

(Translation)

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

Date : 3 December 2024 (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

**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
Ms CHEUNG Suk-man	Chief Health Inspector (Islands)2, 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 7 October 2024**

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 minutes were confirmed unanimously.

**II. Question on the enhancement of refuse collection facilities in Tai O  
(FEHC Paper No. 30/2024)**

4. The Chairman asked Members to refer to FEHC Paper No. 30/2024, and welcomed the following guests who attended the meeting to respond to the question: Mr FUNG Wai-nok, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands), Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric, Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1, and Ms CHEUNG Suk-man, Chief Health Inspector (Islands)2 of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). The written reply of the FEHD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

5. The Chairman briefly presented the question.

6. Mr FUNG Wai-nok elaborated on the written reply of the FEHD.

7. Mr YU Hon-kwan made a declaration of interest, stating that he was one of the owners of the property situated at 81 Tai O Wing On Street.

8. Members expressed their views as follows:

- (a) Members supported the installation of a new refuse collection facility in the area between Tai O Wing On Street and Lung Hin Court, but hoped

that the FEHD would consult nearby residents in respect of the location and design of the facility. In addition, Members suggested positioning the facility on one side of the aforementioned area, using a more subdued colour scheme for the facility's design and increasing its capacity to reduce the number of rubbish bins required.

- (b) As cattle frequently overturned the rubbish bins in Mui Wo at dusk, Members hoped that the FEHD would install newly designed refuse collection facilities in the area to improve environmental hygiene.
- (c) The ground subsidence at the refuse collection point (RCP) adjacent to the Ha Ling Pei Bus Stop on Tung Chung Road had affected pedestrian safety and environmental hygiene. In this connection, Members requested the FEHD to conduct an on-site inspection for follow-up action and consider installing the newly designed refuse collection facility at the site.
- (d) Traditional rubbish bins in Cheung Chau were frequently found with lids not properly secured, resulting in rodent infestation problems. The issue was particularly severe at the RCP on Tai San Back Street. In this connection, Members enquired whether the FEHD had plans to phase in the newly designed refuse collection facilities across the Islands District.

9. The Chairman said that he and the FEHD staff had jointly carried out an on-site inspection in the area between Tai O Wing On Street and Lung Hin Court and he thanked the Department for its proactive follow-up actions. He noted that since the installation of the newly designed refuse collection facility on Kat Hing Street in Tai O earlier, the hygiene conditions in its vicinity had improved. In view of this, he urged the Department to install the relevant facility at the aforementioned location as soon as possible to improve environmental hygiene.

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

- (a) The FEHD would consult Members and nearby residents regarding the designs and locations of the relevant facilities before installation.
- (b) Generally speaking, the FEHD would consider installing the newly designed refuse collection facilities at individual locations based on the actual circumstances. In response to Members' suggestions, the Department would conduct on-site inspections in areas such as Mui Wo, Tung Chung and Cheung Chau to assess the need for such facilities. The Department would also inspect the RCP adjacent to the Ha Ling Pei Bus Stop on Tung Chung Road to follow up on the issue of ground subsidence.

(Post-meeting note: The FEHD was in the process of converting the traditional RCPs into new solar-powered aluminium RCPs at suitable locations in Mui Wo. Local

consultations were underway regarding the improvement works to the RCPs on Ngan Kwong Wan Road (near the Silver View Centre for the Aged), Mui Wo Rural Committee Road and at Tung Wan Tau (near the camp of the Hong Kong Playground Association) in Mui Wo. The Department was also in the process of converting the traditional RCPs into new solar-powered aluminium RCPs at suitable locations in Cheung Chau. The most recently upgraded RCP in Cheung Chau was the Chung Hing Street (Tai Shek Hau) RCP. Improvement works would be carried out in due course at the Peak Road West (near Nga Ning Court) RCP, the Siu Kwai Wan Tsuen RCP, the Round Table First Village RCP, the Don Bosco Road RCP (at the junction of Fa Peng Road) and the Ming Fai Road RCP respectively. The improvement works to address the ground subsidence problem at the RCP adjacent to the Ha Ling Pei Bus Stop on Tung Chung Road had commenced and were expected to be completed by the end of February 2025.)

