

Sai Kung District Council
Environmental Hygiene, Climate Change, Agriculture and Fisheries Committee
Minutes of the Third Meeting in 2020

Date: 21 May 2020 (Thursday)

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room of the Sai Kung District Council

<u>Present</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Ms CHAN Ka-lam, Debby (Chairman)	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr CHUN Hoi-shing (Vice-Chairman)	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr CHAN Wai-lit	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr CHAU Yin-ming, Francis, BBS, MH	9:30 a.m.	4:40 p.m.
Mr CHENG Chung-man	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr CHEUNG Wai-chiu	10:01 a.m.	6:07 p.m.
Mr CHOI Ming-hei	10:50 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr CHUNG Kam-lun	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	2:20 p.m.	6:15 p.m.
Ms FONG Kwok-shan, Christine	9:30 a.m.	6:35 p.m.
Mr FUNG Kwan-on	9:43 a.m.	6:26 p.m.
Mr HO Wai-hong, Stanley	10:10 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr LAI Ming-chak	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr LAI Wai-tong	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr LAM Siu-chung, Frankie	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr LEE Ka-yui	9:45 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr LEE Yin-ho, Ryan	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Ms LEUNG Hin-yan	9:44 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr LUI Man-kwong	9:30 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr TSE Ching-fung	9:50 a.m.	6:50 p.m.
Ms WONG Cheuk-nga, Valerie	12:30 p.m.	6:50 p.m.
Mr YIP Brandon Kenneth	9:45 a.m.	5:55 p.m.
Mr YU Tsun-ning	9:44 a.m.	6:14 p.m.
Ms YU Hau-ling, Candy (Secretary)	Executive Assistant (District Council) 9, Sai Kung District Office	

In Attendance

Mr CHOW Tat-wing, Cyrus	Assistant District Officer (Sai Kung) 1, Sai Kung District Office
Mr CHENG Chi-wing, Ken	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Sai Kung District Office
Mr WONG Cheuk-yin, Steven	Liaison Officer i/c (Tseung Kwan O) N (Acting), Sai Kung District Office

Mr KWOK Tun-yiu, Donald	Executive Assistant (District Council) 10, Sai Kung District Office
Ms OR Siu-shan	Chief Health Inspector (Sai Kung) 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms LAM Wai-ki	Chief Health Inspector (Sai Kung) 2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Miss WONG Bo-yee	Health Inspector (Pest Control) Sai Kung, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr LEE Pak-ho	Senior Health Inspector (Adm & Dev) SD, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr YAU Wan-po, Wallace	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sai Kung) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Miss WONG Ho-ying, Connie	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) 4, Environmental Protection Department
Mr TSANG Ka-lok, Raymond	Administrative Assistant/Lands, District Lands Office, Sai Kung
Dr YIP Yin, Jackie	Senior Conservation Officer (Biodiversity), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Mr SO Lok-hin	Conservation Officer (Biodiversity) 4, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Mr WONG Wing-fai, Freddy	Senior Engineer/Mainland South 6, Drainage Services Department
Mr SUEN Ka-wang	Engineer/Tseung Kwan O, Drainage Services Department
Mr LAM Hoi-ching	Engineer/Sai Kung, Drainage Services Department
Mr CHAN Chi-kit, Michael	Engineer/Flood Control 2, Drainage Services Department
Ms LEE Ching-man	Engineer/Flood Resilience 2, Drainage Services Department
Mr WONG Chi-yung	Senior Engineer/District, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Miss FUNG Choi-sim, Angela	Engineer/District 1, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms Frances YEUNG	Senior Campaigner, Greenpeace East Asia
Ms Kate LIN	Senior Campaigner, Greenpeace East Asia

Welcome Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all Members and attendees to the meeting, in particular Mr Raymond TSANG, Administrative Assistant/Lands, District Lands Office, Sai Kung (DLO/SK), who succeeded Mr CHAN Yuk-cheung, Administrative Assistant/Lands, DLO/SK, on retirement.

2. Members noted that Mr LEUNG Li had applied for withdrawal from the Environmental Hygiene, Climate Change, Agriculture and Fisheries Committee (EHCCAFC) on 27 April 2020. The updated membership list of EHCCAFC was endorsed at the full council meeting of SKDC held on 5 May 2020.

I. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2nd Environmental Hygiene, Climate Change, Agriculture and Fisheries Committee (EHCCAFC) Meeting held on 19 March 2020

3. The Chairman said the Secretariat had not received any proposed amendment before the meeting. There being no other proposed amendment, the Chairman declared that the captioned minutes were confirmed.

II. New Items

4. As the contents of New Item (A), Motions (10) and (11) were relevant, and there being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that they would be discussed together.

(A) Ability and measures of Sai Kung district in tackling the climate crisis
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 52/20)

5. The Chairman welcomed:

Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD)

- Mr WONG Chi-yung, Senior Engineer/District
- Miss Angela FUNG, Engineer/District 1

Drainage Services Department (DSD)

- Mr Freddy WONG, Senior Engineer/Mainland South 6
- Mr SUEN Ka-wang, Engineer/Tseung Kwan O
- Mr LAM Hoi-ching, Engineer/Sai Kung
- Mr Michael CHAN, Engineer/Flood Control 2
- Ms LEE Ching-man, Engineer/Flood Resilience 2

Greenpeace East Asia

- Ms Kate LIN, Senior Campaigner
- Ms Frances YEUNG, Senior Campaigner

6. Ms Frances YEUNG and Ms Kate LIN of Greenpeace East Asia introduced the content based on the presentation slides shown.

(10) Urge the government departments concerned to enhance their strategies on tackling climate change and disasters in rural areas
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 77/20)

7. The Chairman said the motion was moved by herself and seconded by Messrs YU Tsun-ning, Stanley HO and Ms LEUNG Hin-yan.

(11) Urge the Government to study the impact of climate change on the coastal areas in Sai Kung district and propose forward-looking response measures as soon as possible

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 78/20)

8. The Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr LAI Wai-tong and seconded by Messrs Gary FAN, CHUN Hoi-shing, CHUNG Kam-lun, LUI Man-kwong, Frankie LAM, LAI Ming-chak and FUNG Kwan-on.

9. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 52/20, 107/20, 109/20, 110/20, 111/20, 112/20, 113/20, 114/20, 115/20 and 116/20, which were the replies from the Environment Bureau (ENB), Development Bureau (DEVB), Fire Services Department (FSD), Environmental Protection Department (EPD), CEDD, DSD, the Planning Department (PlanD) and Marine Department (MD).

10. Ms Christine FONG said the content of the presentation of Greenpeace East Asia was similar to the views of SKDC, she suggested the government departments concerned to respond first.

11. The Chairman hoped that CEDD would explain the content and scope of the “Study on Coastal Hazards under Climate Change and Extreme Weather and Formulation of Improvement Measures”.

12. Mr WONG Chi-yung of CEDD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- CEDD had commissioned a consultant in April 2019 to undertake a feasibility study entitled “Coastal Hazards under Climate Change and Extreme Weather and Formulation of Improvement Measures – Feasibility Study”. The study aimed to conduct a comprehensive review of the low-lying coastal and windy locations, carry out relevant investigations on storm surge and wave and assess the impacts of extreme weather on the low-lying coastal and windy locations;
- The consultant had largely completed identification of the low-lying coastal and windy locations in Hong Kong, which included the Eastern District and Southern District of the Hong Kong Island, Tseung Kwan O, Sai Kung and Lei Yue Mun, etc.;
- CEDD had collected geographical and environmental information on the low-lying

coastal and windy locations, including coastline, coastal topography, bathymetry, seawall structure and drainage system, etc.;

- CEDD had also collected the relevant weather information, such as the information on the tropical cyclones (including the super typhoon Mangkhut), with a view to conducting computer modelling data analysis and studying the impact of extreme weather on the low-lying coastal or windy locations;
- The consultant would explore and evaluate different defence and response measures for protecting the low-lying coastal or windy locations based on the results of the analysis, and suggest feasible and cost-effective proposals; and
- The consultant estimated that the initial findings of the study would be available by end 2020.

13. Mr Freddy WONG of DSD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- To enhance dissemination of information on flooding, DSD had collaborated with the Sai Kung District Office (SKDO) and Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) to formulate a notification mechanism on storm surge alert for Nam Wai in Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O South;
- When HKO predicted that the sea level of the area would reach or exceed the corresponding alert level, it would send a storm surge alert message to the government departments concerned via short message service (SMS), notifying them of the estimated time when the sea level would reach the alert level and the predicted highest water level; and
- Upon receipt of the SMS, DSD would deploy the emergency teams of its contractor to assist residents in placing sandbags and carry out flood relieve measures. At the same time, SKDO would also contact and call on the relevant stakeholders to take precautionary measures against typhoons and flooding.

14. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun asked whether the existing liaison mechanism was limited to communication among government departments. He suggested that the positioning or pre-set functions of the mobile application of HKO could be used to enable the public in high-risk areas to receive warning messages instantly.

15. Mr LAI Ming-chak said Tseung Kwan O was an overtopping wave spot. He suggested that a notification and warning mechanism could be established to inform the public of the information on the low-lying areas and the black spots on storm surges and overtopping waves in the vicinity of Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O.

16. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said the results of the “Study on Coastal Hazards under Climate Change and Extreme Weather and Formulation of Improvement Measures” would only be available at the end of this year. Therefore, she asked how the departments concerned would cope with the typhoon season this year. As Tui Min Hoi in Sai Kung was prone to storms, she hoped that the departments concerned could pay more attention to the area. Besides, she asked whether DSD would replace channel covers eroded by seawater infusion in Sai Kung Town Centre and asked whether the Port Works Design Manual (PWDM) of CEDD would include guidelines for typhoon shelters and piers in the face of storms. She suggested including SKDC Members in the warning and liaison mechanism to facilitate them to convey the residents’ requests for assistance.

17. Mr LAI Wai-tong said, as some residents did not enable the positioning function of their mobile phones due to privacy concerns, he suggested the departments concerned to consider disseminating messages on flood alert to some specific residents via SMS. As Tseung Kwan O South was severely damaged during super typhoons Mangkhut or Hato, he asked whether the departments concerned could set up temporary offshore breakwaters within this year to reduce the impact of typhoons on the area concerned. He also hoped that DSD could advise on the design of the Town Park in Area 68.

18. Mr LUI Man-kwong agreed with the views of Mr CHUNG Kam-lun. He said, apart from SKDC Members, the managers of housing estates should also receive warning messages as early as possible. He suggested the departments concerned to disseminate the latest warning messages to the public via the Internet to enable them to take precautionary measures as early as possible. He also asked how the departments concerned would cope with the typhoon season this year.

19. Mr WONG Chi-yung of CEDD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- PWDM provided design standards and guidelines for different marine works, including piers, seawalls, breakwaters, etc.;
- PWDM was updated in early 2018, and the impact of climate change had also been referenced;
- The consultant would review low-lying coastal and windy locations in Hong Kong in the study, including coastal areas in Sai Kung;
- CEDD had installed a wave wall of about 600 metres long at Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Park to alleviate the threat posed by overtopping waves to harbourfront facilities; and
- In addition to repairing the facilities damaged by Mangkhut in Sai Kung district, CEDD had also completed the strengthening works of the seawall at Tui Min Hoi in

Sai Kung near Costa Bello.

20. Mr Freddy WONG of DSD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- HKO would issue warnings on hazardous weather to the departments concerned in advance, including DSD and SKDO. SKDO would then inform the relevant stakeholders, which included the management offices of the housing estates in Tseung Kwan O South;
- Members could discuss with SKDO on disseminating messages via SMS, expanding the list of persons receiving the messages and exploring the feasibility of enhancing the notification mechanism if necessary; and
- DSD would conduct inspections from time to time and replace damaged drainage facilities in the district as early as possible.

21. Mr Francis CHAU hoped that DSD could discuss with other departments on the fastest way to disseminate information on storms to residents. As the facilities near the coastal locations in Sai Kung were damaged, he hoped that DSD could carry out repair and strengthening works as soon as possible. He also suggested CEDD to accord priority to constructing additional typhoon shelters or extending the seawalls in Sai Kung to protect the safety of residents and vessels.

22. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said areas in the vicinity of Tui Min Hoi were severely damaged by storms. As flooding was not only caused by drainage problems, she hoped that infrastructure works could be carried out to solve the relevant problems. In addition, although the channel covers in Sai Kung Town Centre had been damaged for several months, DSD had not yet carried out the replacement. She hoped that DSD would give an account of the frequency of their inspections of the drainage facilities.

23. Ms Christine FONG agreed with the views of Greenpeace East Asia and was pleased that CEDD had constructed a wave wall with a height of 1.1 metres for Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Park. She pointed out that Sai Kung rural areas, including the Town Centre, Pak Sha Wan and the vicinity of the lower section of Hiram's Highway, were easily affected by flooding. Therefore, she asked whether the departments concerned would consider constructing a flood storage facility at the locations concerned to enhance the flood prevention capacity.

24. Mr LAI Ming-chak asked whether the new government buildings in Tseung Kwan O would adopt energy saving measures to reduce the impact of climate change and hoped that a site inspection could be arranged for them to understand more about the relevant energy saving measures. Besides, he hoped that a guided tour could be arranged for introducing the energy

saving measures of the desalination plants and the process of desalination. He also asked whether EPD would have any plan to phase out vehicles using fossil fuel at present.

25. Mr LUI Man-kwong hoped that the alert mechanism on storm surge could be enhanced so as to inform the public of the latest weather situation more quickly and effectively.

