

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of
Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee,
the 7th Term Kwun Tong District Council**

Date: 19 March 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: 2:33 p.m. – 3:59 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Kwun Tong District Office,
Unit 05-07, 20/F, Millennium City 6, 392 Kwun Tong Road,
Kwun Tong, Kowloon

Present

Mr TAM Siu-cheuk (Chairman)

Mr LAM Wai (Vice-chairman)

Mr YU Siu-lun

Mr YU Ka-ming

Mr NG Ting-fung

Mr LUI Tung-hai, MH

Mr LEE Ka-hang

Mr LAM Fung, MH

Ms KAM Kin

Mr MA Yat-chiu, MH

Mr CHEUNG Yiu-pan

Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong

Mr HSU Yau-wei

Mr CHAN Yiu-hung, Jimmy, MH

Mr TSANG Wing-fai

Ms CHING Hoi-yan

Ms FENG Yunsi

Mr WONG Chun-ping, MH, JP

Mr WONG Kai-san

Mr LAU Kar-wah

Mr AU YEUNG Kwan-nok

Mr CHENG Keung-fung

Mr LAI Wing-chun, MH

Mr KAN Ming-tung, MH

Mr KWAN Kin-wing

Mr PANG Chi-sang

In Attendance

Mr LAM Fuk-leong, Jack

Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong) 2,
Kwun Tong District Office

Mr CHOW Lap-kan, Douglas

Senior Executive Officer (District Council),
Kwun Tong District Office

Miss CHOW Tak-sum, Amy

Senior Executive Officer (District Management),
Kwun Tong District Office

Ms LAW Kit-nor

District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwun Tong),
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms OR Ying-ying	Chief Health Inspector (Kwun Tong) 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms CHAU King-mui, Alice	Chief Health Inspector (Kwun Tong) 2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr HO Pok-man	Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Kwun Tong 2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr TANG Tsz-chun, Tommy	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) 3, Environmental Protection Department
Mr LAM Cheuk-fung, Simon	Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East)33, Environmental Protection Department
Mr LAW Hang-kong	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Kwun Tong)1, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Secretary

Mr WONG King-yui, Bobby	Executive Officer (District Council) 1, Kwun Tong District Office
Ms TSOI Hung-man, Anna	Executive Officer (District Council) 2, Kwun Tong District Office

In Attendance by Invitation

Ms PANG Ka-ki	Acting Housing Manager (East Kowloon 4), Housing Department	Item VI
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Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all Members of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (“FEHC”) and government representatives to the 2nd meeting of FEHC under the 7th Term Kwun Tong District Council (“KTDC”).

I. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

2. Members had no further comments and the minutes of the first meeting were confirmed.

II. Progress of Preparation for Municipal Solid Waste Charging
(KTDC FEHC Paper No. 4/2024)

3. The representative of the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”) presented the paper.
4. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:
 - 4.1 Members commended EPD for its preliminary work on Municipal Solid Waste Charging (“MSW charging”), including the installation of Smart Food Waste Bins (“SFWBs”) in housing estates, and enquired why some civil servant quarters had not been equipped with SFWBs.
 - 4.2 Members said that EPD should step up its efforts to explain to residents how to operate SFWBs and enquired about the frequency of clearing the bins and the time required for repairing equipment failures.
 - 4.3 Members suggested that EPD set up food waste recycling points at various locations of the community for restaurants, shops or residents of three-nil buildings to dispose of food waste.
 - 4.4 Members were concerned about the arrangements for the implementation of MSW charging at three-nil buildings and squatter areas and hoped that EPD would enhance communication with residents.
 - 4.5 Members recommended that EPD support housing estates in installing monitoring devices to monitor corridor waste issues.
 - 4.6 Members were concerned about the frequent overflow of recycling bins and suggested that EPD increase the capacity of recycling bins or install smart recycling bins to monitor the recycling status using the Internet-of-Things technology. Members also recommended posting QR codes on recycling bins for members of the public to report situations of overflowing bins.
 - 4.7 Members enquired about the mechanism and criteria for the installation of used clothes recycling banks.
 - 4.8 Members suggested that EPD install GREEN\$ gift redemption units in different housing

estates to facilitate the public to redeem gifts.

