

(Translation)

Minutes of the 8th Meeting of the Environment and Hygiene Committee of
Sham Shui Po District Council (6th Term)

Date: 15 April 2021 (Thursday)
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Sham Shui Po District Council

Present

Chairman

Mr CHUM Tak-shing

Members

Ms CHAU Yuen-man, Eunice

Ms CHOW Wing-heng, Zoé (Arrived at 10:14 a.m.; left at 11:28 a.m.)

Mr HO Kai-ming, Calvin (Arrived at 10:15 a.m.)

Mr HO Kwan-chau, Leo (Arrived at 9:36 a.m.)

Mr KONG Kwai-sang (Arrived at 10:10 a.m.)

Mr LAO Ka-hang, Andy (Left at 11:28 a.m.)

Ms LAU Pui-yuk, MH

Mr LEE Hon-ting, Howard (Arrived at 9:33 a.m.)

Mr LEE Man-ho, Leos (Arrived at 12:00 noon)

Mr LI Kwing, Richard (Arrived at 9:47 a.m.)

Mr LI Chun-hei, Joshua (Left at 10:30 a.m.)

Mr LI Ting-fung, Jay

Mr MAK Wai-ming (Left at 12:50 p.m.)

Ms NG Mei, Carman (Arrived at 12:40 p.m.)

Ms NG Yuet-lan, Janet (Arrived at 9:37 a.m.)

Mr SIN Kam-ho, Jeffrey (Arrived at 9:52 a.m.)

Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, MH, JP (Arrived at 9:40 a.m.)

Mr TSUI Yat-hin, Ronald (Arrived at 10:14 a.m.; left at 10:28 a.m.)

Mr WAI Woon-nam

Mr WONG Kit-long (Arrived at 9:45 a.m.)

Mr YEUNG Yuk

Mr YUEN Hoi-man, Ramon (Arrived at 9:54 a.m.; left at 12:25 p.m.)

In Attendance

Mr LAM Wui-tsun, Brian
Mr SUM Siu-hin

Ms NGO Mei-ling

Mr LIM Ying-lam

Mr YIU Yau-man, Wallace

Mr TSOI Hok-tin, Ivan

Mr TO Chi-hung

Mr CHAN Chi-suen, Rex

Mr IP Yiu-cheung, Sunny

Mr MOK Wai-hai, Sam

Mr CHUNG Yan-chi, Jocky

Mr LEUNG Wai-yiu, Anthony

Ms YEUNG Yu-shan, Alice

Assistant District Officer (Sham Shui Po) 2

District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sham Shui Po), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Chief Health Inspector 2, Sham Shui Po District, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Chief Health Inspector 3, Sham Shui Po District, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 5, Environmental Protection Department

Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling) 15, Environmental Protection Department

Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 2), Water Supplies Department

Police Community Relations Officer (Sham Shui Po District), Hong Kong Police Force

Neighbourhood Police Coordinator/Police Community Relations Office (Sham Shui Po District), Hong Kong Police Force

Chief Estate Officer/Kowloon West, Lands Department

Principal Estate Officer/Kowloon West (North), Lands Department

Veterinary Officer/Avian Influenza Surveillance, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Senior Field Officer (Avian Influenza), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Secretary

Mr CHU Hei-yeung, Angus

Executive Officer (District Council) 1, Sham Shui Po District Office

Absent with Apologies

Co-opted Members

Ms CHAN Hiu-ching

Ms CHAN Ka-yi

Mr CHUI Chun-choi

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed members and representatives from government departments to the eighth meeting of the Environment and Hygiene Committee (“EHC”). To prevent the spread of the epidemic, he requested all attendees to check their temperatures and register their names before entering the Conference Room. He also said that the meeting would be completed as soon as possible, and that the public gallery would not be open.

