

**The 19th Meeting of the
Food and Environmental Hygiene Committee
of the Kowloon City District Council**

Date: 13 December 2018 (Thursday)
Time: 2:35 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Kowloon City District Office

Present:

Chairman: Mr LO Chiu-kit
Vice-chairman: Mr KWAN Ho-yeung, Roger
Members: Mr PUN Kwok-wah, JP
The Honourable Starry LEE Wai-king, (Left at 3:25 p.m.)
SBS, JP
Mr YUE Chee-wing, Admond (Left at 4:42 p.m.)
Mr YANG Wing-kit
Mr YEUNG Chun-yu, Ronald
Mr TING Kin-wa (Left at 5:21 p.m.)
Mr NG Po-keung, MH (Left at 5:14 p.m.)
Dr the Honourable Priscilla LEUNG (Arrived at 3:35 p.m.)
Mei-fun, SBS, JP (Left at 4:30 p.m.)
Mr LAM Tak-shing
Ir Dr CHENG Lee-ming
Mr NG Fan-kam, Tony
Mr SIU Tin-hung, Terence (Arrived at 4:05 p.m.)
Mr LAI Kwong-wai (Arrived at 2:44 p.m.)
Miss KWONG Po-yin (Arrived at 2:37 p.m.)
Ir CHEUNG Yan-hong, MH
Mr HO Hin-ming, BBS, MH (Arrived at 2:42 p.m.)
Mr LAM Pok, Jimmy

Secretary: Mr TSO Yuen-kiu, Brian Executive Officer (District Council) 2, Kowloon City District Office

Absent: Mr HE Huahan
Mr SIU Leong-sing
Mr CHO Wui-hung, MH
Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting

In Attendance: Mr TANG Wai-kuen, Samuel Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) 5, Environmental Protection Department

Mr TSOI Yuen-ming District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kowloon City), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms CHAN Foon-chi, Judith Deputy District Leisure Manager (Kowloon City) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Miss SO Yi-ching, Venus Assistant District Officer, Kowloon City District Office

Mr YU Man-chun, Jeff Executive Officer I (District Management), Kowloon City District Office

Attendance by Invitation:

Item 2 Dr HO Hiu-fai Deputy Hospital Chief Executive (Professional Services), Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Dr CHOW Sheung-ming Senior Manager (Planning and Development), Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Mr Patrick HAU Senior Manager (Capital Projects), Hospital Authority

Mr CHAN Tsz-fung Senior Executive Officer (Planning) 6, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Item 5 Mr LEE Pak-ho Senior Health Inspector (Administration and Development) Special Duties, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Item 9	Dr Vivian CHAN	Senior Medical and Health Officer (Community Liaison) 2, Department of Health
Item 11	Mr CHAN Kwong-ping, Leo	Property Service Manager / Service (Kowloon West and Sai Kung) 1, Housing Department
Item 13	Mr LEE Wai-hong	Sub-Unit Commander (Operations Support) (Hung Hom Division), Hong Kong Police Force
	Mr PONG Wing-ho	Assistant Police Community Relations Officer (Kowloon City District), Hong Kong Police Force

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all Member and representatives of departments to the meeting and said that the Secretariat received a written notice of absence from Miss **LEUNG Yuen-ting** saying that she was unable to attend the meeting because of health problem. Members agreed to accept her application for absence from the meeting because of health problem in accordance with Order 51(1) of the Standing Orders. Before proceeding to the agenda, **the Chairman** reminded Members that if the matters to be discussed gave rise to conflict of interest with their property rights, profession or investment, they should make a declaration prior to the discussion so that he would consider if it was necessary to ask the Members concerned to exit from the meeting during the discussion or voting. In addition, according to Order 36(2) of the Standing Orders, the quorum for committee meetings was half the number of members. As there were 23 members in the Food and Environmental Hygiene Committee (FEHC), once there were less than 12 members present at the meeting, he would terminate the discussion immediately.

Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

2. There being no amendments to the minutes of the 18th meeting they were confirmed unanimously by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Committee (FEHC).

The Progress of the New Acute Hospital Project at Kai Tak Development Area (Paper No. 92/18)

3. **Dr HO Hiu-fai, Deputy Hospital Chief Executive (Professional Services) of Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH), Dr CHOW Sheung-ming, Senior Manager (Planning and Development) of QEH, Mr Patrick HAU, Senior Manager (Capital Projects) of Hospital Authority (HA) and Mr CHAN Tsz-fung, Senior Executive Officer (Planning) 6 of LCSD** introduced the paper.

4. **Mr Ho Hin-ming** raised the following views/ enquiries:

- (i) in the planning of the new acute hospital project at Kai Tak Development Area (New Acute Hospital), there would be a cycling track in its periphery. He enquired whether members of the public could go to the New Acute Hospital with bicycles via that cycling track; and
- (ii) whether bicycles were allowed to enter the waterfront promenade in front of the New Acute Hospital.

5. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** declared that she was a staff member of the Kowloon East Cluster of HA.

6. **The Chairman** permitted Dr KWONG Po-yin to continue speaking.

7. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) there were 66 beds in each ward of the New Acute Hospital and 3 wards on each floor providing a total of about 200 beds on each floor, showing that there were many patients on each floor. Because of the increasing number of in-patients, the number of visitors would also be on the increase. Thus she was worried that the elevators might not be able to cope with the demand of the healthcare staff, patients and visitors during the visiting hours;

- (ii) she enquired about the loading capacity of each group of elevators and hoped that the hospital would examine whether the number of elevators was sufficient to meet the demand of the healthcare staff, patients and visitors; and
- (iii) she supported the building of the New Acute Hospital. To the residents of the Whampoa and Hung Hom area. It took longer time to travel to the New Acute Hospital than to QEH. Thus it was suggested that some medical services such as accident and emergency service, hospital beds etc. be maintained in QEH for the use of the residents of the Hung Hom and Whampoa area.

8. **Mr Admond YUE** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he supported the building of the New Acute Hospital and enquired about the total hospital beds in the hospital;
- (ii) he pointed out that the population in Kai Tak Development Area would be greatly increased and the relocation of all the services of QEH to the New Acute Hospital would mean that the New Acute Hospital needed to provide services to the public who formerly relied on the services of QEH and also the residents of Kai Tak Area. He was worried that the New Acute Hospital might not be able to cope with the great demand. Thus he suggested that some basic healthcare services be maintained at QEH for use by the residents of Hung Hom, Whampoa and Kowloon City.

9. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** stated that the medical services of QEH would be relocated to the New Acute Hospital and asked about the future development direction of the QEH site.

10. **Mr Roger KWAN** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he stated that the New Acute Hospital was in the proximity of the Hong Kong Children's Hospital and it was shown that that there was no provision of convenient traffic service to that area. Thus he was concerned about the feeder and ancillary transport facilities of that area; and

- (ii) he enquired about the ancillary transport facilities and planning in the vicinity of the New Acute Hospital and hoped that the departments concerned would provide more information as soon as possible.

