

**Sha Tin District Council**  
**Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of**  
**the Health and Environment Committee in 2018**

**Date** : 13 September 2018 (Thursday)  
**Time** : 2:30 pm  
**Venue** : Sha Tin District Council Conference Room  
 4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Time of joining the meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Time of leaving the meeting</u></b>
Mr WONG Yue-hon (Chairman)	DC Member	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Ms YUE Shin-man (Vice-Chairman)	"	2:55 pm	6:11 pm
Mr HO Hau-cheung, SBS, MH	DC Chairman	2:30 pm	4:46 pm
Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas, SBS, JP	DC Vice-Chairman	2:30 pm	6:02 pm
Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung	DC Member	3:24 pm	5:22 pm
Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James	"	3:10 pm	5:54 pm
Ms CHAN Man-kuen	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr CHAN Nok-hang	"	2:59 pm	5:34 pm
Mr CHING Cheung-ying, MH	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr CHIU Chu-pong, Sunny	"	2:45 pm	5:22 pm
Mr CHIU Man-leong	"	2:32 pm	5:08 pm
Mr HUI Yui-yu, Rick	"	2:43 pm	4:51 pm
Mr LAI Tsz-yan	"	2:48 pm	5:26 pm
Ms LAM Chung-yan	"	2:30 pm	3:23 pm
Mr LEE Chi-wing, Alvin, MH	"	5:23 pm	6:11 pm
Mr LEUNG Ka-fai, Victor	"	2:41 pm	4:53 pm
Mr LI Sai-hung	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr LI Sai-wing	"	2:32 pm	4:48 pm
Mr LI Wing-shing, Wilson	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr MAK Yun-pui	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr MOK Kam-kwai, BBS	"	2:30 pm	4:13 pm
Mr NG Kam-hung	"	2:38 pm	4:09 pm
Ms PONG Scarlett Oi-lan, BBS, JP	"	2:30 pm	4:20 pm
Mr PUN Kwok-shan, MH, JP	"	2:41 pm	4:46 pm
Mr SIU Hin-hong	"	2:30 pm	5:29 pm
Mr TING Tsz-yuen	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr TONG Hok-leung	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Ms TSANG So-lai	"	2:37 pm	5:14 pm
Ms TUNG Kin-lei	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr WAI Hing-cheung	"	2:30 pm	5:58 pm
Mr WONG Fu-sang, Tiger	"	2:58 pm	6:11 pm
Mr WONG Hok-lai	"	2:45 pm	6:11 pm
Mr WONG Ka-wing, MH	"	2:35 pm	5:30 pm
Ms WONG Ping-fan, Iris	"	2:30 pm	5:01 pm
Mr YAU Man-chun	"	2:39 pm	4:15 pm
Mr YIP Wing	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr YIU Ka-chun, MH	"	2:30 pm	6:11 pm
Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael	"	2:58 pm	6:11 pm
Mr MOK Man-lok, Mannix (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Sha Tin District Office		

**In Attendance**

Mr WONG Tin-pui, Simon  
 Mr WONG Shek-hay, Sebastian  
 Mr LAI Wing-chi, Derek

Ms KWOK Sau-fan, Tracy  
 Ms LAU Yuk-yee, Lydia  
 Mr LEE Chee-kwan

Mr PANG Tak-chiu

Mr YUEN Chun-kit, Derek

**In Attendance by Invitation**

Ms WONG Shuk-han, Diane

Mr HUI Fai-wing

Mr LEUNG Chi-ming

Ms CHUI Kin-yan

Mr TSE Lok-man, Alex  
 Mr WONG Sing-lam  
 Mr LAW Wai-ho

Mr LAM Kwok-chuen  
 Mr CHAN Kwok-tai

Mr CHU Hing-tak

Mr NG Kwok-hung

Mr HU Yueming, Alan

Mr LEE Pui-hung

Mr Danny WONG

Mr WONG Kin-chun

Ms TSANG Wing-man

Mr CHEUNG Chong-ming

Ms LAM Pui-yu, Deirdre

Mr MAN King-leung

Dr LUI Siu-yun

Dr Alain LAM

**Title**

Assistant District Officer (Sha Tin) (1)  
 Assistant District Officer (Sha Tin) (2)  
 District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sha Tin) /  
 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
 Housing Manager (Tai Po, North & Shatin 3) / Housing Department  
 Housing Manager (Tai Po, North & Shatin 1) / Housing Department  
 Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional N) 4 /  
 Environmental Protection Department  
 Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin) 2 /  
 Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
 Senior Executive Officer (District Council) / Sha Tin District Office