2. The Committee noted the leave applications from Ms CHAN Hiu-ching, Ms CHAN Ka-yi and Mr CHUI Chun-choi.

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of minutes of the 6th and 7th meeting held on 4 February 2021

3. The Committee confirmed the above minutes without amendment.

Agenda Item 2: Matters for discussion

(a) Concern over the conflict between residents and wild pigeons in the district (EHC Paper 21/21)

4. Mr Howard LEE introduced Paper 21/21.
5. Mr MAK Wai-ming said that wild pigeons frequently appeared in residential buildings in the district, and even built nests on air-conditioner platforms, causing much nuisance to residents. As the population of wild pigeons would only start to decrease in 2 years after the launch of the trial scheme to administer contraceptive drugs to wild pigeons (“the trial scheme”) by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”), he did not think the scheme could solve the imminent problems of residents in the district and suggested that AFCD consider legislating to regulate the feeding of wild birds.
6. Mr WAI Woon-nam said that he hoped AFCD could provide a timetable for extending the trial scheme to Sham Shui Po District (“SSP District”).
7. The Chairman enquired about the drug used in the trial scheme and its side effects, how the contractor in charge could ensure that the remaining drug would not be ingested by other animals by mistake, and which indices the Department would consider when reviewing the effectiveness of the scheme. He suggested that while implementing the trial scheme, the Department should also explore legislating to regulate the feeding of wild birds.
8. Mr Anthony LEUNG introduced Response Paper 21b/21, and added that the main

ingredient of the contraceptive drug used in the trial scheme was Nicarbazin and the drug could degrade naturally and was safe. Wild pigeons showed no obvious side effects after ingestion, while for other mammals, only high doses might lead to the risk of poisoning. Under the trial scheme, the service provider hired by AFCD was required to follow the terms of the contract and AFCD's instructions to feed the contraceptive drug to wild pigeons and clear all remaining feed. The Department's staff would regularly inspect the relevant locations and monitor the implementation of the scheme. Depending on the effectiveness of the trial scheme and the actual circumstances, the Department would consider whether to extend the scheme to other wild pigeon congregating spots, and report the progress of the scheme to the District Council ("DC") at a suitable time. He pointed out that if residents in the district found wild pigeons congregating or building nests outside residential units, they could contact AFCD by calling 1823 or by email. The Department would provide them with professional advice and various solutions, including installing bird spikes, using bird repellent or cleaning with bleach. AFCD had no authority to enforce the law against wild pigeon feeding, and wild pigeons were not protected by the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance. The environmental hygiene problems arising from the above acts were mainly followed up by other relevant departments.

9. Ms Alice YEUNG gave a consolidated response by saying that in order to educate the public not to feed wild pigeons, AFCD would set up educational game booths, in addition to hanging promotional banners in the district. Social workers at the booths would also advise people feeding wild pigeons to change their habits. Moreover, the Department had started a trial to spray bird repellent in various wild pigeon congregating spots in the district, and would analyse and review the effectiveness of this measure.

10. Mr SUM Siu-hin introduced Response Paper 21a/21.

11. Mr Howard LEE enquired how many of the 53 fixed penalty tickets issued by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") from last year till now for the fouling of public places due to wild bird feeding were issued to the same persons, and whether they would further prosecute the relevant persons by issuing summonses. In addition, he suggested that AFCD consider spraying bird repellent at the four wild bird congregating spots mentioned in Paper 21/21, and continue to provide technical support to public housing estates in the district for the control of wild bird populations.

12. Ms Janet NG said that she hoped AFCD would include SSP District in the trial scheme as soon as possible. Moreover, since there were many repeated offenders illegally feeding wild birds in the district, she suggested that FEHD should consider increasing the penalties and prosecuting from different legal angles.

13. Mr MAK Wai-ming said that he had information on the persons who illegally fed wild birds on a regular basis, as well as the locations and hours at which the wild pigeons

frequently appeared. He could give the information to AFCD for follow-up after the meeting. He was also glad to visit the relevant locations with the Department to exchange views. Moreover, he believed that measures such as installing bird spikes, spraying bird repellent and posting pictures of owls had a limited effect, and hoped that AFCD could study more effective ways to drive away wild birds. Regarding the trial scheme, as the reproductive ability of wild pigeons would recovered 72 hours after ceasing to take the contraceptive drug, he believed that there would be difficulties in implementing the scheme and suggested that AFCD should consider directly capturing wild pigeons in urban areas and releasing them in rural areas suitable for feeding.