III. Question on the conversion of the use of the Sunlight Market in Tung Chung  
(FEHC Paper No. 31/2024)

11. The Chairman asked Members to refer to FEHC Paper No. 31/2024 and said that the written reply of the FEHD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

12. Mr LAU Chin-pang briefly presented the question and added that the Sunlight Market lacked competitiveness as it was not air-conditioned and the prices of goods were higher than those of the Fu Tung Market nearby. In this connection, he suggested that the Department should adjust the trade mix of the Sunlight Market to improve its business environment.

13. Mr FUNG Wai-nok elaborated on the written reply of the FEHD.

14. Members expressed their views as follows:

- (a) While promotional activities organised by the FEHD could help publicise the Sunlight Market, from a long-term perspective, efforts should be made to enhance its trade mix or even redefine the market's positioning (such as developing it into a cooked food market to attract tourists) to make it more distinctive, thereby attracting more foot traffic.
- (b) In view of the relatively low foot traffic of the Sunlight Market due to its lack of competitiveness in terms of accessibility and prices of goods, Members suggested that the Department should reduce the rentals of the stalls to lower the operating costs of the tenants and step up publicity efforts, such as organising more promotional activities, to boost foot traffic. Members also supported increasing the variety of the stalls in the Sunlight Market (e.g. the addition of Chinese medicine shops, joss paper and paper artifact shops and barber shops) to meet the demand of residents. Members further suggested that the Department should allow

social welfare organisations to rent vacant stalls on short-term tenancies for publicity and service provision purposes, so as to increase foot traffic in the market.

- (c) Tung Chung residents were concerned about pedestrian safety when accessing the Sunlight Market. The pavement kerbs near the market also caused inconvenience to the elderly and wheelchair users, thereby discouraging them from visiting the Sunlight Market. However, the MTR Corporation Limited (MTR), which was responsible for the management of the kerbs, had indicated that the kerbs could not be removed. In this connection, Members requested the FEHD to follow up on the matter to enhance the accessibility of the Sunlight Market.
- (d) The free blood pressure measurement service recently provided by the Care Team at the Sunlight Market had attracted a considerable number of visitors. Members therefore suggested that the FEHD should continue to collaborate with the Care Teams in organising various activities in the Sunlight Market (such as free medical consultation services and publicity activities to promote the “HA Go” and “iAM Smart” mobile applications). Members also suggested that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) should set up a “GREEN@COMMUNITY” Recycling Spot at the Sunlight Market to facilitate gift redemption for residents and introduce a new reward option for redeeming market coupons with GREEN\$ Points.
- (e) Members suggested that the FEHD should step up publicity for the Sunlight Market and disseminate information to relevant stakeholders in advance through email or other communication software. Members also suggested that the FEHD should arrange for promotional flyers to be placed in the mailboxes of nearby housing estates to ensure that relevant stakeholders (such as nearby schools, non-profit-making organisations and Council Members’ ward offices) would receive information of the relevant promotional activities promptly.
- (f) Members supported increasing the variety of stalls in the Sunlight Market but considered that the existing stalls selling fresh food should be retained to maintain healthy competition with the stalls in the Fu Tung Market and provide residents with an additional place to buy fresh food. Members hoped that FEHD would maintain ongoing communication with the relevant stakeholders regarding the operational direction of the Sunlight Market.

15. The Chairman hoped that FEHD would improve temperature control and shading facilities at the Sunlight Market. On the other hand, he enquired with the FEHD about the stall tenancy periods at the Sunlight Market and the relevant application procedures for stallholders to change the types of goods they sold at the stalls.

