Minutes of the 4th Meeting of <u>the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee of</u> <u>the Kowloon City District Council</u>

Date: Time: Venue:	11 July 2024 (Thursday) 2:30 p.m. Conference Room, Kowloon	City District Office
Present: Chairman: Vice-chairman: Members:	Mr LAM Tak-shing, MH Mr WONG Man-kong Mr TING Kin-wa, MH Mr CHO Wui-hung, MH Mr LEE Chiu-yu Mr NG Fan-kam, MH Mr NG Po-keung, MH Mr NG Po-keung, MH Mr HE Huahan, MH Mr LAM Pok Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting Mr CHAN Chi-wah Mr CHEUNG King-fan Mr WONG Chi Ms FUNG Mo-kwan Ms LAU Yuen-yin Mr PUN Kwok-wah, JP	
Secretary:	Mr KWAN Ho-yeung Miss SIN Hong-ying,	Executive Officer (District
	Bonnie	Council)2, Kowloon City District Office
In Attendance:	Ms SO Lai-yee, Ivy	Senior Liaison Officer (District Liaison) 3, Kowloon City District Office
	Mr CHAN Chi-sing	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent, Kowloon City, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

-	Ms CHAN Mei-chu	Chief Health Inspector (Kowloon City) 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
	Mr TAM Yiu-man, Jason	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) 5, Environmental Protection Department
	Ms CHAN Ling-man, Millie	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Kowloon City) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Attendance by Invitation:		
Items 6 to 7	Mr LI Ka-lok, William	Chief Technical Officer / Kowloon City, Highways Department
Items 10 to 11	Mr CHAN Chi-sing, Police Station Sergeant	Assistant Police Community Relations Officer, Kowloon City District, Hong Kong Police Force
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Opening Remarks by the Chairman

1. The Chairman of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (FEHC) welcomed all Members and representatives of government departments to the fourth meeting of the FEHC.

2. **The Chairman** reminded Members to register their interests in accordance with Order 19 of the Kowloon City District Council Standing Orders (the Standing Orders) and stated that, if the matters to be discussed had any connection or potential conflict of interests with their personal interests such as property rights, profession or investment, they should make a declaration proactively at the meeting so that he could make a decision in accordance with the Standing Orders.

3. **The Chairman** stated that in accordance with Order 80(1) of the Standing Orders, the quorum at any meeting of a committee should be half of the total number of members of the committee. If the quorum was not present at the commencement of the meeting or in the course of the meeting, he would direct the Secretary to summon the absentees. If the quorum was still not present 15 minutes thereafter, he would adjourn the meeting. According to Order 13 of the Standing Orders, he then set out that each attendee was allowed to make a maximum of three speeches during a

discussion on an agenda item and the time limit for each speech was two minutes. He also reminded the attendees to switch off their mobile phones or turn the ringers to vibration mode to avoid causing disturbances.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes of the 3rd Meeting

4. **The Chairman** announced that the minutes of the third meeting were unanimously endorsed by the committee without amendments.

Item 2

Proposal for the Provision of GREEN\$ Gift Redemption Units (FEHC Paper No. 31/2024)

- 5. A Member introduced the Paper.
- 6. Members raised the following views and enquiries:
 - details of the collaboration between the GREEN\$ Electronic Participation Incentive Scheme (GREEN\$ ePIS) of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the MTR, including the locations, specific arrangements and whether additional manpower would be deployed to assist the public in installing the related application; and
 - the feasibility of the Department to provide additional automatic gift redemption units in other public housing estates in the district (such as Ho Man Tin Estate and Oi Man Estate).
- 7. **The representative of the EPD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - besides using the automatic gift redemption units, the public could redeem gifts at all the GREEN@COMMUNITY recycling points (including recycling stations, recycling stores and recycling spots). At present, there were nearly a total of 20 recycling locations in Kowloon City District for the public to redeem gifts. However, among which, only a small quantity of gifts were available for the redemption of the public at the recycling spots due to their mobile and temporary nature;