26. Mr LAI Wai-tong hoped that cleaning of gullies could be strengthened. He asked whether CEDD would remove the existing temporary breakwaters and explain the existing flood prevention arrangements after completion of the Town Park in Area 68. He also suggested EPD to provide additional parking spaces for electric vehicles and set up additional mobile collection points to enhance the recycling efficiency.

27. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun suggested setting up a platform through the Working Group on Community Involvement, Environmental Protection and Impacts of Climate Change to provide timely warning and assistance to residents in the vicinity of Nam Wai in Sai Kung, Tui Min Hoi and Tseung Kwan O South to cope with extreme weather.

28. Mr FUNG Kwan-on said the “RCDP” mobile application of Hong Kong Red Cross provided a large amount of knowledge in disaster prevention, which included: knowledge in tropical cyclones, flooding, fire disasters, landslides, heat waves, cold spells, rainstorms, earthquakes, hill fires, thunderstorms, railway accidents, nuclear accidents and when trapped in cars, etc. However, as the release of relevant information was relatively slow, he hoped that SKDO could work with other departments to develop a similar mobile application to provide residents with the latest information.

29. Mr Stanley HO agreed with the views of Mr FUNG Kwan-on. He said the problems of flooding and traffic congestion always occurred during the rainy season in areas within his constituency, which included Marina Cove, Pak Wai, Ho Chung and Luk Mei. Therefore, he hoped that the departments concerned could provide short-term temporary measures and long-term project planning to enable residents to live in peace and work with contentment.

30. The Chairman said formulating universal contingency measures on disaster prevention was very important. Therefore, she suggested DSD to exchange views and coordinate with FSD on disaster contingency measures. She also enquired EPD about the energy efficiency, carbon emission data and planned energy saving target of Sai Kung district.

31. Mr WONG Chi-yung of CEDD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- The consultant would review low-lying coastal and windy locations in Sai Kung and

Tseung Kwan O, which included Tui Min Hoi and Pak Sha Wan, etc.;

- The consultant would make reference to the information on the damage caused by Mangkhut to the coastal locations and conduct site inspections to identify the low-lying coastal and windy locations in the district. The consultant would also conduct computer modelling to analyse and study the impact of extreme weather;
- As the rural area of Sai Kung was sparsely located, the consultant would explore and evaluate different defence and response measures and recommend feasible and cost-effective solutions based on the results of the study;
- CEDD would reflect the views of Members on the energy saving measures of the desalination plants to the departments concerned;
- CEDD said a wave wall of about 600 metres long could alleviate the impacts of some of the overtopping waves. Together with the existing drainage system along the coast, the chance of flooding could be reduced; and
- The consultant would make reference to the views related to the construction of a cistern in the study.

32. Mr Freddy WONG of DSD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- The alert mechanism of HKO was to forecast the total sea level in the next 24 hours which enable the departments and stakeholders to have sufficient time to get prepared;
- To enhance the flood resilience level of the city, DSD would incorporate the concept of “blue-green infrastructure” when promoting works projects, including flood retention lakes, rain gardens, green roofs and other sustainable drainage systems. In recent years, the design concept of “blue-green infrastructure” had been widely promoted worldwide. Not only could it reduce the load on drainage facilities, but also reduce the impact of climate change on drainage systems and the community;
- The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) were responsible for taking forward the project of the Town Park in Area 68. DSD would provide advice on the flood prevention, greening and sustainable drainage facilities of the project; and
- DSD had commissioned a consultant to implement the consultancy agreement on “Drainage Improvement Works in Sha Tin and Sai Kung – Investigation”, which comprised site investigation and survey; formulation of the preliminary design of the proposed works; conducting of impact assessments on traffic and environment amongst others, and formulation of mitigation measures required, etc. The works project would be taken forward as soon as possible to reduce the risk of flooding of the areas concerned.

33. Miss Connie WONG, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East)⁴, EPD, gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- Energy conservation and renewable energy were policies promoted by ENB and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. If she was unable to provide a reply, she would refer the Members' views to the departments concerned for consideration after the meeting;
- At present, about 340 government buildings had undergone energy audit. In the past five years, the electricity consumption of government buildings had been reduced by 5%. A series of measures had also been introduced to further enhance the statutory energy saving requirements of private buildings, which included: provision of tax incentive for energy-efficient building installations, promotion of retro-commissioning, energy audit and green building certification, extension of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, etc.;
- At present, rail transport was used as a major means of transportation in Hong Kong. However, EPD would continue to promote the use of new energy vehicles and ferries, encourage walking and create a "bicycle-friendly environment" to facilitate low-carbon commuting;
- EPD would carry out publicity and public education on different dedicated websites and launch the Low Carbon Living Calculator and projects funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund, etc.; and
- The Community Green Station was estimated to commence operation next year. Mobile vans would come to Tseung Kwan O twice a year for recovery of waste electrical and electronic equipment. Six schools and one non-governmental welfare organisation in the district had also participated in the Solar Harvest programme by installing solar power systems to reduce carbon emission.

34. Mr FUNG Kwan-on hoped that SKDO could reflect to the Government the suggestions on studying and developing a mobile application for the use as a notification mechanism and provision of knowledge in disaster prevention to the public.

35. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that Motions (10) and (11) were carried.

36. Mr Stanley HO hoped that CEDD and the consultant could invite stakeholders of the areas concerned to discuss the drainage measures so as to handle the flooding problem more effectively.

37. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to write to CEDD seeking detailed information on the existing short- and medium-term projects in Sai Kung district, and to EPD enquiring about

the energy efficiency, carbon emission data and planned energy saving target of Sai Kung district. The Chairman suggested referring the above issues to the Working Group on Community Involvement, Environmental Protection and Impacts of Climate Change for following up and hoped that the departments concerned could cooperate to launch courses on disaster prevention or a mobile application suitable for residents in Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O.

[Post-meeting note of EPD: EPD and ENB had responded to the enquiries on the energy efficiency, carbon emission data and planned energy saving target of Sai Kung district.]

38. Mr Francis CHAU pointed out that flood prevention measures of the new town and rural areas of Sai Kung might be different. He suggested the Government to make reference to the notification mechanism of the District Offices of Tai O, North and Tai Po and to promptly inform residents of the latest news and arrangements of extreme weather.

39. Mr Cyrus CHOW, Assistant District Officer (Sai Kung)1, SKDO, gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- The liaison and notification mechanism of the new town and rural areas had been briefly introduced at an earlier meeting of the District Management Committee (DMC);
- After receiving notification from HKO that the sea level of Nam Wai or Tseung Kwan O South was estimated to exceed the alert level, SKDO would inform the affected stakeholders, SKDC Members of the respective constituencies and the village representatives in accordance with the liaison mechanism;
- Not many households in Nam Wai were affected by Mangkhut. Liaison Officers concerned and representatives of DSD had inspected the situation after the typhoon. A flood protection wall has also been built at the car park near the village entrance of Nam Wai;
- As the contingency plans of other districts in Hong Kong were drawn up in accordance with the respective district characteristics, their liaison mechanisms were also different from Sai Kung; and
- Members could discuss the flooding problem of Sai Kung rural areas and the solutions with DSD and CEDD at the meeting of the Working Group later on.

40. Ms Christine FONG asked about the current sea level during reclamation works by CEDD and the reasons for the problems of low-lying locations.

41. Mr WONG Chi-yung of CEDD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- Regarding reclamation works in general, the Government would make reference to PWDM in carrying out the design. When designing the height of the land, CEDD would take into consideration various factors, such as the sea level under extreme weather and the rise in sea level, etc. Therefore, the situation of low-lying locations would not occur on the reclaimed land; and
- The super typhoon Mangkhut had caused a certain degree of damage to the coastal marine facilities in Sai Kung district. CEDD had promptly completed the relevant repair works and constructed a wave wall at Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Park to enhance the protection of harbourfront facilities.

42. The Chairman thanked the representatives of the departments concerned for attending the meeting and asked them to leave the meeting first.

(Note: Please also refer to paragraphs 290 to 291.)

(B) Control of Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

43. The Chairman welcomed:

- Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD)
- Dr Jackie YIP, Senior Conservation Officer (Biodiversity)
- Mr SO Lok-hin, Conservation Officer (Biodiversity)⁴

44. Dr Jackie YIP of AFCD said the problem of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) had aroused global concern. AFCD had given an introduction to Members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) at the Panel on Environmental Affairs of LegCo earlier. She was also very pleased to discuss the issue at SKDC meeting today.

45. Mr SO Lok-hin of AFCD introduced the content based on the presentation slides shown.

46. Mr FUNG Kwan-on said the resistance and adaptability of *Tilapia mossambica* to metals were very high, which was the reason why it was generally used as an indicator of metal pollution. Therefore, he asked whether AFCD would control the quantity of *Tilapia mossambica* and use them to conduct studies on changes in the levels of metal contents in rivers. He also enquired how AFCD would handle the little birds and birds' eggs after carrying out nest removal.

47. Mr Brandon YIP asked how house crows would affect the local ecology and whether other birds were considered as IAS.

48. Mr CHENG Chung-man said Apple Snails had a high growth rate. When chemicals were used to handle the problem of Apple Snails in Ho Chung Channel at the time, all organisms in the river channel were also killed at the same time and the ecology had not yet restored. Therefore, he asked how AFCD would handle the problem of Apple Snails.

49. The Vice-Chairman asked whether AFCD learnt about IAS through inspections, public education or reports made by the public.

50. Mr LAI Ming-chak said Mikania micrantha were mainly dispersed and reproduced by wind. He asked AFCD about the ways to handle the problem of Mikania micrantha in Sai Kung district and also asked DLO/SK about the ways to handle the problem of red fire ants at unused government land sites.

51. Mr LAI Wai-tong asked whether AFCD would improve the problem of Mikania micrantha by manual removal, chemical removal, biological control or habitat management. He suggested AFCD to display promotional materials in country parks to educate the public about IAS and to prevent the public from handling IAS in the wrong way.

52. Dr Jackie YIP of AFCD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- Mikania micrantha had been in Hong Kong for decades. It was widely distributed and could not be eliminated. AFCD could only control and prevent Mikania micrantha from affecting some sensitive areas with a high ecological value as far as possible;
- The best way to remove Mikania micrantha was to remove manually or with a grass trimmer. However, no clearance operation could be carried out when Mikania micrantha was in bloom;
- AFCD would consider displaying promotional materials in country parks to educate the public about IAS;
- There were many news reports about the problem of red fire ants in Tseung Kwan O in the past. Since the first record of red fire ants in Hong Kong in 2005, they had become widespread locally. The problem of red fire ants on government land would be handled by the responsible departments; for private places, the property owners or managers would contact pest control companies on their own to solve the problem;
- In accordance with university researches, Apple Snails were mainly distributed in the rural areas and agricultural land near water. Therefore, farmers could effectively control the number of Apple Snails by manual removal;
- At present, birds were protected by the law of Hong Kong. Therefore, members of the public should contact AFCD immediately when they encounter problem with

- house crows; handling the situation on their own was not recommended;
- Some literatures showed that house crows would compete with local birds. At present, the problem of house crows was mainly concentrated in Sham Shui Po, Cheung Sha Wan and Lai Chi Kok. AFCD would control the number of house crows by removal of nests and eggs;
 - *Tilapia mossambica* were often spotted in the fish ponds in the New Territories or nullahs in the urban areas. In view of the high adaptability of *Tilapia mossambica*, they were difficult to be removed completely. Therefore, AFCD would only focus on removing the *Tilapia mossambica* in ecologically sensitive areas;
 - Since 2002, AFCD had been carrying out ecological monitoring on large mammals and insects for about 20 years. If high-risk species were found during the risk assessment, the monitoring would be strengthened. Members of the public or the persons concerned were also welcome to report the situation of IAS to AFCD; and
 - At present, the database of IAS was being compiled. AFCD hoped that relevant information could be released to the public as soon as possible.

53. Mr LAI Ming-chak hoped that AFCD could step up publicity after completion of the list of IAS and high-risk species. He also hoped that AFCD would strengthen the monitoring of pets such as Red-eared Slider and species of frogs, etc. and control the import and export of high-risk species without affecting the economy of the community.

54. Mr Francis CHAU hoped that AFCD would give notification of the information on IAS as early as possible. He said he had arranged volunteers with the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to remove *Mikania micrantha* in country parks more than ten years ago and Members would be pleased to cooperate if AFCD organised relevant activities.

55. Mr FUNG Kwan-on asked whether AFCD was making use of narcotic gas to perform euthanasia or other methods in controlling the number of house crows. He also hoped to understand the reasons why the biomass in hill streams was gradually reducing. He suggested AFCD to produce videos similar to the National Geographic Channel to enhance public knowledge of wild life.

56. The Chairman said the situation of IAS in Sai Kung rural areas was serious and suggested AFCD to release information on IAS and educate the public on the ways to handle the situation as soon as possible.

57. Dr Jackie YIP of AFCD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- The consultant had just completed the study on the management practice and risk

assessment mechanism of IAS. AFCD would examine the risk of all IAS based on the results of the study;

- The consultant had also assessed the existing higher risk IAS of amphibians and reptiles in Hong Kong. AFCD would release the relevant information gradually;
- Apart from providing support to the Radio Television Hong Kong on filming of “Biodiversity in Hong Kong”, AFCD had also produced different promotional videos and collaborated with different green groups in the clearance of IAS;
- At present, the major way to control house crows was by controlling the number of nests and eggs; and
- At present, AFCD and EPD were monitoring aquatic animals and water quality at rivers respectively to collect statistics related to rivers.