5. The representative of EPD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
 - 5.1 Food waste recycling in public housing estates: EPD stated that 66 SFWBs had been installed in 19 public housing estates in Kwun Tong District, and the installation of such facilities in the remaining 12 public housing estates in the district was expected to be completed in August this year.
 - 5.2 Food waste recycling in private properties: EPD said that the Environmental Campaign Committee ("ECC") under EPD had an Environment and Conservation Fund with the aim of subsidising private housing estates with a total household number of no less than 1 000 in installing SFWBs. Each housing estate could receive subsidies for installing up to 20 SFWBs. Sceneway Garden and Amoy Gardens in Kwun Tong District had started using SFWBs for food waste recycling. Richland Gardens' application had been approved and was expected to begin food waste recycling in April 2024. EPD was reviewing and approving applications from other housing estates and expected to notify the housing estates of the application results in about two months. ECC was also considering extending the subsidy scheme to private housing estates with a total household number of less than 1 000. Details would be announced later.
 - 5.3 EPD indicated that private housing estates could also apply to participate in the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Collection and use traditional food waste recycling bins for food waste collection. Some housing estates would place 120-litre traditional food waste recycling bins near refuse collection points ("RCPs").
 - 5.4 EPD stated that it was currently setting up "community food waste mobile collection spots" in Sha Tin District on a pilot basis to collect food waste generated by nearby restaurants and residents at fixed locations and times. The department intended to gradually extend the scheme to other districts, including Kwun Tong District, in the second quarter of this year.
 - 5.5 Restaurant food waste recycling: EPD stated that Food Waste Recycling Points were set up at 60 RCPs in the territory, including four located in Kwun Tong District, to collect food waste from nearby restaurants. Additionally, the department also set up Food Waste Recycling Spots in locations packed with eateries in Tai Po, Yuen Long, Tuen Mun and Sha Tin Districts to collect restaurant food waste using mobile trucks. The scheme would also gradually expand to other districts, including Kwun Tong District, in

the second quarter of this year.

- 5.6 Support for three-nil buildings: EPD said that the Green Outreach had regularly carried out publicity and education campaigns in the community to help residents understand the arrangements for purchasing designated bags. In addition, the department would distribute 120 15-litre designated bags for free to residents of three-nil buildings and public housing estates at the initial stage of the implementation of MSW charging, so that residents could gradually adapt to MSW charging.
- 5.7 EPD stated that the first six months after MSW charging took effect would be designated as a “phasing-in period”, and members of the public would be encouraged to change their behaviour and habits through publicity and education campaigns to reduce waste generation.
- 5.8 Community recycling points: EPD said that there were currently three GREEN@COMMUNITY Recycling Stations or Recycling Stores in Kwun Tong District. The department would set up Recycling Stores in different public housing estates and expected that the Recycling Stores in Shun Lee Estate, Yau Lai Estate, Ping Tin Estate and Sau Mau Ping Estate would be put into service in the second quarter.
- 5.9 Support for squatter areas: EPD stated that free designated bags would be distributed to residents in squatter areas after the implementation of MSW charging. Details would be announced later.

6. Members raised follow-up views and enquiries as follows:

- 6.1 Members were concerned about the implementation of MSW charging in squatter areas and were worried that the policy would lead to the deterioration of environmental hygiene on hillsides and seashores. Members hoped that EPD would arrange for the Green Outreach to carry out publicity and education campaigns in squatter areas in Lei Yue Mun and Cha Kwo Ling, and install SFWBs in these areas.
- 6.2 Members hoped that EPD would extend the period for distribution of free designated bags and provide more of them for Members to carry out community publicity on MSW charging.
- 6.3 Members were concerned about the installation of SFWBs and relayed that some of them often broke down or overflowed. In their view, EPD should install more SFWBs

in residential areas and step up its efforts to explain to the public how to operate them. Members also enquired about the performance pledges of the SFWB contractors.

- 6.4 Members hoped that EPD would arrange more frequently for staff to promote its policies to the public in the community and promptly address public enquiries.
- 6.5 Members believed that apart from laying down penalties, EPD could roll out more positive measures to encourage the public to continue waste separation and recycling efforts. In their view, EPD should explain to the public how the collected food waste would be treated and enquired about the exact opening date of O-PARK2.
- 6.6 Members recommended that EPD take the initiative to visit different private housing estates to promote the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in Private Housing Estates and expedite the review and approval of applications for SFWBs in private housing estates.
- 6.7 Members enquired whether EPD would increase the number of SFWBs in existing housing estates to meet the needs of residents.
- 6.8 Members pointed out that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”) reduced the number of litter containers on the streets to align with MSW charging. However, the public relayed that the number of litter containers in some areas was too few, and hoped that the department could make appropriate adjustments to meet public needs.
- 6.9 Members relayed to EPD that used clothes recycling banks and SFWBs often overflow, which affected environmental hygiene and might even cause rodent infestations. They hoped that EPD would provide more of such facilities.

7. The representative of EPD responded to Members’ views and enquires as follows:

- 7.1 EPD stated that it would ask relevant officers to follow up on the overflow and equipment faults of SFWBs, as well as the food waste recycling arrangements for civil servant quarters.
- 7.2 Movements of food waste: EPD said that the food waste currently collected would be delivered to food waste treatment facilities, including O-PARK1, for central treatment and waste-to-energy processing, while O-PARK2 was under construction.