14. Mr Jeffery SIN said that people often placed food intended for wild birds on the planters near public housing estates in the district, but it attracted rodents at the same time. He hoped FEHD would assist the Housing Department (“HD”) in cleansing the planters at the borders between public housing estates and streets. Moreover, he suggested that AFCD should consider working with HD to carry out publicity and educational work at locations where there was frequent illegal feeding of wild birds.

15. Mr Richard LI said that one of the locations where the trial scheme would be implemented was very close to a market, which had large amounts of food waste accumulated, and that might affect the execution of the scheme. Moreover, he noted that some residents in the district claimed to obtain a licence to feed wild birds legally and he hoped the relevant department would investigate such claims. Since the cooperation of various departments to solve rodent problems had proved to be effective, he suggested that AFCD share its experience in tackling wild bird congregating and illegal feeding of wild birds with HD.

16. Mr Anthony LEUNG gave a consolidated response by saying that one of the objectives of the trial scheme was to study the most effective method in administering contraceptive drugs to wild pigeons. According to data from the pharmaceutical company, after a sufficient dose of the contraceptive drug was taken by wild pigeons, the effect would last about one week. The Department would make reference to overseas experience and the pharmaceutical company’s recommendations to continuously optimise the strategy of administering contraceptive drugs, and advise people illegally feeding wild pigeons not to obstruct the implementation of the scheme. Also, he understood that the Government currently did not issue any licence that allowed feeding wild birds in public places. The Department would continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach to solve the problem of wild pigeons. He would also convey members’ views to the relevant division of AFCD. Regarding the suggestion to set up a bird park, the Department had considered it and opined that there were a number of problems with this suggestion, including possibly sending the wrong message to the public that “the Government encourages wild bird feeding”, difficulty in ensuring that the birds would only dwell and move within a fixed area, and difficulty in

finding a large piece of land for this use.

17. Mr SUM Siu-hin gave a consolidated response by saying that people generally fed wild birds out of good intentions, but they might not understand that this behaviour would lead to environmental hygiene problems, and therefore education was also very important. Currently, FEHD and HD had regularly inspected the district environment and would continue to communicate on the problem of wild birds.

18. Mr LIM Ying-lam gave a consolidated response by saying that FEHD would prosecute repeated offenders illegally feeding wild birds by issuing summonses. If the person was convicted by the court, the Department would submit a report to the court detailing relevant offences committed by the person before for its reference.

19. The Chairman concluded that he agreed that the lives of wild pigeons should be respected, but an excessive number of wild pigeons in busy urban areas would cause nuisance to the public. Thus, it was suggested that AFCD should report the progress and effectiveness of the trial scheme to DC at a suitable time, and consider legislating to regulate the feeding of wild birds and wild pigeons.

(b) Cordially invite the Environmental Protection Department to give an introduction on the Pilot Scheme on Smart Recycling System (EHC Paper 22/21)

20. Mr Jeffrey SIN introduced Paper 22/21.

21. Mr Ivan TSOI introduced Response Paper 22a/21, and briefly explained the implementation details of the Pilot Scheme on Smart Recycling System, the Recycling Spots and the Green Outreach programme.

22. Mr Jay LI said that he supported the Green Community programme and the Pilot Scheme on Smart Recycling System of the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”). In view of the crowded pavements in the district, he suggested that EPD should consider setting up Recycling Spots with mobile vehicles.

23. Ms LAU Pui-yuk said that she hoped EPD could step up its promotion of the various environmental protection schemes, as well as list out the types of recyclables suitable for collection, the service hours of recycling facilities and the implementation dates clearly on the publicity materials for the above pilot scheme. She also suggested that EPD should consider setting up additional fixed recycling stations in government buildings or MTR stations.