11. **Ir CHEUNG Yan-hong** expressed that the New Acute Hospital was more convenient for the residents of Kowloon City area but inconvenient for the residents of Hung Hom, Whampoa etc. and longer time was also needed for the provision of ambulance service. Thus he asked about the ancillary transport facilities provided to the residents of Hung Hom, Whampoa etc.

12. **The Chairman** was concerned about the provision of ancillary transport facilities to the New Acute Hospital. He pointed out that the New Acute Hospital was a major hospital and there were occasions that it might need to attend to a large number of injured persons within a short period of time. Thus traffic arrangements and the provision of relevant infrastructure facilities were very important issues. He thus suggested the hospital to conduct assessment on the above scenarios or to appoint consultants for a report on whether the ancillary transport facilities of the New Acute Hospital was sufficient to cope with occasions in which large numbers of injured persons needed to be attended to within a short period of time.

13. **Mr CHAN Tsz-fung, Senior Executive Officer (Planning) 6 of LCSD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) the cycling track project at Kai Tak Development Area was developed by the Civil and Engineering Development Department (CEDD) and briefings on its latest proposals including a 13-km long cycling track in Kai Tak District were made to the District Council of Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin and Kwun Tong in September 2017. Under the proposals, the cycling track would run along the waterfront promenade at the front of the New Acute Hospital and the section at the front of the New Acute Hospital was the second section of the proposed cycling track. Thus it would not be completed in 2023 according to the estimated progress of the first stage of works;
- (ii) the cycling track facilities were included in the proposed development of this section of the waterfront promenade so as to connect the cycling track with the whole Kai Tak Cycling track network in the future. However,

as the waterfront promenade built under the project was only 300 metres long and the sole opening of this section of the cycling track might not be attractive. As there was still time before the completion of the waterfront promenade, the Department would have discussions with relevant departments on the basis of the development in the vicinity before making consideration on the opening arrangements of the waterfront promenade cycling track.

14. **Dr HO Hiu-fai of QEH** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) at the beginning of the project, the need that each floor had to accommodate about 200 patients was already taken into consideration by the hospital. Consultants were appointed for the design of a “sky lobby” on the 9th floor of the hospital to take the visitors to the 9th floor straight from the ground floor for transfer to the elevators to other floors of Block A, B and C;
- (ii) under the project, elevators reaching the 10th to 19th floors of Block A and Block B would not stop at every floor and the elevators were divided into two groups, one group stopping at the 14th floor and below and the other group stopping at the 15th floor and above for triage purposes;
- (iii) it was pointed out that there were 17 elevators at QEH at present and about 50 elevators at the New Acute Hospital which was about 3 folds of those at QEH;
- (iv) the hospital authorities pointed out it was understood that after the eastward movement of the hospital, it would be closer to the Kowloon City District and would provide convenience to the public living in the east but caused inconvenience to the public in King’s Park. According to the present layout plan, members of the public could go to and from Block A of the hospital via Kwun Tong Bypass and also Kai Tak Subway in the future. There were emergency vehicular access for direct access to the hospital by the emergency vehicles under the bridge of East Kowloon Route;
- (v) East Kowloon Route would however be detached from the New Acute Hospital in Kowloon Bay, it was estimated that the walking time from the

MTR station to the hospital would be about 20 to 30 minutes. It was understood that the Government had suggested an Environmental Friendly Linkage System (EFLS) in Kai Tak Development Area and its feasibility study was now being conducted. The hospital authorities would provide comments on the selection of exit sites for EFLS to the relevant departments;

- (vi) tunnel excavation of Central Kowloon Route and Trunk Road T2 would be carried out between Site A and Site B of the New Acute Hospital and would straddle across Kwun Tong to Cha Kwo Ling. It was understood that vehicles moving eastward at Central Kowloon Route, before entering the tunnel, could get to the underground floor of Block E via the feeder road and then proceed to other blocks of the New Acute Hospital;
- (vii) as the hospital was near the sea, its authorities would enquire the relevant departments about the feasibility of building a pier near the hospital so that in emergency scenarios, water transport for the injured could be provided and such service would also be open to the visitors and healthcare staff;
- (viii) expansion was now being undertaken at Kwong Wah Hospital, Haven of Hope Hospital and Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital and the number of beds in the hospital would rise after completion. Upon the completion of the redevelopment project of Kwang Wah Hospital in 2024, there would be an increase of 350 beds and Haven of Hope Hospital and Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital would have an increase of 160 and 16 beds respectively. When the redevelopment of Haven of Hope Hospital was completed, the convalescent beds in Kowloon Hospital now used by United Christian Hospital would be taken over by Haven of Hope Hospital while convalescent beds at Kowloon Hospital would be spared for use by the Kowloon Central Cluster;
- (ix) it was confirmed that there would be 2 400 beds at the New Acute Hospital among which 2 100 were beds for the in-patients and 300 were day beds. At present there were 1 860 beds at QEH, about 1 600 of which were in-patient beds. Thus the beds of the New Acute Hospital was increased by 30% and together with the number of beds added upon the completion of Kwong Wah Hospital and United Christian Hospital after redevelopment, the number of beds in Kowloon District would grow on the whole; and

- (x) the development of the original site of QEH at King's Park was included in the Second 10-Year Plan of the Hospital Authority (HA). It was known for the time being that there would be medical facilities at the above site and details would be confirmed until further planning by the authorities concerned in view of the conditions were carried out.

15. **Mr HAU Hon-fai of HA** gave the following consolidated response:

- (i) HA was at present actively discussing with relevant departments including CEDD and Transport Department (TD) about the provision of entrances/exits for ambulances. In the present traffic network, the entrances/exits for ambulances to the New Acute Hospital would be at Cheung Yip Street and Shing Cheong Road; and
- (ii) apart from the above vehicular access, HA was now following up the traffic arrangements at Kai Tak Development Area with the relevant departments. HA hoped that the traffic network at Kai Tak Development Area would be completed in 2024 with the provision of vehicular accesses to the hospital from both the east and the west to tie in with the planned commissioning of the new hospital in 2025.

16. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** raised the following points:

- (i) as there were many blocks in the New Acute Hospital, she estimated that many healthcare staff or visitors might choose to drive to the hospital. Thus she enquired about whether sufficient parking spaces were reserved to cope with the demand and also asked whether there would be public parking spaces; and
- (ii) she hoped that HA would take care of the needs of the Hung Hom and Whampoa residents after the eastward movement of the Kowloon Central Cluster hospitals and some medical services would remain in the central area of Kowloon Centre for use by its residents.

17. **Mr HO Hin-ming** enquired whether it was possible to go to the New Acute Hospital directly by taxis.

18. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** asked whether there was a pier at the New Acute Hospital

for use by the marine police or other healthcare personnel for transferring the injured to the hospital in case of major incidents.

