanliness. On the other hand, the Department was currently conducting on-site inspections during different time periods to assess the obstruction caused by food premises in Cheung Chau, and based on the actual situations, the Department had been organising meetings with the operators of the food premises in phases to provide hygiene education. At the same time, warning letters had been issued to non-complaint food premise operators and enforcement actions had been strengthened.)

VI. Date of Next Meeting

23. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 2 June 2025 (Monday).

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