24. Mr MAK Wai-ming said that as the environmental protection schemes mainly

targeted the youth and the working population, EPD should step up the promotion to these people, and adjust the service hours of recycling facilities accordingly so that working people could make use of them after work.

25. Mr Richard LI suggested that EPD should set up the recycling facilities at prominent locations and step up the promotion to nearby residents and owners' corporations. Also, since some three-coloured recycling bins in the district were very old or damaged, he hoped that EPD could arrange to renovate them as soon as possible.

26. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu said that EPD should take the initiative to invite other government departments or stakeholders to participate in its environmental protection schemes, in order to make full use of government facilities or public spaces.

27. Mr WONG Kit-long said that the "Sham Shui Po Community Green Station" recycling station, and the Reverse Vending Machines ("RVM"), which collected plastic beverage containers for recycling, were very popular with residents in the district, and suggested that EPD install more RVMs in the district.

28. Mr YEUNG Yuk said that he hoped the Government could allocate more resources to environmental protection, set up more Green Community facilities that were very popular with working people in the district and increase the rebate for returning plastic beverage containers to RVMs in order to encourage local residents to participate in recycling.

29. Mr Howard LEE said that vehicles of private recycling companies often caused street obstruction at the intersection of Fat Tseung Street and Un Chau Street and hoped that the Police could pay attention. Since some residents questioned that EPD did not make good use of the collected recyclables, he suggested that it should enhance the transparency of the relevant procedures and explain to the public how the various types of recyclables were handled to dispel their doubts. He also suggested that EPD should enhance education to further raise public awareness of environmental protection.

30. Mr Ivan TSOI gave a consolidated response by saying that EPD's community recycling network currently collected eight types of recyclables, namely waste paper, metals, plastics, glass, regulated electrical equipment ("REE"), small electrical appliances, fluorescent lamps and light tubes and rechargeable batteries. Due to the epidemic, the Community Smart Recycling Vehicle did not visit the district and EPD would make the arrangements again in the second half of the year. He would also convey members' suggestion to increase the functions of the vehicle to the headquarters. Regarding three-coloured recycling bins, if management offices discovered that the recycling bins in their housing estates were damaged, they could contact the Department for replacement. Currently, there were multiple Recycling Spots in the district, and the Department would

consider extending their service hours and set up additional Recycling Spots if they could complement other environmental protection facilities. Moreover, the RVM Pilot Scheme was still in the trial stage, and the Department would collect public views and review its effectiveness regularly. The Department would continue to step up the promotion of the various environmental protection schemes, and would explain to the public at the recycling facilities that it had appointed eligible recyclers to handle the recyclables.

31. Ms LAU Puk-yuk said that some three-coloured recycling bins in the district lacked clear signage and many residents would irresponsibly discard ordinary waste into and outside the three-coloured recycling bins, causing environmental hygiene problems. She hoped that the relevant department could strengthen their management and consider replacing them with fixed recycling stations.

32. Mr Jeffery SIN said that the recycling bins in the district were often overflowing with non-recyclable waste, and suggested that the relevant department explore improvement measures. Moreover, he hoped that the Lands Department could flexibly handle applications for temporary occupation of government land for setting up street booths to hold non-profit-making events, so that more organisations could hold recycling events on the streets.

33. Mr YEUNG Yuk enquired how could EPD ensure that the recyclables collected in the three-coloured recycling bins would be properly handled by eligible recyclers, and whether the Department planned to increase the number of fixed Green Community recycling points in the district.

34. The Chairman said that the current service hours of Green Community facilities were not convenient for working people and the facilities would not collect REEs and large electrical appliances. He hoped that EPD could make improvements.