58. The Chairman thanked the representatives of AFCD for attending the meeting to introduce the relevant information to Members and hoped that AFCD would provide more information to Members later.

(C) An introduction to Green Burial

59. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEE Pak-ho, Senior Health Inspector (Adm & Dev) SD, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), and asked Mr LEE to briefly introduce the content.

60. Mr LEE Pak-ho of FEHD introduced the content based on the presentation slides shown.

61. Mr CHAN Wai-lit asked whether public visits to understand the procedures of scattering of cremains at sea could be arranged.

62. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan asked whether stillborn foetuses of less than 24 weeks’ gestation would be treated as clinical waste or they could be treated under the services of the Garden of Forever Love. She hoped to understand the details of the promotional activities on green burial by FEHD and the collaborating organisations concerned.

63. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun said his ward office had organised many talks on preparing a will. He suggested FEHD to provide a promotional video of about 5 to 10 minutes and souvenirs and said he would be pleased to promote the services of green burial for FEHD.

64. The Vice-Chairman asked whether scattering of cremains at sea would affect the ecology.

65. The Chairman asked whether the locations for scattering of cremains at sea had been coordinated with other departments and asked about the number of applicants on the waiting

list for scattering of cremains at sea at present. She suggested FEHD to promote green burial by pursuing new directions, such as allowing the deceased to choose a tree while they were alive and their cremains would become nutrients for the saplings.

66. Mr LEE Pak-ho of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- There were two modes of visits, i.e. regular visits organised by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or visits registered through calling FEHD by individual members of the public;
- Recent visits had been suspended due to the epidemic. FEHD would announce the arrangements for public visit on ferries online as soon as possible after the end of the epidemic;
- Ferries for the visits departed from the North Point (East) Passenger Ferry Pier at 8:45 am every Saturday. It took about one hour to reach the designated areas for scattering of cremains at sea and the whole visit took about two to three hours;
- According to the law, Cremation Permits could not be issued to abortuses of less than 24 weeks' gestation. To make up for this shortcoming, FEHD had provided the services of the Garden of Forever Love. Cremation Permits could be issued to abortuses of at least 24 weeks' gestation and general funeral and burial arrangements could be made for them;
- About 100 places for the services of the Garden of Forever Love had been used from April 2019 to March 2020;
- FEHD would consider arranging additional places in other columbaria for construction of facilities similar to the Garden of Forever Love to meet the needs of the public;
- In 2019, 61 talks had been conducted in elderly centres and 100 visits to the Garden of Remembrance or scattering of cremains at sea had been arranged;
- FEHD had introduced green burial at the Hong Kong Velodrome Park, Hang Hau Community Hall, Tiu Keng Leng Public Library, Caritas Elderly Centre – Sai Kung, elderly centres in Tsui Lam Estate, Hau Tak Estate and Sheung Tak Estate as well as the elderly homes under the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals and St. James' Settlement;
- Members interested in helping to promote green burial were welcome to call 21747697 for enquiries;
- After consulting EPD, AFCD, fisheries organisations and the District Councils concerned in 2007, FEHD had come up with three designated areas for scattering of cremains at sea, which included the waters to the east of Tung Lung Chau, south of West Lamma Channel and east of Tap Mun;
- It took about ten working days to make an appointment for the service of scattering cremains at sea;

- In general, about four to eight family members participated in the scattering of cremains at sea. FEHD would handle at its discretion if individual applicants wished to bring more family members; and
- FEHD would pay close attention to the modes and promotion measures of green burial in foreign countries and consider the views of Members.

67. Mr LAI Ming-chak suggested FEHD to provide family members with broken branches of plants, seeds or potted plants of the Garden of Remembrance as souvenirs.

68. Mr Stanley HO said he had attended a talk on green burial organised by FEHD and found that there were people promoting services of private columbaria outside the venue. Therefore, he suggested that the elderly should be alerted of the illegal acts of private columbaria during the talks. He also suggested FEHD to consider providing functions, such as photos with religious elements, hymns, the Buddhist text or uploading of short memorial videos, etc., at the Internet Memorial Service (memorial.gov.hk).

69. Ms Christine FONG raised the following questions: she asked about the energy required for burning coffins and whether coffins made of other materials would enhance energy efficiency; the development direction of the coffin burial services of Wo Hop Shek Cemetery and Diamond Hill Crematorium in the future; issues related to the repair and maintenance of facilities for burning of joss paper; and the ways to enhance the efficiency of the existing locations for storage of skeletal remains.

70. Mr LEE Pak-ho of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- As Gardens of Remembrance were attached to columbaria at present, they were small in size in general. However, FEHD might consider converting the 24 sites reserved for public columbaria in 18 districts to Gardens of Remembrance in the future to enable more commemorative plaques to be placed;
- The Garden of Remembrance in Tuen Mun Tsang Tsui Columbarium, which was commissioned this year, faced the sea and enjoyed a beautiful view. Over 10 000 commemorative plaques could be placed;
- When designing Gardens of Remembrance in the future, FEHD would incorporate modern thinking and consider the suggestions of Members as far as practicable to make the Gardens more attractive;
- FEHD had placed publicity materials on green burial at the mortuary offices of various hospitals and regularly organised large-scale talks with private columbaria to introduce green burial and the Government's licensing control, sale and operational matters of private columbaria;

- FEHD had suspended all public talks in view of the epidemic. The relevant talks would resume after the epidemic had eased;
- He would discuss with the colleagues of the Information Technology Section on improving the operation of Internet Memorial Service (memorial.gov.hk), the design of photos and background music, etc.;
- At present, crematoria were provided at eight columbaria, including Wo Hop Shek Crematorium in Fanling, Fu Shan Crematorium, Kwai Chung Crematorium, Diamond Hill Crematorium, Cape Collinson Crematorium, Cheung Chau Crematorium, Lamma Columbarium and Peng Chau Columbarium;
- The burning time of coffins varied in accordance with the number of burial goods and the body size of the deceased. However, the burning time of wooden coffins did not differ much from that of eco-coffins made of paper; and
- FEHD provided the public with coffin burial service and the places concerned were inadequate to meet all needs. Therefore, according to the law, exhumation needed to be carried out within seven years; the policy on the deposit of additional ashes for the skeleton remains enabled better use of government resources.

**(D) Anti-mosquito Campaign 2020 (Phase II) in Sai Kung District
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 53/20)**

71. Ms OR Siu-shan, Chief Health Inspector (Sai Kung)¹, FEHD, briefly introduced the content.

72. Ms Christine FONG hoped that FEHD would step up anti-mosquito measures at the construction sites of LOHAS Park, the rural areas, bus stops and areas in the vicinity of Shek Kok Road.

73. Mr Frankie LAM said Hong Sing Garden, King Ming Court and Serenity Place were built on the hillside. Therefore, he suggested FEHD to replenish larvicidal oil in the area after rain to enhance the anti-mosquito effect.

74. Mr LAI Wai-tong hoped that FEHD would step up clearing of weed and rubbish next to vacant land, improve the anti-mosquito measures at the construction sites of Tseung Kwan O South and explore the feasibility of provision of solar power driven mosquito killing devices at planters in public places, vacant land and construction sites.

75. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan asked FEHD about the frequency of carrying out anti-mosquito measures at present and whether any anti-mosquito measure would be carried out at Tui Min Hoi. She suggested FEHD to grow plants with anti-mosquito effect on the roadside together with LCSD and the Highways Department (HyD).

76. Mr LUI Man-kwong hoped that FEHD, together with the departments concerned, would step up anti-mosquito measures at construction sites and vacant government land as well as explore the growing of plants with anti-mosquito effect on the roadside. He also suggested FEHD to strengthen the coordination and the communication with different stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of mosquito control.

77. The Chairman said the Area Gravidtrap Index in March was different from that in April. She asked about the reasons why the index had increased instead of decreased after FEHD carried out anti-mosquito operations. The Chairman hoped that FEHD would provide information such as the locations of gravidtraps, the respective values, black spots of mosquito infestation, etc.

78. Mr FUNG Kwan-on hoped to understand the difference between Foreman (Contract Management) and Foreman (In-house). He suggested FEHD to take the initiative to promote the anti-rodent measures of the management office of Po Lam Estate and install wire mesh at the outfalls; otherwise, he might apply for funding from SKDC to purchase trapping devices. He hoped that FEHD would provide statistics on rodent infestation in housing estates.

79. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- Most of the mosquito prevention and control work would continue to be carried out on rainy days, which included placing of larvicidal sand and larvicidal oil;
- There were restrictions on installation of solar power driven mosquito killing devices in public places. However, the Pest Control Advisory Section would review the feasibility of the suggestion concerned;
- Regular anti-mosquito operations would be carried out at Tui Min Hoi;
- The Pest Control Section carried out regular anti-mosquito operations; the Anti-mosquito Campaign only further strengthened the relevant anti-mosquito measures;
- The views on planting plants with anti-mosquito effect would be referred to the Pest Control Advisory Section for consideration;
- The gravidtrap index in summer would normally be higher than that in winter; the index was the ratio of the number of Aedes-positive gravidtraps to the total number of gravidtraps;
- Staff responsible for pest control were hired by FEHD and contract management staff were outsourced contract staff;
- Although Po Lam Estate was a public housing estate, there was a management company to handle the rodent problem. FEHD would continue to follow up on the relevant problems; and

- FEHD did not have statistics on the rodent infestation in housing estates.

80. Mr FUNG Kwan-on hoped that FEHD would strengthen communication with the management staff of Po Lam Estate to handle the rodent problem. He also asked whether FEHD would introduce heavy vaporisers in Sai Kung district.

81. Mr LUI Man-kwong suggested FEHD to provide additional ovitraps at the slopes near Tong Ming Court and release information, such as the number of ovitraps placed and their respective locations, etc.

82. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan considered that as the department responsible for pest control, FEHD should provide other groups with appropriate advice on pest control. She asked FEHD how the suggestion on planting Asiatic wormwood would be implemented.

83. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun asked whether FEHD would have information on the mosquito infestation in May at present.

84. Mr CHENG Chung-man said rodents would breed in different places in the district. He asked how FEHD could ensure that various stakeholders would proactively work under the guidance on pest control.

85. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- FEHD had immediately notified the relevant stakeholders of the locations where the gravidtrap index exceeded the standard. Individual Members hoping to receive the relevant notification could contact FEHD after the meeting;
- FEHD had always been following up on the rodent problem of Po Lam Estate and would further deploy additional manpower to assist in handling the problem and conduct inspections at the housing estate concerned;
- No information on mosquito infestation in May was available for the time being; and
- FEHD would refer the suggestion on planting Asiatic wormwood to the Pest Control Advisory Section.

86. The Chairman hoped that FEHD could provide the records on following up and handling the rodent problem with the management office of Po Lam Estate after the meeting.

87. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said relevant supplementary information would be provided after the meeting.

88. Mr CHOI Ming-hei said the mosquito and rodent problems at Tsui Lam Road and Po Lam Road North were serious and hoped that FEHD would take the initiative to follow up.

89. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said the locations concerned had been recorded and would be followed up.

**(E) Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme of Tseung Kwan O Village
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 54/20)**

90. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD briefly introduced the content.

91. Ms Christine FONG asked whether the toilet compartment ratio of Tseung Kwan O Village Public Toilet would be increased and whether additional baby care rooms would be provided.

92. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said Tseung Kwan O Village Public Toilet would provide permanent facilities. In view of the limited space, only four toilet compartments could be maintained at present.

93. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) suggested that all squatting type toilets should be enclosed due to the epidemic. Therefore, she suggested FEHD to convert all squatting type toilets in both male and female toilets to water closets.

94. Mr YU Tsun-ning suggested FEHD to consider converting the squatting type toilets in both male and female toilets to water closets.

95. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said FEHD would keep both squatting type toilets and water closets, taking into account the preference of different people. After refurbishment of Tseung Kwan O Village Public Toilet, the ratio of squatting type toilets to water closets would change from 3:1 to 1:3. Besides, as FEHD had not yet received a recommendation from CHP that squatting type toilets needed to be enclosed, FEHD did not enclose squatting type toilets in public toilets under its management.

96. Mr FUNG Kwan-on said the ventilation systems of the new public toilets in Tsuen Wan and Lam Tsuen, Tai Po were in good operation condition and there was also pleasant odour in the toilets. Therefore, he asked about the difference in the ventilation systems before and after the refurbishment of Tseung Kwan O Village Public Toilet and whether additional greening facilities would be provided.

97. Mr LAI Wai-tong said the exhaust points of the public toilet on Tong Ming Street under the management of LCSD faced the bus stop, which affected passengers waiting for buses.

Therefore, he asked FEHD about the design of the ventilation system after refurbishment of the public toilet. He also suggested FEHD to consider providing liquid antiseptic to clean toilet seat and making use of mobile applications to introduce a toilet rating mechanism to facilitate management and improve the services.

98. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said LCSD had temporarily enclosed squatting type toilets during the epidemic but she did not understand why FEHD did not do so. As the guideline of CHP was to put the toilet lid down before flushing, she suggested FEHD to consider converting squatting type toilets to water closets.

99. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said the ventilation system had been taken into consideration when refurbishing Tseung Kwan O Village Public Toilet; greening facilities and fragrance emitting devices had also been added. FEHD might consider the provision of liquid antiseptic for cleaning toilet seats. As FEHD needed to take into account the needs of different people, both water closets and squatting type toilets would be retained. However, there would be more water closets.