**Title**

Deputy Director (Environmental Hygiene) /  
 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
 Senior Superintendent (Public Columbaria Project Team) /  
 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
 Chief Health Inspector (Public Columbaria Project Team) /  
 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
 Senior Health Inspector (Public Columbaria Project Team) /  
 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
 Senior Project Manager 335 / Architectural Services Department  
 Project Manager 360 / Architectural Services Department  
 Acting Senior Engineer / New Territories East 4 /  
 Water Supplies Department  
 Senior Engineer / New Territories East 2 / Water Supplies Department  
 Acting Chief Engineer / New Territories East /  
 Water Supplies Department  
 Station Sergeant / Leader of Task Force Sub-unit of Shatin Division /  
 Hong Kong Police Force  
 Station Sergeant / Leader of Patrol Sub-unit 1 of Shatin Division /  
 Hong Kong Police Force  
 Engineer / Sha Tin 2 / Transport Department  
 Principal & Chief Engineer / MVA Hong Kong Limited  
 Technical Director / WSP (Asia) Limited  
 Project Manager / WSP (Asia) Limited  
 Senior Architect / Ronald Lu & Partners (Hong Kong) Limited  
 Manager / Ronald Lu & Partners (Hong Kong) Limited  
 Engineer / 32 / Civil Engineering and Development Department  
 Senior Engineer / 3 / Civil Engineering and Development Department  
 Medical and Health Officer (Community Liaison) 1 /  
 Department of Health  
 Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Management Policy)  
 / Environmental Protection Department

**Absent**

Mr CHENG Tsuk-man

**Title**

DC Member (Application for leave of absence received)

### **Welcoming Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed members and representatives of government departments to the fifth meeting of the Health and Environment Committee (HEC) of the year.

### **Applications for Leave of Absence**

2. The Chairman said that the Secretariat of the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) had received the application for leave of absence in writing from the following member:

Mr CHENG Tsuk-man          Official commitment

3. Members unanimously approved the application for leave of absence submitted by the member above.

### **Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meetings Held on 12 & 17 July 2018** (HEC Minutes 4/2018 & 5/2018)

4. Members unanimously confirmed the above minutes of the meetings.

### **Matters Arising**

Responses of the Relevant Government Departments to Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting  
(Paper No. HE 39/2018)

5. Mr Thomas PANG said that in the reply of the Housing Department (HD) on page 6, the service contract value for the management company of Lung Hang Estate and Sun Tin Wai Estate were similar to that for those of Mei Lam Estate, Fung Wo Estate, Yan On Estate, May Shing Court, Sui Wo Court and Yu Chui Court. He pointed out that the two contracts varied greatly in terms of the scope of management and manpower involved. He wondered why the contract values were similar.

6. Ms Tracy KWOK, Housing Manager (Tai Po, North & Shatin 3) of the HD said that the contract values varied based on the areas of housing estates or the facilities to be managed.

7. The Chairman asked the HD to contact Mr Thomas PANG after the meeting to provide related contractual details, such as the area and the facilities to be managed under each contract.

8. Members noted the above paper.

### **Discussion Items**

2018-2019 Revised Work Plans and Funding Applications of Working Groups under the Committee  
(Paper No. HE 40/2018)

9. The Chairman pointed out that according to Order 40(6) of the Sha Tin District Council Standing Orders, “a ‘standing working group’ should draw up the work plan for

the first quarter of each financial year, and submit it to the relevant committee for endorsement. Any amendment to the work plan should be submitted to the relevant committee for endorsement. ‘The standing working group’ should submit the work plan to the STDC for endorsement if necessary.” He asked whether any members had to declare their interests for being members of the co-organiser, namely, Pharmaceutical Society Charitable Foundation Limited, in the revised work plans and funding applications.

10. Ms Scarlett PONG declared her interest as the Chairperson of the Pharmaceutical Society Charitable Foundation Limited.

11. The Chairman stated that according to the usual practice, members assuming substantive positions in relevant organisations were allowed to attend the meeting after declaring their interests but had no voting rights in respect of related funding applications.