35. Mr Ivan TSOI gave a consolidated response by saying that starting from this year, EPD would be responsible for managing the three-coloured recycling bins, and the contractors hired by the Department had to deliver the recyclables to eligible recyclers for handling in accordance with the terms of their contract. The Department had asked the contractors to regularly report the relevant data in order to monitor their performance. After the meeting, the Department would follow up on the problematic three-coloured recycling bins in the district, and maintain communication with LandsD to continue to set up Recycling Spots using street booths. As the Green Community facilities had limited space, the Department suggested that residents who needed to discard REEs should directly contact EPD's contractor, ALBA Integrated Waste Solutions (Hong Kong) Limited, for follow-up. Moreover, the Department was implementing the Plastic Recycling Pilot Scheme to provide free collection service for waste plastic from non-commercial and non-industrial sources in

three trial locations, and would gradually expand it to all districts in Hong Kong if it had a good response. To encourage more people to separate their waste for recycling, the Department had launched the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste to provide free recycling bins to residential, commercial and industrial buildings, and the Department's outreach team would actively promote the programme at new housing estates.

36. The Chairman concluded that he supported EPD's Pilot Scheme on Smart Recycling System, and hoped that EPD could step up the promotion of the various environmental protection schemes and enhance its coordination with DC.

(c) Improve the hygiene environment of Po On Road Market to save the livelihood of market traders (EHC Paper 23/21)

37. Mr MAK Wai-ming introduced Paper 23/21, and hoped that FEHD would step up the promotion of the market and the law enforcement on the streets outside the market.

38. Mr SUM Siu-hin introduced Response Paper 23a/21 with the aid of PowerPoint. He added that FEHD would remove the stagnant water near the fish stalls more frequently, and was planning to put up more signs and light boxes in the market. Under the epidemic, most people chose to cook at home, stimulating the opening of many fresh food stores near the markets in the district, and the Department had been paying close attention to the shop front extensions of these stores and the ensuing environmental hygiene problems. The Department was strictly enforcing the law along Pei Ho Street, and would step up inspections and prosecute shops breaching the law near Shun Ning Road.

39. Mr KONG Kwai-sang said that as Po On Road Market had been built long ago, its overall design and layout of the stalls were outdated and the facilities were old and shabby, making the market uncompetitive. He hoped that FEHD would fully renovate Po On Road Market to improve the operating environment of market traders.

40. Mr MAK Wai-ming said that many traders at Po On Road Market were residents of Sham Shui Po who had grown up locally, and traditional market culture was worth preserving. He did not wish to see Po On Road Market being gradually abandoned or demolished. Thus, he hoped FEHD could come up with concrete measures to help the traders. After the meeting, he would also convey traders' views to FEHD.

41. Ms Janet NG said that FEHD had striven to solve the environmental hygiene problems in the district. She hoped that the Department could secure more manpower and resources to step up the cleansing of the markets, education and law enforcement work.

42. Mr Ramon YUEN said that he believed there were structural problems with Po On

Road Market, which had been built long ago. As small-scale works might not be able to effectively increase the attractiveness of the market, he suggested that the relevant departments and policy bureaux consider a major renovation.

43. Ms LAU Pui-yuk thanked FEHD for striving to solve the problem of shop front extensions in the district. However, she pointed out that the problem of goods blocking passages still occurred near Kweilin Street, in Pei Ho Street at nighttime and inside Pei Ho Street Market. She hoped FEHD would take note of this and enforce the law inside and outside the markets using the same standards.

44. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu said that while traders had the freedom to open fresh food stores outside the markets, their operation was still regulated by the law, and the relevant departments had the responsibility to follow up violations of the law and should study ways to regulate them, such as through licensing. He also suggested that the Food and Health Bureau (“FHB”) and FEHD should consider re-planning the spaces inside Po On Road Market, and explore measures to improve the market with various stakeholders.

45. Mr SUM Siu-hin gave a consolidated response by saying that FEHD would continue to enhance the various facilities at Po On Road Market and improve the environment in the market, including increasing and updating signs, adding mobile air coolers, regularly discussing with the relevant departments how to improve the air cooling system, stepping up cleansing and rodent control work, stepping up inspections to ensure that the corridors were clear, etc. It would also regularly discuss the various improvement measures with market traders. As for the suggestion to re-plan Po On Road Market, as large-scale works would affect the traders inside the market, the Department could only study its feasibility after discussing and reaching a consensus with the various stakeholders. The Department would continue to solve the problem of shop front extensions and other environmental hygiene problems outside the market through education and intensive law enforcement operations.

