

(Translation)

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

Date: 14 January 2025 (Tuesday)

Time: 2:32 p.m. – 4:03 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 CHAN Yiu-hung, Jimmy, MH
Mr LAM Wai (Vice-chairman)	Mr TSANG Wing-fai
Mr YU Siu-lun	Ms CHING Hoi-yan
Mr YU Ka-ming	Ms FENG Yunsi
Mr NG Ting-fung	Mr WONG Kai-san
Ms LEE Shuk-woon, Sophia	Mr LAU Kar-wah
Mr LEE Ka-hang	Mr CHENG Keung-fung
Mr LAM Fung, MH	Mr LAI Wing-chun, MH
Ms KAM Kin	Mr KAN Ming-tung, MH
Mr MA Yat-chiu, MH	Mr KWAN Kin-wing
Mr CHEUNG Yiu-pan	Mr PANG Chi-sang
Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong	Ms CHAN Ka-man (Co-opted Member)
Ms FU Pik-chun, MH	Mr CAI Zi-liang (Co-opted Member)
Mr HSU Yau-wai	

In Attendance

Mr CHEUNG Ka-long, Kelvin	Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)2
Mr CHOW Lap-kan, Douglas	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr FUNG Chun-kin	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
Dr ZHAO Quan Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East)3,
Environmental Protection Department
Mr TANG Tsz-chun, Tommy Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East)31
Environmental Protection Department
Mr LAW Hang-kong Deputy District Leisure Manager (Kwun Tong)1,
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms TSANG Yuen-ping, Florence Housing Manager/Kowloon East 4,
Housing Department

Secretary

Mr WONG King-yui, Bobby Executive Officer (District Council)1,
Kwun Tong District Office

In Attendance by Invitation

Ms YIP Yuen-ming, Louisa Fauna Conservation Officer (Operation)5 **Item II**
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all Members of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (“FEHC”) and government representatives to the 7th 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 6th meeting were confirmed.

II. Monkey and Wild Pig Management

3. The representative of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”) presented the paper.

4. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

- 4.1 Members suggested that AFCD hold wildlife education talks at primary and secondary schools.
 - 4.2 Members enquired whether AFCD had set a target number of wild animals in Hong Kong in order to maintain ecological balance.
 - 4.3 Members enquired why AFCD handled monkeys and wild pigs in different ways.
 - 4.4 Members mentioned that monkeys were spotted in Shun Lee Estate's Lee Hang House and Lei Yue Mun Estate, and enquired how AFCD would follow up on the issue of monkeys appearing in urban areas.
 - 4.5 Members enquired about the recorded numbers of sightings of monkeys and wild pigs in Kwun Tong District.
 - 4.6 Members recommended that AFCD strengthen efforts to educate the public against feeding monkeys and wild pigs and promote relevant messages to residents in housing estates.
 - 4.7 Members asked whether AFCD would place pedal-operated trash bins in housing estates or the countryside.
 - 4.8 Members enquired how AFCD decided on the locations for installing monitoring devices for monkeys and wild pigs.
 - 4.9 Members enquired how AFCD would formulate new measures for the management of monkeys and wild pigs in the light of the development of new towns.
 - 4.10 Members enquired with AFCD whether wild animals ventured into urban areas in search of food due to insufficient food in the countryside, and whether there were signs of an increase in the presence of monkeys and wild pigs in urban areas.
 - 4.11 Members suggested that AFCD educate the public on how to handle encounters with wild animals through promotional videos.
 - 4.12 Members urged AFCD to step up enforcement against illegal feeding of wild animals.
5. The representative of AFCD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