12. Members unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Meeting Schedule of the Committee for 2019  
(Paper No. HE 41/2018)

13. Members unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Development of Columbarium Facilities in the Sha Tin District  
(Paper No. HE 42/2018)

14. The Chairman welcomed Ms Diane WONG, Deputy Director (Environmental Hygiene) and Mr HUI Fai-wing, Senior Superintendent (Public Columbaria Project Team) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), as well as representatives of relevant government departments and consultant companies, to the meeting for the sake of the said paper. He invited representatives of the FEHD to briefly introduce the paper. Ms Diane WONG briefly introduced the contents of the paper.

15. The views of Ms Iris WONG were summarised below:

- (a) she said that only one pedestrian buffer zone would not be enough. The planned buffer zone could be preserved but should not be the only one. She hoped that an additional buffer zone could be designated under the viaduct of Ma On Shan (MOS) Rail Shek Mun Station, since there was a crossing at the site for diversion. Besides, it was advisable to consider installing benches at the buffer zone planned by the FEHD, in order to prevent hawking activities;
- (b) she thanked the FEHD for accepting her advice and paving eco-blocks on the footpath leading from the MOS Rail Shek Mun Station to the columbarium;
- (c) according to the route set by the FEHD, members of the public would need to walk some more distance after the pedestrian subway, before they could reach the columbarium. She hoped that the FEHD would add a cover to the walkway so that people would not need to hold up their umbrellas during rainy days after passing through the pedestrian subway;
- (d) there would be 40 000 niches in Shek Mun Columbarium. And over 100 000 people would come to the place paying tribute to their ancestors during

Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals. It was estimated that 60% of them would take the MOS Rail, while the rest would take other public transport. If 10% of the columbarium visitors took minibus, it would be difficult for residents of Shek Mun Estate to go home on those days, since there was only GMB Route No. 67A travelling between Shek Mun and the MTR Sha Tin Station. She hoped that the FEHD would enhance the shuttle bus service for columbarium visitors travelling between On Hing Lane and the MTR Sha Tin Station;

- (e) vehicles were parked at the crossing between On Muk Street and Hong Kong Baptist University Affiliated School Wong Kam Fai Secondary and Primary School (HKBUAS), blocking the views of and posing safety risks to crossing pedestrians. She enquired the FEHD about possible improvements. There was a higher pedestrian flow at the site due to the columbarium. And the crowd control by the Police alone would not be enough. The FEHD should make improvements to address the safety risks;
- (f) she opined that “columbarium” should be replaced with a better word in order not to cause disturbance to the residents nearby. And she suggested ginger flowers and jasmine for plants at the site; and
- (g) she said that she would move a provisional motion.

16. The views of Mr CHING Cheung-ying were summarised below:

- (a) in terms of future management strategies, he enquired the Government about the specific arrangements for the occupation period of niches. He was concerned that some niches would be left unattended after two or three decades and become a burden on the community. He hoped that the FEHD would have detailed communication with members on related management measures as early as possible; and
- (b) he was also concerned about the significant traffic impact at the location. He said that the related departments should formulate long-term plans and measures on the prevention of excessive vehicular flows or traffic congestion as early as possible. And it might even be necessary to make agreements and arrangements with relevant departments as well as car parks and management companies in the area as early as possible.

17. The views of Ms CHAN Man-kuen were summarised below:

- (a) she thanked the FEHD for heeding members’ advice on related arrangements. The FEHD said that during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals, members of the public could enter the columbarium along the red lines indicated in the picture. At present, there was a crossing, where she had conducted an on-site inspection with Ms Iris WONG and staff of the Transport Department (TD). There were already safety risks at the location despite the low pedestrian flow. And many large trucks went in and out of the refuse collection point. They travelled very fast and did not pay any attention to crossing pedestrians, who had to wait a while before they could cross the road. Besides, the adjacent passing bay was expected to be filled

with vehicles. Only by long-term planning for improvements could such safety risks be possibly alleviated in future; and

- (b) it would be difficult to ensure members of the public following the route to enter the columbarium from On Muk Street and On Yiu Street. She hoped that the FEHD considered constructing a covered walkway at the section in order to divert the pedestrian flow. She said that she would move a provisional motion later.

18. The Chairman noted that a member would move a provisional motion. He pointed out that according to the latest arrangements, a DC Member or a committee member wishing to submit a provisional motion/amendment should submit the same in person to the Secretary, who would promptly add a time stamp of submission thereto upon the receipt and record the related information in a designated form. And if the DC Member or committee member wished to withdraw the provisional motion/amendment, the Secretary would add a time stamp of withdrawal thereto and the member should sign on the record form for confirmation. A DC Member or committee member would be deemed to withdraw his/her provisional motion by taking it back. According to Order 22 of the Sha Tin District Council Standing Orders, "Before discussing a motion, the member moving the motion may withdraw his or her motion of his or her own accord; after discussion but before voting, no motion shall be withdrawn except with the unanimous consent of the members present (excluding abstentions)."