46. Ms Janet NG suggested that the Police should provide more support to FEHD’s law enforcement operations.

47. Mr Rex CHAN responded that the Police would continue to support FEHD’s law enforcement work and carry out joint operations with it.

48. The Chairman concluded that in addition to short-term improvement measures, it was hoped that FEHD would consider implementing a large-scale improvement programme at Po On Road Market, which should include re-planning the locations of stalls, re-planning the cooked food market, installing air-conditioners, etc. It should also step up the regulation of illegal acts of shops outside the markets in order to create a fair business environment.

(d) Request for the Government to review the problem of indiscriminate car washing in streets as well as report the law enforcement situations and records to the Committee regularly (EHC Paper 24/21)

49. Mr SUM Siu-hin introduced Response Paper 24a/21.

50. Mr Wallace YIU introduced Response Paper 24d/21.

51. Mr Rex CHAN responded that the problem of indiscriminate car washing on the streets mainly involved illegal acts including the obstruction of streets, endangerment of road safety, random handling of waste water and causing of nuisance. The Police would follow up if complaints were received. However, there were no records of relevant complaints in the Sham Shui Po Police District recently. Since this matter was not serious or urgent, he had reservations about reporting on it regularly to EHC.

52. Mr WAI Woon-nam said that large numbers of car washing and car detailing shops had sprung up in the district in recent years, some of which not only occupied the streets to wash cars, but also put up large promotional vertical banners on pavements that endangered the safety of road users. He hoped that the relevant departments could step up inspections and have the illegally parked cars driven away, and report the progress on the following up of these kinds of complaints at the next meeting. Moreover, he found that some car washing shops had a very small shop area, which could not accommodate a car, so these shops definitely had to wash cars on the streets and the effluent would flow into sewers. He hoped that EPD would step up its law enforcement.

53. The Chairman said that indiscriminate car washing by car washing shops on the streets made the ground wet and slippery, causing inconvenience to nearby residents, while the effluent that contained chemicals would also cause environmental pollution. Thus, he opined that the relevant departments should step up their law enforcement according to their areas of responsibilities. He hoped that EPD and FEHD would report on this problem regularly to facilitate the analysis of whether the number of cases in the district was on the rise.

54. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu said that in the regular report submitted by the Police, the figures on complaints about traffic and obstruction caused by shops might have already included cases involving car washing and car detailing shops. He suggested that the Police consider counting the complaints about car washing separately. Also, car detailing shops occupying the streets were obviously in breach of the law and he hoped the relevant departments would follow it up.

55. Mr Wallace YIU responded that EPD was willing to report to EHC regularly on the

problem of indiscriminate car washing on the streets. The Department also pointed out that there would be some difficulty in gathering evidence if it invoked the Water Pollution Control Ordinance to follow up the relevant cases, and it would be simpler and more direct to use other relevant legislation to follow up this problem.

56. Mr SUM Siu-hin responded that FEHD could report to EHC regularly on complaints about car washing in public places.

57. The Chairman concluded that it was hoped that FEHD and EPD would include the figures on complaints and law enforcement related to car washing in their regular reports from the next meeting onwards.

(e) Reports by the District Lands Office / Kowloon West, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Environmental Protection Department, the Drainage Services Department, the Highways Department, the Customs and Excise Department and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on environmental hygiene problem, wild bird problem and poultry market relocation problem in the district (EHC Papers 25-32/21)

58. Ms Janet NG said that illegal feeding of wild pigeons often took place at around 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. near Mei Foo Sun Chuen. She hoped FEHD would take law enforcement action during these two time periods.