- 5.1 AFCD stated that its staff would drive the monkeys appearing in the community to the hillsides and would also increase patrols in the communities where monkeys were spotted.
- 5.2 As for monkeys causing more serious nuisance to the community, AFCD staff would capture the monkeys, sterilise them where appropriate, and then return them to country parks far from the capture location.
- 5.3 Regarding public housing estates or courts where monkeys frequently appeared, AFCD would share with property management offices and security personnel the methods for preventing monkeys' nuisance and driving them away.
- 5.4 AFCD stated that it had intensified patrols in areas where wild pigs had previously been spotted, such as the areas around O King Road, Bauhinia Trail and Pik Wan Road.
- 5.5 AFCD staff prosecuted a person for illegally feeding wild pigs near Lam Tin Park in 2023.
- 5.6 AFCD stated that there were about 20 cases of wild pig or monkey sightings in Kwun Tong District every year.
- 5.7 AFCD advised that it would recommend the type of pedal-operated trash bins to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") or venue managers based on the available space and conditions at different locations.
- 5.8 AFCD indicated that it would attach infrared automatic cameras to the lower parts of tree trunks in country parks to monitor the frequency of wild animal activity.
- 5.9 AFCD mentioned that it launched a series of publicity and education campaigns themed "All For No Feeding" in the first quarter of 2024, which included setting up street counters in all 18 districts to educate the public about the negative impacts of feeding wild animals and to explain the latest feeding restrictions and penalties.
- 5.10 AFCD stated that the countryside should be able to provide sufficient food for monkeys.

6. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

- 6.1 Members enquired about how many publicity and education activities AFCD had held at primary and secondary schools, as well as the details of these activities.

6.2 Members asked again why AFCD handled wild monkeys and wild pigs in different ways and whether it had set a target number of wild animals.

7. The representative of AFCD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

7.1 AFCD stated that over the years, it had held various publicity and education activities and workshops at kindergartens, primary schools, and secondary schools, such as allowing students to redesign urban trash bins. Furthermore, the department would also hold handicraft workshops at elderly centres where the elderly created artworks with country park flora as the theme.

7.2 AFCD shared that it had invited experts to review the current management of monkeys and wild pigs, with a view to exploring ways to enhance the relevant work.

7.3 AFCD explained that the reproductive capacity of wild pigs was significantly higher than that of monkeys, and sterilisation alone could not effectively control the number of wild pigs. Therefore, the department handled wild pigs by means of euthanasia.

8. The Chairman concluded Members' views and requested AFCD to (i) provide the Secretariat with information on the management of monkeys and wild pigs; (ii) invite Members through the Secretariat to participate in wildlife-related operations conducted in Kwun Tong District; (iii) provide Members with prosecution figures under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance after the meeting; and (iv) consult KTDC when reviewing wildlife management policies.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat forwarded information on AFCD's monkey and wild pig management to Members on 26 February 2025.]

9. Members noted the relevant matters.

III. Progress report on environmental hygiene issues by FEHD **(KTDC FEHC Paper No. 1/2025)**

10. The representative of FEHD presented the paper.

11. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

11.1 Members enquired why the Gravidtrap Index ("GI") was recorded as zero in some areas.

- 11.2 Members enquired when FEHD began implementing the new demarcation arrangements for GI survey areas.
- 11.3 FEHD enquired about the reasons for the apparent discrepancy between the number of “unauthorised bills and posters removed” and the “prosecution figures”.
12. The representative of FEHD responded to Members’ views and enquiries as follows:
- 12.1 FEHD advised that GI was used for monitoring the dengue vector of Aedine mosquitoes. As Hong Kong had entered the winter season, the absence of the dengue vector of Aedine mosquitoes was considered normal.
- 12.2 FEHD mentioned that the new demarcation arrangements for GI survey areas had been implemented starting from 1 January 2025. The department would update the relevant information in the paper for the next meeting.
- 12.3 FEHD explained that the number of “unauthorised bills and posters removed” referred to the total number of such items removed by cleaning workers on a daily basis. The 26 prosecution cases represented the number of fixed penalty notices issued by the department to individuals who had illegally put up bills or posters under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance. If sufficient evidence was collected from the seized promotional materials, the department would consider prosecuting the beneficiaries of the promotional materials and recovering the removal costs.
13. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:
- 13.1 Members commended FEHD for conscientiously following up on environmental hygiene issues in the district. They pointed out that during their inspection of hygiene blackspots on 10 January 2025, they noticed significant improvements in the hygiene conditions of the rooftop gardens above the car parks of Tin Kei House and Tin Chi House in Shun Tin Estate.
- 13.2 Members were concerned about the reprovisioning works of the Ling Nam Sun Tsuen Public Toilet. They pointed out that setting up a temporary toilet near One East Coast might draw opposition from residents and enquired whether the reprovisioning works could be completed in the first quarter of 2026.

