

**The 2nd Meeting of  
the Environmental Hygiene and Sustainable Development Committee of  
the Kowloon City District Council**

Date: 19 March 2020 (Thursday)  
Time: 2:30 p.m.  
Venue: Conference Room, Kowloon City District Office

Present:

Chairman: Dr KWAN Ka-lun  
Vice-chairman: Mr MA Hei-pang  
Members: Mr WONG Wing-kit  
Mr LAI Kwong-wai (Arrived at 2:35 p.m.)  
Miss CHAU Hei-man (Arrived at 4:24 p.m.)  
Mr PUN Kwok-wah, JP (Left at 5:13 p.m.)  
Mr LEE Hin-long  
Mr KWOK Tin-lap (Arrived at 2:35 p.m.)  
Mr LAM Tak-shing  
Mr YUM Kwok-tung, Pius  
Mr FUNG Man-tao, Joshua  
Miss MAK Sui-ki, Jakki  
Mr SIU Leong-sing  
Mr HE Huahan (Left at 3:49 p.m.)  
Mr TSANG Kin-chiu  
Mr YEUNG Chun-yu  
The Hon LEE Wai-king, Starry, SBS, JP (Arrived at 5:13 p.m.)  
Mr WONG Kwok-tung, Daniel  
Mr NG Po-keung, MH  
Mr HO Hin-ming, BBS, MH  
Mr CHO Wui-hung, MH (Arrived at 2:40 p.m.)  
Mr CHEUNG King-fan (Left at 5:02 p.m.)  
Mr YANG Wing-kit  
Dr KWONG Po-yin

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

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <u>In Attendance:</u> | Mr TANG Wai-kuen,<br>Samuel | Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) 5, Environmental Protection Department          |
|                       | Mr LAM Ming-wai             | District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kowloon City), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department |
|                       | Ms YEUNG Po-ching,<br>Joyce | Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) 1, Kowloon City                                      |
|                       | Mr WONG Chung-nam           | Deputy District Leisure Manager (Kowloon City) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department              |
|                       | Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Eva       | Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Kowloon City District Office                            |
|                       | Mr LI Chi-him, Samson       | Executive Officer I (District Management), Kowloon City District Office                                 |

Attendance by Invitation:

|         |                              |   |
|---------|------------------------------|---|
| Item 1  | Dr LAM Mei-ye, Jenny         | Chief Executive, Kowloon Hospital and Hong Kong Eye Hospital  |
|         | Dr TSE Wing-sze,<br>Cindy    | Infection Control Officer, Kowloon Central Cluster  |
| Item 2  | Mr KO Tin-lai                | MTR Corporation Limited   |
| Item 7  | Dr LEUNG Wai-yiu,<br>Anthony | Veterinary Officer (Avian Influenza Surveillance), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department |
| Item 12 | Mr WONG Siu-cheung           | Assistant Divisional Commander (Operations) (Hung Hom), Hong Kong Police Force                        |
|         | Mr TSANG Tat-wing            | Assistant Police Community Relations Officer (Kowloon City District)                                  |

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### Opening Remarks

**The Chairman** welcomed Members and representatives of government departments and organisations to the meeting. As regards the representatives of departments, **Mr YU Man Chun, Jeff, Executive Officer I (District Management) of Kowloon City District Office (KCDO)** was posted out and succeeded by **Mr LI**

**Chi-him, Samson; Ms CHAN Foon-chi, Judith, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Kowloon City) 2 of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)** was posted out and succeeded by **Mr WONG Chung-nam**. In addition, he welcomed **Ms YEUNG Po-ching, Joyce, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) 1, Kowloon City** to the meeting. Before proceeding to the discussion of the agenda items, **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 24 members in the Environmental Hygiene and Sustainable Development Committee (EHSDC), once there were less than 12 members present at the meeting, he would terminate the discussion immediately.

### **The Hospital Authority's Overall Anti-epidemic Work and Arrangements for Relevant Services**

#### **Concern over the Whereabouts of Rubbish Bins and the Epidemic Control Measures Adopted at Whampoa MTR Station and Ho Man Tin MTR Station (Paper No. 01/20)**

2. As agenda items 1 and 2 were both related to COVID-19, after consulting Members, the Chairman announced that the two items would be discussed together.

3. **Dr Cindy TSE, Infection Control Officer of the Kowloon Central Cluster (KCC)**, presented the overall anti-epidemic work and arrangements for relevant services of the Hospital Authority (HA), with the details as follows:

- (i) the monitoring of COVID-19 was strengthened since 31 December 2019 and the Emergency Response Level was activated on 25 January 2020. Public hospitals in Hong Kong implemented the strategy of "Early Notification", "Early Isolation" and "Early Diagnosis" to tackle the epidemic;
- (ii) since 19 February, public hospitals expanded the Laboratory Surveillance Programme to cover patients aged 18 or above, attending the Accident and Emergency Departments (AEDs) and the General Out-patient Clinics (GOPCs) with fever, respiratory

symptoms or mild chest infection. And starting from 28 February, the aforesaid programme was extended to cover patients aged below 18 with fever or respiratory symptoms subject to clinical assessment of the physician in charge. Patients would be given a specimen bottle for the collection of deep throat saliva by their own self in the early morning of the following day, which could then be handed to the AEDs and GOPCs for novel coronavirus laboratory testing;

- (iii) only emergency and essential treatment was provided while non-emergency services were postponed. Specialist outpatient clinics would contact patients in stable condition to reschedule their appointments and arrange drug refills for them according to their conditions. Furthermore, public hospitals were in active liaison with private hospitals for the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Programmes so as to divert some of the patients at public hospitals to private hospitals for treatment. As for now, the neonatal jaundice treatment for newborn babies and diagnostic radiology services for cancer patients would be offered in private hospitals;
- (iv) after the activation of the Emergency Response Level, visiting arrangement would be suspended in all public hospitals, while compassionate arrangement would be made for clinical consideration. In addition, all volunteer services and clinical attachment would be suspended in public hospitals. All hospital clusters would review their non-emergency services and carry out service adjustment with a view to reducing the flow of people and the risk of cross-infection. Also, all persons entering public hospitals and clinics were required to put on surgical masks;
- (v) as COVID-19 rapidly spread, there was a fall in the protective gears stockpile. With the arrival of the protective equipment ordered earlier, the curtailment of non-emergency services and the prudent use of protective equipment by frontline healthcare workers, the overall stockpile slightly increased now. Public hospitals were in cooperation with local producers and purchased protection gears from them in order to maintain the stockpile;
- (vi) there were GOPCs listed as Designated Clinics in each of the seven

clusters under HA to divert the large number of patients who sought treatment as a result of the widespread community transmission of the infectious disease. Public hospitals would consider activating the Designated Clinics by phases in accordance with the established contingency measures. These clinics were fully prepared in terms of software and hardware to combat the epidemic; and

- (vii) preliminary suspected cases of COVID-19 would be handled by Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) and Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH). As isolation wards and healthcare team of Infectious Disease Division were provided at QEH, the confirmed cases of COVID-19 at KWH would be transferred to QEH so that it could concentrate on handling initially confirmed cases of COVID-19 while KWH could take care of the recovering patients whose condition had become stable. Patients suffering from other respiratory diseases and requiring rehabilitation services would be sent to Kowloon Hospital, Wong Tai Sin Hospital, Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital and Hong Kong Buddhist Hospital for treatment so that the workload of QEH and KWH would be alleviated.

4. **Dr Jenny LAM, Chief Executive of Kowloon Hospital (KH) and Hong Kong Eye Hospital (HKEH)** presented the arrangements of KH in relation to COVID-19, with the details as follows:

- (i) only psychiatric patients in urgent and unstable condition would be admitted to KH. Newly admitted patients would receive treatment at the same area while being put under medical surveillance for at least 14 days. The hospital would also enquire about their travel history and exposure history, monitor the body temperature of patients and so on as scheduled;
- (ii) KH would help receiving patients in stable condition with tuberculosis and other infectious diseases from QEH and KWH;
- (iii) unless compassionate arrangement was required for patients for clinical consideration, all visiting and home leave arrangements would be suspended. The hospital would also pass necessities to patients at a certain time every day;

- (iv) the telephone follow-up service would be enhanced and clinical teams would proactively reach out to family members of patients to update them on the condition of patients;
- (v) KH had been actively testing the online visiting service to allow family members to make appointments to video visit patients at a certain time and place. The hospital would review the effectiveness of the service and enhance the arrangements from time to time so as to facilitate the communication between patients and their family members;
- (vi) the hospital would, having regard to individual circumstances, increase the number of follow-up visits, strengthen the telephone support and follow-up services, provide evaluation and suggestion for patients and update family members on the condition of the patient timely;
- (vii) KH would enhance the education for the residents at residential care homes and patients by promoting infection control measures, for example, to wash hands frequently and wear a mask when going out and avoid travelling;
- (viii) the Integrated Care and Discharge Support Program would be enhanced to reduce patients' risk of re-admission; and
- (ix) KH would make sure that healthcare workers were provided with proper protective equipment and would also step up training on infection control measures for healthcare workers.

5. **Mr KWOK Tin-lap** introduced Paper No. 1/20.