19. **Ir Dr CHENG Lee-ming** was concerned about the waiting time for emergency service at the hospital. He stated that in view of the large size of the New Acute Hospital, the waiting time of patients at the Accident and Emergency Department (A&E Department) would be lengthened and thus asked about the estimated average waiting time at the A&E Department of the New Acute Hospital and requested review on whether the performance pledge would be honoured.

20. **The Chairman** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he stated that suggestion was made to the hospital authorities to provide water transport to connect with the New Acute Hospital to relief the land traffic load and hoped that the hospital authorities would reflect it to the departments concerned; and
- (ii) he enquired about when the hospital authorities would attend the FEHC meeting to discuss and provide information on the ancillary transport facilities to the New Acute Hospital.

21. **Mr HAU Hon-fai of HA** gave the following consolidated response:

- (i) stated that the New Acute Hospital had provided the maximum number of parking spaces according to the requirements under the “Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines” and the provision was permitted by the departments concerned;

HA would enquire the departments concerned about the feasibility of providing water transport to the New Acute Hospital. Even though a pier might not be provided next to the New Acute Hospital, HA was willing to provide other feasible supporting measures. However, no department could implement such measures at present; and

- (ii) he stated that taxis and private cars could reach the hospital main building or its A&E Department.

22. **Dr HO Hiu-fai, Deputy Hospital Chief Executive (Professional Services)** of

QEH gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) QEH had 600 parking spaces at present and the New Acute Hospital would have 900 parking spaces and a certain percentage of visitors' parking spaces would be provided in according with the "Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines". Also the staff parking spaces would be open for use by the public during the evening visiting hours;
- (ii) he stated that the longer stay of patients at the acute hospital was mainly due to the insufficient provision of convalescent beds. HA thus made arrangements for Kowloon Hospital to support Kwong Wah Hospital. The new Acute Hospital would be jointly supported by Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital, Wong Tai sin Hospital and Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital with a view to spare beds for use by patients of the A&E Department patients as soon as possible;
- (iii) QEH was aware that the waiting time of the patients at the A&E Department was getting longer and longer. Take QEH as an example, waiting time for Category 4 and 5 patients (semi-urgent and non-urgent patients) was the longest because of the continued upsurge of Category 1-3 patients (critical, emergency and urgent patients) and the capacity of the convalescent beds could not cope with the demand;
- (iv) QEH hoped that there were new measures to gradually shorten the long waiting time so that patients would be provided with proper treatment; and
- (v) QEH needed time to discuss with the relevant departments on the ancillary transport facilities for the new hospital and thus no reply on the time of report could be provided at present.

23. **The Chairman** stated HA was responsible for the design of the waterfront promenade, he asked HA whether it would provide any design details for the provision of a pier at the waterfront promenade.

24. **Mr HAU Hon-fai of HA** responded that as Kai Tak Bridge was located at the front of the hospital, it was difficult to build a pier at the waterfront promenade. HA needed to enquire the relevant departments about the possibility of finding another suitable site for the pier.

25. **Mr HO Hin-ming** raised the following views:

- (i) as the New Acute Hospital was quite far away from the city centre, he was thus concerned about the time needed for the transport of the injured to or from the city centre; and
- (ii) if the new pier was not located near the New Acute Hospital, it was hoped that the hospital authorities would provide more ambulances for the transport of patients.

26. **The Chairman** opined that ancillary transport facilities were very important to the New Acute Hospital and very perfect facilities must be provided to coordinate with the commissioning of the New Acute Hospital. It was hoped that the relevant departments would report their progress at the future meetings. After consulting Members, **the Chairman** declared that the works details stated in the Paper were supported and endorsed by the Committee.

Matter Arising: Request for Adopting a New Mindset to Enhance Anti-rodent Work (Paper No. 85/18)

Strong Request for Joint Anti-rodent Work at Hung Hom Estate by FEHD and Housing Society

Strong Request for Joint Anti-rodent Work at Ka Wai Estate by FEHD and Housing Society

(Paper No. 98/18)

27. **The Chairman** stated that FEHC decided to continue the discussion on Paper No. 85/18 at the last meeting to follow up the rodent infestation black spots in Kowloon City District.

28. **The Chairman** stated that Agenda Item No. 3 and No. 31 were related to rodent infestation problems and thus after consulting Members, he declared that that two items would be discussed together with the above matter arising.

29. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated report as follows:

- (i) the Department was very concerned about the rodent infestation problem in Kowloon City District and new pest control measures were taken, for

example, deploying additional manpower. The Department would cut its pest control manpower in winter and the non-raining season in the past but equal amount of staff was maintained in the winter in recent years, that is, more manpower was transferred from the prevention of mosquito infestation during its low-risk season to rodent control;

- (ii) the Department took targeted rodent prevention and control actions at the back lanes of food establishments and took law enforcement actions against those food establishments with poor environmental hygiene condition. Also, it would enhance its publicity and education measures to improve the rodent infestation problem;
- (iii) the Department was now trying out new anti-rodent equipment and would examine its effectiveness; and
- (iv) apart from public places, there was rodent infestation problem in the public housing estates under the management of the Housing Department (HD) and the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) and the Department would hold inter-departmental joint actions with relevant government departments. Apart from Oi Man Estate, the Department would also actively help the departments concerned in their anti-rodent work around Hung Hom Estate and Ka Wai Estate.

30. **The Chairman** introduced Paper No. 98/18.

31. **Mr Roger KWAN** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he enquired about the details in respect of manpower increase for the pest control teams; and
- (ii) he hoped to further understand the detailed arrangements in respect of the target pest control actions at the back lanes of food establishments.

32. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Department noted the rodent infestation problem and thus continued to provide more manpower for the pest control teams. In the past, the

Department would cut the manpower of the relevant teams in winter but the same level of manpower remained unchanged in winter at present;

- (ii) the Department expected that manpower increase would continue in the future but the exact number of staff to be added was not available at present;
- (iii) the Department would also review the manpower of the pest control service contractors and when necessary would add the requirements for increasing manpower in the new pest control service contracts;
- (iv) the Department would take 5-week special actions targeting against the “back lanes of food establishments”. According to observations by the Department, the responsible persons of food establishments generally lacked knowledge on pest control. Thus during the first two weeks when special actions were taken, inspections on whether they had proper rodent control measures in place would be conducted in the food establishments by the staff of the Department and their responsible persons would be asked to enhance management and they would also be educated on the proper ways to treat food waste and refuse. Staff of the Department would continue to conduct inspection in the food establishments from the third week to the fifth week and stringent enforcement actions would be taken against offenders in a bid to reduce rodent infestation caused by them; and
- (v) if the present special actions were found to be effective, the Department would continue to arrange similar special actions.