19. The views of Mr CHIU Man-leong were summarised below:

- (a) after the opening of shopping malls in Shek Mun Business Area, many vehicles accessed the location and caused severe traffic congestion on public holidays. He hoped that the FEHD could take measures to divert traffic. In particular, the columbarium would accommodate 40 000 niches upon its completion. Even if only 1% of the columbarium visitors accessed the place by car, there would be 400 vehicles. He wondered whether notices could be displayed at main roads in Shek Mun, telling members of the public that there were no vacant parking spaces in the area, so as to reduce the traffic load in Shek Mun and to encourage the use of public transport;
- (b) he hoped that the FEHD could add a cover to the walkway leading from the exit of the pedestrian subway to facilitate the access of columbarium visitors; and
- (c) there was a refuse transfer station next to the proposed columbarium. He hoped that the FEHD could install some facilities, so that residents would not see the columbarium directly and would not cause disrespect to ancestors. In addition, he hoped that the FEHD would negotiate with the person-in-charge of the refuse transfer station for reducing the vehicular flow during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals. As the matter involved a lot of stakeholders, including DC Members, car park management offices, schools, etc., the related departments were advised to set up a community liaison working group, as it did for other large projects, such as the relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to caverns, so as to facilitate close contact and consultation with stakeholders during the construction and commissioning and to avoid dissatisfaction among residents.

20. The views of Ms Scarlett PONG were summarised below:

- (a) she thanked the FEHD for heeding members' advice in the past. She opined that the walkway leading to the columbarium should be equipped with a cover. She said that the benches illustrated in the picture did not seem to be suitable for the elderly, since they did not have armrests. She hoped that the facilities could meet the needs of people of different ages;
- (b) she wondered whether solar facilities would be available. She knew that some similar benches in Croatia were equipped with charging points. She hoped that FEHD would consider the idea; and
- (c) she was concerned that the great vehicular and the pedestrian flows would cause much disturbance to the residents nearby during the peak periods of grave sweeping. She opined that the FEHD should study the matter carefully.

21. The views of Mr SIU Hin-hong were summarised below:

- (a) the FEHD sent a number of representatives to this meeting, which showed its sincerity. He opined that the FEHD should pay attention to traffic issues. There were only two, instead of many exits at columbarium, and there might be chaos when visitors left the place. He wondered whether the FEHD could consider giving priority to Sha Tin residents in using the niches in Shek Mun, so as to reduce traffic load. It was also advisable to set up displays to show the number of visitors in the columbarium; and
- (b) now it was not allowed to burn incense in columbariums and flowers were used to pay tribute to ancestors instead. He asked whether the FEHD would set up a flower shop or a coffee shop in the new columbarium since those were basic facilities. Residents generally did not like a columbarium in the neighbourhood. He hoped that the lighting from the columbarium would not be too bright, or else there would be some plants to block the view of the facility.

22. The views of Mr WONG Ka-wing were summarised below:

- (a) there were only two routes to enter Shek Mun by car, that is, from the gas station at On Yiu Street or from Siu Lek Yuen Road to On King Street to cross the bridge. With 40 000 niches to be provided, he estimated that there would be 2 000 incoming cars during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals, which were traditionally important days of family reunion for the Chinese. For example, he said that the remains of some of his relatives were interred at Po Fook Hill. Each year during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals, members of his family would visit the place in three cars to pay tribute to the deceased. And then they would have dinner together. With so many restaurants in Shek Mun, a great number of illegal parking cases could be expected at internal streets. By then, the Government would need to properly deal with such illegal parking; otherwise the traffic. The illegal parking in the entire Sha Tin Town Centre would be affected; and

- (b) he asked whether the FEHD would arrange for shuttle buses to travel between Shek Mun Columbarium and popular spots such as the MTR Sha Tin and University Stations, so as to alleviate the traffic load in Sha Tin District.

23. Mr Wilson LI appreciated the FEHD for heeding members' advice and making obvious improvements in the design. He wondered whether transparent materials could be used for the ceiling of the columbarium. With 40 000 niches to be provided, there would be a lot of visitors to the columbarium during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals. He hoped that the FEHD could do a good job in diverting the visitor flow and deal with related matters with prudence, so as not to cause dissatisfaction among residents and columbarium visitors. The paper indicated that there were currently 1 200 passengers on each MOS Rail train, with 24 trains during peak hours. But the assessment did not include the Shatin to Central Link (SCL), which, upon completion, would result in changes to the service schedule. Attention should be paid to passenger and vehicular flows and adjustments might be necessary based on the assessment.

24. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he played a video clip and said that there would be definitely many vehicles parking on the sides of the road that was shown in the video and affecting traffic, if no measures were taken to control the traffic flow into Shek Mun Estate Phase 2. Coincidentally, Ms Diane WONG had been here two years ago to discuss the proposed columbarium, and she was here again today to present the paper, only in a different capacity as the Deputy Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene;
- (b) according to the present proposal, there would be a new pedestrian subway of 7 metres wide, for which the FEHD said that the updated road condition level was D. He wondered whether the FEHD would consider forbidding waiting in the subway, for the sake of a smoother pedestrian traffic and better ventilation;
- (c) while the project included a subway of 7 metres in effective width, the pictures in Annex II did not show any ventilation system. If the subway was intended for diversion at the gathering zone, bad ventilation might result. He asked how the FEHD would deal with the problem;
- (d) he asked whether a gate would be installed at the front of the subway, so as to close it off during non-operating hours. He was concerned about security problems since the subway was located at a secluded place. He also wondered whether the construction of the subway would affect the structural safety of the road section and whether anything could be done to prevent ground settlement;
- (e) the columbarium would be about four storeys high. He asked whether it was designed to accommodate more niches in future;
- (f) according to paragraph 7.2 of the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) Report, an area of 460 square meters had been reserved. If road closure was eventually adopted, visitors would have to reach the columbarium by taxi.



He asked the FEHD where the pick-up/drop-off point for taxis or private cars would be designated, so that cars would leave right away after pick-up/drop off; and

- (g) there was a narrow part on the westbound section of On Ming Street. He asked whether the FEHD would widen the part for a smoother pedestrian flow.

25. The Chairman said that he had talked with the principal of the nearby school on the safety of the crossing at On Muk Street. The principal said that as a motorist himself, he was also worried about hitting a pedestrian when passing the section. He wondered whether the TD considered it unnecessary to address the matter.

26. Ms Diane WONG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) she was very happy to give a briefing to the HEC today together with representatives of other government departments including the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD), the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), the Transport Department (TD) and the Police, as well as relevant consultant companies. And they would provide additional information on related matters after the meeting;
- (b) main data of the TIA report had been provided for members' reference in 2016. The FEHD had also sent copies of the updated report to members through the Secretariat before the meeting. According to the assessment, the visitor flow would peak at about 17 000 persons per hour on Ching Ming Festival;
- (c) for the vehicular flow, more visitors could be handled upon the improvement of the railway system. The FEHD had consulted with other government departments as for the bus and minibus arrangements which members were concerned about. The TD promised to monitor the situation and would enhance public transport services as necessary upon the completion of the columbarium. She promised to keep members posted on any further progress;
- (d) as for the visitor flow, the main access route for pedestrians was designed to be away from the school as much as possible, pursuant to members' advice. The FEHD was studying Ms Iris WONG's proposal of designating a pedestrian waiting area. The ArchSD had also provided samples of related signages;
- (e) members mentioned that there would be blind spots when vehicles turning into On Hing Lane. The FEHD understood members' concerns. The Police would arrange sufficient manpower to manage vehicular and visitor flows moving into and out of the columbarium during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals. The TD would also make public announcements on special traffic arrangements during grave-sweeping seasons. As for the proposed installation of electronic displays to indicate the number of visitors, the FEHD would convey the idea to the TD for consideration. The FEHD would also write to the families of niche users to remind them of using public

transport to and from the columbarium as much as possible during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals;