6. **Mr HO Hin-ming** put forward the following opinions:

- (i) he thanked the representatives of public hospitals for attending the meeting and expressed worries that as the number of imported cases of COVID-19 continued to rise, the representatives would have no time to carry out anti-epidemic work because of attending today's

meeting;

- (ii) he said that complaints were received from the public, stating their failure to connect to the hotlines of public hospitals in order to change the date of follow-up consultations and therefore, he was asked to follow up on the issue. However, his voice mail was not yet responded which showed that the routine services of public hospitals were affected by the epidemic. He hoped that apart from fighting the disease, public hospitals could also maintain the provision of other non-emergency services; and
- (iii) he noted that the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) installed more rubbish bins in Kowloon Tong Station at the end of 2019 upon his request. However, those stainless steel rubbish bins were subsequently left on rails, causing unnecessary danger while disrupting railway operations. He agreed with MTRCL's decision of taking reference from the practice of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to use rubbish bins made of plastic instead of stainless steel in order to maintain hygiene.

7. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** declared that she was a doctor of HA and raised the following opinions / enquires:

- (i) she pointed out that countries around the world had stopped exporting face masks and protective equipment while the N95 respirators prepared to be shipped could not be delivered as well. She enquired public hospitals whether they had any corresponding plan and had evaluated the impacts incurred;
- (ii) she noted that certain checkups for patients at hospitals would have to be postponed due to the insufficient supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). She requested public hospitals to provide the schedule and current progress of manufacturing PPE in Hong Kong; and
- (iii) she remarked that the 25 new COVID-19 cases on 18 March were the result of the return of a large amount of overseas students. She estimated that the number of confirmed cases would increase and

therefore, she asked QEH about the number of bed-days utilised and their contingency measures.

8. **Mr Pius YUM** gave the following views:

- (i) he pointed out that HA did not send representatives to attend the discussion of the relevant agenda item on 21 January. According to the facebook page of the Hospital Authority Employees Alliance (HAEA), HA sent an e-mail to the staff who went on strike on 26 February, asking them whether they participated in the strike or were absent from work. Therefore, he would like to enquire HA on behalf of the staff about the purpose of sending the above e-mail in this meeting; and
- (ii) he asked HA whether they would regard the strike taken by HAEA from 3 February to 7 February as absence from duty.

9. **Dr Cindy TSE of KCC** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) she pointed out that HA had been closely monitoring the stockpile of protective gears, and the global transport and logistic services for protective equipment were badly affected. Also, the supply of raw materials for manufacturing protective equipment were inadequate. In view of this, countries around the world had begun to produce protective equipment with a view to fulfilling the demands;
- (ii) production of PPE in Hong Kong saw progress as some local manufacturers were willing to produce them. In addition, the mask production lines of the Government had started operating. She believed that PPE produced in Hong Kong could alleviate the insufficient supply of protective gears;
- (iii) as HA had a better understanding of COVID-19 now, they had begun to teach its staff how to make good use of N95 respirators, to get as much protection as possible so as to tide over the epidemic;
- (iv) the isolation wards in the district were mainly set up at QEH and KWH and both hospitals would collaborate with each other to

allocate beds. KWH could only provide 48 isolation beds as it was under redevelopment at the moment, while isolation beds in QEH exceeded 100; and

- (v) confirmed cases would be mainly admitted to QEH. There were 10 to 15 patients receiving treatment at QEH at the moment and they would be discharged one after another upon recovery. If the suspected cases of COVID-19 were tested negative, people involved would be discharged or transferred to other wards and therefore, the number of isolation wards should be enough to cope with the situation. The Authority would deploy 1 400 isolation beds flexibly subject to actual circumstances.

10. **Dr Jenny LAM of KH and HKEH** made a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) to focus the resources to combat COVID-19, KH had already reviewed every non-emergency and non-essential service and implemented a series of special measures, which included adjusting the service capacity, stepping up infection control, reducing the service capacity of specialist outpatient clinics gradually, and deferring elective surgeries and non-emergency examinations;
- (ii) non-emergency services like elective surgeries, examinations and clinic appointments would be postponed, except for emergency and essential treatment;
- (iii) the hospital operated hotline services for public enquiries, so citizens could also contact the hospital concerned directly to make appropriate arrangement;
- (iv) she thanked Members for their concern over HA's response actions against COVID-19. She explained that as she was busy working on anti-epidemic work earlier, she could not attend the meeting and could only answer Members' enquiries by a written reply;
- (v) at the beginning of February, the Authority was notified by colleagues from different departments that they would be participating an industrial action. Therefore, HA carried out response plans in

different departments and deployed staff so that emergency and essential services would not be largely affected. The colleagues later returned to work gradually; and

- (vi) HA would find out the reason why certain colleagues were absent from work in accordance with human resource policies and follow up on individual cases. She emphasised that such practice was legal, reasonable and rational.

11. **Mr KO Tin-lai of MTRCL** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) under the raging epidemic, MTRCL placed great concern on the hygiene condition of MTR stations and train compartments. The safety and health of passengers and staff were the prime considerations of MTRCL;
- (ii) MTRCL had been closely monitoring the development of the epidemic and had stepped up their anti-epidemic work since the beginning of this year, which included stepping up cleansing and disinfection efforts in all MTR stations and trains, and enhancing the protective equipment for station staff;
- (iii) the frequency of MTRCL's disinfection work at every station had been further increased to once every two hours. Cleaning workers would clean places which passengers frequently came into contact with, like escalators, ticket machines and lifts with 1:99 diluted bleach. Inside MTR stations, fresh air intake would be increased and anti-epidemic information would be displayed through the passenger information display system;
- (iv) MTRCL noted that residents in the district had opinions and enquiries on this agenda item. The Company pointed out that as the railway network and facilities were constantly vandalised before, the use of a large amount of station facilities was affected, say, the rubbish bins and recycle bins at stations being removed. After continuous assessments, examinations and arrangements on the locations of facilities in stations, the Company decided to temporarily remove the related facilities at certain stations depending on the circumstances.

The Company had no plans of refurbishing the rubbish bins at Whampoa Station and Ho Man Tin Station at present;

- (v) MTRCL would adopt necessary arrangements on the refurbishment of rubbish bins according to the actual circumstances and the longstanding assessment practice. There were still rubbish bins inside the paid area of stations. He appealed for Members' understanding; and
- (vi) the above arrangements were made to ensure the safe and normal operation of trains.

12. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** suggested that public hospitals should use the "HA Go" application to solve the problem of engaged phone lines.

13. **Dr Jenny LAM of KH and HKEH** thanked **Dr KWONG Po-yin** for her opinions and said that she would deliver her suggestions to relevant departments like the information technology department.

14. **Mr Pius YUM** put forward the following opinions / enquiries:

- (i) he expressed worries about the Authority's act of meeting each staff in person one by one as he expected that the action tended to create white terror;
- (ii) he pointed out that the industrial action undertaken by the trade union was legal and questioned the Authority for the reason of meeting each staff in person one by one during the anti-epidemic period;
- (iii) he quoted the information from HAEA and pointed out that the staff who participated in the strike had signed attendance to the Authority immediately after the strike;
- (iv) he asked HA whether going on strike was equivalent to absence from duty; and
- (v) he reckoned that PPP could alleviate the pressure of public hospitals and long-term development of it should be considered. He enquired

if HA had already implemented PPP and welcomed the Authority to provide the information about PPP and the number of neonatal jaundice treatment for newborn babies and radiotherapy treatment for cancer patients later.

15. **Mr HO Hin-ming** hoped that public hospitals could take the elderly users into consideration by keeping the telephone service and reducing the time for waiting for replies.

16. **Dr Jenny LAM of KH and HKEH** made a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) she remarked that the Authority tried to understand individual's reasons of absence from duty and do follow-ups in accordance with human resource policies;
- (ii) she stated that she would take into account of patients in different age groups and make corresponding contact arrangements;
- (iii) she added that patients in stable condition could undergo non-emergency examinations or drug refill service later; and
- (iv) she said that she would provide supplementary information about PPP after the meeting.

17. **Mr TSANG Kin-chiu** aired the following views:

- (i) he expressed disappointment over the Authority for avoiding the question of Mr Pius YUM;
- (ii) he criticised the Authority for exerting pressure on staff who participated in the strike and had repeatedly claimed the strike action as absence from duty. He reiterated that the reason behind the strike taken by HAEA was that they hoped the Government would quash the virus at source; and
- (iii) as the strike was a legal one, it would be protected under the Basic Law.

18. **Mr LEE Hin-long** concurred with **Mr TSANG Kin-chiu**'s opinions and said he hoped that the Authority would give a clear answer on whether retaliatory actions would be taken.

19. **Dr Jenny LAM of KH and HKEH** restated that the Authority would deal with the matter and follow up on colleagues who went on strike in accordance with human resource policies and in a legal, reasonable and rational manner. She said that no updates could be presented at the moment but she would relay the enquiries to the relevant department.

(Post-meeting notes: HA had responded to Mr Pius YUM's request for supplementary information: HA was in proactive discussion with private healthcare institutions to talk about the feasibility of providing clinical services to the patients of HA. For example, HA had made contract with private hospitals in order to commence PPP and diverted part of the patients at public hospitals to private hospitals for treatment. As at 25 March 2020, HA had referred 47 babies to private hospitals for neonatal jaundice treatment and three cancer patients for radiotherapy treatment.)

### **The Environmental Hygiene Conditions in Private Streets (Paper No. 02/20)**

20. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** introduced Paper No. 02/20.