- (ii) to further facilitate the public in redeeming gifts and increase the attractiveness of the GREEN\$ ePIS, the Department launched a pilot programme in February 2024 in collaboration with Carbon Wallet, the carbon emission reduction reward platform under the MTR. The public could convert GREEN\$ points into Carbon Wallet points to redeem a variety of rewards such as single journey MTR tickets and local eco-tours;
- (iii) the Department was exploring other reward arrangements with more partners, including exchanging the electronic GREEN\$ points into shopping coupons, so as to encourage the public to integrate waste separation and recycling into their daily lives; and
- (iv) the GREEN\$ ePIS was part of the "Pilot Programme on Smart Recycling Systems" launched by the Department in 2020. A midterm review of the programme was underway. The Department would further study the feasibility of providing additional automatic gift redemption units at different locations.
- 8. **Members** raised further enquiries and views as follows:
 - (i) at present, there was only one automatic gift redemption unit in Tak Long Estate, which often malfunctioned. Many residents were also not clear about the arrangements of gift redemption at the GREEN@COMMUNITY recycling points. As a result, the residents had accumulated massive points but were not able to redeem gifts. Members requested the Department to increase the number of automatic gift redemption units and consider providing a gift redemption function in the GREEN\$ application to further encourage and facilitate the public's participation in recycling;
 - (ii) the opening hours of the GREEN@COMMUNITY recycling spots were often delayed. The situation of handling recyclables at some of the recycling points was also unsatisfactory. Members suggested the Department to review whether it was appropriate to rely on the recycling spots for gift redemption;
 - (iii) the timetable for extending the "Pilot Programme on Smart Recycling Systems" to Ho Man Tin Estate, Oi Man Estate and Kai Ching Estate;

and

- (iv) there were situations of gifts being out of stock in the automatic gift redemption units from time to time. The variety of gifts were also relatively monotonous. Members suggested the Department to regularly review the situation of gift redemption and consider enriching the variety of gifts.
- 9. The representative of the **EPD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - (i) the Department would study the feasibility of setting up other ancillary facilities for recycling in the district; and
 - (ii) the Department noted the suggestion regarding enriching the variety of gifts and would relay the suggestion to the responsible sections.

10. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he hoped the Department would maintain communication with Members and provide additional automatic gift redemption units in other locations of the district at the soonest.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had relayed the supplementary information from the EPD to Members on 15 August 2024 regarding the provision of additional GREEN\$ gift redemption units.]

Item 3

Concern over Recycling in the Community and Request for the Installation of Food Waste Recycling Bins and Self-service Recycling Bins at Peace Avenue Refuse Collection Point

(FEHD Paper No. 32/2024)

- 11. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 12. **Members** raised the following views and enquires:
 - (i) details of the GREEN@WALLED CITY collection-at-door service; and
 - (ii) following the Government's announcement of deferring the municipal solid waste charging and with a lack of recycling facilities

in the district, the public's enthusiasm for recycling had notably waned. Members requested the related departments to consider formulating a comprehensive strategy to encourage the public to do recycling.

13. The representative of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) replied with the main points as follows:

- the Department had all along been very supportive of the EPD's food waste recycling service and would dovetail with the EPD's arrangement by providing additional recycling facilities at suitable refuse collection points (RCPs); and
- (ii) when providing additional recycling facilities such as food waste smart recycling bins (FWSRBs) at RCPs, factors such as whether there were adequate space, impacts on household refuse collection service and staff facilities at the RCPs, power demand for the recycling facilities, as well as the design and arrangement on the flow of people had to be taken into account. The Department would conduct a study having regard to the actual circumstances of individual RCPs and discuss with the EPD the feasibility of providing additional FWSRBs at individual RCPs.

14. **The representative of the EPD** replied with the main points as follows:

- the details of the GREEN@WALLED CITY collection-at-door service was determined by the service contractor after discussion with the related housing estates. The service contractor would provide free collection-at-door service to the housing estates or buildings when necessary;
- to continue the promotion of public participation in waste reduction and recycling, the Department would implement the "Programme on Source Separation of Waste" in the community to cultivate the public's habit of reducing waste at source and clean recycling;
- (iii) in deciding whether FWSRBs would be installed at RCPs, the Government needed to take into account a number of factors such as location, power supply, impacts on the operation of the venue itself

or the users, as well as manpower arrangements. The Department would explore with the FEHD the feasibility of the proposal relating to the installation of FWSRBs at Peace Avenue RCP; and