59. Mr WAI Woon-nam said that the problem of obstruction of streets by second-hand electrical appliance recyclers at locations such as Hai Tan Street and Yee Kuk Street was still serious. He hoped EPD would search for business operation venues far away from residential buildings for recyclers and provide incentives for their relocation, in order to minimise the nuisance caused to residents in the district.

60. Ms LAU Pui-yuk said that there were often large numbers of unlicensed hawkers at locations such as Tai Nan Street, Apliu Street and Pei Ho Street, and some of these hawkers and their customers did not wear masks or maintain social distancing. She hoped the relevant departments could carry out joint operations to follow up. Separately, as the shops near the markets caused serious noise nuisance, she suggested that EPD include the noise complaint figures in their regular reports. Furthermore, she hoped FEHD would take note of the problem of dripping air-conditioners in the district, and asked the Police to step up the prosecution of illegally parked vehicles near Tai Nan Street.

61. Mr KONG Kwai-sang said that huge amounts of fly-tipped construction waste were often found near Lei Cheng Uk Estate and hoped FEHD could help to remove them. Moreover, since illegal feeding of wild pigeons often took place near Merlin Centre, he

hoped FEHD could step up its law enforcement.

62. Mr Jay LI said that he noted that many bars in the district were operating normally despite a ban. He hoped the relevant departments would step up their inspections and prosecutions, and regularly report the figures of the relevant cases to EHC.

63. Mr Leos LEE said that residents in the district found that those ban-defying bars had resumed their operation a few days after law enforcement was carried out by the Police. He hoped the relevant departments could step up their combating operations.

64. Mr Wallace YIU gave a consolidated response by saying that as the trading and transport of second-hand electrical appliances in the district were ordinary business activities, and second-hand electrical appliances were goods with a value, EPD had no plans to give subsidies to second-hand electrical appliance businesses in the district. As for regulating the relevant activities through a licensing system, EPD had implemented licensing control for the disposal of REEs under the Producer Responsibility Scheme on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, and would continue to closely monitor the situation in the district. Moreover, the Department would include the complaint figures relating to noise produced by shops in its regular reports.

65. Mr SUM Siu-hin gave a consolidated response by saying that FEHD would continue to combat unlicensed hawkers in the district with the Police, and step up inspections of the areas around Mei Foo Sun Chuen and Merlin Centre in respect of the problem of wild pigeon feeding. As dripping air-conditioners would affect the environmental hygiene of public places, the Department would step up its inspections of locations which were prone to water dripping, and handle the relevant complaints as quickly as possible. In addition, after finding fly-tipped construction waste in the district, FEHD would seal off the area and ask the Highways Department (“HyD”) to follow up as quickly as possible.

66. Mr Rex CHAN gave a consolidated response by saying that the Police adopted a “zero tolerance” approach to shops violating the anti-epidemic bans, and members aware of the relevant circumstances should report them to the relevant law enforcement departments as quickly as possible. The Police noted the locations named by members where environmental hygiene problems frequently occurred, and would step up their law enforcement.

67. Ms Janet NG said that she hoped HyD could remove the fly-tipped construction waste as quickly as possible after receiving complaints, and explain to EHC the procedures for handling the relevant cases and the difficulties faced by the Department.

68. The Chairman said that EPD had launched the “HoHoSkips App” pilot scheme in SSP District this year to help the renovation sector dispose of small quantities of construction waste properly. He hoped that this scheme would help to ameliorate the problem of fly-tipped construction waste in the district. Moreover, he hoped that HyD could regularly report to EHC on the progress on the handling of the relevant cases.

69. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted the above eight reports.

Agenda Item 3: Any other business

70. The Chairman said that Mr SUM Siu-hin, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sham Shui Po), would be transferred shortly. On behalf of all members, he thanked Mr SUM for actively improving the environmental hygiene in the district over the past three years, and wished him all the best.

Agenda Item 4: Date of next meeting

71. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 3 June 2021 (Thursday).

72. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:06 p.m.

District Council Secretariat
Sham Shui Po District Office
May 2021