33. **Mr Leo CHAN, Property Service Manager / Service (Kowloon West & Sai Kung 1) of HD** responded as follows:

- (i) regarding the rodent infestation problem reflected by the residents of Hung Hom Estate, Hung Hom Estate Property Service Office (Office) had taken inter-departmental joint actions together with the representatives of FEHD and conducted an on-site inspection in Hung Hom Estate on 27 July, 25 October and 30 November 2018. Afterwards, rodent baits were placed at the black spots in the estate and the rodent holes were filled up as advised by FEHD and the rubbish in the flower beds was cleared and the trees were trimmed more frequently to continue with the anti-rodent work;

- (ii) in addition, the works section of HD added rodent guards at the platform of the buildings to prevent the rodents from climbing into the units from the pipes on the external wall in November this year; and
- (iii) publicity information on rodent control and elimination were provided regularly and the anti-rodent work would continue to upkeep the hygiene condition of the housing estates.

34. **The Chairman** hoped that the departments concerned would deploy more manpower to deal with the rodent infestation problem in the district and more inter-departmental joint inspections to combat the rodent infestation problem in the district should be held.

**Matter Arising: Concern about Joss Paper Burning Arrangements by the New Contractor of the Public Funeral Parlour
(Paper No. 86/18)**

35. **The Chairman** stated that FEHC decided at the last meeting to continue discussion on Paper No. 86/18 so as to follow up the detailed arrangements by the Hung Hom Public Funeral Parlour on the opening of its burner for free public use.

36. **Mr TSIU Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave the following consolidated reply:

- (i) he said that he had consulted Mr LAM Tak-shing and arranged a meeting between Mr LAM Tak-shing and the relevant groups for discussion on the provision of free burning service; and
- (ii) he would arrange inspection in Hung Hom District during periods other than Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals to have knowledge on the burning of joss papers/sticks in the public places by the public so as to arrange a meeting with Mr LAM Tak-shing for discussion.

37. **Mr LAM Tak-shing** raised the following views:

- (i) he said there was no definite reply by the Department on the exact time for meeting with funeral parlour contractors;

- (ii) after the last meeting, a letter was sent to the Director of FEHD by the Committee requesting FEHD to ask the operator of Hung Hom Public Funeral Parlour to provide a specific plan on the opening of the burners and to have discussion on the matter at the meeting. However, no reply was received up to now and he thus opined that the Department failed to respond to the requests made by the public;
- (iii) asked the Department to note the proper time of the inspections and suggested that inspections be made by the staff of the Department in the afternoon in Hung Hom and no earlier or later inspections than that should be arranged;
- (iv) the issue in respect of the opening of the burner had disturbed local residents for a long time and it was hoped that better ways to collect information would be arranged by the Department;
- (v) he said he was willing to arrange a meeting for the Department to meet the residents' representatives for better understanding of the issue in respect of the burning of joss papers in the district; and
- (vi) arrangements should be made by the Department for its representative to respond to the issue at the FEHC meeting so that Members would have better understanding of the actual situation.

38. **Mr NG Po-keung** suggested that the Department should open the burner for free public use on a trial basis first so as to gauge whether there was such need in the district. He also suggested that discussion on the paper be continued at the next meeting.

39. **Ir Dr CHENG Lee-ming** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he opined that FEHD failed to understand the Chinese tradition and the request made by the residents and suggested that it make reference to the practice in Singapore to provide burners for use by the residents in the sub-districts so that they did not have to burn the joss paper in the public places;
- (ii) he requested the funeral parlour to open the burner for use by the public 18-24 hours a day in order to respond to the request of local residents; and

(iii) he agreed that discussion on the paper be continued at the next meeting.

40. **Mr Admond YUE** raised the following views:

- (i) he agreed that discussion on the paper be continued;
- (ii) he hoped that arrangements would be made by the Department for its section responsible for the issue to attend the next FEHC meeting to respond to the enquiries by Members; and
- (iii) he suggested inserting a clause that the Public Funeral Parlour operator must open the burner for free use by the public on specific dates in the tender documents when tender was called next time or consulted the District Council before calling tender to enhance transparency.

41. **The Chairman** asked when a meeting between Mr LAM Tak-shing and the staff of the Department responsible for the above issue would be arranged by the Department.

42. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) after consulting Mr LAM Tak-shing by the Department, he agreed to meet and discuss the section responsible for the above issue in January 2019;
- (ii) the Department stated that the provision of free joss paper burning service by the funeral parlour operator did not mean the public could use the burner themselves. Instead, burning of the joss papers by the funeral parlour on their behalf after collecting the joss papers from them; and
- (iii) the Department could include a clause in the new operation contract that the funeral parlour operator should provide free joss paper burning service for the public on specific dates other than Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals.

43. **Mr LAM Tak-shing** suggested to invite representative of the Environmental Protection Department to the meeting in January 2019.

44. **The Chairman** suggested discussion on the arrangements on the opening of the burner of Hung Hom Public Funeral Parlour for free use by the public be conducted

between the relevant sections of FEHD, the funeral parlour operator and local district council members.

45. After consulting Members, the Chairman declared that discussion on Paper No. 86/18 would continue at the next meeting so as to follow up the detailed arrangements on the opening of the funeral parlour burner for free use by the public.

Introduction to Green Burial

46. **Mr LEE Pak-ho, Senior Health Inspector (Administration and Development) Special Duties of FEHD** introduced the green burial service.

47. **Mr Jimmy LAM** stated that under the present legislation, abortive foetus under 24 weeks old would be regarded as clinical waste and even the body was claimed back by its parents, no burial service could be arranged. At present, though burial service could be arranged by the Garden of Remembrance managed by the Catholic organisation or private organisations, such service could not be used by the public because of religious reasons or expensive fees. Thus, he enquired whether the Department would allow funeral service be provided to the abortive foetus under 24 weeks old.

48. **Mr Ronald YEUNG** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) there were 46 000 members of the public passed away in 2017 and 43 000 of them chose cremation. He enquired about the type of burial service chosen by the remaining 3 000 members of the public; and
- (ii) up to 2018, whether there was an uprising trend in the choice of green burial by the public.

49. **Mr LAM Tak-shing** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he enquired whether the significant increase in the choice of green burial by the public was the result of the serious shortage of niches;
- (ii) he suggested the Department to enhance publicity education on green burial to boost public's confidence on it so that more people would adopt the way of burial to reduce the demand for niches; and

- (iii) he hoped that the Department would increase the supply of niches in the long run.

50. **Mr LEE Pak-ho of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) under the present legislation, doctors would only issue a medical certificate (cremation) for bodies over 24 weeks old which was required for cremation and green burial provided by the Department. Improvements were now being discussed with HA and the Department of Health (DH) by the Department;
- (ii) there were about 46 000 deceased in 2017 and 43 000 of them were cremated and either burial or burial in places outside Hong Kong were used by the remaining 3 000;
- (iii) great efforts were being made by the Department to promote green burial and since 2012, there was an increasing rise in its use by the public. The Private Columbaria Ordinance (Ordinance) came into effect on 30 June 2017 and the Department did not rule out that the Ordinance was one of the factors leading to the rise in the use of green burial by the public;
- (iv) the Department understood there was a great demand for niches by the public. The columbarium at Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun providing 160 000 niches would be opened for use in the second half of 2019. The Department expected that allocation arrangements would be announced in the first quarter of 2019; and
- (v) green burial was promoted by the Department through different means such as talks, briefings at district councils, schools, hospitals, homes for the aged etc. A large-scale talk was conducted by staff of the Cemeteries & Crematoria Office at the Lai Chi Kok Government Offices at the end of November 2018 to enable the public to have better understanding of the cemetery and crematorium service provided by the Department as well as their deeper understanding on green burial.