- (iv) the Department would communicate with the FEHD to step up the cleaning of the bin shells and the surroundings so as to solve the hygiene problems arising from the use of traditional food waste recycling bins with foot pedals at the RCPs at present.
- 15. **Members** raised further enquiries and views as follows:
 - the provision of additional recycling facilities in the vicinity of Peace Avenue was the long term claims of nearby residents. The Department should proactively implement waste recovery measures in public housing estates and private buildings in the district; and
 - suggested the Department to provide additional recycling facilities in government venues such as parks, sports centres and government buildings to facilitate the residents of private buildings to do recycling.
- 16. The reply from **the representative of the EPD** were as follows:
 - the Department noted the views on providing additional recycling facilities at Peace Avenue and would relay the suggestion to the responsible section; and
 - (ii) the Department had already started the provision of additional FWSRBs at government venues, for example setting up relevant facilities at Lockhart Road Market in Wan Chai District earlier. The Department would continue to study the feasibility of providing additional recycling facilities in other government buildings.

17. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he hoped the Department to actively consider Members' views and provide more recycling facilities in the district as well as further enhance the management of the existing facilities to facilitate public's participation in the recycling programmes.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had relayed the supplementary information from

the EPD to Members on 15 August 2024 regarding the provision of additional selfservice recycling machines in the vicinity of Peace Avenue.]

Item 4

Concern over the Problem of Household Waste Disposal in Kowloon City District (FEHD Paper No. 33/2024)

- 18. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 19. **The representative of the FEHD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - the Department had 678 litter containers in Kowloon City District at present mainly aimed at facilitating pedestrians in disposing of smallsized waste but not household solid waste. If the public were required to dispose of household waste, they could take the waste to the public RCPs under the Department's purview;
 - the Department would determine the locations for placing the litter containers having regard to the street conditions, including the pedestrian flow, width of footpaths, refuse load generated and other onsite environment factors as well as the public's views on environmental hygiene in the district;
 - (iii) to facilitate the disposal of household waste by residents of "three-nil buildings", the Department had temporarily installed 18 refuse bins with 660-litre at 14 locations in the district at present. The Department would review the effectiveness of the aforementioned measures from time to time and make corresponding adjustments in accordance to the actual circumstances;
 - (iv) upon receipt of the Paper, the Department had posted notices at fly-tipping blackspots in the district to remind the public that flytipping was an offence so as to achieve deterrent and educational purposes as well as provided information on and a map of the nearby RCPs available for household waste disposal; and
 - (v) the Department had also arranged for cleansing service contractors to increase the frequency of clearing litter containers at the relevant locations to avoid overflowing of litter containers.

- 20. **The representative of the EPD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - the Department would regularly inspect fly-tipping blackspots of construction waste. The Department would contact the related departments to arrange for clearing at the soonest whenever construction waste was found to be disposed of; and
 - (ii) the Department would step up publicity campaigns, including distributing leaflets, hanging banners and putting up posters, in the vicinity of the hygiene blackspots to educate and remind the public and shop operators that they must dispose of construction waste properly.

21. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he would like the related departments to provide additional 660-litre refuse bins at suitable locations in the district in accordance with Members' views and depending on the needs.

<u>Item 5</u>

<u>Concern over the Street Cleanliness during Holidays in the Areas from Yan Yung</u> <u>Street to Hung Hom South Road</u>

(FEHD Paper No. 34/2024)

- 22. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 23. **Members** raised the following views and enquiries:
 - (i) the number and capacity of refuse bins at the locations mentioned in the Paper were insufficient, resulting in the situations of frequent overflowing of refuse bins at night. Members requested the Department to step up the cleaning at the relevant locations, particularly arrange for additional manpower to clear the refuse bins after 10:00 p.m. as well as to increase the number of refuse bins; and
 - (ii) large-sized waste containers were provided near the public toilet at the junction of Hung Hom South Road and Whampoa Street. Members suggested the Department to provide additional instructions at the relevant locations to guide the public to use the relevant largesized waste containers.

- 24. **The representative of the FEHD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - (i) upon receipt of the Paper, the Department had deployed staff to inspect Yan Yung Street and Hung Hom South Road as well as the area of Whampoa Street connecting to the footbridge near Hung Hom Station, as well as arranged for the contractor to step up the street sweeping service in the vicinity of the aforementioned locations and increase the frequency of clearing litter containers during holiday evenings. The Department would continue to monitor the situation at the aforementioned locations and further step up the frequency of clearing the litter containers when necessary; and
 - (ii) the Department would consider providing additional instructions at the aforementioned location.