100. Ms Christine FONG agreed that public toilet facilities needed to keep abreast with the times by providing the public with better cleaning and disinfection facilities. She agreed with the decision of FEHD in keeping squatting type toilets to meet the needs of different members of the public.

101. Mr LAI Wai-tong suggested FEHD to switch to the use of electronic water taps and place water taps in the centre of the wash basin when refurbishing public toilets.

102. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said electronic water taps would be gradually adopted in the public toilets under the management of FEHD. She noted the suggestion of Members on the position of water taps.

**(F) FEHD The Strategies and Work of Improving the Environmental Hygiene of Hong Kong and District Action Plan
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 55/20)**

103. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD briefly introduced the content.

104. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan asked about the reason for FEHD not to plan the construction of public markets when planning new towns; whether the market refurbishment project of FEHD in 2020-21 would include public markets in Sai Kung; information on the measures and activities of FEHD in the promotion of markets; and information on the law enforcement against unauthorised extension of business.

105. Ms Valerie WONG said the problem of feeding wild pigeons in the Hang Hau area was becoming more serious, leftover food had also attracted a large amount of cockroaches. Although FEHD emphasised that enforcement actions would be strengthened, the effectiveness was yet to be seen. She hoped that FEHD would provide information on the issuance of fixed penalty notices for feeding wild pigeons from February to May.

106. Mr FUNG Kwan-on hoped that FEHD would provide contraceptive food for pigeons to housing estates with a serious problem of feeding wild pigeons, such as Po Lam Estate, to control the number of pigeons.

107. The Vice-Chairman asked about the timetable for using new technologies to investigate water seepage problems in Sai Kung district. He pointed out that the refuse containers and dog excreta collection bins at a certain road section in the district had not been cleared for several days. Therefore, he hoped to know about the frequency of clearing refuse containers and how the problem would be improved.

108. Mr LAI Wai-tong said the problem of shop front extensions was quite serious in Tseung Kwan O South. The problem of shop front extensions on Tong Chun Street near the area outside Bauhinia Garden affected environmental hygiene and obstructed the access of residents. At present, the cleaning services provided by FEHD were only carried out once every two weeks. However, as many fallen leaves and bird droppings were found on the streets in Tseung Kwan O South, he suggested that the frequency of the cleaning services at Tseung Kwan O South Waterfront Promenade should be increased. He also suggested FEHD to step up efforts in handling the cleaning tools placed at the bicycle parking spaces and review the route of refuse collection.

109. The Chairman suggested FEHD to provide additional refuse containers at rocky beaches in grey areas, such as Sha Ha. She hoped to understand the details of the recommendations made by the Steering Group on the Modification of Recycling and Refuse Collection Facilities in Public Places and whether there would be more recycling bins when reducing the number of litter containers. The Chairman also asked about the circumstances under which the licence of shops obstructing the streets would be revoked and hoped that FEHD would strengthen the measures to support cleaning workers in rural areas.

110. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- The number of prosecutions against fouling public places by feeding of wild birds had been added to the meeting paper on the Statistics on Environmental Hygiene Service.

No prosecution was made in February while one prosecution was made from March to April;

- AFCD would respond to the issue related to contraceptive food for pigeons;
- She would understand with Members after the meeting on the location of refuse containers which always overflowed and FEHD would step up efforts in handling the situation;
- FEHD had always been communicating with the owners of shops on Tong Chun Street, requesting them to maintain street cleanliness. FEHD had also made arrangements to step up cleaning the road section concerned;
- FEHD could strengthen street cleaning of Tseung Kwan O South and identify a suitable location to place the cleaning tools when necessary;
- FEHD had no resources to arrange for provision of additional refuse containers at remote rocky beaches for the time being. Grey areas were cleaned about once a month, and the frequency of cleaning could also be increased if necessary;
- FEHD would issue a licence suspension notice to shops obstructing streets. After conviction and deduction of sufficient points, the duration of the first suspension was seven days. Given a second conviction within the following 12 months and deduction of sufficient points, a second licence suspension notice would be issued and the duration of the second suspension was 14 days. The licence would be revoked if there was a repeated conviction within the following 12 months and deduction of sufficient points; and
- FEHD had reported the information on the prosecutions against shop front extensions and licence suspension at the meeting of DMC. Members could refer to the relevant paper or make an enquiry to FEHD for details.

111. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- Before construction of a public market, it was necessary to collect relevant statistics for analysis, which included the demographic mix, the number and structure of the population covered by the selected market site, the shopping habits of the public, the number and distribution of nearby public and private market facilities or fresh provision retail outlets, to determine whether the source of customers had overlapped and caused competition;
- FEHD would consider the geographical location of the selected sites for the public market, surrounding transportation network, direction of pedestrian flows and the planning and development of the district to ascertain whether they were conducive to the viability of the market;
- When implementing the Market Modernisation Programme (MMP), the geographical location of the public markets, condition of facilities, business viability and

- community factors needed to be considered;
- At present, FEHD was proactively considering whether Sai Kung Market would be included in the MMP; and
 - Water seepage problems in Sai Kung district would not be tested with the use of advanced technology on a pilot basis for the time being.

112. Mr LAI Wai-tong hoped to understand the arrangements and process of refuse collection and suggested that garbage bags accumulated on the roadside should be collected as early as possible. He also hoped that the application procedures for restaurant licences in the district could be expedited and suggested FEHD to call on restaurant owners to apply for licences to operate in an open-air environment in accordance with the procedures. He also suggested FEHD to consult residents with regard to the locations of placing cleaning tools.

113. Mr LUI Man-kwong hoped that FEHD would step up cleaning of Tong Tak Street, Park Central and the footpath near the taxi stand at Tong Ming Court. He also enquired of the timetable for setting up modernised markets.

114. Ms Valerie WONG said the law enforcement of FEHD against fouling public places by feeding of wild birds from February to April was not satisfactory. She requested FEHD to take the initiative to carry out enforcement actions and step up cleaning of the places concerned, and suggested that the frequency of refuse collection of the refuse depot at Tak On House, Hau Tak Estate should be increased. She also suggested AFCD to consider using contraceptive food for pigeons to improve the problem of wild pigeons in the district.

115. The Chairman said the representatives of AFCD had left the meeting on their own. Therefore, she asked the Secretariat to convey the views to AFCD in writing after the meeting.

116. Mr FUNG Kwan-on requested FEHD to provide a written reply regarding the follow-up records between FEHD and housing estates on the problems of pigeons and rodents and the number of cases received after the meeting. He asked the Secretariat to write to AFCD to enquire the feasibility of providing the relevant housing estates with contraceptive food for pigeons after the meeting. He also pointed out that he might apply for funding from SKDC to purchase contraceptive food if necessary.

117. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan pointed out that FEHD did not respond to the measures on how to promote business of markets. She hoped that FEHD would provide information on the six markets in the New Territories planned to be modernised and the feasibility of market modernisation in Sai Kung. As demographic mix could be estimated from the approved Outline Zoning Plans, she asked why FEHD had only decided to provide a public market in Tseung Kwan O many years after the population intake.

118. Mr CHAN Wai-lit enquired about the timetable for cleaning the subway connecting Choi Ming Court and Tong Ming Court and the footpath between the subways connecting Choi Ming Court and Park Central.

119. The Chairman suggested FEHD to allow recyclers in the community to place recycling bins for plastic bottles at the grey areas. Besides, in view of the geographical environment of the rural areas, cleaning workers could not carry a large number of garbage bags with them, and they had thus put the cleared garbage at the village entrance or swept leaves to the channels, which caused blockage. Therefore, she asked how FEHD would provide support to cleaning workers in rural areas.

120. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- If refuse depots were nearby, cleaning workers would push the collected refuse to the refuse depots directly; otherwise, those bags of refuse would be temporarily placed on the roadside for collection by refuse collection vehicles. She understood that refuse could not be placed on the roadside for a long period of time and would follow up the situation with Members after the meeting;
- If staff of the Licensing Section of FEHD confirmed that the restaurant concerned was in compliance with the licensing conditions after conducting inspections and the owner had also submitted the documents required, it would take less than one month for the licence to be issued. She would reflect the views of Members to colleagues responsible for handling licensing matters after the meeting;
- FEHD would increase the frequency of cleaning the roads near Tong Tak Street and Tong Ming Court;
- FEHD staff could only issue a fixed penalty notice against fouling public places by feeding of wild birds after they witnessed a member of the public dropping food and then leaving the scene. FEHD had increased the frequency of staff in uniform conducting inspections at the locations concerned to achieve deterrent effect;
- FEHD would discuss with the contractor the feasibility of increasing the frequency of clearing the large refuse collection point behind Tak On House;
- HyD was responsible for cleaning subways. She could provide supplementary information on the timetable for cleaning the subway connecting Choi Ming Court and Tong Ming Court and the footpath between the subways connecting Choi Ming Court and Park Central after the meeting; and
- FEHD would understand from the Chairman the locations with improper placement of refuse in rural areas after the meeting.

121. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- FEHD would hang red lanterns and hold exhibitions at the entrance of Sai Kung Market during the Lunar New Year to introduce the food items and types of food, etc., commonly available there for promotion of the market;
- The construction of new markets needed to take into account factors set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG), including the population size and demographic mix of the area, community needs, the market facilities nearby and the number of fresh provision retail outlets, etc.;
- Markets proposed to be overhauled by FEHD under the MMP in the next stage included Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market; while refurbishment and minor improvement works were proposed to be carried out for markets including Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Quarry Bay Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Shui Wo Street Market, etc.; and
- FEHD was actively exploring whether or not to include Sai Kung Market in the MMP.

122. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan hoped to have the information on the six markets in the New Territories to be modernised.

123. Mr Stanley HO asked about the ways to solve the littering problems in the district. He also hoped to know the locations of other cleanliness offences and the criteria for listing them as black spots.

124. Mr Frankie LAM considered that the pedestrian subway at Serenity Place needed to be cleaned. He asked whether he needed to express his views to HyD in writing on his own or SKDO could assist in handling the issue. He also suggested provision of shuttle bus services for carrying residents in Tseung Kwan O North to and from the new public market in Tseung Kwan O South.

125. Mr Francis CHAU suggested following up the problem related to wild pigeons in detail at the Working Group and hoped that FEHD could allocate resources to follow up on prosecution and education work.

126. Mr Cyrus CHOW of SKDO responded that, with regard to the cleaning work of individual places in the district, if Members were unsure about which department was responsible for the work, they could take photos and pass them to the Liaison Officer of the respective area, who would assist in referring the issue for following up.

127. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- For locations which were frequently complained against in the past, they would be designated as hygiene black spots. If Members considered that an individual place should be designated as a black spot, they could notify FEHD after the meeting;
- HyD was responsible for cleaning subways; while FEHD was only responsible for the daily sweeping and handling of urgent environmental hygiene problems, such as excrement or vomitus being spotted, etc.; and
- FEHD would step up inspection and prosecution work at black spots for feeding of birds in the district.

128. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD said supplementary information on the six markets in the New Territories under the MMP would be provided after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note of FEHD: According to the paper of the LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on the Development of New Public Markets and Implementation of the MMP dated 12 May 2020 (Paper No.: CB (2)922/19-20(05)), the pioneering project of the MMP was the overhaul of Aberdeen Market. At the same time, FEHD planned to overhaul another three public markets in Kowloon and the New Territories, including Yeung Uk Road Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market and Kowloon City Market; and to kick-start minor refurbishment or improvement works for a total of 11 public markets in different districts across the territory, namely Nam Long Shan Road Cooked Food Market, Mong Kok Cooked Food Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Ngau Tau Kok Market, Yeung Uk Road Market, Shek Tong Tsui Market, Fa Yuen Street Market, Ngau Chi Wan Market, Quarry Bay Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Shui Wo Street Market, etc.]

129. The Chairman declared that the meeting was adjourned for lunch break.

(The meeting was resumed at 3:00 p.m.)

III. Matters Arising

(A) Anti-rodent Campaign 2020 (Phase I) in Sai Kung District

Request the government departments concerned to provide information on the work plan for enhancing the cleaning and hygiene work in the vicinity of Tseung Kwan O, Tiu Keng Leng and Wan Po area to prevent rodent problems and to submit relevant statistics and information for monitoring and comparison purposes

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 56/20)

130. The meeting continued under the chairmanship of the Vice-Chairman.

131. The Vice-Chairman said, during the discussion of the above issue at the last meeting of EHCCAFCD, the Secretariat was asked to enquire AFCD in writing about the reports on casualties of animals caused by tear gas or pepper sprays applied in major public order events. The Vice-Chairman referred Members to SKDC(EHCCAFCD) Paper No. 56/20 and noted the written reply from AFCD.

132. There being no objection from Members, the Vice-Chairman declared that the item would be deleted at the next meeting.

(B) PWP Item No. 6766TH – Retrofitting of Noise Barriers on Po Lam Road North
PWP Item No. 6817TH – Retrofitting of Noise Barriers on Po Ning Road
PWP Item No. 6871TH – Retrofitting of Noise Barriers on Po Lam Road North near Hong Sing Garden and King Ming Court
Request for installing noise barriers at Chiu Shun Road
Request for using low noise road surface material at Po Ning Road, Chiu Shun Road and Ngan O Road
Enquire about the works progress of installing noise barriers at Po Ning Road and invite representatives of relevant government departments to attend and report at the meeting of TTC
(SKDC(EHCCAFCD) Paper No. 57/20)

133. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFCD) Paper No. 57/20, which was the reply from EPD.