51. **The Chairman** thanked the detailed introduction by the Department and opined that publicity on green burial service conducted in the Home Hom District where funeral business flourished would be much more effective.

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department – Installation of Night Vision Camera Surveillance System to Monitor Rodent Activity at To Kwa Wan Market on a Trial Basis

(Paper No. 93/18)

52. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** introduced the paper.

53. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** commented that the seriousness of the rodent infestation problem in the district was seen even with naked eyes. He asked the Department whether there were other effective anti-rodent measures apart from baits when rodents were found.

54. **Mr Ronald YEUNG** agreed that rodent infestation was very serious in the district and welcomed the use of the above method to monitor rodent activities. Enquires were made why the media had knowledge of the installation of night vision camera surveillance system before the Committee.

55. **Ir Dr CHENG Lee-ming** said he failed to understand how the night vision camera surveillance system could help solve the rodent infestation problem. He enquired whether the night vision camera was equipped with a recording system and the measures taken by the Department when rodents were found. He hoped that the Department would solve the rodent infestation problem as soon as possible to stop the nuisance spread by rodents.

56. **Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) she hoped that the night vision camera surveillance system was effective and opined that time should be given to the Department to assess its effectiveness;
- (ii) she opined that there were two sources accountable to the rodent infestation problem in the district. The first one was hygiene and the second one was the works being carried out in the district. She was of the view that rodents were driven from under the ground to the road surface by the works carried out in the district. She viewed that the rodent problem was spread to the middle-class and even the luxury home areas in the district and she asked whether the Department had tried to tackle the

problem at source;

- (iii) he suggested that reference be made to overseas countries and the Mainland and appointed experts to trace rodents and to eliminate rodents staying inside pipes; and
- (iv) he opined that the Department, apart from promoting education, should also cooperate with MTR Corporation and relevant government departments to solve the rodent infestation problem caused by works.

57. **Mr Terence SIU** raised the following views:

- (i) he opined that the Department should step up its efforts for formulating more short-term anti-rodent measures;
- (ii) besides, the Department's breakthrough in rodent control measures could help control rodent infestation. If the Department could gradually improve its surveillance system, it would help improve the rodent infestation problem in the long run; and
- (iii) he hoped that the Department would provide a more detailed report to the District Council three months later (i.e. on the completion of the trial scheme).

58. **Mr Tony NG** raised the following views:

- (i) he said it was pointed out in the press release by the Government that a total of 1 006 dead rodents and 829 rodents were caught in the two-month anti-rodent operation in designated target areas, showing that the problem was severe. However, he believed that the actual situation was more serious than that shown by the above figures as the rodents caught by the public were not included into those figures; and
- (ii) he hoped that the Department would continue with its anti-rodent action and suggested that reference be made to the anti-rodent measures taken in other overseas countries for achieving better effect of rodent control.

59. **Mr Admond YUE** raised the following views:

- (i) he agreed with the views of Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG and opined that works undertaken in the district was the source of the rodent problem; and
- (ii) he suggested that the Department should adopt a new mindset in the choice of more effective rodent baits and made reference to the baits used by private pest control companies. He expected to meet the pest control team at the next meeting for exchanging experience on ways to solve the rodent infestation problem.

60. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) he stated that the night vision camera surveillance system was a way for surveillance but not a way to eliminate rodents. The Department understood the doubts of the public on the figures of the rodent infestation survey and thus it resorted to the information and data collected under the night vision camera surveillance system to analyse and assess the effectiveness of the anti-rodent measures;
- (ii) the Department stated that the press release quoted by the District Council member was the report of the second round of FEHD anti-rodent operation in designated target areas. The Department would continue to conduct regular surveillance and its anti-rodent work would not stop after the completion of certain special operation;
- (iii) the Department stated that the second round of FEHD anti-rodent operation in designated target areas mentioned in the press release was carried out by the Department by re-deploying staff from different sections including the Pest Control Section and the Cleansing and Market Section for enhancing anti-rodent operations in selected areas by eliminating the three survival conditions of rodents namely “food”, “harbourage” and “passage”. In the past two years, anti-rodent operations in designated target areas were carried out by the Department in areas with serious rodent problem including the periphery of To Kwa Wan Market, Hung Hom and Ho Man Tin;
- (iv) every year the Department carried out two 8-week anti-rodent operations in designated target areas and it would continue to carry out such

operations in different designated target areas. Apart from such operations, the Department would continue its regular surveillance and rodent control work;

- (v) the Department would reflect the rodent problem caused by works to the relevant sections and would review the effectiveness of the night vision camera surveillance system pilot scheme on its completion in March 2019. A report would be made to the District Council then; and
- (vi) the Department noted the suggestions on rodent baits made by Mr. Admond YUE and would relay them to the Pest Control Section and try to invite it to the FEHC meeting to answer enquiries by Members.

61. **The Vice-chairman** asked the Department whether it would have any anti-rodent plan on the completion of the 3-month trial of the night vision camera surveillance system or whether it would take measures to address the problem at root on the basis of the surveillance results and publish their results when conducting surveillance.

62. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) the Department stated that the night vision camera surveillance system only played a supplementary role and it was hoped that information on rodent infestation that could not be collected in the regular surveys by the Department would be collected through the night vision camera surveillance system so as to formulate target-oriented anti-rodent plans; and
- (ii) the Department would continue with its regular anti-rodent work during the surveillance period.

63. **Mr Brian TSO, Executive Officer (District Council) 2** of Kowloon City District Office stated that according to the regulations of Home Affairs Department (HAD), the Secretariat after forwarding the meeting agenda and papers to the District Council members, would upload them onto the District Council website for public information and thus the media would also learn of the information.

64. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he stated that he did not deny that the night vision camera surveillance system could serve a purpose but doubted its effectiveness. However, he appreciated the new endeavours by the Department and hoped that more innovative anti-rodent methods would be used by it; and
- (ii) he stated the the night vision camera surveillance system could only oversee the area inside To Kwan Wan Market and in view of the serious rodent infestation problem in the area, it was apparent that surveillance of a small area was not sufficient. It was hoped that the Department would resort to additional means to tackle the rodent infestation problem in the district.

65. **Mr Admond YUE** stated that the Department should keep abreast with time in the choice of rodent baits. The baits now used by the Department had been in use for years and the rodents might have adapted to them making them ineffective. New baits should be used by the Department and reference should be made to the baits used by overseas countries for better anti-rodent effects.