21. **Mr NG Po-keung** raised the following opinions:

- (i) he received a large amount of complaints about the hygiene condition at private premises and he had also informed FEHD that dead rodents were found on the rooftop of a three-nil building but the Department indicated that they could not take action as the building had no management staff; and
- (ii) as citizens expressed great worries under the raging epidemic, he hoped that the Department could also place concern on the hygiene condition of three-nil buildings apart from private streets and help with the clean-up of rubbish.

22. **Mr LAM Tak-shing** put forward the following views:

- (i) he hoped that the Department could spare no efforts in providing assistance and follow up on the environmental hygiene problem so as to safeguard public safety; and
- (ii) he remarked that apart from the locations mentioned by **Mr NG Po-keung**, there were also hygiene problems at public yards and podiums. He hoped that the Department would follow up on the issue.

23. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) he said that the environmental hygiene problem within the area of private lanes should fall under the responsibility of property owners or occupants concerned and they should solve the problem on their own; and
- (ii) in view of the COVID-19 epidemic situation, the Department would provide limited cleansing and washing services to private streets that lacked management on an exceptional basis.

24. **Mr NG Po-keung** thanked the Department for their willingness to provide limited cleansing services and asked about the solution if the buildings concerned were private property.

25. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** said that for the aforementioned case, one could contact the Department for follow-up actions. If it was a serious hygiene problem, the Department would provide limited cleansing services. If not, the property owners or occupants concerned had the responsibility to deal with the problem on their own.

26. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** gave the following views:

- (i) he understood that the Department had limited resources but he requested FEHD to provide cleansing services in the light of the actual conditions of private streets and three-nil buildings; and
- (ii) he pointed out that it was difficult to look for the property owners or occupants concerned to take up the responsibility and solve the problem on their own, and thus, he hoped that the Department could

offer assistance.

27. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** restated that the Department had already provided a one-off cleansing service in view of the actual hygiene condition of private streets. To root out all problems, the property owners or occupants concerned had to come up with a long-term solution together.

**Request for Following up the Rodent Problem in Whampoa District  
(Paper No. 03/20)**

**Request for Following up the Rodent Problem in Whampoa Garden  
(Paper No. 04/20)**

**Call for the Department to Follow up the Rodent Problem Actively  
(Paper No. 05/20)**

28. As agenda items 4 to 6 were related to the rodent problem, after consulting Members, the Chairman announced that the abovementioned items would be discussed together.

29. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** presented Papers No. 03/20 and No. 04/20.

30. **Mr MA Hei-pang** presented Paper No. 05/20.

31. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** raised the following views:

- (i) he quoted a newspaper article saying that it cost an average of \$4,000 for the Department to eliminate one rat. Thus, Members had suggested outsourcing the anti-rodent work to genuine anti-rodent experts on many occasions. He also challenged the current anti-rodent policies of the Department and pointed out that if the baits they used had been effective, the rodent infestation would not have become so severe; and
- (ii) the Department must consider their anti-rodent measures seriously. He added that the works in the surrounding area further aggravated rodent infestation in public housing estates.

32. **Mr YEUNG Chun-yu** delivered the following opinions:

- (i) he remarked that the rodent problem had been discussed in the previous term of KCDC for multiple times. He believed that the constituencies of Members were all affected by a varying degree of rodent infestation and the problem was particularly serious in Lok Man District, and thus, he asked the Department to provide new anti-rodent measures. In addition, he appreciated the effectiveness of the anti-rodent operations conducted in designated areas during the last term of KCDC. However, the rodent problem remained severe in this district; and
- (ii) due to the fact that the speed of rodent elimination could not catch up with the breeding rate of rodents, he was worried that the rodent infestation would cause the spread of the epidemic.

33. **Mr LAM Tak-shing** put forward the following views:

- (i) he concurred with the opinion of **Mr YEUNG Chun-yu** and expressed appreciation to the Department for the continuous updates and improvement on the methods for eliminating rodents. Nonetheless, these methods had been rather ineffective. The Department must therefore try other strategies to eliminate and capture rodents or consider hiring anti-rodent experts;
- (ii) he suggested that the Department should exchange anti-rodent methods with citizens in order to seek effective ways to eliminate rodents;
- (iii) he asked the Department to evaluate the effectiveness of the traditional baits with reference to the actual data and upgrade their anti-rodent equipment, such as using microwave rodent trapping devices and new baits; and
- (iv) he stated that the hygiene problem at rear lanes and the handling of food waste from restaurants both gave rise to rodent infestation. He urged the Department to input additional resources to deal with the aforementioned issue.

34. **Mr LEE Hin-long** agreed with Members' opinions and pointed out that the

serious rodent problem at redeveloping areas were related to infrastructures. He hoped that the Department could pay special attention to the redevelopment areas, such as Kai Ming Street, Hung Fook Street and Yuk Shing Street in To Kwa Wan South constituency.

35. **Mr HO Hin-ming** aired the following views:

- (i) he recalled that the Department appealed to every district to conduct clean-up campaigns in the previous term of KCDC so as to remove the food sources of rodents. He questioned if such campaigns could starve them to death and reiterated that the demand of Members was to eliminate rodents instead of driving them away; and
- (ii) he demanded the Department to provide the data of rodents' breeding rate and added that as the speed of anti-rodent work could not keep up with the breeding rate of rodents, the most important thing was to slow down their breeding rate.

36. **Mr NG Po-keung** raised the following opinions:

- (i) he said that laying poison baits at rat holes could only lessen instead of rooting out the problem. He requested the Department to notify the Highways Department (HyD) to fill the rat holes once they were discovered; and
- (ii) he reckoned as the food waste of restaurants contributed to rodent infestation at rear lanes, the Department should step up the inspection of the hygiene condition of the restaurants in public housing estates and educate restaurants the proper way of handling food waste and rubbish.

37. **Mr Pius YUM** voiced out the following comments / enquiries:

- (i) there were lots of coffin shops in the Hung Hom old district and people would dispose of the offerings remained at rear lanes, such as roasted pork and chicken;
- (ii) the restaurants at Hung Hom Bay Centre and Bulkeley Street often

disposed of food waste and sundry items on pavements. He had also received complaints from the residents of Hung Hom Bay Centre on the presence of rodents at their home, and therefore, he urged the Department to step up warning against the restaurants in the area; and

- (iii) he enquired the Department whether they would recruit more staff to carry out rodent elimination apart from increasing equipment. He reckoned the Department's existing practice was insufficient to deal with the prevailing rodent problem and hoped that the Department would allocate more resources to purchase rodent trapping devices.

38. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** made a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) the Department had always been concerned about the rodent situation in Kowloon City District, and thus, they would organise two large-scale anti-rodent campaigns, two anti-rodent operations in designated target areas and a large-scale cleaning campaign every year. Besides carrying out regular rodent prevention and control work, which included cleaning streets, trapping and poisoning rodents, and filling rat holes, the Department would also deploy staff to inspect housing estates and private buildings from time to time and provide suggestions on rodent control work to the responsible persons and building managers;
- (ii) to step up the anti-rodent work in Kowloon City District, the Department had been monitoring rodent activities at the rear lanes in the district with thermal imaging camera systems on a trial basis since January 2020. They would mainly monitor the rear lanes at night or during early hours with a view to finding out the hiding places of rodents and looking into the rodent situation in the district. The Department would take corresponding actions having regard to the monitoring result in order to enhance the effectiveness of the rodent prevention and control work;
- (iii) since mid-2019, the Department had strengthened the monitoring of restaurants and stepped up publicity and education on maintaining environmental hygiene in restaurants. During July to December 2019, the Department instituted 139 prosecutions against non-

compliant restaurants and promised to adopt stringent enforcement actions against non-compliant restaurants;

- (iv) the Department had set up the Pest Control Advisory Section to study rodent prevention and disinfestation methods. Moreover, Food and Health Bureau (FHB) had established the Pest Control Steering Committee to coordinate different departments and bring together efforts of the relevant departments in conducting anti-rodent work;
- (v) he noted Members' opinions on the bait and stated that the Department had also used BBQ pork and fruits as baits apart from using sweet potatoes and grilled squids, yet the result was not remarkable. The Department would keep trying out new baits;
- (vi) the Department had deployed staff to redevelopment areas for regular inspection. If signs of rodent infestation were discovered, FEHD would coordinate with the relevant departments;
- (vii) the Department would inform HyD to fill the rat holes;
- (viii) the Department would send staff to remind relevant shops to pay attention to hygiene issues in response to the Ching Ming festival; and
- (ix) as for pest control, there were 13 pest control teams in the district. The Department would also make continuous adjustment in the light of the actual circumstances.

39. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** gave the following opinions:

- (i) he reckoned that the anti-rodent measures of FEHD were ineffective and suggested the Department to hire external anti-rodent experts and conduct assessment on their performance;
- (ii) he said that he had attempted to use BBQ pork to trap rodents and the result was proven successful. Therefore, he expressed doubt over the Department's statement about BBQ pork being ineffective as a bait; and

(iii) he hoped the Department would take Members' opinions seriously.