[Post-meeting note: The FEHD supplemented and stated that as the relevant large-sized waste containers were not the refuse collection facility of the Department, it was not recommended to instruct the public to dispose of waste there.]

25. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he would like the Department to step up the cleaning of the relevant locations to improve the hygiene situation.

Item 6

Concern over the Situation of Mosquito Infestation in Sheung Shing Street (FEHD Paper No. 35/2024)

<u>Item 7</u>

Concern over the Problem of Mosquito Infestation at Oi Man Estate and Chun Man Court and Request for Stepping up Inspections and Law Enforcement (FEHD Paper No. 36/2024)

26. **The Chairman** stated that as Items 6 and 7 were both related to mosquito infestation, he announced that the two items would be discussed together after consulting Members.

- 27. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 35/2024.
- 28. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 36/2024.

29. **Members** enquired whether the related departments would adopt measures to cope with the currently unstable weather.

30. **The representative of the FEHD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the Department arranged for contractors to remove fallen leaves and other decaying vegetation and clear obstructions such as silt in sand traps and surface drainage channels on a weekly basis, so as to clear stagnant water and the breeding grounds of mosquitoes, while implemented anti-mosquito measures including applying pesticides and conducting fogging operations in the scrubby areas to kill adult mosquitoes;
- (ii) the Department also deployed staff regularly to inspect the construction sites in the district. If the situations of mosquito breeding were found, the Department would immediately take out prosecution against the related contractors of the construction site or management companies responsible for the control and prevention of mosquitoes. The Department had taken out prosecution against the responsible person of a construction site in the district in May;
- (iii) Oi Man Estate was under the management of the Housing Department (HD), while Chun Man Court was under the Home Ownership Scheme. Hence, their pest control work were handled by the HD and the estate management office of Chun Man Court respectively. Notwithstanding this, staff of the Department would liaise with the HD and the estate management office of Chun Man Court from time to time and regularly inspect jointly the public places of the estate and the court. Staff of the Department would immediately offer them advice on the prevention and control of mosquitoes should signs of mosquito infestation be found; and
- (iv) upon receipt of the Paper, the Department had deployed staff to inspect Oi Man Estate and Chun Man Court and offered the relevant responsible personnel advice on the measures on prevention and control of mosquitoes as well as distributed publicity leaflets. The Department also organised talks in Oi Man Estate to raise residents' awareness of pest control.

31. The reply from the representative of the **Highways Department** were as follows:

- the locations mentioned in the Paper were adjacent to the construction site of the Central Kowloon Route. The Department had informed the related sections to pay attention to the hygiene condition of the construction site and to clear wet soil and pools of water in a timely manner;
- (ii) a small scale construction site at the location near Sheung Shing Street and Sheung Lok Street was under construction. The Department had issued a letter to the responsible person of the relevant construction sites requesting the person to pay attention to the hygiene condition of the construction site;
- (iii) the Department would arrange for the contractor to step up the cleaning of the road drainage facilities near the locations mentioned in the Paper to prevent the blockage of drainage channels and stagnant water. The Department would also spray larvicide oil or place larvicide sand on the road drainage facilities nearby; and
- (iv) Members were welcomed to report to the Department if they discovered the occurrence of mosquito infestation at any construction site under the purview of the Department. The Department would follow up actively.

32. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he requested the related departments to maintain close communication with Members and step up the clearing of stagnant water in the drains in the district to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes.

<u>Item 8</u>

<u>Request for Relaunching Anti-rodent Operations and Strategies in Area-based</u> and Intensive Approaches and Alleviating the Problems of Stink and Blockage of <u>Roadside Drains in Hung Hom Area</u>

(FEHC Paper No. 37/2024)

33. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

- 34. **Members** raised the following views and enquiries:
 - (i) some shops in the vicinity of Station Lane near Hung Hom Market were suspected of dumping waste oil into the drains, causing serious blockage of nearby drains. Members requested the related departments to step up publicity and education for the shops near the relevant locations so as to eradicate the occurrence of the relevant situations; and
 - (ii) the root of the rodent infestation problem in the area was food waste from restaurants. Currently, restaurants were required to handle food waste on their own. Some small scale restaurants might not have sufficient capacity to conduct the work on food waste recycling properly. Members suggested the related departments to formulate a proposal for centralising the recycling of food waste so that restaurants in the area were able to recycle and handle food waste more efficiently, thereby tackling the problem at source.