66. **Mr Jimmy LAM** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he pointed out that rodent infestation problem in the district was extremely serious and rodents were seen even in daytime. Thus FEHD should take direct anti-rodent actions. He hoped that the Department would make reference to the anti-rodent measures taken by overseas countries and add an infrared function to the night vision camera surveillance system to kill rodents immediately by infrared light once they were detected by the surveillance system;
- (ii) it was stated in the Department's paper that night vision cameras might be installed in private buildings and enquiries were made on the ways to tackle the rodent problem by the Department once rodents were detected in private buildings, places etc.; and
- (iii) he enquired whether the Department would apply new anti-rodent baits or new technology in private buildings.

67. **Mr Tony NG** hoped that the Department would use the night vision camera

system to gauge the effectiveness of the anti-rodents measures currently in use and enquired about the anti-rodent measures to be taken apart from using baits.

68. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated report as follows:

- (i) the Department's Pest Control Section had been exploring and studying the use of different baits and anti-rodent measures such as using rodent trapping devices driven by pressurised gas on a trial basis and its effect would be examined;
- (ii) the Department would try and assess the effectiveness of each anti-rodent measure and would only consider promoting it in other districts if the effect was found satisfactory;
- (iii) all along, the rodent prevention and control work by the Department only covered public places and the Department had no resources to extend it to private buildings. Active support was given by the Department to other departments to enhance their rodent prevention and control work in places within their purview. However, bound by the contracts, the Department's contractors could only conduct anti-rodent work in public places;
- (iv) the information and data from the night vision camera surveillance system would help analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of the rodent prevention and control measures; and
- (v) the rodent prevention and control measures taken by the Department at present drew references from the proposals and technological guidelines by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to prevent rodent infestation by eliminating the three survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, meaning the elimination of the food sources and hiding places of rodents, as well as blockage of their dispersal route.

69. **The Chairman** hoped that the Department would provide a detailed report on the effectiveness of the night vision camera surveillance system pilot scheme after three months' implementation.

**Proposing to Amend the Law to Deal with Problems at Hygiene Black Spots
(Paper No. 94/18)**

70. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** introduced the paper.

71. **Mr Jimmy LAM** pointed out that a shop in Kai Ming Street, To Kwa Wan had been perpetually placing miscellaneous articles in public places which caused serious obstruction to the public. However, FEHD was unable to exercise control by quoting the street obstruction regulation. It was hoped that FEHD would amend the law to solve the problem.

72. **Ir CHEUNG Yan-hong** pointed out that the present regulation failed to exercise control on shops placing miscellaneous articles in the public places. Thus he agreed that the law should be amended to empower the FEHD staff to immediately remove the miscellaneous articles to enhance deterrence instead of the need to wait for 4 hours to take actions under the present regulation.

73. **Mr Ronald YEUNG** raised the following views:

- (i) thanked the District Office for taking four inter-departmental joint actions to tackle the obstruction problem by miscellaneous articles in his constituency;
- (ii) the inter-departmental joint actions showed that FEHD and the police failed to reach a consensus on the definition of miscellaneous articles resulting in the continued placing of miscellaneous articles on streets by the offenders making use of the loophole and the grey area of the law;
- (iii) corresponding actions in response to the enforcement actions by FEHD were taken by the offenders. In order to remove the articles, a notice requiring their owners to remove them within a specific period of time needed to be placed on them. The offenders would place the articles on a trolley and when they found the notice on the articles they would push the trolley to another place to avoid the articles being removed by staff of the Department;
- (iv) pointed out that if the miscellaneous articles could be definitely defined, the combat actions by FEHD and the police would be effective in tackling

the problem; and

- (v) agreed to law amendment by the Department to wipe out the grey area.

74. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated report as follows:

- (i) street obstruction by shops or goods posed a street management problem involving the purview of different government departments. The main duties of the Department were to maintain environmental hygiene and thus priority would be given to obstructions hindering street cleansing, hawker vending, the illegal expansion of business premises by the food establishments etc. and actions depending on the actual circumstances would be taken;
- (ii) in accordance with s22(1)(a) of the Public Health and Municipal Ordinance (Cap 132) (Ordinance), any person who permits any articles to obstruct cleansing operation, such person shall be guilty of an offence. Under the Ordinance, where any articles so placed would cause obstruction to cleansing, the Authority might serve a notice upon their owner or if the owner could not be found or ascertained, a notice would be served or attached onto the articles requiring him to remove the articles within a period of 4 hours after the service of the notice or attachment of the notice onto the articles;
- (iii) during the routine patrol or actions, if it was found that there were goods or miscellaneous articles placing at the sides of pavements or roads, suitable enforcement actions under the above ordinance would be taken by the Department. In addition, the Department would strengthen prosecution against the offenders littering in the public places in order to maintain environmental hygiene; and
- (iv) the Department noted the above suggestions and would continue to pay heed to environmental hygiene in the district and take appropriate actions.

75. **Mr Ronald YEUNG** was disappointed with the response by the Department and opined that the above problem could only be solved by law amendment to wipe out the grey area.

76. **Mr Jimmy LAM** was disappointed with the response by the Department and took Kai Ming Street in To Kwa Wan as an example, the offender shops would remove the valuable commodities within 4 hours upon service of the notice or attachment of the notice onto the articles in accordance with the requirements under s22(1)(a) of the Public Health and Municipal Ordinance (Cap 132) leaving the refuse to be cleared by FEHD leading to the phenomenon that the Government was assisting the offenders to handle the refuse. He opined that the above phenomenon was unsatisfactory and stressed that the problem could only be effectively tackled by law amendment.

77. **The Chairman** declared that a letter would be sent to the Secretary for Food and Health reflecting Members' views on amending the Public Health and Municipal Ordinance (Cap 132).

(Post-meeting notes: A letter expressing the relevant views was sent to the Secretary for Food and Health on 27 December 2018.)

**Request for the Provision of a Temporary Mobile Toilet During the Renovation Works of the Public Toilet at Shek Kwu Lung Road
(Paper No. 95/18)**

78. **Mr NG Po-keung** introduced the paper.

79. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated report as follows:

- (i) as there was no suitable place for the mobile toilet near the public toilet at Shek Kwu Lung Road and there were sufficient public toilet facilities nearby such as the Lung Kong Road Public Toilet and the public toilet at Shek Ku Lung Road Playground under LCSD for use by the public, the Department thus would not consider providing a mobile toilet at the above location;
- (ii) the department would continue to closely monitor the progress of the renovation works of the public toilet there and would take appropriate measures to reduce inconvenience caused to the public;
- (iii) the Department would conduct an on-site inspection with Mr NG Po-keung to discuss other feasible solution to the problem; and

- (iv) a notice would be put up at the site by the Department showing the way to the nearby public toilet.

80. **Mr NG Po-keung** stated that the renovation works of the public toilet would take half a year and hoped that it would be completed as soon as possible. He also stated that he would have an on-site inspection with the staff of the Department again to discuss the improvement measures.