40. **Mr LAM Tak-sing** put forward the following views:

- (i) he concurred with **Mr YANG Wing-kit's** opinions and pointed out that despite a huge input of resources by the Department, the results were not effective at all;
- (ii) he hoped the Department would carry out regular assessment and reviewed the work of pest control teams so as to understand the rodent situation in the district;
- (iii) he asked the Department to deploy staff to strengthen the regular anti-rodent, publicity and education work, or to form task forces for law enforcement actions; and
- (iv) he requested the Department to put up notices in a bid to warn citizens that the act of illegal refuse disposal would lead to prosecution.

41. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** raised the following opinions:

- (i) she thanked FEHD for their efforts and noted that Members placed great concern on the rodent problem; and
- (ii) she asked the Department to provide the expenditure on pest control in Kowloon City District in the past year and the estimates for this quarter.

42. **Mr Pius YUM** delivered the following views:

- (i) he thought that the prevailing measures of FEHD was inadequate to solve the problem of leftover offerings from Ching Ming Festival in spring and Chung Yeung Festival in autumn;
- (ii) he hoped the Department would send staff to coffin shops and teach them how to handle leftover offerings; and

- (iii) he emphasised that the Department must step up their efforts in advising the restaurants in the area to eliminate rodent nuisance.

43. **Mr WONG Wing-kit** quoted the statement of an expert, saying that the body of a rodent would produce a secretion after being trapped in cages that could alert other rodents. He reckoned that the anti-rodent work of FEHD was ineffective because their cages might contain leftover secretion, causing other rodents to avoid these cages. He asked the Department how they would handle the used cages.

44. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) he thanked Members' opinions and stated that the Department had adopted new technologies on anti-rodent work which were believed to be more effective than the past anti-rodent methods. He reiterated that the Department was willing to use new technologies on anti-rodent work;
- (ii) the Department would relay Members' opinions to the Pest Control Steering Committee and carry out studies;
- (iii) FEHD would try to deploy staff to form task forces, which would step up inspection on the rear lanes of restaurants and prosecute non-compliant restaurants;
- (iv) the Department would display notices at conspicuous spots to raise the hygiene awareness of the residents nearby;
- (v) he pointed out that the pest control work in Kowloon City District was a collective effort. The Department currently spent around \$1,000,000 per month on outsourced contracts and would provide other information for Members' reference after the meeting;
- (vi) the Department promised to remind shops in the funeral business and restaurants to properly handle offerings and food waste; and
- (vii) FEHD believed that the residual odour of rats would not be left on cages, which must be disinfected before reuse.

45. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** enquired the Department whether they spent \$1,000,000 per month only on outsourced contracts for Kowloon City District and whether the manpower cost was included in it. She also reckoned that the anti-rodent resources allocated to every district were insufficient.

46. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** explained that the \$1,000,000 monthly expense consisted of manpower cost, resources for outsourced teams and anti-mosquito cost and noted that the resources allocated exceeded those in the past few years. In addition, the pest control team members were not ordinary workers as they were required to undergo training and obtain certificate.

47. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** held the following opinions / enquiries:

- (i) she enquired the Department whether they would monitor the service performance of contractors so as to decide on the reappointment;
- (ii) she reckoned that the allocation of \$40,000 for each district was not enough to roll out a large-scale anti-rodent campaign; and
- (iii) she hoped the Department would provide the selection criteria of contractors.

48. **Mr Pius YUM** agreed with **Dr KWONG Po-yin's** views and wished that the current term of KCDC could allocate most resources on policies for improving people's livelihood.

49. **The Chairman** noted that plague could bring a very high death toll and hoped that the Department would understand the gravity of the rodent problem. He also asked the Department about the root cause of the rodent problem and the reason why FEHD was unable to eliminate rodent nuisance.

50. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** gave the following views:

- (i) he concurred with FEHD's decision of putting more resources on anti-rodent work;
- (ii) he quoted a newspaper article saying that the crux of the problem was whether the resources were deployed effectively to eradicate rodents;

and

- (iii) he wished the Department would take into consideration Members' suggestions seriously in order to prevent the occurrence of plague in Kowloon City District.

51. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** made a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) he noted Members' opinions and said the Department would provide supplementary information of the estimated expenditure after the meeting;
- (ii) he added that the \$1,000,000 monthly expense was only spent on outsourced contracts. To carry out the rodent prevention and control work effectively, the collaboration between FEHD and the cleansing contractors was necessary apart from relying on the efforts of the pest control teams of outsourced contractors. The estimated expenditures involved would be provided after the meeting;
- (iii) the Department believed that anti-rodent work could not be the only thing to count on in order to combat the rodent problem. Therefore, they would strengthen education and publicity, and would also eliminate the three survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages so as to eradicate rodents; and
- (iv) FEHD believed that effective rodent prevention and control could be achieved by cleaning public spaces, trapping and poisoning rodents, etc. The Department also appealed citizens to properly handle rubbish in order to combat the rodent problem.

(Post-meeting notes: The current monthly expenditure of FEHD on the pest control work in Kowloon City District was around \$2,100,000, of which around \$1,480,000 would be spent on outsourced service contracts.)

**Request for Addressing the Problem of Congregation of Wild Birds in the District Actively**  
**(Paper No. 06/20)**

52. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** introduced Paper No. 06/20.

53 **Mr YANG Wing-kit** raised the following opinions:

- (i) he concurred with **Mr Lai Kwong-wai's** opinions;
- (ii) he reckoned that stopping people from feeding wild birds was the key; and
- (iii) he took the person in Lok Man district who turned a deaf ear to repeated advice as an example and opined that the deterrent effect of prosecutions through the issuance of fixed penalty tickets was insufficient. Thus, he wished that the Department could step up enforcement.

54. **Mr LAM Tak-shing** enquired whether the Department had a coordination mechanism and how the Department would follow up on complaints.

55. **Mr LAM Ming-wai, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kowloon City) of FEHD,** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Department had all along been concerned about the environmental hygiene problems caused by people who always fed wild birds in Kowloon City District and had conducted inspections from time to time. However, the Department could only initiate prosecutions against the relevant persons with sufficient evidences gathered;
- (ii) in the last six months, the Department had issued four fixed penalty tickets to persons found to have dirtied public areas while feeding birds in the district, including the prosecution made on 13 March against a person found to have dirtied public areas while feeding birds; and

- (iii) the Department would deploy staff to step up inspection and publicity and education work and put up warning notices at prominent positions to remind members of the public not to feed wild birds and dirty public places.

56. **Mr PUN Kwok-wah** requested the Department to grasp the information about bird-feeding black spots in Kowloon City District and suggested the Department to focus resources to handle the problem at relevant black spots or prioritise black spots for action.

57. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** held the view that the law enforcement actions taken by the Department were not stringent enough and people were not deterred by being fined. He requested the Department to resolve the problem of bird feeding in Lok Man district and he was worried that the congregation of wild birds would increase the risk of spreading viruses.

58. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** put forward the following opinions:

- (i) he enquired about the locations where prosecutions were made by the Department;
- (ii) he pointed out that Ma Tau Wai Road / Ma Hang Chung Road Rest Garden was under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and thus he enquired whether FEHD would follow up the hygiene problem at the site;
- (iii) he asked about the details of the two enforcement actions taken by LCSD and whether prosecutions were made successfully; and
- (iv) he queried how the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) would solve the problem of wild bird congregation.

59. **Mr TSANG Kin-chiu** raised the following views:

- (i) he agreed with **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** and commented that the prosecution number was unsatisfactory;

- (ii) he pointed out that when having an interview to the media in Essex Crescent Rest Garden, he discovered that more than 50 pigeons congregated on the exterior walls of nearby buildings;
- (iii) he wished that FEHD could carry out joint enforcement actions with other departments and provide further assistance such as cleaning the exterior walls of buildings; and
- (iv) he disagreed with **Mr YANG Wing-kit** and reckoned that the Government could educate the public more to let them understand the risk of feeding wild birds.

60. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** stated that the Department was willing to allocate more resources to step up enforcement.

61. **Mr WONG Chung-nam, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Kowloon City) 2 of LCSD**, said that in the recent two enforcement actions taken in Ma Tau Wai Road / Ma Hang Chung Road Rest Garden, the Department did not find any persons feeding wild birds and thus no penalty tickets were issued.

62. **Dr Anthony LEUNG, Veterinary Officer (Avian Influenza Surveillance) of AFCD**, made a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) upon receiving complaints on pigeons, the Department would collect samples at the site for avian influenza virus testing and refer the complaints to the relevant departments for further follow-ups according to the actual situation;
- (ii) the Department would suggest members of the public some ways for preventing birds from flying into their homes and provide pigeon repellent liquid;
- (iii) to address bird-feeding activities, the Department was broadcasting TV and Radio Announcements in the Public Interest and micro films on different media platforms and a dedicated website was also launched to enhance publicity; and
- (iv) the Department hoped to carry out inspections and conduct education

and publicity with other departments in April with a view to enhancing the awareness of people in the district.

63. **Mr YANG Wing-kit** pointed out that the person living in Lok Man district always fed wild birds at the abovementioned location and thus he opined that the Department should take prosecution against him.

64. **Mr TSANG Kin-chiu** supplemented that the Department did not have a statutory basis to initiate targeted prosecution actions and he wished that AFCD could provide more information about the sample packs of pigeon repellent liquid.

65. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** voiced the following opinions:

- (i) he concurred with **Mr TSANG Kin-chiu**'s opinions;
- (ii) he suggested FEHD and LCSD to use the pigeon repellent liquid applied by AFCD;
- (iii) he kept asking about the locations where fixed penalty tickets were issued by FEHD and whether prosecutions would be made in areas managed by LCSD; and
- (iv) he requested LCSD to conduct reviews on the two enforcement actions.

66. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** was of the view that LCSD should conduct education and publicity for targeted persons such as persons feeding wild birds.

67. **Dr Anthony LEUNG of AFCD** gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) he pointed out that the effectiveness of pigeon repellent liquid was affected by the surrounding environment;
- (ii) the Department would provide sample packs of pigeon repellent liquid for use by owners' corporations and management companies after the meeting;
- (iii) he noted **Dr KWONG Po-yin**'s opinions. However, the general

education and publicity work was to advise people not to feed birds;  
and

- (iv) he stated that he would explore opportunities to conduct joint operations with the relevant departments and make an attempt to educate people who had been feeding pigeons for a long time.

68. **Mr WONG Chung-nam of LCSD** made a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Department would hang banners and put up notices at conspicuous spots in Ma Tau Wai Road / Ma Hang Chung Road Rest Garden to remind the public not to feed wild birds and it would also carry out cleansing work in a timely manner;
- (ii) during enforcement operations, the Department would deploy staff to inspect the Rest Garden but people would stop feeding wild birds once they noticed that the departmental staff were carrying out an inspection. Thus, it became more difficult to make prosecutions; and
- (iii) during the enforcement operation on 16 March, the Department discovered that some people were feeding wild birds outside the Rest Garden and thus prosecutions could not be instituted.

69. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Department had issued four fixed penalty tickets to persons found to have dirtied public areas while feeding birds in the past six months and the detailed locations where prosecutions were made would be provided after the meeting;
- (ii) the Department would initiate prosecutions against bird-feeding activities near Ma Tau Wai Road / Ma Hang Chung Road Rest Garden. If bird-feeding activities took place in the parks managed by LCSD, staff from LCSD should be responsible for following up; and
- (iii) the Department would take prosecution actions based on actual circumstances.

70. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** requested LCSD to review the enforcement actions in a bid to avoid the identities of the departmental staff from being exposed.

71. **Mr WONG Chung-nam of LCSD** undertook that the Department would review the enforcement actions.

(Post-meeting notes: Locations where FEHD had taken enforcement actions in the past six months included the sitting-out area at the junction of Pak Tai Street and Ma Tau Wai Road (one case), the junction of Chatham Road North and Baker Street (one case) and King Wan Street (two cases) in Kowloon City District.)

**Urging the Department to Follow up the Problem of Nuisances Caused to Residents by the Installation of Lighting and Display Panels on Commercial Buildings in Kai Tak and Kowloon Bay**  
(Paper No. 07/20)

72. **Mr CHEUNG King-fan** introduced Paper No. 07/20.

73. **Dr KWONG Po-yin's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) she stated that light nuisance was a common problem in Hong Kong. She had reflected to the Department in the meetings of the previous term of KCDC that since the light of LED lamps commonly used in new buildings was very strong and buildings in Hong Kong were packed together, residents were greatly affected at night; and
- (ii) she noted that the Environment Bureau (ENB) was reviewing the Charter on External Lighting and had collected public opinions. Thus, she enquired about the progress of the review on the Charter on External Lighting and whether the Charter would enter the legislative stage upon the consent by KCDC.

74. **Mr Samuel TANG, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) 5 of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD)** stated that the working group of ENB would complete the review and submit the report as soon as possible. He wished that the relevant work could be finished within this year and the working group would give some suggestions. As regards the legislative timetable, ENB would

consider proceeding to the next stage of work based on the assessment results.

75. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** raised the following opinions:

- (i) she said that the public consultation on the review of the Charter on External Lighting was completed last year and she enquired whether the Department had any preliminary findings or opinions. Since the problem had persisted for a long period of time and had been discussed in the previous term of several district councils, the Bureau should understand the public views well;
- (ii) she opined that light pollution was a pressing territory-wide problem and the deadline of completing the review within this year was too late. As the legislative stage would only commence after the Bureau had completed the review and the assessment successively, the time needed would be much longer. Thus, she hoped that the Bureau could complete the review as soon as possible so that the legislative stage could begin with a view to addressing the disturbances suffered by residents; and
- (iii) she enquired whether the Bureau would launch a pilot scheme or an interim review, and whether criteria would be set to specify the maximum luminance level, the time or the minimum distance between buildings at which lighting was allowed so that the responsible persons of the buildings could follow; and
- (iv) the Department was currently giving advice to the responsible persons to handle the problem of light pollution. However, she noted that some persons responsible for the management of commercial buildings made no changes and the light pollution problem still caused nuisances to residents.

76. **Mr Samuel TANG of EPD** remarked that he noted **Dr KWONG Po-yin's** views and would relay them to the relevant section for follow-ups. He would notify her if there were any updates.

**The Nuisances to Residents Caused by the Demolition Work of the China Travel  
(Cargo) Logistics Centre  
(Paper No. 08/20)**

77. **Mr Pius YUM** presented Paper No. 08/20.

78. **Mr Samuel TANG of EPD** made a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the departmental staff had learnt about the situation from the contractor responsible for the demolition work and did not find, during inspections, that the contractor used powered mechanical equipment to carry out the works in the specified time period;
- (ii) **Mr Pius YUM** had reflected to me at an earlier time that residents thought that it was too early to start the works at 8 a.m. The departmental staff had relayed the concerns of residents on the noises produced by the works to the contractor and advised the contractor to conduct noisy works at a later time in the morning and adopt practical measures to minimise the noise impacts on residents in Royal Peninsula; and
- (iii) according to his experience, the contractor would generally adopt practical measures to minimise the noise impacts on nearby residents.

79. **Mr Pius YUM** enquired when the demolition works would be completed and apart from the restriction on the time periods, whether there were other regulations on noises produced by construction sites under the existing policies implemented by the Department.

80. **Mr Samuel TANG of EPD** stated that based on the information provided by the contractor, the noisy works procedures of the demolition works at the abovementioned site would be completed by the end of March or the beginning of April. Pursuant to the Noise Control Ordinance, the use of powered mechanical equipment for conducting general construction works was prohibited at restricted hours, i.e. between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. and any time on general holidays (including Sundays), unless a construction noise permit was obtained. The Department would also request the contractor to adopt practical measures at non-restricted hours such as retrofitting noise barriers to minimise the nuisances to nearby residents.

81. **Mr Pius YUM's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) he wished that the Department could reflect to the contractor that noises should be reduced as much as possible when carrying out the redevelopment after the demolition works were completed so as to minimise the nuisances brought to residents; and
- (ii) the Government had withdrawn the proposal for redeveloping the abovementioned site into a hotel owing to the objection of residents. He requested the Secretariat to enquire whether the Lands Department (LandsD) noted the matter and hoped that LandsD could inform Members the use of the site upon the demolition of the existing structures.

(Post-meeting notes: District Lands Office, Kowloon West had given a reply on the use of the site of the China Travel (Cargo) Logistics Centre after redevelopment in Document No. 12 tabled as follows: the China Travel (Cargo) Logistics Centre was located at Lot No. 10663 in Kowloon. According to the lease conditions, the site would be allocated for the development of a hotel later and the relevant land lease was kept in LandsD.)

**Urging the Environmental Protection Department to Follow up the Noise Problem at Midnight**  
**(Paper No. 09/20)**

82. **Mr MA Hei-pang** introduced the Paper.

83. **Mr Samuel TANG of EPD** stated that sound signals produced by vehicles parking at public places or noises generated during loading and unloading activities were subject to regulation under Section 4 of the Noise Control Ordinance and the Police was responsible for taking enforcement actions. Nevertheless, upon receiving complaints, the Department would advise the relevant persons to adopt measures for reducing noises during transportation of goods. Concerning noises produced at non-public places, the Department would carry out enforcement actions.

84. **Mr MA Hei-pang's** opinions / enquiries were as follows:

- (i) he enquired what follow-up actions the Department had taken regarding the three referral cases and whether the Police had carried out enforcement or initiated prosecutions; and
- (ii) he asked if the Department had conducted enforcement actions at noise black spots in the district to enhance the deterrent effect.

85. **Mr Samuel TANG of EPD** made a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) he stated that the Police did not provide the Department the information about the follow-up actions taken in response to the referral cases. If members of the public had reported to the Police, the Department would enquire about the reported case number and contact with the Police to make follow-ups; and
- (ii) the Police would take enforcement actions against noises produced in public places. The Department had, in the past six months, received a total of three complaints on noises resulted from the loading and unloading of goods at trucks parked on Ha Heung Road at midnight, which were all related to a meat stall at the abovementioned site. Apart from them, the Department did not receive any other complaints.

86. **Mr Pius YUM's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) he stated that the Police should be responsible for the enforcement actions against noises at public places. However, the reality was that his calls to the report rooms of the Police were always unanswered in the past; and
- (ii) he believed that the receipt of three complaints by the Department showed that residents had nowhere to turn to and could only reflect the problem to Members. Thus, he wished that the Department could issue a letter and make follow-ups with the Police in respect of the complaints made by Mr MA Hei-pang.

87. **Mr LAI Kwong-wai's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) he agreed with Mr Pius YUM and hoped that the Department could reflect to the Police for stepping up enforcement actions against noises at midnight; and
- (ii) he enquired whether complaints on noises from home could be relayed to the Department and whether departmental staff would be arranged to carry out inspections in the small hours.