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

- (a) The FEHD organised a special promotional activity from 21 to 27 November 2024, where customers making purchases in the Sunlight Market could participate in a lucky draw to win products from its stalls. In view of the success of the activity in increasing the foot traffic of the market, the FEHD would continue to organise similar promotional activities in the future.
- (b) The FEHD had all along been reviewing the trade mix and the stall rentals of the Sunlight Market and collecting the views of stallholders and customers. In addition, the FEHD would liaise with relevant government departments and organisations (including the Transport Department (TD) and the MTR) to explore ways to improve the road facilities so as to enhance the accessibility of the Sunlight Market.
- (c) Tung Chung residents responded enthusiastically to the free blood pressure measurement service recently provided by the Care Team at the Sunlight Market. The current stall tenancies of the Sunlight Market would expire on 28 February 2026. Subject to the future open ballot results and the number of vacant stalls in the Sunlight Market, the FEHD would consider adjusting the trade mix of the market and leasing the vacant stalls to various government departments (for instance, the EPD) and organisations with a view to revitalising the Sunlight Market.
- (d) The FEHD, in conjunction with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) and the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), would conduct regular inspections of the Sunlight Market with a view to improving its facilities (including the temperature control and shading facilities). The FEHD would strengthen collaboration with the relevant departments to further improve the operating environment of the Sunlight Market.

17. Mr Esmond YAU responded that the suggestions of setting up a Recycling Spot at the Sunlight Market and using the GREEN\$ Points would be referred to the relevant sections for follow-up.

(Post-meeting note: The EPD had referred the above suggestions to the relevant sections for follow-up after the meeting.)

IV. Question on the improvement of roadside hygiene on Lantau Island  
(FEHC Paper No. 32/2024)

18. The Chairman asked Members to refer to FEHC Paper No. 32/2024 and said that the written replies of the FEHD, the District Lands Office, Islands (DLO/Is), the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Highways Department

(HyD) had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

19. Mr YIP Pui-kei briefly presented the question.

20. Mr FUNG Wai-nok elaborated on the written reply of the FEHD, and added that the FEHD had been arranging staff to carry out cleansing work at the central reservations of the roads at the captioned location about once every two weeks and would consider increasing the frequency of cleansing work as necessary.

21. Members expressed their views as follows:

- (a) Regarding cases of littering from vehicles, Members asked the FEHD about the time required for the relevant prosecution process and its success rate. In addition, Members suggested providing additional rubbish bins, and installing internet protocol (IP) cameras as well at illegal refuse disposal blackspots to facilitate evidence collection and prosecutions, thereby enhancing deterrence.
- (b) The long-standing accumulation of large amounts of tree branches and construction waste along the roadsides on Lantau Island (in particular South Lantau Road) could easily cause hazards (such as fire hazards). In this connection, Members hoped that the FEHD would follow up on the relevant situation.
- (c) Although publicity notices prohibiting cigarette butts littering had been posted at the bus stops around Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate, the problem remained serious. In this regard, Members requested the FEHD to step up patrols and enforcement efforts. Furthermore, Members noted that the issue of cigarette butts littering in the area around the staircases of the glass doors of the Citygate as mentioned in a previous meeting had been improved. Members thus took this opportunity to commend the FEHD for its efforts in combating refuse and cigarette butts littering.

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

- (a) IP cameras were mainly used to assist the FEHD in prosecuting individuals who threw litter from vehicles. Regarding the improper acts of illegal refuse disposal, after reviewing the video recordings from the cameras, the FEHD would verify the registered owners of the relevant vehicles with the TD and then proceed with prosecutions. The relevant process normally took three to four months and might take even longer if there was a need to further verify the identity of the vehicle owner. However, he emphasised that the prosecution success rate for such cases was very high. Moreover, the IP cameras did not have facial recognition function. The FEHD would use the video recordings to identify the timing and patterns of the violations in order to plan surprise

enforcement actions accordingly. The FEHD would also consider installing IP cameras at specific locations as needed.