35. **The representative of the FEHD** replied with the main points as follows:

- upon receipt of the Paper, the Department had immediately sent staff to inspect the relevant locations and arranged for contractors to step up the anti-rodent work there;
- the Department would organise two rounds of territory-wide and (ii) inter-departmental anti-rodent campaign each year, with each round lasting for ten weeks. The first phase of the anti-rodent campaign in 2024 ended on 15 March. The second phase of the anti-rodent campaign would be conducted from 8 July to 13 September. The Department would carry out anti-rodent work in the three rear lanes in Hung Hom, namely Ming On Street, Bulkeley Street and Wuhu Street. During the anti-rodent campaign, the Department would adopt a multi-pronged strategy and the area-based anti-rodent concept to conduct targeted anti-rodent work, starting with the elimination of the three fundamental survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passage. The Department would also use the infrared rodent cages on a trial basis to capture rodents in Hung Hom area to enhance the effectiveness of pest control work in the area;

- (iii) the Department had sent staff to inspect the restaurants in Hung Hom area and conduct publicity and education to the responsible persons of restaurants to remind them that they could not discard rubbish and food waste in public areas and should keep venues clean at all times, or else they might be prosecuted;
- (iv) regarding the problem of drainage blockage, the Department carried out a blitz operation for a week in the area in May this year and had taken out prosecutions against offending restaurants;
- (v) in view of the problems of stink and blockage of roadside drains in Hung Hom area, the Department had sent staff to inspect the relevant locations and arranged for contractors to step up the clearing of surface drainage channels and road gullies to minimise the situation of blockage; and
- (vi) the Department had immediately notified the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) regarding the problem of sewage backflow at the accessible toilet on the ground floor of Hung Hom Market and conducted emergency repairs. The facility was now in normal operation. The Department preliminarily suspected that some members of the public had thrown clothes into the toilet bowl that caused drainage blockage. The Department would continue to maintain close liaison with the ArchSD to seek more effective improvement measures.

36. **The representative of the EPD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) in order to facilitate the restaurants to recycle food waste, the Department had currently set up food waste recycling points at nine RCPs under the purview of the FEHD in Kowloon City District (including the RCPs at Lung Kong Road, Peace Avenue, Kowloon City Road, Baker Street, Hok Yuen Street, Kwei Chow Street, Broadcast Drive, Kowloon City Municipal Services Building and Sung On Street);
- (ii) the Department had established five food waste recycling spots at locations with a cluster of restaurants in Kowloon City District to collect food waste at "food and beverage clusters" by means of street

booths set up at designated time and locations during nighttime, including Whampoa Garden Site 5, Wuhu Street, Gillies Avenue North, the junction of Pak Tai Street and San Shan Road in To Kwa Wan and Fuk Lo Tsun Road in Kowloon City. Nearby restaurants and the public could use these facilities to recycle food waste; and

(iii) the Department would continue to study the provision of additional food waste recycling points at suitable venues in the coming year, including establishing food waste recycling points at around 100 RCPs and setting up 100 food waste recycling spots to facilitate restaurants and the public to recycle food waste.

37. **Members** expressed that they would like the measures of the related departments to be more widely implemented in various locations with a cluster of restaurants in the area to improve the situation of food waste processing in the area and solve the problem of rodent infestation caused by food waste.

38. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he would like the related departments to strengthen anti-rodent work under their respective purview to alleviate the problem of rodent infestation in this area to minimise the impacts on residents in the area.

Item 9

Further Follow-up on the Problem of Improving Water Quality along the Seashore of Hung Hom

(FEHC Paper No. 38/2024)

- 39. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 40. **The representative of the EPD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - to prevent sewage from entering the rainwater harvesting system, the Department had been sending staff to trace the sources of sewage. When the situation of sewer misconnections in buildings were found, the Department would refer to the Buildings Department (BD) for follow-up and supervise the relevant responsibility holders to rectify misconnections in accordance with the Buildings Ordinance. If misconnections of public sewers to stormwater drains were suspected to be found, the related cases would be referred to the Drainage Services Department (DSD) for follow-up;