88. **Mr Samuel TANG of EPD** said that noises from domestic premises were under the category of neighbourhood noise and the Police was responsible for conducting enforcement actions.

**Request for Improving the Environmental Hygiene and Facilities such as Gutter Covers at the Path between Tak Yue Mansion and Cheron Court in Hung Hom (Paper No. 10/20)**

89. **Mr Pius YUM** presented the Paper.

90. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** gave a reply as follows:

- (i) apart from providing routine sweeping services every day, the cleansing service contractor appointed by the Department would also carry out regular cleansing at the site; and
- (ii) as regards the problem of placing styrofoam boxes on pavements by shop operators at the abovementioned site, the Department had instituted 15 cases of prosecution against shop front extensions (SFEs) at the site from January 2019 to February 2020. In addition, the Department had also arranged pest control contractors to strengthen pest control work at the site.

**Request for Seriously Handling the Problem of Excessive Amount of Styrofoam Boxes Placed near To Kwa Wan Market (Paper No. 11/20)**

91. **Mr MA Hei-pang** introduced the Paper.

92. **Mr WONG Siu-cheung, Assistant Divisional Commander (Operations)**

**(Hung Hom) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF)**, gave a response as follows:

- (i) over the past year, the Police had issued three fixed penalty tickets during the enforcement actions taken at the area of To Kwa Wan Market and had not received any requests for help from the public regarding street obstruction at To Kwa Wan Market;
- (ii) since 2018, the Police had conducted interdepartmental joint operations with FEHD regularly. The Police had carried out one to three joint operations each month in the first half of 2019 but such operations had to be halted from July 2019 to February 2020 since the Police had to deploy manpower to cope with other pressing needs;
- (iii) the Police would handle the problem of SFEs blocking roads while other departments would be responsible for following up the problem of obstruction to pavements; and
- (iv) during the joint operations, in case of any crimes or offences against public peace, or imminent danger posed to the public by obstructions, and serious congestion caused to traffic or road users by obstructions, the Police would take enforcement actions.

93. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** made a reply as follows:

- (i) the area near To Kwa Wan Market including Ha Heung Road, Kowloon City Road and Lok Shan Road was within the old district of To Kwa Wan, where a lot of vegetable stalls and fruit stalls were operated and frequent loading and unloading of goods took place. Many scavengers collected recyclable materials at the site as well. The Department had all along been very concerned about the environmental hygiene problem caused by styrofoam boxes, paper boxes and miscellaneous items placed at the front of the shops and scavengers at the abovementioned site. In the light of the situation, the Department had arranged cleansing service contractors to enhance cleansing and wash the streets at the site on a daily basis;
- (ii) from January 2020 till now, the Department had issued six penalty tickets to persons who violated the regulation by depositing litter near

To Kwa Wan Market and had picked up a large amount of discarded paper boxes and styrofoam boxes. The Department would give warnings first, and then issue penalty tickets if warnings were not heeded; and

- (iii) the Department would issue around 20 penalty tickets to shops with SFEs every month.

94. **Mr MA Hei-pang** made the following enquiries:

- (i) he noted that some elders collected styrofoam boxes at the abovementioned site and sold four styrofoam boxes at a price of \$6 in the district. He understood the hardship endured by those elders and thus he enquired whether FEHD would select a site in the district for the elders to store their styrofoam boxes temporarily so that they did not have to place their boxes on streets or trolleys and move their boxes to other places every four hours in order to evade the law enforcement taken by the departmental staff. In so doing, obstruction to streets would not be caused;
- (ii) he enquired about the exact periods of time the Police claimed to have received no request for help;
- (iii) when he drove past the junction of Lok Shan Road and Ha Heung Road, he always found a trolley with styrofoam boxes piling up to a height of two people being placed there, seriously affecting the vision of drivers on the left and posing danger to drivers and other road users. Thus, he hoped that the Police could step up enforcement at the site; and
- (iv) apart from being a district council member, he had engaged in the recycling industry as well. The Police had kept on issuing penalty tickets to his shop in the past and he wished that the Police could take enforcement actions on a fair and equal basis.

95. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** thanked **Mr MA Hei-pang** for his suggestions and said the Department would explore whether there were suitable sites at the abovementioned location for temporarily storage of styrofoam boxes.

96. **Mr WONG Siu-cheung of HKPF** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Police did not receive any requests for help in respect of the disposal of styrofoam boxes near To Kwa Wan Market from 11 March 2019 to 10 March 2020; and
- (ii) the work of the Police had resumed normal recently. Uniformed police officers had been deployed to patrol the district and the Police had stepped up enforcement action against illegal parking. He would remind his colleagues to pay heed to the problems arising from SFEs at the abovementioned site.

97. **Mr Pius YUM's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) he enquired whether current patrols by the Police were conducted on foot or in police vehicles and whether the Police would advise the relevant persons to remove the articles causing obstruction to streets during patrols; and
- (ii) he pointed out that there were SFEs at vegetable stalls in the district. Styrofoam boxes with vegetables would be delivered to the front of the shops during the small hours and unpacked when the shops were open. The opened styrofoam boxes would then be disposed of on pavements, rear lanes or roads.

98. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** stated that styrofoam boxes piling up to a height twice as tall as her were placed beside the pedestrian crossing between the fruit stalls and vegetable stalls in To Kwa Wan Market every day, seriously affecting road users. She enquired whether the Police would take enforcement actions at the site.

99. **Mr WONG Siu-cheung of HKPF** remarked that currently, the Police would arrange police officers to patrol on foot or by police vehicles depending on the actual circumstances. Regarding the question from Dr KWONG Po-yin, the Police would make follow-up actions based on resources and complaints from residents. He would instruct his colleagues to pay more attention to the situation of the aforesaid site.

**Request for Expanding the Scope of the Subsidy for the Food Business Sector under the Anti-epidemic Fund**  
**(Paper No. 12/20)**

100. **Mr Pius YUM** presented the Paper.
101. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** gave a consolidated reply:
- (i) the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council had approved the \$30 billion Anti-epidemic Fund on 11 February and FEHD was responsible for approving the Food Licence Holders Subsidy and the Licenced Hawkers Subsidy;
  - (ii) a one-off subsidy of \$200,000 would be provided to eligible licence holders of the premises in operation including general restaurants, marine restaurants and factory canteens while a subsidy of \$80,000 would be provided to eligible licence holders of the premises in operation including light refreshment restaurants, fresh provision shops, food factories, bakeries and siu mei and lo mei shops. These subsidies were expected to benefit about 28 000 licencees;
  - (iii) any persons who carried on food businesses (including food premises, siu mei and lo mei shops) in private markets should obtain the relevant food licences in accordance with Cap. 132X of the Food Business Regulation. All eligible licencees could be benefitted from the Anti-epidemic Fund;
  - (iv) concerning the cooked food stalls in markets, the Government had announced, in August 2019, a package of measures to support enterprises, including the reduction of rental by 50% for stalls in public markets (including cooked food markets) in Hong Kong from 1 October 2019 to March 2020. The Financial Secretary had also announced in the 2020-21 Budget on 26 February that rental would be reduced by 50% for another six months for eligible tenants of government properties, government land and EcoPark, etc. The reduction of rental by 50% was also applicable to stalls in public markets of FEHD from 1 April 2020 to 30 September 2020; and

- (v) seeing the impacts of the pandemic on other industries, the Government announced, on 16 March, the Retail Sector Subsidy Scheme in which Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) would be responsible for approving applications. To his knowledge, the scheme had covered general retail shops. The Department had learnt about the scheme from HKTDC and initially understood that the scheme covered market stalls.

102. **Mr HO Hin-ming's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) the Hon Tommy CHEUNG, a Legislative Council Member from the Liberal Party and the catering sector, had discussed how to subsidise the catering sector with FHB at the beginning of this year and the scope of the subsidy was initially quite wide. However, as the Bureau considered that there were other subsidy schemes, the scope of the Food Licence Holders Subsidy Scheme under the Anti-epidemic Fund was scaled down; and
- (ii) he pointed out that his party was still suggesting the Government to allow cooked food stalls in public markets to obtain subsidies and the Department also stated that those stalls could apply for the Retail Sector Subsidy Scheme. He wished that the Department could reflect to the Bureau that those falling out of the net could be included into the subsidy scheme as soon as possible so as to support the industry to weather the difficult times.

103. **Mr LAM Tak-shing's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) he stated that some market stall operators reflected to him that they wished the subsidy scheme to cover market stalls. They voiced that the current business environment was poor and the business was always slack;
- (ii) he hoped that the scope of the Anti-epidemic Fund could be expanded to cover all market stalls and the Fund could provide appropriate assistance to stall operators so that they could weather the difficult times; and

- (iii) he wished that the aforesaid suggestions could be implemented as soon as possible and charges such as water and electricity charges could be waived.

104. **The Hon Starry LEE's** opinions were as follows:

- (i) she said that different sectors of the community aspired to expand the scope of the subsidy scheme as many industries were not benefitted apart from food premises or stalls in markets. Many political parties and groups in society wished that the Government could launch a second round of the Anti-epidemic Fund in a bid to benefit more enterprises;
- (ii) in order to offer help to public markets, private markets and siu mei and lo mei shops more efficiently, she wished that the Department could expand the scope of the first round of the Anti-epidemic Fund to cover all market shops so that those shops could be benefitted instantly; and
- (iii) she stated that the Department responded that market stalls could apply for the Retail Sector Subsidy Scheme. She enquired whether the Department considered market stalls as part of the retail sector.