- (b) The FEHD would strengthen collaboration with various government departments (including the LCSD, the Lands Department (LandsD), the HyD and the EPD) and would liaise with the relevant departments in a timely manner to deal with roadside littering. The FEHD would also carry out ad hoc cleansing work if necessary.
- (c) Most of the Fixed Penalty Notices issued by the FEHD in Tung Chung were related to littering of cigarette butts. Furthermore, the Department had stepped up the inspection of public places outside the Citygate in response to the increase in the number of tourists, and as a result, the hygiene conditions there had improved. The Department would continue to step up surprise enforcement actions in areas with high pedestrian traffic to address the littering situation.

23. The Chairman asked whether the FEHD could provide additional rubbish bins at illegal refuse disposal blackspots. He also pointed out that the environmental hygiene conditions around the Citygate had improved after the provision of additional rubbish bins there.

24. Mr FUNG Wai-nok responded that the FEHD would consider the provision of additional rubbish bins at individual locations having regard to the actual situations, such as the impact on the cityscape and the relevant stakeholders, as well as the views of nearby residents.

V. Question on the improvement of facilities at the Lamma Garden of Remembrance  
(FEHC Paper No. 33/2024)

25. The Chairman asked Members to refer to FEHC Paper No. 33/2024 and said that the written reply of the FEHD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

26. Ms LAU Shun-ting briefly presented the question and added that the FEHD had been improving the facilities at the Lamma Island Columbarium and Garden of Remembrance (the Columbarium) but the relevant facilities were still not optimised. In this connection, she hoped to carry out an on-site inspection at the Columbarium with the FEHD and other relevant departments with a view to further improving the facilities.

27. Mr FUNG Wai-nok elaborated on the written reply of the FEHD.

28. Members expressed their views as follows:

- (a) The written reply of the FEHD indicated that the utilisation rate of niches in the Columbarium was about 27.5%. However, in view of the



increase in the applications for placing cremated ashes of the deceased in the Columbarium in recent years, Members anticipated that the relevant utilisation rate would increase. Moreover, as the Columbarium was located on a hill, Members suggested that the roads concerned should be improved (e.g. widening the road surface and planting trees on both sides of the road for shading purposes) to facilitate public visits for grave sweeping.

- (b) Members hoped to conduct an on-site inspection with the relevant departments to understand the needs of grave sweepers.

29. In a consolidated response, Mr FUNG Wai-nok said that the niches of the Columbarium were allocated only to Lamma Island residents and hence the relevant utilisation rate was quite different from that of urban cemeteries. He would convey Members' suggestions on the optimisation of the Columbarium's facilities and the on-site inspection to the Cemeteries and Crematoria Section of the FEHD after the meeting, and would conduct a study on the optimisation of the facilities in conjunction with the relevant departments (including the ArchSD and the EMSD). In addition, as the FEHD was not a works department, the Department would discuss with the relevant departments the suggestion for improving the road concerned.

30. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to arrange an on-site inspection for Members and the relevant departments after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had arranged for Members to conduct an on-site inspection at the Columbarium with the FEHD, the ArchSD and the Water Supplies Department on 24 January 2025.)

## VI. Any Other Business

31. Members expressed concern that visitors went swimming in the hill stream near Wong Lung Hang Road in Tung Chung and were seen frolicking and cooking on open fires in the vicinity, which had severely affected environmental hygiene. The situation had improved following the joint operations carried out by the FEHD and the LandsD. However, many residents had reported recently that the hygiene conditions at the aforementioned location had worsened again. In this regard, Members asked the FEHD to follow up on the matter and strengthen inter-departmental collaboration to combat environmentally damaging behaviour, such as littering, illegal fire-setting and tent pitching.

32. Mr FUNG Wai-nok responded that the issue involved multiple government departments. He therefore suggested that an inter-departmental on-site inspection should be arranged so that the various departments could take appropriate measures to address the specific issues.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had arranged for Members to conduct an on-site

inspection on Wong Lung Hang Road with the FEHD, the DLO/Is and the Drainage Services Department on 22 January 2025.)

VII. Date of Next Meeting

33. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 10 February 2025 (Monday).

(Post-meeting note: The next meeting had been rescheduled to 10:00 a.m. on 12 February 2025 (Wednesday).)

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