- (ii) in the past ten years, the Department had found a total of 32 cases of sewer misconnection in buildings and 17 cases of misconnection of public sewers to stormwater drains in Hung Hom area. Among the 32 cases of sewer misconnection in buildings, the situation of misconnection had been rectified in 24 cases and the remaining 8 cases were being followed up by the BD. As for the 17 cases relating to the misconnection of public sewers, the DSD had rectified the situation of misconnection of 15 cases and anticipated that the rectification works of the remaining two misconnection cases would be completed in 2024. The Department would continue to monitor and follow up on the water quality and odour conditions of the seashore of Hung Hom;
- (iii) the DSD and the team of the Hong Kong Science and Technology University collaborated to study the use of Malodour Control Hydrogel to control the odour, which had a positive effect on controlling the concentration of hydrogen sulfide. The DSD had placed Maldour Control Hydrogel at the outfalls of the box culverts at Kin Wan Street and along the coastlines. More hydrogels would also be placed as needed;
- (iv) the Government had introduced the Members of the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs in 2023 on the implementation of the dry weather flow interceptor (DWFI) projects at part of the coastal areas of Victoria Harbour to enhance the nearshore water quality. During the meeting, Members expressed concern about the construction cost, recurrent expenditure, costeffectiveness of the project and the impacts of the DWFIs on residents in the area; and
- (v) the Department was jointly assessing the suggestion concerning the provision of additional DWFIs with the DSD. The effectiveness in improving the near-shore water quality and odour problem in Victoria Harbour through intercepting discharge of pollutants at source from entering the harbour was remarkable. In addition to successfully reduce the pollution load in a short period of time, intercepting pollutants discharge at source was also more cost-effective than DWFIs. Therefore, the Department would continue to conduct proactive and comprehensive investigations on the sources of

pollution to trace the pollution sources and strengthen the interception of pollution at source to strive to alleviate the odour problem along the coastlines of Hung Hom.

- 41. **Members** raised the following views and enquiries:
 - the Department had jointly inspected the vicinity of Hoi Sham Park near Hung Hom harbourfront with Members in June 2024. During the inspection, Members enquired with the Department about the sources of odour in the seawater and its solutions. Members requested a reply from the Department;
 - (ii) if the problem of seawater odour at Hung Hom harbourfront would be alleviated after the DSD completed the rectification of the remaining two cases of misconnection of public sewers by the end of the year; and
 - suggested the Department to use Maldour Control Hydrogels to mitigate the problem of seawater odour before the completion of the DWFI projects.
- 42. **The representative of the EPD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - (i) after carrying out the on-site inspection with Members, the Department found that one of the problematic outfalls could not be investigated due to the influence of tidal fluctuations in seawater. The Department and the DSD were planning to use a machine with more advanced technology on a trial basis to investigate that outfall with the hope of identifying the cause of the problem;
 - (ii) the DSD promised to complete the rectification for the remaining two cases of misconnection of public sewers by the end of the year. The problem of seawater odour at Hung Hom harbourfront would be improved by then; and
 - (iii) the Department would convey Members' suggestion concerning the use of Maldour Control Hydrogels to alleviate the problem of seawater odour to the DSD.

43. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he would like the Department to report to Members the latest situation of water quality and odour problem of Hung Hom harbourfront in a timely manner during meetings.

<u>Item 10</u>

Enquiry about the Effectiveness of the Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Feral Pigeons and Proposal for the Expanding the Programme to Black Spots to Improve the Problem of Feral Pigeon Nuisance

(FEHC Paper No. 39/2024)

- 44. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 45. **Members** raised the following views and enquiries:
 - the latest amendments to the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Ordinance) would come into effect on 1 August 2024 and feral pigeons would be listed as wild animals prohibited from feeding by then. Members enquired about the details of the law enforcement operations by the related departments after the relevant amendments came into effect;
 - (ii) the publicity work by the related departments on the amendments of the Ordinance; and
 - (iii) the law enforcement arrangements at public housing estates after the amendments to the Ordinance.
- 46. **The representative of the FEHD** replied with the main points as follows:
 - the Department had yet to receive the detailed information on the enforcement of the new legislation and would report to Members again upon receipt of relevant instructions; and
 - the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) was responsible for the publicity work of the relevant Ordinance. The Department had nothing further to add.