**Call for Strengthening Tests on Vaccines
(Paper No. 96/18)**

81. **Mr Tony NG** introduced the paper.

82. **Dr Vivian, Senior Medical & Health Officer (Community Liaison) 2 of DH** responded as follows:

- (i) Having noticed a report from Taiwan that a batch of affected influenza vaccines was imported from Taiwan into Hong Kong, immediate response and investigation was made by the Department. Up to the present, the Department received no report on any confirmed adverse incident after receiving vaccination of that batch of vaccines. Also, random testing of about 2 100 samples of influenza vaccines including 1 300 samples from the affected batch revealed that no suspended solids were found in all samples. Other samples were taken by the Department for testing by the Government Laboratory and no foreign object was found. Also, 90 samples were taken for testing of quality by an accredited testing organisation and the result would be announced once it was available;
- (ii) under the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance (Cap 138), pharmaceutical products (including vaccines) must meet the requirements in terms of safety, efficacy and quality and could only be supplied in Hong Kong after approval for registration by the Pharmacy and Poisons Board. The most important and efficient way to guarantee their products to meet the quality and safety requirements by manufacturers was that the medicine should stringently comply with the “Good Manufacturing Practice” (GMP). At present, for the pharmaceutical products registered in Hong Kong, no matter they were manufactured locally or imported, their manufacturers must meet the GMP requirements of the Pharmaceutical Inspection

Cooperation Scheme (PIC/S);

- (iii) According to the guidelines of WHO on the supply of human influenza vaccines permitted in the market in the non-manufacturing countries, the vaccines acquired must be produced in accordance with the GMP requirements and ex-factory quality and safety testing must be conducted by the vaccine manufacturers including screening procedures etc. and the vaccines be distributed in accordance with the Guidelines for Independent Lot Release of Vaccine by Regulatory Authorities;
- (iv) to avoid delay in vaccine importation and supply in the market, no random screening would be conducted by DH when the vaccines were imported and such practice was identical with the international medication control strategy. DH would continue to pay close heed to matters in respect of the latest developments of international control on the vaccines; and
- (v) to lift the doubts of the public, DH had enhanced communication with them on this matter including press release on 27 November, 29 November and 3 December to report updates. The relevant information including tracing the medical institutions that had used the affected vaccines and compiling information, press releases, questions and answers about the Sanofi vaccines, etc. were uploaded onto the website of the Centre for Health Protection of DH. In case of enquiries, members of the public might call the hotline of HA at 2300 6028 and the hotline of DH at 2125 1133.

83. **The Chairman** hoped that the Department would continue to monitor the quality of vaccines prudently.

Strong Request for Additional Allocation of Resources for Improving the Wet and Slippery Condition of the Floor and Bettering the Environment for Business Operation in Hung Hom Market
(Paper No. 97/18)

84. **The Chairman** introduced the Paper.

85. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) to ensure the passage and public places of Hung Hom Market were always kept clean and dry, the market management service contractor of the Department would clean the market at different time slots every day. In addition, the Department had urged the contractor to strengthen patrol and clear the passage of the wet goods area to keep the floor dry. However, the floor would unavoidably get wet because of the operation mode of the wet goods area;
- (ii) regarding the suggestion on the provision of air blowers in Hung Hom Market, the Department for the time being would not consider the provision of air blowers in the wet goods area because its passage was narrow. Notwithstanding that, the Department would increase the speed of the fans for better ventilation inside the market and to keep the place dry. Also, air blowers would be provided at other suitable locations in the market;
- (iii) suitable measures had been taken by the Department to improve the business environment of the market. It was stated by the Financial Secretary in his Budget Speech delivered in February 2018 that 2 billion dollars were reserved for a 10-year Market Modernisation Programme to conduct a comprehensive review on the existing public markets and to upgrade market facilities including the soonest installation of air conditioning systems and overall renovation or re-development for improving the business environment of markets and better use of land resources. Accordingly, the works would include installation of air conditioning system, re-design and re-location of market stalls, re-design of the outlay plan as well as improving drainage systems and fire services installations, electricity supply, toilet facilities, ventilation, illumination, directional signs and changing the floor tiles, provision of barrier-free access, re-painting external walls, escalator and elevator works, etc.;
- (iv) an ad hoc group was formed by the Department for the implementation of the modernisation and revitalisation of public markets as well as for consolidating and formulating appropriate plans and conducting reviews to improve the market facilities and a study on other management measures to enhance the overall business capacity of the markets;
- (v) the Department would also conduct promotion activities to increase

patronage of the public markets including festive celebrations and themed exhibitions, menu in different languages and pamphlets on the latest information about markets. In addition, low-key open auction at the upset rent of stalls remaining vacant for a long time would be held by the Department to boost the letting rate of public market stalls. Took Hung Hom Market as an example, the Department would hold four festive promotion activities at the Chinese New Year, Dragon Boat Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival and Christmas and gifts would also be distributed to attract more customers to boost the patronage so as to increase more business opportunities for stall operators and to provide an enlivened festive atmosphere. The Department would continue to hold promotion activities to improve the patronage of the market;

(vi) regarding the change of floor tiles in the market, discussion would be held with stall operators by the Department through the Market Management Consultation Committees (Consultation Committees); and

(vii) according to the existing measures, installation of air conditioning system in the market needed to be discussed at the relevant meeting of the

(viii)

(ix)

Consultation Committees, a questionnaire survey would be conducted by the Department to assess the support of stall operators towards the suggestion. If there were over 80% of stall operators supporting the suggestion, a technical feasibility assessment would be conducted. The Department would then consider its findings, works scope, cost-effectiveness, the impact on the overall operation of the market and whether stall operators accepted the works details before coming to the decision of approving funds for installation of additional air-conditioning system. If a preliminary consensus was reached between the Consultation Committee and the stall operators, a notice would be sent to the Department requesting discussion at the Committee meeting.

86. **The Chairman** thanked the Department for its detailed response and hoped that the business environment of the market would be bettered.

Obstruction Caused by Packaging of Goods on the Pavement of Dyer Street During Holidays

(Paper No. 99/18)

87. **Ir CHEUNG Yan-hong** introduced the paper.

88. **The Chairman** raised the following views:

- (i) he stated that the street obstruction problem was getting worse and worse and whole pavements were usually completely blocked. The passers-by had to walk on the road and thus their safety was threatened and disturbance was caused to nearby residents;
- (ii) he added that the street obstruction problem also involved commercial activities. It was stated in the Paper that there were logistics companies doing business on Sunday mornings at the above location helping foreign domestic helpers pack and deliver their goods. There was a goods vehicle parking there for loading and unloading goods and street obstruction was caused. He opined that commercial activities should be conducted in private places;
- (iii) he pointed out that the above activities involved foreign domestic helpers and required intervention by the Immigration Department;
- (iv) he expressed that he was shocked by the response of the Department which stated that there was no such situation and he asked the Department for further explanations; and
- (v) he stressed that there was a need to continue inter-departmental actions on Sunday mornings to tackle the problem.

89. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** said that the photos showed that the problem was very serious. According to the report made by the staff responsible for the inter-departmental joint actions, the problem then was not as serious as what was shown in the photos of Paper No. 99/18.

90. **Mr LEE Wai-hong, Sub-Unit Commander (Operations Support) (Hung Hom Division) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF)** stated that on receipt of the above complaint, inter-departmental joint actions were taken by the Police with other departments and it was found that the situation then was not as serious as that shown in the photos. He supplemented that the responsibility of the Police was to assist FEHD to

take enforcement actions and to conduct patrol in nearby streets on the day of the inter-departmental actions and to provide support when necessary. The Police would continue to take inter-departmental actions together with other departments.

91. **Miss Venus SO, Assistant District Officer of Kowloon City District Office** stated that the District Office conducted an inter-departmental joint action at noon on 2 December 2018 (Sunday) with FEHD and the Police and the then situation was not as grave as that shown in the photos. During the inter-departmental joint actions, staff of FEHD washed the streets and the foreign domestic helpers gathering there co-operated with them.

92. **The Chairman** raised the following views:

- (i) the photos of the paper were taken from 10-11 a.m. on Sunday;
- (ii) he stated that the above problem existed for a very long time and would be found every Sunday and it was particularly serious in the morning;
- (iii) it was worried that the problem would aggravate when Christmas was approaching and thus he hoped that the relevant departments would conduct inter-departmental joint actions again as soon as possible and arrange to conduct them at about 10 a.m. on Sunday in order to address the problem effectively; and
- (iv) he said that he would like to have an on-site inspection on Sunday morning with the action officers of different departments.

93. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) she stated that such problem causing obstruction to pedestrians would emerge from 9-10 a.m. every Sunday. Passers-by had to walk on the road and inconvenience would be caused to nearby residents; and
- (ii) she suggested that the relevant departments conducted the inter-departmental joint actions on early Sunday mornings for better effects.

94. **Mr HO Hin-ming** remarked that the above activities used public places for commercial purposes and thus suggested that inter-departmental joint actions against the

operators behind the scene should be taken by the relevant departments to effectively lessen the problem effectively.

95. **Miss Venus SO, Assistant District Officer of Kowloon City District Office** thanked Members for their opinions. She supplemented that the problem was raised by the Hung Hom Area Committee in 2017 and the area committee members, relevant departments and the District Council members had advised the shops in the area not to place their miscellaneous articles outside their shop and inspections were conducted afterwards. The Hung Hom Area Committee would take those actions again before Christmas and Members were welcomed to join an on-site inspection.

96. **The Chairman** stated that the advice failed to make any improvement after so many years and opined that at present the problem had aggravated and had inconvenienced pedestrians. Thus, instead of giving advice, combat actions should be taken by the relevant departments. He asked whether arrangements would again be made by the relevant departments to take inter-departmental joint actions on Sunday mornings.

97. **Mr LEE Wai-hong of HKPF** responded that the Police was willing to cooperate with other departments in taking inter-departmental joint actions and promised to co-ordinate during the actions.

98. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** stated that active coordination with other departments during the inter-departmental joint actions would also be made by the Department.

99. **Miss Venus SO, Assistant District Officer of Kowloon City District Office** stated that coordination for inter-departmental joints actions would be made by the District Office before Christmas and relevant details would be announced as soon as possible.

100. **Ir CHEUNG Yan-hong** stated that advices and combat actions could also be taken in conjunction with the inter-departmental joints actions.

101. **The Chairman** agreed to the views of Ir CHEUNG Yan-hong and hoped that the relevant departments would confirm the date for the inter-departmental joint actions as soon as possible and inform Members. After consulting Members, the Chairman declared that discussion on Paper No. 99/18 would continue at the next meeting in order

to follow up the problem in respect of obstruction caused by packaging of goods on the pavement of Dyer Street during holidays.

Report on the Progress of Installation of Webcam at Hygiene Black Spots in Kowloon City District
(Paper No. 100/18)

102. **The Chairman** said that at its last meeting, FEHC resolved that FEHD should report on the progress of the installation of webcam at hygiene black spots in Kowloon City by means of progress reports.

103. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** introduced the Paper.

104. **Mr Roger KWAN** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he thanked the Department for providing the information and data;
- (ii) he enquired whether additional resources would be provided by the Department for installing webcam at other hygiene black spots; and
- (iii) he enquired the Department whether additional enforcement staff would be deployed to tackle the change in the location of hygiene black spots.

105. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) a review on the effectiveness of the pilot scheme on the installation of webcam in the 18 districts in the territory would be conducted by the Department in 2019 and depending on circumstances, additional webcams might be installed; and
- (ii) if marked improvements were seen at the spots of installation, depending on circumstances and the need, the Department would consider the suggestions of Members to keep the webcams at their original locations for deterrent effects and install webcams with recording function at other locations if necessary.

Report on the Progress of Inter-departmental Joint Operations Taken against Street Obstruction by Shops in Kowloon City

(Paper No. 101/18)

106. **The Chairman** stated that at its last meeting, FEHC resolved that FEHD should report on the progress of inter-departmental joint operations taken against street obstruction by shops in Kowloon City by means of progress reports.

107. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** introduced the paper.

108. **Mr Roger Kwan** raised the following views/enquiries:

- (i) he enquired about the details of the 11 summons served on the offender shops by the Department;
- (ii) he hoped that the relevant departments would make reference to the inter-departmental joint operation taken by the Hung Hom Area Committee for clearer distribution of duties and cooperation;
- (iii) he hoped that the relevant departments would take joint actions in the forefront of the future inter-departmental joint operations to achieve better effects; and
- (iv) he wished that Members would participate.

109. **Mr TSOI Yuen-ming of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) he stated that the Department would actively coordinate with relevant departments to stage inter-departmental joint operations; and
- (ii) he stated that the 11 summons were served on the offender shops placing miscellaneous articles at the road side and dinning tables in the public places.

110. **The Chairman** said that reports on Agenda Item 13 and 14 would continue to be made by means of progress reports at the next meeting and the Department was asked to prepare the relevant papers.

111. **Mr Roger KWAN** supplemented that the Department might invite Members to take part in the inter-departmental joint operations to observe the enforcement effects

after new ways were deployed.

Any Other Business

112. **The Chairman** asked Members to refer to FEHC Paper No. 102/18 on “Progress Report on District Minor Works in Kowloon City District in 2018-19”. The Secretariat had sent the paper to Members via email before the meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

113. **The Chairman** declared that the next meeting would be held on 14 March 2019 (Thursday) and the deadline for the submission of documents was 27 February 2019 (Wednesday). There being no other business, **the Chairman** declared that the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

114. The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 14 March 2019.

Chairman

Secretary

Kowloon City District Council Secretariat
February 2019