14. The representative of FEHD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

14.1 FEHD stated that the Architectural Services Department ("ArchSD") was currently planning to use the open-trenching method for the reprovisioning works, which was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2026. If the project proceeded smoothly, the department did not foresee the need to build a temporary toilet.

15. The Chairman thanked Members for participating in the inspection and year-end clean-up campaign on 13 January 2025.

16. Members noted the paper.

**IV. Environmental Hygiene Problems in Kwun Tong District
(KTDC FEHC Paper No. 2/2025)**

17. The Secretary presented the paper.

18. The Chairman briefed Members on the improvements in environmental hygiene issues in Kwun Tong District.

19. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

19.1 Members commended FEHD and other departments for conscientiously following up on environmental hygiene issues in the district, which led to significant improvements in the local hygiene conditions.

19.2 Members enquired about the cleaning staff arrangements during the Lunar New Year period.

19.3 Members were concerned about the rodent infestation problem in Lok Wah South Estate and suggested that FEHD and the Housing Department ("HD") expand the scope of their inspection.

20. The representative of FEHD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

20.1 FEHD thanked FEHC, Kwun Tong District Office staff and other government departments for their support, which enabled the department to more effectively follow up on environmental hygiene issues in the district.

20.2 FEHD indicated that it would actively follow up on the environmental hygiene issues raised by Members and would step up street cleaning during the year-end and Lunar New Year periods.

21. Members noted the paper.

V. Any Other Business

22. The representative of HD presented the tabled paper.

23. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

23.1 Members enquired whether HD would take enforcement action against individuals who illegally fed feral pigeons in Tenants Purchase Scheme (“TPS”) estates.

23.2 Members hoped that HD would follow up on the problem of congregation of feral pigeons on the footbridge connecting Hing Tin Estate and Lam Tin Estate.

23.3 Members enquired why the figures for penalty points and fixed penalty notices for “handling dog fouling” and “feeding feral pigeons” were both zero.

23.4 Members pointed out that some people fed feral pigeons at night outside the Yau Lai Estate Management Office. They suggested that HD install closed-circuit television cameras there and strengthen night enforcement actions.

23.5 Members asked whether HD prohibited public rental housing (“PRH”) tenants from keeping dogs.

23.6 Members pointed out that HD’s current methods for handling the issues of dog fouling and feeding feral pigeons were not very effective, and suggested that the department review its approach.

23.7 Members enquired how HD would handle the issue of non-PRH tenants allowing their

dogs to foul freely in the public housing estate areas.

23.8 Members enquired about the method for calculating the inspection figures and the identity of the inspection officers.

24. The representative of HD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

24.1 HD explained that all misdeeds items under the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement in Public Housing Estates were also applicable to tenants in TPS estates. In case of non-compliance, the estate's owners' corporation/its appointed management company would have to follow up on evidence collection and record-keeping and then refer the case to HD for follow-up on penalty point issues.

24.2 HD stated that it would assign dedicated staff to strengthen inspections and enforcement in Yau Lai Estate.

24.3 HD pointed out that it would consider granting conditional approval, under the principle of not causing nuisance, to tenants with medical certificates proving the need for companionship of dogs to keep service dogs in their flats.

24.4 HD mentioned that in the case of dogs fouling indiscriminately in PRH areas, if the dog owner was a PRH tenant, the department would allot penalty points or issue a fixed penalty notice to the tenant. As for non-PRH tenants, the department would require them to leave.

24.5 HD indicated that the personnel currently responsible for inspections included HD staff, building supervisors, and security guards. Furthermore, HD's regional management office would also dispatch special duties teams to various housing estates for enforcement. If Members identified any blackspots, they could notify the relevant estate offices. Apart from stepping up inspections and enforcement, the estate offices would also report these blackspots to the special duties teams for focused follow-up actions.

25. The Chairman hoped that HD would not only strengthen inspections but also step up enforcement actions.

26. Members requested FEHD to follow up on the odour problem outside Kai Tin Towers on Kai Tin Road, as well as the pigeon droppings issue outside Kai Wong House.

27. The Chairman asked Members to report the streets and locations in the district that needed cleaning, so that FEHD could follow up.

28. Members noted the matters.

VI. Date of Next Meeting

29. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 p.m. on 18 March 2025 (Tuesday).

30. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 18 March 2025

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat
March 2025