47. **Members** suggested the representative of the FEHD to convey Members' concerns with regard to the law enforcement work after the amendments to the

Ordinance to her supervisor.

48. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he would like the FEHD and the AFCD to maintain communication regarding the enforcement details of the Ordinance and report to Members the details of the relevant law enforcement in a timely manner.

<u>Item 11</u>

<u>Concern over the Problems of Rodent Infestation and Shopfront Extensions at</u> <u>Hung Hom Market</u>

(FEHC Paper No. 40/2024)

49. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

50. **The representative of the FEHD** gave a reply as follows:

- upon receipt of the Paper, the Department had requested the contractor to step up the cleaning work and anti-rodent measures at Hung Hom Market, including the provision of additional rodent traps and Ekomille at suitable locations in the market during the small hours;
- (ii) the Department had also distributed the publicity leaflets on antirodent measures to all stall tenants so as to raise their anti-rodent awareness;
- (iii) apart from sending staff to inspect on a regular basis, the Department would arrange task forces to conduct blitz operations from time to time to tackle the problem of shopfront extensions in Hung Hom Market. The Department had reminded all stall tenants again to avoid causing the situation of passageway obstructions, or else they might be prosecuted. If stall tenants were found to cause obstructions for placing goods at passageways, the Department would take out prosecutions immediately; and
- (iv) the Department took out a total of four prosecutions against offending stalls that caused obstructions at Hung Hom Market in June 2024.

51. **The representative of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF)** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) officers of the Kowloon City Police District would conduct LUNARSHINE, an inter-departmental joint enforcement operation, with the FEHD targeting at shopfront extensions from time to time and proactively combat the problems of vehicles obstructing roads and miscellaneous articles being placed on pavements in the area;
- (ii) the Police would advise the offenders to remove the miscellaneous articles and issue warnings to repeated offenders; and
- (iii) the Police would continue to monitor the situation of shopfront extensions in the area to ensure the accessibility of roads and the safety of road users.

52. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he would like the related departments to step up publicity and law enforcement work to ensure the accessibility of roads.

<u>Item 12</u>

<u>Concern over the Matter on Obstructions Caused by Miscellaneous Articles and</u> <u>Goods at Shin Lun Lane in Kai Tak</u>

(FEHC Paper No. 41/2024)

- 53. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
- 54. **The representative of the FEHD** gave a reply as follows:
 - according to the regulation of Section 22(2)(a) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance, the staff of the Department might affix a notice on any article suspected of obstructing street cleansing work to notify the owner that the article must be removed within four hours after the issuance of notice, or else the staff of the Department would remove the relevant articles;
 - (ii) upon receipt of the Paper, the Department had immediately sent staff to inspect the vicinity of Shin Lun Lane in Kai Tak. During the inspection, it was found that handcarts and miscellaneous articles were placed there, which obstructed street cleaning work. The staff

of the Department affixed "Notices to Remove Obstruction" on the relevant articles thereafter in accordance with the regulations of the aforementioned ordinance, requesting the owners of the articles to remove the relevant articles within a specific time;

- (iii) during the re-inspection on the same day, the staff of the Department discovered that part of the articles were yet to be removed. The staff of the Department had immediately removed the relevant articles and arranged for the contractor to carry out cleaning and pest control work at relevant locations to maintain street cleanliness; and
- (iv) the relevant situations had not recurred for the time being after the law enforcement actions conducted by the Department. The Department would continue to step up inspections to prevent the recurrence of the situation.

55. **The representative of the HKPF** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the matter mentioned in the Paper had been referred to the officers of the Ngau Tau Kok Division for follow-up. The Ngau Tau Kok Division would deploy appropriate manpower to handle based on the actual situation and division resources. If the situation was appropriate, the officers of the division would consider stepping up patrols and taking appropriate actions at related locations; and
- (ii) the Police would conduct joint operations with related government departments to combat illegal acts in a timely manner.

56. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he would like the related departments to strengthen co-operation and improve the environment of the community with concerted efforts.

Item 13 Any Other Business

57. No items were further raised by **Members**.

Item 14 Date of Next Meeting

58. **The Chairman** announced that the next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 10 September 2024 and the closing date for submission of papers would be 26 August 2024.

59. **The Chairman** announced the adjournment of the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 10 September 2024.

The Chairman

The Secretary

KCDC Secretariat September 2024