7.3 Recycling arrangements: EPD stated that in addition to submitting recyclables to recycling facilities and Recycling Spots, members of the public could use the off-site collection services provided by GREEN@KWUN TONG and GREEN@YUE MAN SQUARE for over 120 housing estates and residential buildings in the district. EPD would also continue to explore ways to expand the recycling network.

7.4 Publicity and education: as of February this year, the Green Outreach of EPD had liaised with over 280 property management companies and residents' organisations in Kwun Tong District to publicise MSW charging. It had also organised over 300 publicity campaigns to engage different sectors of the community. EPD said it would continue to step up the relevant efforts.

8. Members raised follow-up views and enquiries as follows:

8.1 Members suggested that EPD strengthen publicity on MSW charging through large media outlets.

8.2 Member anticipated a significant increase in the usage of SFWBs after the implementation of MSW charging and suggested that EPD increase the capacity of SFWBs and urge contractors to increase the frequency of food waste collection.

8.3 Members pointed out that many members of the public purchased household food waste machines and recommended that EPD collaborate with experts to explore whether self-handling of domestic food waste would lead to other problems, such as drainage blockage. Members also enquired about how EPD would recycle the food waste handled by members of the public themselves.

8.4 Members relayed that frontline cleaning workers lacked environmental awareness and suggested that EPD step up publicity and education for them.

8.5 Members considered that the existing supporting facilities for MSW charging were inadequate, and urged EPD to expedite the setting up of GREEN@COMMUNITY collection points, SFWBs, GREEN\$ gift redemption units and other facilities to cultivate the habit of waste separation and recycling among members of the public.

- 8.6 Members requested that EPD provide information on the installation of food waste recycling facilities in various housing estates, making it easier for Members to explain the arrangements to the public.
 - 8.7 Members suggested that EPD install SFWBs in public markets for public use.
 - 8.8 Members said that EPD had earlier distributed domestic food waste buckets to residents, and recommended that the department adopt the same approach when installing SFWBs in other housing estates.
9. The representative of EPD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
- 9.1 Publicity on waste separation, recycling and MSW charging: EPD stated that in addition to the Green Outreach, the Environment and Ecology Bureau and the department had produced multiple publicity and education videos to explain the MSW charging arrangements and recycling procedures to the public. EPD would continue to strengthen publicity and education efforts.
 - 9.2 Demonstration Scheme: EPD stated that starting from 1 April, MSW charging would be implemented on a pilot basis in some government and commercial buildings with a view to grasping the overall situation of the implementation of the scheme and addressing related issues.
 - 9.3 Overflowing recycling bins: EPD said it would ask relevant officers to follow up on the relevant issues.
 - 9.4 Food waste recycling: EPD said it would continue to review the recycling facilities currently required in different districts, and expected that the existing pilot scheme would be extended to other districts, including Kwun Tong District, in the second quarter of this year.
10. Members raised follow-up views and enquiries as follows:
- 10.1 Members hoped that EPD would step up its efforts to explain the purpose of MSW charging to the public and undertake to use the revenue therefrom for environmental policies.

- 10.2 Members hoped that EPD would elaborate on the arrangements for the implementation of MSW charging in squatter areas at the next meeting.
 - 10.3 Members enquired whether housing estates with a total household number of less than 1 000 would be prosecuted for cleaning litter bins and food waste recycling facilities in public places after the implementation of MSW charging.
 - 10.4 Members requested EPD to consider the arrangements for frontline cleaning workers to handle waste, such as how to deal with torn designated bags during refuse collection and whether waste could be charged by weight, so as to enhance the efficiency of refuse collection.
 - 10.5 Members hoped that EPD would provide data on food waste collection in various housing estates.
11. The representative of EPD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
- 11.1 EPD stated that it would continue to review the food waste recycling situation in public housing estates from time to time and planned to install SFWBs in the remaining 12 public housing estates in Kwun Tong District in August this year.
 - 11.2 Food waste collection data: as of the end of February 2024, EPD had collected over 2 400 tonnes of food waste in Kwun Tong District through the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Collection, with an average daily collection of around 6.3 tonnes.
 - 11.3 Food waste recycling in single-block buildings: EPD indicated that relevant buildings could apply to EPD for the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Collection. In addition, EEC was considering extending the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in Private Housing Estates to private housing estates with less than 1 000 households. Details were yet to be announced.
 - 11.4 Revenue from MSW charging: EPD stated that the revenue would be used for recycling and waste reduction, such as operating and expanding the community recycling network GREEN@COMMUNITY and the food waste recycling network, as well as supporting the Green Outreach's further publicity on MSW charging, clean recycling and producer responsibility schemes.