134. Mr CHENG Chung-man said, as the written reply from EPD did not respond to the demand for measuring the noise level at Chiu Shun Road, he suggested that the issue could be retained for discussion at the next meeting.

135. Mr Ryan LEE suggested retaining the issue for further discussion at the next meeting.

136. Mr FUNG Kwan-on said as residents considered the noise barriers at Po Lam Estate near Po Lam Road North not useful, he suggested replacing the proposal on retrofitting noise barriers with paving road using low noise surfacing materials or planting large trees for noise attenuation. Besides, he considered that noise barriers would obstruct the views of households of lower floors and users of footpaths in nearby area, and suggested EPD to replace the use of noise barriers with other proposals.

137. Mr Frankie LAM asked whether EPD would hold meetings with those who opposed the construction of noise barriers and handle the views before 8 September. Although he

understood that 70 decibels (dB) was adopted by EPD as the noise standard, he emphasised that a noise of 40-50 dB was already very noisy at night, he asked whether EPD would pave Tseung Kwan O Tunnel Road with low noise surfacing materials to solve the noise nuisance problem faced by residents of Serenity Place.

138. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun said although the projects concerned had been repeatedly discussed at the last-term SKDC and the respective works projects were also gazetted, given that the new-term SKDC was in operation, he suggested inviting the departments and consultant concerned to attend the next meeting for exchanging of views and discussion.

139. Miss Connie WONG of EPD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- EPD had provided a written reply on matters related to Chiu Shun Road; it was considered that there was no need to measure traffic noise at the location for the time being;
- Dense forests with a thickness of about 10 metres could only reduce traffic noise by 1 dB; the method of planting trees mentioned by Members could not reduce traffic noise at the locations;
- The use of both noise barriers and low noise road surfacing materials were necessary to reduce the traffic noise to a level meeting the requirements of HKPSG;
- In accordance with statutory procedures, HyD and the departments concerned must handle the objections received during the gazettal period before 8 September this year;
- EPD would refer to the departments and consultant concerned after the meeting the suggestion on their attending the next meeting for exchanging of views and discussion; and
- The section of Tseung Kwan O Tunnel Road in question was already provided with a stone wall of two metres high and paved with low noise road surfacing materials. In the last few years, EPD had conducted traffic noise measurements at Serenity Place upon request of SKDC Members. All results indicated that the noise levels met the 70 dB requirement stipulated in HKPSG, as such, the retrofitting of noise barrier was not required.

140. Mr CHENG Chung-man asked why EPD now refused the request for noise measurement at Chiu Shun Road despite the fact that it had conducted traffic noise measurements at Serenity Place at the request of SKDC Members in the last few years.

141. Mr FUNG Kwan-on enquired about the noise level exceeding the standard measured at Po Lam Road North near Po Lam Estate because he had never received any complaints from residents about the noise problem at the location concerned.

142. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said when the public considered that a sound of 70 dB was already a nuisance to them, did it imply that there was something wrong with the standard set by HKPSG. She hoped that EPD would stop emphasising that 70 dB was compliant with the standard.

143. Mr Ryan LEE said given that villagers of Tin Ha Wan Village and Fat Tau Chau Village kept complaining about noise nuisance, he cordially invited EPD to measure the noise level at the areas concerned before 11 p.m. or 12:00 a.m.

144. The Chairman considered that when the noise level measurement was conducted inside a house or on road surface, the result would be different. She enquired EPD about the guidelines on determining the location and time of the noise measurement.

145. Miss Connie WONG of EPD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- The 70 dB requirement referred to the standard of traffic noise measured one metre outside the window of a residential unit. As the furnishings of a residential unit would affect the measurement data, the method of measuring one metre outside the window was applicable to different residential units;
- Members' request for measuring traffic noise at the locations mentioned would be passed to the colleagues concerned; and
- Supplementary information on traffic noise at Po Lam Road North near Po Lam Estate would be provided after the meeting.

146. Mr Frankie LAM said Tseung Kwan O Tunnel Road was only paved with low noise surfacing materials, which could not solve the noise problem. Although Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) had taken the noise problem of Tseung Kwan O Tunnel into consideration when designing Serenity Place, he had been receiving public complaints about noise nuisance all along. He asked whether EPD would add two additional metres to the existing stone wall of two metres high.

147. Miss Connie WONG of EPD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- When designing Serenity Place, HKHS had taken the noise problem of Tseung Kwan O Tunnel Road into consideration, therefore, the bedrooms and living rooms of the units above the 25th floor of Serenity Place were facing away from Tseung Kwan O Tunnel Road. The overall design and traffic noise level were in compliance with the

level of 70 dB of HKPSG and were in line with international standards;

- The traffic noise standard of 70 dB was evaluated based on the noise level of a one-hour period at peak traffic flow measured in a day; and
- It was understood that different people might react differently to sounds. However, there was still a need to have an objective standard to handle road traffic noise issue impartially, and the standard was formulated with reference to international practices.

148. The Vice-Chairman said if the representative of EPD was uncertain about the location mentioned by Mr FUNG Kwan-on, she could contact him directly after the meeting.

149. Mr Frankie LAM said, although HKHS had taken the noise problem of Tseung Kwan O Tunnel Road into consideration as far as possible when designing Serenity Place, it could not be concluded that all units were not affected by noise. He hoped that EPD would face up to the problem.

150. Mr FUNG Kwan-on suggested inviting the engineers responsible for the respective projects to attend the next meeting to answer Members' questions directly.

151. Mr CHENG Chung-man said although EPD kept emphasising that the road design and planning were compliant with the standard, it was unable to give explanation on or solve the noise nuisance problem at night time that residents suffered and complained against. He hoped that EPD could face up to the problem.

152. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan understood that the standard set out in HKPSG was 70 dB. However, as she considered such standard fail to cater for the needs of human body, she suggested EPD to make amendments to the standard and solve the problem proactively.

153. Miss Connie WONG of EPD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- As modification of tailpipe and speeding of vehicles were illegal behaviour, it was impossible to include those factors in road design in general; while the driving attitude of bus drivers or location of bus stops could be further reviewed; and
- The traffic noise standard of 70 dB referred to the noise standard evaluated one metre outside the window and during the one-hour period at peak traffic flow.

154. The Vice-Chairman hoped that EPD would convey to the departments and consultant concerned after the meeting Members' views on inviting them to attend the next meeting.

(C) Issues related to the operation of Temporary Fill Bank at Tseung Kwan O Area 137

and the South East New Territories Landfill

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 58/20)

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 59/20)

155. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 58/20 and 59/20, which were the reports on the operation of landfill and fill bank submitted by EPD and CEDD.

156. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan enquired about the efficacy and operation of deodorisers and whether there were other measures to reduce noise apart from paving of low noise surfacing materials.

157. Miss Connie WONG of EPD said information on the operation of deodorisers would be provided after the meeting. She continued that the South East New Territories Landfill was used by about 400 vehicles per day; while about 1 300 vehicles would pass through the Fill Bank at Area 137 per day. The section of Wan Po Road near LOHAS Park had been paved with low noise road surfacing materials.

[Post-meeting note of EPD: EPD had provided information on the operation of deodorisers on 12 June.]

158. Mr Ryan LEE said the passage of a large number of heavy vehicles through Wan Po Road had caused frequent damages to the road surface. He hoped that EPD and HyD would increase the frequency of road repair to reduce noise.

159. Miss Connie WONG of EPD said the department would assist in referring the request for increasing the frequency of road repair to HyD for following up.

(D) Statistics on Environmental Hygiene Service and Itinerant Hawkers in Sai Kung District

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 60/20)

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 61/20)

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 62/20)

160. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 60/20, 61/20 and 62/20, which were the statistics on environmental hygiene service submitted by FEHD, the situation report on the enforcement actions against itinerant hawkers carried out by the Hawker Control Team of Sai Kung District for the period from March to April 2020 and the written reply on matters related to the request for reviewing hawker licence regulations and provision of support to hawkers in the district.

161. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan enquired about the information on the fixed hawker pitches in Sai Kung district and details of the tendering process, information on the promotion of local bazaars and itinerant hawker licences issued in the past five years.

162. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD responded that there were two fixed hawker pitches selling newspapers in Sai Kung district; besides, supplementary information on itinerant hawker licences issued in the past five years would be provided after the meeting. Applicants for the scheme of Re-allocation of Fixed Hawker Pitches and Issue of New Licences included: holders of the Fixed-Pitch (Newspaper) Hawker Licence, holders of the Itinerant Hawker Licence (Other Classes/Newspaper), eligible registered assistants meeting the application requirements, and members of the public satisfying the basic criteria. As for organising bazaars, Members could refer to the information provided in the Application Guidelines for Setting Up Bazaars.

163. Mr LAI Ming-chak enquired why dye-tracing test was only conducted for 52 water seepage complaints cases out of the 231 cases received. He hoped that FEHD would supplement on the number of cases not eligible for conducting dye-tracing test because the moisture content of the seepage area was less than 35 during on-site investigations.

164. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan pointed out that only a draft version of Application Guidelines for Setting Up Bazaars was available online, she hoped that FEHD would provide the relevant URL links and the locations of fixed hawker pitches in Sai Kung district after the meeting. She also enquired about the channels through which the public could obtain tendering information of FEHD.

165. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD said the fixed hawker pitches were located in Sai Kung Town and supplementary information on their exact locations could be provided after the meeting. Before conducting an open auction, FEHD would first issue a press release and upload relevant information onto the website of FEHD. She would also supplement on the number of cases not eligible for conducting colour water test because the moisture content of the seepage area was less than 35 during on-site investigations.

(E) Request the Department of Health and relevant departments to provide residents in the vicinity of Sai Kung old town and Sai Kung rural areas with information on the proper management of exhaust of sewers to prevent a major outbreak of epidemic in Sai Kung Town and the rural areas

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 63/20)

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 64/20)

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 65/20)

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 66/20)

166. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 63/20, 64/20, 65/20 and 66/20, which were the replies from DSD, EPD, the Buildings Department (BD) and CHP.

167. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said the existing exhausts of sewers in Sai Kung old town were legal but posing health risk. Given that no department could handle the problem up to now, she hoped that the representatives of SKDO or DLO/SK could assist in handling the problems.

168. Mr Raymond TSANG, Administrative Assistant/Lands, DLO/SK, responded to the questions of Members as follows:

- In accordance with the Buildings Ordinance (Application to the New Territories) Ordinance (Cap. 121), New Territories Exempted Houses (NTEH) meeting specific conditions were not subject to the regulation of the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123);
- Owners of NTEHs must obtain the three Certificates of Exemption issued by the Director of Lands, i.e. Certificates of Exemption in respect of building, site formation and drainage works;
- The maintenance of drainage after completion of NTEHs were not stipulated in the provisions under the Buildings Ordinance (Application to the New Territories) Ordinance;
- The ventilating pipes concerned were part of septic tanks, they should be maintained and repaired by owners; and
- In view of the long history of NTEHs in Sai Kung old town, DLO/SK would write to owners advising them to carry out repair and maintenance work as well as referring the case to EPD or FEHD for following up in accordance with the relevant legislation upon receipt of complaints related to drainage problems.

169. The Vice-Chairman said, as the issue involved inter-departmental coordination and handling, he suggested referring it to DMC for following up.

170. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan asked whether the drainage system of all NTEHs that had obtained the Certificate of Compliance granted by the Lands Department (LandsD) posed no health risk.

171. Mr Raymond TSANG of DLO/SK said DLO/SK did not have the professional knowledge to test or assess the hygiene risk of the drainage system of NTEHs.

[Post-meeting note of DLO/SK: After completion of NTEHs, DLO/SK would inspect the buildings and their drainage systems (including septic tanks). DLO/SK would issue a Certificate of Compliance provided that the building was compliant with all requirements of the land lease and the septic tanks were up to the prescribed specifications (i.e. meeting the hygiene requirements).]

172. Mr LAI Ming-chak understood that the exhaust systems in question were compliant with the requirements of the relevant legislation. However, he hoped that DLO/SK would consult CHP on whether the exhaust systems would pose any risk of spreading virus.

173. Mr Raymond TSANG of DLO/SK said the matter would be followed up.

174. Mr LUI Man-kwong suggested the Secretariat to consult the Department of Health (DH) again on matters related to the exhaust.

175. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun said both the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and DH were not responsible for construction; while BD and LandsD, which were specialised in construction, had shirked their responsibilities. He hoped that SKDO could assist in handling the matter when necessary.

176. The Vice-Chairman asked the representative of DLO/SK to provide further information; he also asked SKDO to follow up the issue when necessary; and that the issue was retained for further discussion.

[Post-meeting note of DLO/SK: The exhaust mentioned by Members in paragraphs 167, 172 and 174 should be referring to the ventilating pipes of septic tanks of NTEHs. DLO/SK had written to CHP under DH to request for assistance in assessing the possibility of spreading of virus in the odour emitted from septic tanks of NTEHs in Sai Kung old town. CHP pointed out in the reply that matters related to the prevention of spreading of virus from septic tanks of NTEHs were not within the terms of reference of DH.]

(F) Request for the full inclusion of masks in the definition of clinical waste and the provision of mask collection boxes by the Government
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 67/20)

177. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 67/20, which was the reply from FHB.

178. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said given that DH had gazetted Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in 2003, and included it in Schedule 19A of the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 141), she enquired when DH would include COVID-19 in Schedule 8 of the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354). She also considered the reply from FHB not really relevant to the motion.

179. Mr Cyrus CHOW of SKDO said the Secretariat had explained at the last meeting CHP's reply that the full inclusion of masks in the definition of clinical waste and the provision of

mask collection boxes are under the purview of EPD. Generally speaking, the departments would provide replies related to their functions as far as possible after receiving enquiries, and FHB had provided the most relevant information on the issue under discussion. He said the representative of EPD might respond on the issue.

180. Miss Connie WONG of EPD said whether to consider including masks in the definition of clinical waste depended on the recommendations of CHP. As CHP recommended that the general public only needed to dispose of masks in covered refuse bins, there was no need to include masks in the definition of clinical waste. For ordinary households, discarded masks, just like waste papers, only needed to be disposed of in covered refuse bins and treated as household waste. In addition, the responsible colleagues were following up on the enquiries about including COVID-19 in Schedule 8 of the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354)

181. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun understood that the issue was not a under the purview of FHB but he considered that the reply from FHB was unsatisfactory. As Members requested for clear accountability on the issue, he hoped that SKDO could convey Members' views to the departments concerned. He also suggested FEHD to provide mask collection boxes next to refuse bins or 3-coloured recycling bins.

182. Mr LAI Ming-chak asked whether the masks disposed of at quarantine centres or isolation camps were clinical waste.

183. Mr CHAN Wai-lit said given that the mission of CHP was to achieve effective prevention and control of diseases in Hong Kong in collaboration with major local and international stakeholders, he considered that FHB or CHP should be responsible for discussing the process of provision of mask collection boxes with the government departments concerned.

184. Mr Cyrus CHOW of SKDO said coordination with the departments concerned would be conducted after the meeting. He also asked the Secretariat to invite the departments concerned to provide a reply.

185. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan pointed out that FHB had responded to the proper way of wearing masks, but it did not explain whether wearing masks in that way was safe. She also asked whether the question raised by her earlier at the meeting of the Education, Health and Social Welfare Committee (EHSWC) would be responded by EPD or DH.

186. Miss Connie WONG of EPD said how discarded masks would be handled depended on the recommendations of CHP and she did not have anything to supplement. The responsible colleagues were following up on the enquiries about including COVID-19 in Schedule 8 of the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) and a written reply would be provided to EHSWC later.

Besides, masks disposed of at quarantine centres and the three isolation camps in Sai Kung would be treated as clinical waste.

187. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said, as masks used by general public would be treated as household waste, FEHD had not considered the provision of mask collection boxes on the street for the time being.

188. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun hoped that FEHD could review the suggestion on the provision of mask collection boxes with the Headquarters.

189. The Chairman said given that FEHD had provided collection bins for dog excreta, which was also household waste, she suggested FEHD to make special arrangements for masks. Although EPD had clearly responded that the recommendations of CHP was necessary for the arrangement, CHP did not directly respond to whether disposal of masks in refuse bins would constitute any risk. She hoped that the issue could be retained and continue to be discussed.

190. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said dog excreta did not necessarily need to be disposed of in dog excreta collection bins and could be disposed of in refuse bins after proper wrapping. In general, dog excreta collection bins were small in size and could be hung on railings or places where the provision of large refuse containers was inconvenient, which was different from the situation of the provision of mask collection boxes.

191. Mr CHAN Wai-lit said the reply from FHB pointed out that masks should be disposed of in covered refuse bins. However, as most of the refuse bins of FEHD did not have a cover, he enquired about the way for FEHD to meet the standard of CHP.

192. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said the existing refuse bins had been in use for a long time, and the public members were unwilling to touch refuse bins with covers during the epidemic. Therefore, FEHD would not consider the provision of covers to refuse bins for the time being. Members of the public in need of mask disposal on the street could wrap them properly before disposal.

193. The Vice-Chairman asked the departments concerned to submit supplementary information after the meeting, and declared that the issue would be retained for discussion at the next meeting.

[Post-meeting note of EPD: EPD had responded to the enquiries on the feasibility of the full inclusion of masks in the definition of clinical waste and the existing methods and risks of the disposal of masks on 12 June.]

IV. Motions Raised by Members

(A) The 11 motions raised by Members

194. As the contents of Question (6) and Motion (1) were related and there was no objection from Members, the Vice-Chairman declared that they would be discussed together.

(1) Concern about the urgency of the drainage works in rural areas of Sai Kung; request the Government to provide the specific timetable for Port Shelter Sewerage, Stage 2

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 68/20)

195. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr Stanley HO and seconded by Messrs Brandon YIP, YU Tsun-ning, Ms LEUNG Hin-yan and the Chairman.

(6) Enquiry about the laying of village public sewers

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 84/20)

196. The Vice-Chairman said the question was raised by the Chairman.

197. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 86/20 and 103/20, which were the replies from DSD and EPD.

198. The Chairman asked about the definition of NTEHs suitable for sewer connection and hoped that the departments concerned would provide supplementary information after the meeting on the plan for laying water mains in Sha Kok Mei Village.

199. Mr Stanley HO said most of the houses in his constituency were NTEHs making use of primitive Septic Tank Systems, which were unable to clean up wastewater completely. He enquired DSD about the progress and timetable of the construction of a local sewage treatment plant in Wo Mei and next to Ho Chung Soccer Pitch and how DSD would follow up on the leakage and accumulation of underground wastewater.

200. Mr YU Tsun-ning hoped that EPD could follow up on the environmental hygiene problems caused by illegal connection of drainage systems of NTEHs to stormwater drains.

201. Mr Ryan LEE said the distribution of sewers in Sheung Yeung Tsuen and rural areas was unclear, which caused the accumulation of wastewater. He hoped that EPD could follow up in this regard.

202. The Vice-Chairman asked the Secretariat to make an enquiry about the views of Members to DSD in writing as the representatives of DSD were not present at the meeting.

203. Miss Connie WONG of EPD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- When DSD planned the construction of sewers, sewers would be as close to NTEHs as possible to benefit more residents. If the location of NTEHs was very far from the public sewers or the location of NTEHs was lower than the level of the public sewers, those NTEHs were not suitable for connection;
- Supplementary information on the plan for laying water mains in Sha Kok Mei Village would be provided after the meeting [Post-meeting note: EPD had provided supplementary information on 12 June on the progress and timetable of the construction of sewage treatment works in Wo Mei and next to Ho Chung Soccer Pitch as well as the plan for sewerage works in Sha Kok Mei Village.];
- Septic tank systems were divided into two parts: namely septic tank and soakaway pit. In the case of long-term use of septic tanks, soil around the soakaway pit might reach saturation. Therefore, EPD had been encouraging owners or households to increase the frequency of cleaning up septic tanks to reduce the rate of saturation; and
- EPD would prosecute those who illegally connected septic tanks to stormwater drains provided that there was evidence; and Members were welcome to report on the matter.

204. Mr Raymond TSANG of DLO/SK said NTEHs with sewerage connection passing through government land must apply to LandsD for an excavation permit in accordance with the Land (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance; and connecting drainage channels to private places required the consent of the owners concerned.

205. There being no objection, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

(Note: Please also refer to paragraph 341.)

(2) Request the government departments concerned to address the hygiene problem outside the sitting-out area of sports centres
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 69/20)

206. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr CHAN Wai-lit and seconded by Messrs LEUNG Li and Brandon YIP.

207. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 94/20 and 95/20, which were the replies from FEHD and LCSD.

208. Mr CHAN Wai-lit asked about the frequency of cleaning the captioned locations by FEHD. Understanding that FEHD would not immediately handle movable articles but would only post notices at the locations concerned, he hoped that FEHD would respond to how it would solve the problems of the above hygiene black spots in the long term.

209. Mr LUI Man-kwong pointed out that he had repeatedly reflected the captioned hygiene problem at Po Yap Road near Park Central to FEHD and hoped that FEHD could step up efforts in cleaning up the location concerned.

210. Mr CHEUNG Wai-chiu pointed out that many refuse were left by the recycling industry at different housing estates or streets in the district, including the transport interchanges at Kai King Road and Po Lam Road, MTR Po Lam Station, etc. He considered that the verbal warnings by FEHD were insufficient.

211. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said the views of Members would be reflected to the responsible colleagues and a balance would be struck between handling of the hygiene problems at the locations concerned and the needs of recyclers. FEHD and SKDO would conduct joint operations to remove collection cages regularly. Besides, FEHD would conduct regular inspections at the captioned locations at least once a week.

212. Mr CHEUNG Wai-chiu suggested FEHD to first understand the operating schedule of the recycling industry. Prosecution could be taken immediately if the recyclers had not cleared the refuse after departure of the recycling vehicles.

213. Mr CHAN Wai-lit said LCSD had pointed out in its reply that the refuse at the captioned locations were packaging materials of express services instead of recyclables. Therefore, he suggested FEHD to step up cleaning and remove refuse when cleaning up streets.

214. Mr LUI Man-kwong hoped that FEHD would step up efforts in handling the hygiene problems at Po Yap Road near Park Central. He considered that FEHD should provide recyclers with suitable places for temporary storage of the relevant materials to avoid affecting the appearance of the city if FEHD wished to provide assistance to the recycling industry.

215. Mr LAI Wai-tong suggested designating suitable places in the district for temporary storage of recyclables by scavengers to avoid affecting the appearance of the city.

216. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said as scavengers helped Hong Kong deal with recyclables and reduce refuse, suitable places in the district should be designated for them to temporarily store cardboards and tools to avoid affecting the appearance of the city.

217. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said FEHD would step up efforts in clearing refuse outside sports centres and near Po Yap Road. As designating suitable places in the district for temporary storage of recyclables by scavengers was not within the scope of duties of FEHD, she suggested that the matter should be handled by the departments concerned.

218. There being no objection, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried and asked the departments concerned to consider the views of Members.

(3) Request the Environmental Protection Department to set up recycling stations for tetra pack drinks at the sports centres and government offices in Sai Kung on a pilot basis

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 70/20)

219. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Ms Valerie WONG and seconded by Messrs Ryan LEE and CHENG Chung-man.

220. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 97/20, 98/20 and 99/20, which were the replies from EPD, LCSD and the Government Property Agency (GPA).

221. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said, although Mil Mill was subsidised by the Environment and Conservation Fund of EPD to promote recycling of beverage cartons, no recycling bin could be placed in government venues. Therefore, she suggested government departments to provide appropriate assistance to recyclers. She also asked when EPD would consider matters related to recycling of polyfoam.

222. Mr CHENG Chung-man suggested LCSD to consider providing recycling bins for beverage cartons next to 3-coloured recycling bins and assisting in matters related to recycling. He suggested setting up a pilot scheme on recycling bins for beverage cartons with Sai Kung as a pilot area.

223. The Chairman said clean recycling was very important, in particular beverage cartons that were susceptible to mould infestation. Therefore, she suggested EPD to conduct public education when promoting recycling. She also suggested that recycling bins for glass bottles and polyfoam should be provided and recyclable plastic bottles should be sorted in a more detailed manner.

224. Ms Valerie WONG said public education also needed to be conducted alongside the promotion of recycling. She hoped that the Government could step up efforts on environmental protection matters.

225. Mr CHENG Chung-man said the performance of the recycling industry of Taiwan was outstanding. After over 20 years of cooperation between the authority and local NGOs, public education and publicity, residents in Taiwan had sound knowledge on recycling at present. He suggested government departments to consider conducting public education and publicity work with NGOs and volunteers when promoting recycling.

226. Mr Wallace YAU, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sai Kung)2, LCSD, responded that LCSD would also tie in with the green policy of the Government, including recycling activities, when providing leisure and cultural facilities proactively. LCSD would continue to discuss with EPD on the feasibility of implementing recycling programmes on beverage cartons.

227. Miss Connie WONG of EPD responded that EPD would cooperate with LCSD and educate the public on clean recycling; the views of Members would be reflected to the colleagues concerned. Besides, EPD was conducting studies on recycling of other materials; detailed responses on individual materials would be provided after the meeting.

228. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan considered that EPD lacked flexibility in environmental education as small and medium enterprises could not afford the deposit of \$5,000,000 required by the EcoPark in general. Therefore, she suggested EPD to review the support for local environmental protection industry to enhance the development of recycling industry.

229. The Chairman suggested referring the issue to the Working Group on Providing Support to Community Recycling and Improving Refuse Depots (CRRDWG) for following up to improve the overall recycling system of Sai Kung district on a pilot basis.

230. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun agreed with the views of the Chairman. In addition to government venues, he also suggested exploring the feasibility of the provision of recycling bins in other large shopping centres through the Working Group.

231. There being no objection, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried and the issue would be referred to CRRDWG for following up.

(4) Request for stepping up mosquito prevention work in Sai Kung rural areas, stepping up clearance of drains and placing of mosquito trapping devices at mosquito breeding spots

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 71/20)

232. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr YU Tsun-ning and seconded by Mr Brandon YIP.

233. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 87/20, which was the reply from FEHD.

234. Mr YU Tsun-ning asked FEHD about the criteria for placing mosquito traps and the ways to monitor the effectiveness.

235. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said FEHD would place mosquito traps in places that were concealed, with many plants grown, outdoor locations prone to breeding of mosquitoes, shrubs infested by adult mosquitoes and sparsely populated. In 2019, FEHD had conducted field testing in Tsim Sha Tsui and Tuen Mun. As the number of adult mosquitoes had decreased after the use of mosquito traps, FEHD planned to introduce mosquito traps at different places.