105. **Mr MA Hei-pang** said that food premises in markets could not apply for the Anti-epidemic Fund. Though the Department had rental assistance measures in place, some cooked food stalls were operated with rental licences and thus he enquired whether stalls with rental licences could be benefitted from the scheme.

106. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) he noted Members' opinions and would relay all of them to the headquarters; and
- (ii) no stalls in public markets were allowed to be operated with rental licences. If any of the above situation was identified, the Department would take enforcement actions and terminate the tenancies of the shops.

107. **The Chairman** stated that the motion in Paper No. 12/20 submitted by Members earlier on was not seconded. Thus, he did not accept the motion. On the other hand, **Mr Pius YUM** moved an impromptu motion which was seconded by **Mr Joshua FUNG**. Thus, the Chairman decided to accept **Mr Pius YUM**'s motion.

108. **Mr Pius YUM** moved an impromptu motion: he requested to expand the scope of the Food Licence Holders Subsidy under the Anti-epidemic Fund to cover food premises such as stalls operating food business and siu mei and lo mei business and so on in public markets.

109. **The Chairman** announced that a voting would be conducted for the motion and Members who supported the motion were as follows: Mr HO Hin-ming, Mr LAM Tak-shing, the Hon Starry Lee, Dr KWAN Ka-lun, Mr MA Hei-pang, Mr WONG Wing-kit, Mr LEE Hin-long, Mr Pius YUM, Mr Joshua FUNG, Miss Jakki MAK, Mr TSANG Kin-chiu, Mr Daniel WONG, Mr KWOK Tin-lap, Dr KWONG Po-yin, Mr LAI Kwong-wai, Mr SIU Leong-sing and Mr YEUNG Chun-yu. The Chairman announced that the motion was unanimously passed by Members in attendance.

**The Market Management Consultative Committees of Public Markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**  
**(Paper No. 13/20)**

110. **The Chairman** remarked that FEHD had submitted a paper to KCDC at an earlier time, inviting KCDC to nominate Members of the current term to join the Market Management Consultative Committees of public markets in the district. The Chairman had invited Members interested in joining the Market Management Consultative Committees of public markets in the district to inform the Secretariat and the nominations concerned would be discussed and confirmed in today's meeting. He said that FEHD suggested Members to join the Market Management Consultative Committees in the district.

111. **The Chairman** stated that before the meeting, the Secretariat received from the following Members that they were interested in joining the following Market Management Consultative Committees:

- (i) **Mr PUN Kwok-wah** and **Mr LAI Kwong-wai** would like to join the Market Management Consultative Committee of To Kwa Wan Market; and

- (ii) **Mr Pius YUM** would like to join the Market Management Consultative Committee of Hung Hom Market.

112. **Mr TSANG Kin-chiu, Mr LEE Hin-long and Mr HO Hin-ming** expressed their intention of joining the Market Management Consultative Committee of Kowloon City Market.

113. **Mr LAM Ming-wai of FEHD** thanked Members for supporting the Market Management Consultative Committees. He quoted from the headquarters of the Department that if the response from Members to the Market Management Consultative Committees was overwhelming, they could allow more members to join the committees. Thus, the Department welcomed **Mr NG Po-keung, Mr TSANG Kin-chiu, Mr LEE Hin-long and Mr HO Hin-ming** to join the Market Management Consultative Committee of Kowloon City Market.

114. **The Chairman** stated that he approved the proposal for Members to join the Market Management Consultative Committees.

**Leisure and Cultural Services Department-led District Minor Works Projects under the Kowloon City District Council in 2020-21**  
**(Paper No. 14/20)**

115. **Mr WONG Chung-nam, Deputy Leisure Manager (Kowloon City) 2 of LCSD** presented the paper.

116. **Mr HO Hin-ming** raised the following views / enquiries:

- (i) as the project involved more than \$100,000, he would like to inquire the Department about what plants would be grown to beautify the environment there;
- (ii) he considered that the Department had overestimated the number of people benefitted from Project Item No. 6, Kai Tak Cruise Terminal Park and Project Item No.7, Kai Tak Runway Park. In reality, he believed that the estimated 420 000 man-time could not be reached; and

- (iii) when he visited Kai Tak Runway Park in person, he found that the public would like to have activities on the lawn, and all the plants planted next to the lawn were shrubs. To his knowledge, shrubs did not need to be replaced frequently with proper maintenance. Thus, he suggested that the Department should review the need to replace the plants at the above locations.

117. **The Hon Starry LEE** expressed her support for the Department's projects. However, the documents submitted by the Department only showed written descriptions without any conceptual pictures or photos, which made it difficult for Members to grasp the ideas. She said that the projects would commence in July this year. She asked whether the Department could start the projects earlier, and if not, the reasons for that.

118. **Mr WONG Chung-nam of LCSD**, in reply, said:

- (i) the twelve locations specified in the document had different horticultural designs. The majority of the plants grown were shrubs or seasonal flowers, and the plant variety was determined according to the environment of individual location and the plants available for growing;
- (ii) the number of people benefitted from Kai Tak Cruise Terminal Park was estimated on the basis of the figures of citizens and tourists visiting the venue last year. The Department proposed to build a sea of flowers at that location for the public and tourists for enjoyment and photo taking; and
- (iii) with the support of the District Council, the Department would carry out procurement work. The relevant process would take about one month to complete, and the project would begin immediately after procurement was completed. The Department would try its best to cut short the time of administration work so that the projects could begin as soon as possible.

119. **The Hon Starry LEE** pointed out that plants grown in places not included in the paper, such as Hoi Sum Park, needed to be beautified and replaced. She considered that such places should have the attention of the Department. She enquired

about the Department's follow-up actions on the plants at the places not listed in the paper and the Department's criteria for prioritising the projects listed in the paper.

120. **Dr KWONG Po-yin** expressed the following opinions:

- (i) he stated that the Department included photos in its applications for funding for vegetation planting in the past, but it did not attach them on this occasion. There were so many places listed in the document that Members found it difficult to fully understand the Department's proposals. Thus she hoped that the Department would provide photos for the reference of Members in the future; and
- (ii) the plants grown by the Department were shrubs or seasonal flowers which needed to be replaced regularly. Thus, she advised the Department to select plants which did not need to be replaced regularly to curtail expenditure.

121. **Mr WONG Chung-nam of LCSD**, in reply, said:

- (i) the Department would use the recurrent expenditure to carry out long-term plant care and beautification works at Hoi Sum Park and other locations;
- (ii) with the support of Members, the Department would proceed with the tender exercise for the 12 projects listed in the paper as scheduled and commence the works about one month after the completion of the tender exercise; and
- (iii) the photos related to the works, including planting locations and plant variety information would be sent to Members after the meeting through the Secretariat.

122. **The Hon Starry LEE** expressed her views as follows:

- (i) she thanked the Department for providing photos later to enable Members to have a better picture of the projects; and
- (ii) considering that the usage of Kai Tak Cruise Terminal and Kai Tak

Runway Park was not high, the Department had overestimated the number of people benefitted from the above facilities. As the expenditure involved amounted to \$200,000, she wondered if it was worthwhile to carry out the relevant works.

123. **Mr HO Hin-ming** pointed out that the "Kowloon Tsai Park Special Gardening Project" was carried out from August to October last year, and he asked the Department about the locations of planting. And he viewed that no replacement of plants should be carried out at places where plants were replaced last year.

124. **Mr WONG Chung-nam of LCSD** made the following reply:

- (i) as Kai Tak Cruise Terminal Park was situated at the rooftop of Kai Tak Cruise Terminal. In the hope of impressing the public or cruise passengers, the Department proposed to build a sea of seasonal flowers for the enjoyment of the public and cruise passengers; and
- (ii) regarding the question Mr HO Hin-ming, the Department would later pass the relevant information to him through the Secretariat.

125. **The Chairman** proposed to approve the project items detailed in the document in principle.

126. **The Hon Starry LEE** asked about the way of handling the proposal in case Members raised objections to the projects after viewing the photos for reference.

127. **The Secretary** commented that the Department applied for a funding exceeding \$1,000,000 this time, and according to the terms of reference of the committees, the district minor works requiring a funding of over HK\$1,000,000 should be approved by the committee in principle before submission to the District Council for approval in its meeting. The next district board meeting was scheduled on 16 April, and the deadline for submission of papers was 30 March. Thus, LCSD should provide Members photos for reference before the next district board meeting. If Members had questions about the project, they could ask LCSD at the meeting of the full Council.

128. **The Chairman** reminded LCSD to attach photos in applications if the project seeking funding involved exterior beautification so that Members could have a better understanding of the Department's plans. **The Chairman** announced that the projects

listed in the paper were approved in principle and they would be sent to Members for reference before the next meeting.

(Post-meeting notes: LCSD submitted the "Report on Completion of District Minor Works Projects for 2019/20 of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Committee under KCDC" on 1 April, reporting to Members on matters relating to horticulture works for 2019/20, and the Secretariat would forward this to Members on 3 April.)