11.5 Responsibilities of frontline cleaning workers: EPD stated that the purpose of MSW charging was not to regulate cleaning workers but to achieve waste reduction at source. Currently, the relevant legislation included a defence to protect cleaning workers who complied with the guidelines from prosecution.

12. The Chairman hoped that EPD officers responsible for relevant policies could brief Members on the department's schemes and policies at the next meeting, including the food waste recycling timetable for public housing estates, applications for the scheme on food waste recycling in private housing estates, community food waste mobile collection spots, Food Waste Recycling Spots for restaurants, setting up GREEN@COMMUNITY collection points in Kwun Tong District, the MSW charging arrangements for squatter areas and the Green Outreach's publicity and education efforts, so that KTDC could collaborate with Care Teams in assisting the Government with promoting the relevant policies. The Chairman also hoped that officers responsible for SFWBs would give Members an account of issues such as the overflow and equipment faults of SFWBs at the next meeting.

13. Members noted the paper.

III. Hawker Management Consultative Committees of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
(KTDC FEHC Paper No. 5/2024)

14. The representative of FEHD presented the paper.

15. The Chairman stated that Mr YU Siu-lun was interested in joining the hawker management consultative committee.

16. Due to only one KTDC Member expressing interest, the Chairman announced that Mr YU Siu-lun would serve as the representative of the Hawker Management Consultative Committee for Yue Man Hawker Bazaar.

17. Members noted the paper.

IV. Market Management Consultative Committees of Public Markets under FEHD
(KTDC FEHC Paper No. 6/2024)

18. The representative of FEHD presented the paper.

19. The Chairman stated that four Members were interested in joining the Market Management Consultative Committee for Ngau Tau Kok Market, and the representative of FEHD agreed to the arrangement.

20. After discussion, the Chairman announced the recommendation of the following KTDC Members for appointment to the respective market management consultative committees:

Market Name	Quota for Recommendation	KTDC Members recommended for appointment to Market Management Consultative Committees
Ngau Tau Kok Market	4 (quota increased from 3 to 4)	Mr YU Ka-ming Mr LEE Ka-hang Mr CHEUNG Yiu-pan Ms LEUNG Sze-wan
Shui Wo Street Market	3	Mr NG Ting-fung Ms CHING Hoi-yan Mr TAM Siu-cheuk
Yee On Street Market Tsun Yip Cooked Food Market Kwun Tong Ferry Concourse Cooked Food Market	2	Ms KAM Kin Mr LAM Wai
Lei Yue Mun Market Sze Shan Street Cooked Food Market Tung Yuen Street Cooked Food Market	2	Mr WONG Kai-san Mr PANG Chi-sang

21. Members noted the paper.

V. Community Green Ambassador Scheme of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (KTDC FEHC Paper No. 7/2024)

22. The representative of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) presented the paper.

23. The Chairman indicated that five KTDC Members were interested in serving as Community Green Ambassadors, namely Ms CHING Hoi-yan, Ms Sophia LEE, Mr NG Ting-fung, Mr KWAN Kin-wing and Ms KAM Kin.

24. As there was no upper limit on the number of ambassadors, the Chairman announced that the above five KTDC Members would serve as Community Green Ambassadors until the end of December 2025.

25. Members noted the paper.

VI. Environmental Hygiene Problems in Kwun Tong District
(KTDC FEHC Paper No. 8/2024)

26. The Secretary presented the paper.

27. The Chairman suggested sending reply slips regarding the follow-up of environmental hygiene problems in Kwun Tong District to all KTDC Members in future. The Chairman hoped that FEHD would report to Members on the latest situation of the existing hygiene blackspots in Kwun Tong District at the next meeting.

28. The representative of FEHD responded that the department had been following up on the situation of the hygiene blackspots in the district and would present relevant information at the next meeting.

29. The Chairman recommended that FEHC conduct site inspections of hygiene blackspots in future, allowing Members to follow up on the situation. Further details would be discussed with the Assistant District Officer later.

30. Members noted the paper.

VII. Any Other Business

31. Members added that they received a reply from the Government Property Agency stating that the Government currently handled food waste from government-owned civil servant quarters through centralised recycling, with EPD being responsible for coordinating related work. However, the civil

servant quarters at Yau Mei Court and Ko Cheung Court were unable to participate in the centralised recycling scheme due to property ownership issues. Members suggested that EPD consider including the above two civil servant quarters in the scheme.

32. The Chairman requested that EPD respond to the relevant suggestions at the next meeting.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

33. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 p.m. on 9 May 2024 (Tuesday).

34. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 14 May 2024.

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat
May 2024