236. There being no objection, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

(5) Request the Government to conduct an ecology study in Hang Hau area, and to formulate specific measures and implement more effective and innovative operations on prevention and control of mosquitoes and rodents at community level (SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 72/20)

237. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr CHENG Chung-man and seconded by Ms Valerie WONG.

238. Members noted the reply from FEHD (SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 88/20).

239. Mr CHENG Chung-man enquired whether the project on thermal detection and tracking of rodents already implemented in Kowloon City district would be introduced to Hang Hau area and whether a pilot scheme would be launched in Hang Hau area for carrying out anti-rodent work.

240. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan suggested using natural and innovative methods like community animals, e.g. cats, and “Trap-Neuter-Return” (“TNR”) and regular monitoring”, to solve the rodent infestation problem in the district.

241. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD responded that the Pest Control Advisory Section would review the effectiveness of the project on detecting the number and activities of rodents with thermal or infrared thermal devices in July. If found effective, the implementation of the measures would be further extended to other districts. Given that whether the use of community animals would affect other animals and the ecological environment of the district was still unknown, the suggestion would not be considered for the time being.

242. Mr CHENG Chung-man enquired FEHD whether it would implement in Sai Kung the project on tracking of rodents currently implemented in Kowloon City district.

243. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said the supplementary information would be provided after the meeting.

244. There being no objection from Members, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

(6) Request the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to address the problem of illegal refuse dumping in Sai Kung district and step up enforcement actions
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 73/20)

245. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr YU Tsun-ning and seconded by Mr Brandon YIP.

246. Members noted the reply from FEHD (SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 89/20).

247. Mr YU Tsun-ning enquired how the problem of illegal dumping of refuse in Sai Kung district would be reviewed. He pointed out that many people had dumped refuse illegally at mid-night in Ma Yau Tong Village and enquired FEHD about the prosecution figures at the location concerned and what measures were implemented to solve the problem.

248. Mr Ryan LEE said the problem of illegal dumping of refuse at mid-night was also found in Sheung Yeung Village or Po Toi O Village and enquired FEHD what measures had been implemented to address the problem.

249. The Chairman pointed out that the problem of illegal dumping of refuse was found in public places in rural areas and enquired DLO/SK if there was any solution to the problem.

250. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said the prosecution figures of Ma Yau Tong Village would be provided after the meeting. The department would also follow up with Members the problem of illegal dumping of refuse mentioned above and allocate additional resources to handle the problem.

251. Mr Raymond TSANG of DLO/SK said the removal of refuse was not under the purview of LandsD. However, if Members found any disposal of construction waste on government land in the district, they could make a report to DLO/SK for following up.

252. There being no objection from Members, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

(7) Request the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to cancel the arrangement of taking away refuse bins as soon as possible and step up cleaning of streets with a view to improving the environmental hygiene in the district

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 74/20)

253. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr LUI Man-kwong and seconded by Messrs Gary FAN, CHUNG Kam-lun, LAI Ming-chak, Frankie LAM, FUNG Kwan-on, LAI Wai-tong and he himself.

254. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 90/20, which was the reply from FEHD.

255. Mr LUI Man-kwong pointed out that FEHD had placed refuse bags at different places in the district at present. As some members of the public would throw cigarette butts directly into the plastic bags thus causing them to burn, he suggested FEHD to provide refuse bins again as soon as possible.

256. Mr CHAN Wai-lit asked how the problem of cigarette butts burning refuse bags could be solved. He hoped that FEHD could first notify SKDC Members before taking refuse bins away and provide them again as soon as possible.

257. Mr CHEUNG Wai-chiu said no refuse bin had been provided next to the police station. As no member of the public was willing to touch refuse bags due to the epidemic, he suggested FEHD to provide refuse bins again as soon as possible.

258. Mr LAI Wai-tong pointed out that no large-scale public order event had taken place in Tseung Kwan O South in the past, however, FEHD had taken away the refuse bins in the area, which resulted in an increase in cigarette butts on the street. He suggested FEHD to provide refuse bins again as soon as possible.

259. Mr LEE Ka-yui considered that the existing refuse bags had caused environmental hygiene problems in the district and suggested that refuse bins should be provided again as soon as possible.

260. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun hoped that the refuse bins and cigarette butt containers on Yan King Road outside Block 3 of Metro City Phase 2 could be provided again as soon as possible to meet the needs of the public.

261. Mr YU Tsun-ning hoped that the refuse bin at the entrance of Tseung Kwan O Village could be provided again as soon as possible.

262. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD responded that frequent removal or relocation of refuse bins would increase the pressure on the contractor, therefore, some holders and refuse bags were placed in the district to replace the original refuse bins to facilitate the disposal of refuse by the public. She said the suggestion of placing cigarette butt containers next to refuse bins would be followed up and arrangement would be made for putting refuse bins back to the original positions outside Block 3 of Metro City Phase 2 and Tseung Kwan O Village as requested by Members after the meeting.

263. Mr CHEUNG Wai-chiu said, as FEHD had taken away refuse bins at the village entrance, the public had disposed of refuse in the planters or refuse bins in the village, which increased the burden on those refuse bins.

264. Mr LUI Man-kwong said, as the public had disposed of refuse in the planters after FEHD took away the refuse bins, he hoped that FEHD could put refuse bins back at the intersection of Tong Tak Street and Tong Yin Street.

265. Mr LEE Ka-yui said, as HyD had installed the railings back at the crossroads of Sheung Tak Estate several months ago, he hoped that FEHD would put the refuse bins back on each side of the intersections as soon as possible.

266. Mr Gary FAN asked whether there would be any information on the respective number of refuse bins in Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O that had/had not been taken away and the comparison with the other 17 districts.

267. Mr CHAN Wai-lit asked about the number and locations of refuse bins currently being removed in Sai Kung district and when those refuse bins would be put back. He hoped that FEHD could notify SKDC Members in advance before taking away refuse bins next time.

268. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan hoped to know where the removed refuse bins were stored and the additional administrative cost incurred by replacing the original refuse bins with holders and refuse bags.

269. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD gave the following consolidated reply in response to the questions of Members:

- FEHD considered the arrangements for providing refuse bins again or placing holders according to whether large-scale public order events would take place at individual

- locations;
- FEHD did not receive notifications in advance but only arranged to take away refuse bins based on experience and assessment;
 - At present, the removed refuse bins were placed inside refuse depots;
 - FEHD did not have any statistics on the number of refuse bins being taken away in various districts and no statistics was available in this aspect on a regular basis; and
 - FEHD could count the number of refuse bins being taken away in Sai Kung district after the meeting if necessary.

270. Mr Gary FAN said it was impossible for FEHD not to have any statistics on refuse bins and asked the representative of FEHD to respond to Members' questions of honesty.

271. Mr LAI Wai-tong said, given that the locations and numbers of litter containers, dog excreta collection bins and recyclables collection bins had been listed in detail under the Performance Pledge of Street Cleansing on the website of FEHD, he asked the representative of FEHD to respond to Members' questions of honesty.

272. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said there was no statistics on the refuse bins being taken away on a regular basis because it was not the information on the locations of the refuse bins in the district. FEHD could count the number of refuse bins being taken away in Sai Kung district after the meeting if necessary.

273. The Vice-Chairman asked the Secretariat to make an enquiry with FEHD in writing about the number and location, etc., of refuse bins after the meeting and asked FEHD to respond to the enquiries of Members.

274. There being no objection, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried and the issue was retained for discussion at the next meeting.

(8) Request the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and its contractors to provide all frontline staff with adequate protective equipment, including but not limited to three masks per day
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 75/20)

275. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Ms LEUNG Hin-yan and seconded by Mr Stanley HO and the Chairman.

276. Members noted the reply from FEHD (SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 91/20).

277. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said as the contract did not specify the number of masks to be provided to cleaning workers daily, she considered that contractors would not provide them with masks. Given that cleaning workers was at the anti-epidemic front line, the society had the responsibility to support them and provide them with sufficient protection. FEHD had the responsibility to provide sufficient masks to cleaning workers no matter whether they were employed by FEHD or outsourced contractors.

278. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD responded that staff of FEHD were employed by FEHD while cleaning workers of outsourced contractors were employed by outsourced contractors. Employers had the responsibility to provide sufficient protective equipment to employees. Given the difficulties in purchase of masks by contractors at the early stage of the epidemic, FEHD had provided masks to cleaning workers of outsourced contractors. Since mid-May, the number of masks provided to cleaning workers, foremen and drivers had increased to two per day. As she understood, outsourced contractors had also provided masks to their staff.

279. Mr Stanley HO suggested FEHD to specify in the provisions of tender documents that contractors might be given demerit points if they failed to provide their staff with sufficient protective equipment. He considered the provision of two masks per day not sufficient and hoped that FEHD could be impartial to all and increase the number of masks provided to all cleaning workers and improve the employment terms and conditions of cleaning workers of outsourced contractors.

280. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said outsourced contractors would distribute masks to cleaning workers. The workers could ask the contractors for more masks if necessary, there was no limit on the number of masks they could take.

281. There being no objection from Members, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

(9) Request for conducting reviews on the types and conditions of trees in Sai Kung Town, submitting a report to the Sai Kung District Council and replacing unsuitable trees to prevent casualties or losses
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 76/20)

282. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was moved by Ms LEUNG Hin-yan and seconded by Mr Stanley HO, Mr YU Tsun-ning and the Chairman.

283. Members noted the replies from LCSD, DEVB, SKDO and HyD (SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 106/20, 107/20, 108/20 and 117/20).

284. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan was worried that the trees in Sai Kung Hoi Pong Square would pose risk to residents and the pollen from trees would affect the nearby restaurants. She suggested reviewing the “Street Tree Selection Guide” and that stakeholders would be consulted before the trees to be planted were decided. Besides, she would like to know which department would be held responsible when fallen trees had caused casualty in typhoon season; and whether any department could inform Members of the existing risk of collapse of trees.

285. Mr FUNG Kwan-on said Mr CHUNG Kam-lun and he himself had conducted a site visit at Po Lam Estate together with the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section. He learned that it took at least three days to handle trees with problems. Given the large number of trees territory-wide, he suggested the departments concerned to increase resources for following up and handling health problems of trees in the district.

286. Mr Wallace YAU of LCSD gave the following consolidated response regarding the questions raised by Members:

- Upon receipt of the enquiry made by Ms LEUNG Hin-yan in March, the Tree Team of LCSD had followed up the cases;
- The contents of cases followed up had been set out in detail in the meeting paper;
- LCSD would plant different trees in the leisure venues and roadside amenity areas under its management; at the same time, LCSD would also take up the maintenance responsibility of roadside trees within 10 m kerb of non-expressway public road not regularly maintained by other departments;
- LCSD would complete tree risk assessment based on the Guidelines for Tree Risk Assessment and Management Arrangement of DEVB; it would also undertake suitable mitigation measures before rain and typhoon seasons to prevent trees from being damaged and posing risk to the public and their property;
- If any tree was found to have problem and the risk of collapse during the assessment, and there was no remedy, the tree would be removed to safeguard public safety;
- LCSD would conduct regular maintenance and inspection of trees, in particular, it would check the health and structure of trees before and after inclement weather. After the passage of typhoon, LCSD and the contractors would immediately inspect and follow up on the conditions of trees under their management;
- Report of trees that needed follow-up action with its location to LCSD was welcome. If Members or the public had no idea which departments were responsible for the maintenance of the trees concerned, they could take photos and record the locations of the trees for submission to 1823. LCSD or the relevant departments would follow up the case as soon as possible;
- LCSD had selected suitable tree species for replanting in the respective environment according to the “right tree, right place” principle and the Street Tree Selection Guide;

and

- Sai Kung Hoi Pong Square was in close proximity to the sea shore, which was relatively windy, LCSD would select trees that were more resistant to wind, pests and diseases for planting there.

287. Mr Cyrus CHOW of SKDO gave the following consolidated reply in response to Members' questions:

- SKDO was responsible for the management of the 13 paper-bark trees within the boundary of Sai Kung Jockey Club Town Hall in Sai Kung Town Centre;
- In case the trees collapsed and replacement was needed, trees of suitable species would be replanted according to the relevant guidelines;
- Members and the public were welcome to put forward their views on the trees to be replanted; and
- If Members considered a tree in the district having potential risk, they could take a photo of it and submit it to the Liaison Officer of the respective area, who would refer the case to the department concerned in a timely manner.

288. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan hoped that different departments could ensure the health of trees to safeguard the lives and safety of the public.

289. There being no objection from Members, the Vice-Chairman declared that the motion was carried, and asked the Secretariat to write to GLTMS to request it to increase its manpower for handling tree management.

(10) Urge the government departments concerned to enhance their strategies on tackling climate change and disasters in rural areas

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 77/20)

290. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was discussed and carried together with other items earlier.

(Note: Please also refer to paragraphs 4 to 42.)

(11) Urge the Government to study the impact of climate change on the coastal areas in Sai Kung district and propose forward-looking response measures as soon as possible

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 78/20)

291. The Vice-Chairman said the motion was discussed and carried together with other items earlier.

(Note: Please also refer to paragraphs 4 to 42.)

(B) The 7 questions raised by Members

292. The Vice-Chairman said the following part of the meeting would be chaired by the Chairman.

(1) Enquiry about the information on vacant stalls and open-tender arrangements of public markets in Sai Kung district

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 79/20)

293. The Chairman said the question was raised by Ms LEUNG Hin-yan.

294. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 99/20, which was the reply from FEHD.

295. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan raised the following enquiries: detailed information on the 11 open auctions for markets under the management of FEHD; the date of the last tendering exercise; whether Sai Kung Market would be included in the MMP; upset price of market stalls; vacant period of vacant stalls.

296. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD said the open auctions for public markets in Sai Kung district under the management of FEHD were conducted twice in 2015, five times in 2016 and four times in 2017. FEHD was reviewing whether to include Sai Kung Market in the MMP. The numbers of vacant stalls in Sai Kung Market were one in 2016, seven in 2017, ten in 2018, six in 2019 and three in 2020.

297. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan enquired FEHD about the timetable for including Sai Kung Market in the MMP, timetable for the tendering exercise of vacant stalls and the ways to promote and publicise markets.

298. Ms Christine FONG welcomed a diverse mix of stalls. She pointed out that the stalls were vacant because FEHD did not review the mix ratio of stall tenants. She was worried about the increasing rent and cost after modernisation of markets, which would throttle the renting of stalls by tenants whose stalls made fewer profits. She suggested FEHD to retain shops with the characteristics of Sai Kung and rent out vacant stalls as far as possible.

299. The Chairman said stalls in Sai Kung Market might be vacant for a prolonged period of time due to the lack of air-conditioning and suggested FEHD to rent out the vacant market stalls to local groups.

300. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD said FEHD implemented the MMP and closed markets with low utilisation rate according to operational needs; and it was necessary for FEHD to prepare a number of vacant stalls for relocating the affected stall tenants. At present, FEHD was reviewing the arrangements for open auctions of public market stalls; at the same time, FEHD needed to cater for the needs of stall tenants who had to be relocated due to the implementation of the MMP, and to make good use of the existing vacant stalls in public markets. FEHD would announce the relevant arrangements in due course.

301. The Chairman hoped that FEHD would provide supplementary information on the timetable for including Sai Kung Market in the MMP after the meeting.

302. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun hoped that FEHD could report the situation to SKDC after communicating with the tenants. By then, SKDC would express the stance on whether to support the MMP.

303. Ms Christine FONG hoped that FEHD could implement the plan on installation of air-conditioning in Sai Kung Market as soon as possible. She also enquired about the timetable for installation of lifts in Sai Kung Market.

304. The Chairman enquired about the criteria for the mix ratio of market stalls and suggested reserving a certain number of stalls for rental by local groups to match with the development needs of the district.

305. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD said local consultation had been conducted in July 2019 on the provision of passenger lifts and FEHD had proactively explored with ArchSD on the feasibility of the project. As for information on the planning and trade mixes of stalls in public markets in Sai Kung district, it could be provided after the meeting.

306. The Chairman hoped that FEHD would provide relevant information after the meeting and suggested retaining the question for further discussion at the next meeting.

(2) Enquiry about the current utilisation and future planning directions of Tui Min Hoi Market

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 80/20)

307. The Chairman said the question was raised by Ms LEUNG Hin-yan.

308. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 105/20, which was the reply from FEHD.

309. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said FEHD's compensation and resumption plan for Tui Min Hoi Market was not properly arranged. She considered that FEHD had the responsibility to provide assistance for tenants of poorly managed stalls and take the lead in revitalising the venue. She hoped that FEHD would give an account of the planning arrangements for Tui Min Hoi Market after 30 June.

310. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD responded that after submitting a paper to the Housing & Environmental Hygiene Committee of SKDC on 13 September 2018 on the closure of Tui Min Hoi Market and its future development directions, FEHD had arranged a meeting on 26 November in the same year to explain to the tenants of Tui Min Hoi Market the closure of the market and compassionate arrangements, which included the options of moving out from the market permanently, cessation of business and disbursement of ex gratia payment. At that time, tenants did not choose any of the options but only requested FEHD to increase the amount of the ex gratia payment. In April this year, FEHD had notified tenants that the lease would not be renewed after its expiry on 30 June. Tui Min Hoi Market was still operating and the market would be closed after the lease was expired and the relocation was properly arranged. FEHD would keep an open mind in the future arrangements for Tui Min Hoi Market.

311. Mr LAI Ming-chak said FEHD did not have any planning arrangement after closure of Tsuen King Circuit Market and Mong Kok Market in March 2018 and 2010, leaving the relevant markets vacant since then. He considered that FEHD had the responsibility to ensure proper planning arrangements after closure of markets.

312. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan asked whether FEHD would have any measures to revitalise the market, whether it had communicated with stall tenants, and whether it would re-provide the refuse depot in Tui Min Hoi. She hoped that FEHD, GPA, PlanD, LandsD, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) and LCSD could respond to her questions.

313. Ms Christine FONG said the vacancy rate of markets was also relevant to their geographical environment, competition among stall tenants or ancillary facilities. She suggested considering revitalisation of Tui Min Hoi Market as an informative museum and asked FEHD to discuss with other departments on the future direction of Tui Min Hoi Market as early as possible.

314. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun said the last-term SKDC had discussed the future direction of Tui Min Hoi Market and suggested using it for providing support services for the elderly. As

retrofitting required a substantial amount of resources, he hoped that FEHD could discuss with SWD on the feasibility of the conversion of relevant facilities as early as possible.

315. Mr Cyrus CHOW of SKDO said FEHD had briefed he SKDC in 2018 the arrangements after closure of Tui Min Hoi Market. He suggested that Members could reflect their views on the future planning of Tui Min Hoi Market to the Secretariat after the meeting, which would then convey their views to the departments concerned.

316. Mr FUNG Kwan-on hoped that the Secretariat could assist in collecting the views of Members. He considered that, after the conversion, in addition to being merely an elderly centre, it could also provide support services for carers.

317. The Chairman said, regarding the question, the Secretariat had written to GPA, which replied that no response would be provided for the time being as FEHD had not yet returned the site. The Chairman suggested retaining the question and asked the Secretariat to collect the views of Members and convey their views to the departments concerned after the meeting.

318. Ms LAM Wai-ki of FEHD said FEHD would display seasonal decorations in markets under its management and produce leaflets to introduce food, supplies and service trades commonly available in public markets.

319. The Chairman suggested retaining the question and conveying the views of Members to the government departments concerned in writing.

(3) Enquiry about the reviews on the situation and ratio of public toilets in Sai Kung district

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 81/20)

320. The Chairman said the question was raised by Ms LEUNG Hin-yan.

321. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 100/20 and 104/20, which were the replies from FEHD and LCSD.

322. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan pointed out that LCSD and FEHD had adopted different practices in handling squatting type toilets, and enquired whether CHP had provided LCSD and FEHD with guidelines on matters related to squatting type toilets. At present, LCSD had enclosed the squatting type toilet at Sai Kung Waterfront Park. As the remaining five water closets were inadequate to meet the needs of the district, she suggested LCSD to convert all squatting type toilets into water closets. She also asked how the above two departments would handle the current shortage of toilet compartments in the public toilets in Sai Kung Town.

323. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said no guideline on enclosure of squatting type toilets had been received from CHP. FEHD would continue to provide squatting type toilets to enable the public to choose by themselves.

324. Mr Wallace YAU of LCSD responded to the questions of Members as follows:

- In accordance with the recommendations of CHP, the toilet lid should be put down before flushing to avoid spreading germs;
- LCSD had displayed promotional posters of DH at prominent locations;
- LCSD had temporarily closed the squatting type toilets in March and posted notices to inform the public of the relevant arrangements and suggested them to go to nearby toilets at Sai Kung Tennis Courts, Sai Kung Squash Courts or Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground if necessary; and
- LCSD would pay close attention to the latest development of the epidemic, communicate with CHP on matters related to suspension of squatting type toilets and make timely arrangements.

325. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said the public toilets at Sai Kung Tennis Courts, Sai Kung Squash Courts, Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground, Sai Kung Waterfront Park and Yi Chun Street were inadequate to cope with the flow of visitors during the implementation of the prohibition on group gathering, as a result, visitors had removed the belts for enclosing the squatting type toilets, which had increased the burden of cleaning workers. She suggested that the ratio of toilet compartments in public toilets be reviewed.

326. Mr Wallace YAU of LCSD said he noted the situation and would enquire CHP about the latest guideline as soon as possible. LCSD had reviewed with the staff of works department whether lids could be added to squatting type toilets and the feasibility of renting temporary toilets, but the result was not satisfactory. When carrying out refurbishment or improvement works for toilets in the future, LCSD would try to convert squatting type toilets into water closets as far as possible.

327. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD responded that she would submit information on the ratio of squatting type toilets to water closets to Members after the meeting if necessary. FEHD would increase the ratio of water closets when carrying out refurbishment works for public toilets in the future.

328. Ms Christine FONG said it was necessary to retain squatting type toilets and suggested that lids could be added to squatting type toilets to reduce the spread of virus.

329. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said it was difficult to add lids to existing squatting type toilets. However, the views of Members were noted, and the feasibility of providing lids to new squatting type toilets in the future would be explored.

330. There being no other comment from Members, the Chairman declared that the above issue would be deleted at the next meeting.

(4) Request the Government to provide the number and types of vessels that the typhoon anchorage in Sai Kung can accommodate, its utilisation rate in the past five years, and the difference between the actual and anticipated utilisation
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 82/20)

331. The Chairman said the question was raised by Ms LEUNG Hin-yan.

332. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 92/20, which was the reply from MD.

333. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said MD did not respond to her question. She hoped that MD could provide the breakdown by type of Classes I to IV vessels using the sheltered anchorage off Sai Kung Public Pier and the reasons for the estimated increase in the berthing spaces for Class IV vessels from 4.3 hectares to 7.5 hectares.

334. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to convey the views of Members to MD in writing and declared that the above issue would be retained for further discussion at the next meeting.

(5) Privacy concerns related to video cameras at refuse collection points
(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 83/20)

335. The Chairman said the question was raised by her herself.

336. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper Nos. 101/20 and 102/20, which were the replies from FEHD and EPD.

337. Mr CHAN Wai-lit hoped that the Secretariat would make an enquiry to FEHD in writing on whether the Police had made any request to FEHD for provision of relevant video clips in the past six months. He also hoped to know about the information on the spectrum of the video cameras, server connected and the management company of the video cameras.

338. The Chairman asked whether the cameras could be adjusted to avoid taking videos of residential premises. She also asked about the persons authorised to view the video clips.

339. Ms OR Siu-shan of FEHD said she had no information in hand regarding the provision of video clips to the Police. The existing cameras did not have a facial recognition function and they would not record images at places of higher altitudes; the video clips could only be viewed by staff at Inspector levels. The contractor would only use the video clips to observe the behaviour of littering and for adjusting law enforcement actions.

340. There being no comment from Members, the Chairman declared that the above issue would be deleted at the next meeting and asked FEHD to provide a written reply in response to the views of Members after the meeting.

(6) Enquiry about the laying of village public sewers

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 84/20)

341. The Chairman said the question had been discussed together with another item earlier.

(Note: Please also refer to paragraphs 194 to 205.)

(7) Enquiry about the automatic weather station in Tseung Kwan O of the Hong Kong Observatory

(SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 85/20)

342. The Chairman said the question was raised by Mr LAI Wai-tong.

343. Members noted SKDC(EHCCAFC) Paper No. 93/20, which was the reply from HKO.

344. There being no comment from Members, the Chairman declared that the above issue would be deleted at the next meeting.

V. Any Other Business

(A) Motion referred by the SKDC meeting held on 5 May 2020: To step up promotion and education for hikers with a view to promoting “leave no trace” hiking

(SKDC(M) Paper No. 104/20)

(SKDC(M) Paper No. 123/20)

(SKDC(M) Paper No. 124/20)

(SKDC(M) Paper No. 125/20)

345. Members noted SKDC(M) Paper Nos. 104/20, 123/20, 124/20 and 125/20, which were the replies from DH, the Hong Kong Police Force, AFCD and the Transport Department.

346. Ms LEUNG Hin-yan said it was suggested during the discussion at the last full council meeting of SKDC that the issue should be referred to the Working Group concerned for following up.

347. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the above issue was referred to the Working Group on Community Involvement, Environmental Protection and Impacts of Climate Change for following up.

348. The Chairman said the motion referred by the Housing, Planning and Development Committee at the meeting on 19 May 2020, the wording of which was: “Request the representatives of the Lands Department and Sunevision to attend the HPDC meeting to report and follow up on the improvement proposals endorsed on 15 January 2019 for the new data centre in Area 85”, would be discussed at the next meeting of EHCCAFC.

349. Mr CHAN Wai-lit hoped to move an extempore motion, the wording of which was: “Request the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to install detachable iron trays on the ashtrays of refuse bins in Sai Kung district to protect workers by reducing problems related to physical strain”. The motion was seconded by Messrs CHENG Chung-man, CHOI Ming-hei, Gary FAN, Stanley HO, LAI Ming-chak, LAI Wai-tong, Frankie LAM, LEE Ka-yui, Ryan LEE, Ms LEUNG Hin-yan and Mr LUI Man-kwong.

350. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the extempore motion was included in the agenda.

351. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the extempore motion was carried.

352. Mr CHUNG Kam-lun suggested referring Question (2): “Enquiry about the current utilisation and future planning directions of Tui Min Hoi Market” to EHSWC for following up.

353. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that Question (2), the views of Members and replies from departments were referred to EHSWC for following up.

VI. Date of Next Meeting

354. The Chairman declared that the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, 23 July 2020 at 9:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

June 2020