**The Way Forward of Using Hanging Potted Plants in Kowloon City District  
(Paper No. 15/20)**

129. **The Chairman** said that **Mr Samson LI, Executive Officer I (District Management) of KCDO**, told him that as KCDO's contract with the contractor for hanging flowerpots was due to expire on 1 April this year, he approved of the discussion of the matter with a shorter time of notice in accordance with Section 13(1) of the Standing Orders.

130. **Mr Samson LI, Executive Officer I (District Management) of KCDO**, introduced the paper and invited Members to choose the options for disposing of hanging flower pots.

131. **Mr YUM Kwok-tung** and **Mr YEUNG Chun-yu** said that the issue was fully discussed at the last district council meeting and he believed that KCDO could present the paper as soon as possible.

132. **The Chairman** said that the above issue was time and again discussed in detail at various district council meetings or committee meetings in the past. He believed that Members had already formed an opinion on the way forward for the hanging flower pots and thus, he suggested holding a vote.

133. **The Hon Starry LEE** raised the following questions:

- (i) according to the documents of KCDO, the annual cost of maintaining hanging flower pots was \$400,000 to \$600,000. If the proposal of removing all hanging flower pots was endorsed at this meeting, the resources saved would be used as allocation for other works by the District Council or not;

- (ii) KCDO would consult the public on the disposal of hanging flower pots or not. Although Members were elected representatives, the public might hold different views on the hanging flower pots, and it seemed more appropriate to consult the public besides Members; and
- (iii) she believed that Members would approve of carrying out more green projects in the district. However, there showed mismanagement in this aspect in the district, and so she enquired about the management or disposal of hanging flower pots in other districts and hoped that this district could draw reference from their experience.

134. **Mr HO Hin-ming** pointed out that the locations of hanging flower pots were not fully stated in the paper, and he asked KCDO to provide supplementary information.

135. **Mr Samson LI of KCDO** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the current maintenance of hanging flower pots was funded by KCDC and the maintenance was carried out in the form of district minor works;
- (ii) Kwun Tong District Council had resolved to remove hanging flower pots on a large scale; and
- (iii) the locations of hanging flower pots mentioned in the paper were recorded while conducting inspection in the district after the last district council meeting. If Members spotted any omission, they could inform KCDO to make additions after the meeting.

136. **Mr HO Hin-ming** said that there was also discussion on large floor-standing flower pots at the last district council meeting. He asked why the paper did not include this kind of flower pots.

137. **Mr Samson LI of KCDO** said that at the last district council meeting, Members had focused on the discussion about hanging flower pots as stated in the paper. There was only little discussion about large floor-standing flower pots. Therefore, only hanging flower pots were included in the paper for discussion in this meeting. If a consensus was reached at the meeting on the disposal of large floor-standing flower

pots, KCDO would also take necessary action.

138. **Dr KWONG Po-yin stated her views as follows:**

- (i) Papers No. 33/20 and 34/20 of the last meeting centred on plant care in the district. On the same day, many members expressed their concern on the above matter and hoped that the hanging flowerpots would be removed. There were also some discussion on large floor-standing flower pots. However, Papers No. 33/20 and 34/20 involved other plant care items, and thus items generating no dispute were approved first while the hanging flower pot matter was arranged to be handled in today's meeting; and
- (ii) when she walked past a trail in Bulkeley Street, she found that soil from a large floor-standing flower pot on the road was washed to the ground by the rain and the street made filthy. Although the paper tabled by KCDO did not include such kind of flower pots, she was of the view that Members' views could be collected first and the issue handled later.

139. **Mr HO Hin-ming** enquired whether it was prescribed in the contract between KCDO and the contractor that both the maintenance of hanging flower pots and large floor-standing flower pots should be handled together, and if yes, KCDC would discuss the disposal of the two kind of pots at this meeting, but if not, the disposal of large floor-standing flower pots would be discussed at the next meeting.

140. **Mr Samson LI** replied that the number of large floor-standing flower pots in the district was more than 1 000, but only 20 odd of them were maintained by the contractor while all others were under the care of LCSD. However, the contractor could be entrusted to care the 20 odd pots for the time being, and so there was no urgency to reach a consensus for the ways of handling the floor-type flower pots at the meeting today and the issue could be discussed later.

141. **The Chairman** said that as the contract between KCDO and the contractor on the maintenance of hanging flower pots would expire soon and the large floor-standing flower pots could be maintained by LCSD for the time being, Members only needed to come to an agreement on the disposal of hanging flower pots at this meeting and the disposal of the large floor-standing flower pots could be left to decision later.

142. **The Hon Starry LEE** said that she wished to see more green projects be implemented in the district, but the management of hanging flower pots was not up to standard. In consideration of this, she asked whether there were examples of successful management through improvements in other districts by increasing funding. She also enquired about the specific implementation details of the second option stated in the paper of KCDO, i.e. retaining some of the hanging flower pots.

143. **Mr TSANG Kin-chiu** noted that the above issue had been fully discussed at the last meeting and he wished to put the issue to a vote as soon as possible.

144. **The Hon Starry LEE** said that although the above issue was discussed at the previous meeting, the Department had submitted a paper at today's meeting for Members to tender questions. And although the issue had been discussed at the previous meeting, it did not mean that discussion about it was not allowed at this meeting. As a vote would be conducted at this meeting on the disposal of the hanging flower pots, she wished to consider more information before coming to a decision.

145. **Mr Samson LI of KCDO** said that he had asked the contractor about the amount of funding required to enhance the management. However, the contractor indicated that the option for the disposal of the hanging flower pots should be confirmed before quotations could be made. If Members decided to keep some of the hanging pots, KCDO would follow up according to Members' recommendations.

146. **The Chairman** asked Members to take a vote on the disposal of the hanging flower pot and the voting results were as follows:

- (i) Option 1: Retaining all the hanging flower pots; 0 vote;
- (ii) Option 2: Retaining some of the hanging flower pots; 3 votes  
(Supported by: Mr HO Hin-ming, Mr LAM Tak Shing and The Hon Starry LEE); and
- (iii) Option 3: Complete removal of hanging flower pots; 14 votes  
(Supported by: Dr KWAN Ka-lun, Mr MA Hei-peng, Mr WONG Wing-kit, Mr LEE Hin-long, Mr YUM Kwok-tung, Mr Joshua FUNG, Miss Jakki MAK, Mr TSANG Kin-chiu, Mr Daniel WONG, Mr KWOK Tin-lap, Dr KWONG Po-yin, Mr LAI Kwong-wai, Mr SIU

Leong-sing and Mr YEUNG Chun-yu)

147. **The Chairman** announced that Option 3 won most of the votes and was thus approved.

148. **Mr HO Hin-ming** enquired about the ways to inform the public about the decision of the District Council.

149. **The Chairman** highlighted that it was the duty of Members to inform the public of the decision and this was not within the scope of the discussion on the above item.

150. **Mr HO Hin-ming** stressed that the above decision was the opinion of 14 members only and it was not his preference. He requested the Secretariat to state clearly in the minutes of the meeting which of Members supported the removal of all hanging flower pots.

151. **The Hon Starry LEE** opined that Mr HO Hin-ming's request was very reasonable and she asked how KCDO would implement the decision of the District Council and how the public would be explained about the decision.

152. **The Chairman** asked whether a public notice would be issued by KCDO to inform the public of the decision.

153. **Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Senior Executive Officer (District Management) of KCDO**, said that the options available had been discussed and put to vote by Members of the District Council, so the Secretariat would simply record the vote cast by Members in the minutes of the meeting.

154. **The Hon Starry LEE** said that she was asking in what way the public would be informed about this, and it was not about the matter of secret ballot.

155. **The Chairman** said that the vote was taken and KCDO had also reported the date of implementation of the decision. As the contract between KCDO and the contractor would end on 1 April, the decision made at the meeting would become effective after 1 April. As the minutes of the meeting would record clearly the vote cast by Members, he believed that The Hon Starry LEE did not have to feel worried about it. As to whether KCDO would inform the public about the matter, he asked

Members to find it out after the meeting as he deemed it unnecessary to discuss it at present.

156. **Mr HO Hin-ming** enquired whether the contract included the removal of the hanging flower pots.

157. **Mr Samson LI of KCDO** replied that the task of removing individual flower pots was currently undertaken by the contractor responsible for maintaining district facilities. However, due to the relatively high cost for the removal of flower pots, KCDO prepared to invite tenders for the job and draw up another contract.

### **Any Other Business**

158. **The Chairman** invited Members to peruse Paper No. 15/20 of this committee, i.e. the Progress Report on District Minor Works in Kowloon City District in 2019-20. The Secretariat sent the paper to Members via email before the meeting.

159. **Mr HO Hin-ming** made an enquiry about Project Item No. 2. He noted that expenses had been incurred from the works, the remainder of which had to be settled in the next financial year. However, the commencement date and completion date of the works were not specified in the document of KCDO, and therefore, he enquired about the progress of the project.

160. **Mr Samson Lee of KCDO** said that pit excavation works of the project had been carried out, but the results indicated that the project was infeasible. He would talk to Mr HO Hin-ming about the issue after the meeting.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

161. **The Chairman** announced that the next meeting would be held on 5 May 2020 (Tuesday) and the deadline for submission of papers would be 16 April 2020 (Tuesday). There being no other business, the **Chairman** declared that the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 2020.

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Chairman

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Secretary

Kowloon City District Council  
April 2020