- (f) the FEHD would consider closing off the pedestrian subway during non-operating hours;
- (g) visitors going to the columbarium would go onto the footpath in the memorial garden after the subway. And that section would be lined with many trees according to the current design. The FEHD would not study the proposal of installing a transparent ceiling until there was related data and justification;
- (h) as for the arrangements for renewal of interment, the FEHD had extensively consulted stakeholders and residents across the territory and would later explain specific details on relevant occasions;
- (i) as for environmental facilities, the FEHD would draw on existing experience and consider other options. For example, solar panels were already used at lamp posts at Wo Hop Shek Public Cemetery. Elderly-friendly elements were also taken into account, such as benches designed for elders at columbaria and wet markets;
- (j) regarding the idea of giving priority to local residents in using the columbaria in the same district, opinions varied across the territory, because, among others, the availability of new niches was different in each district. The Government kept an open mind on the suggestion;
- (k) notices would be put up within the buffer zone to advise against illegal hawking. And related law enforcement would be stepped up. As for the installation of benches, the FEHD would work with other departments to come up with appropriate facilities not to hinder crowd control, since the buffer zone was mainly intended to divert the pedestrian flow;
- (l) as for the traffic arrangements between MTR stations and On Hing Lane, during earlier discussion members had mainly mentioned their hope for increasing the frequency of GMB Route No. 67A. The FEHD would study the suggestion with the TD;
- (m) as for flowers and plants, both the ArchSD and the CEDD would plant aromatic species within their ambit under the project. And they would be willing to listen to Members' ideas; and
- (n) the FEHD kept an open mind on the name of the columbarium and the form of community consultation.

27. Mr Alex TSE, Senior Project Manager 335 of the ArchSD responded that the overall design should be considered for a covered walkway. For the sake of integration into the surrounding natural environment and minimum visual impact, trees would be planted along the way for shading under the current design. The columbarium would be also equipped with a solar energy system.

28. Mr LEE Pui-hung, Principal & Chief Engineer of the MVA Hong Kong Limited responded that according to the TIA report in 2016, a service level of “D” could be maintained when the visitors flow peaked, which was acceptable. The Police and the TD would cooperate with each other for crowd control and traffic management measures by then, and would review such measures based on the actual situation. But taxis or private cars were not advised to pick up or drop off passengers nearby. It was advisable to further consult with the TD and the Police as for the possibility of widening the footpath on On Ming Street.

29. Mr MAN King-leung, Senior Engineer / 3 of the CEDD responded that a pedestrian subway would be built under Tate’s Cairn Highway and the design work was under way. The problem of ground settlement would be handled with caution and prudence in subsequent tendering and construction. The 45-metre pedestrian subway would be straight, with space on each side for crowd control. And a smooth pedestrian flow and natural ventilation would be maintained inside the subway as much as possible.

30. Mr NG Kwok-hung, Station Sergeant / Leader of Patrol Sub-unit 1 of Shatin Division of the HKPF responded that his division would deploy adequate manpower and facilities for crowd control as per the signages. An emergency access should be reserved in the middle of the subway. And they would work with relevant government departments for follow-up. The Police would consider designating a buffer zone outside the MTR station upon consultation with relevant government departments. As for the location of the pick-up/drop-off point at On Muk Street, the TD and the District Committee members would be invited for on-site inspections if necessary.

31. Mr Alan HU, Engineer / Sha Tin 2 of the TD responded that the Police would conduct crowd control at the pedestrian crossing at On Muk Street during Ching Ming and Chung Yeung Festivals. As regards the illegal parking problem on usual days, the TD had maintained close contact with the Police and was aware that the Police had recently stepped up enforcement in the vicinity to combat illegal parking. The TD had also heard members’ views and would organise on-site inspections with local DC Members and the Police, before taking any follow-up actions.

32. Ms CHAN Man-kuen moved the provisional motion below:

“The Shek Mun columbarium will provide around 40 000 niches. A lot of members of the public will pay their respects to their ancestors during Ching Ming Festival and Chung Yeung Festival. The distance between Shek Mun Station and the columbarium is over 500 metres. In this connection, the Health and Environment Committee of the Sha Tin District Council demands that the Government build a covered walkway starting from On Yiu Street, On Muk Street and On Hing Lane to the Shek Mun columbarium, as a measure to give convenience to the public and to encourage columbarium visitors to adopt public transport, so that traffic pressure during the two festivals will be alleviated.”

Ms Iris WONG seconded the motion.

33. Mr HO Hau-cheung expressed support for the provisional motion. He reminded the FEHD that Dr KO Wing-man, the former Secretary for Food and Health, had communicated with Members in the STDC on the proposal, which would be indeed a great burden, if not a sacrifice, on the part of Sha Tin. And the district had borne many

burdens over a long time. He opined that Ms CHAN Man-kuen's request was necessary and suggested that members support this provisional motion as far as possible.

34. Mr Michael YUNG said that both the columbarium and Fu Shan Mortuary were presented to Sha Tin by Professor Sophia CHAN, then Under Secretary and currently Secretary for Food and Health, and her team. While the provisional motion was basically correct, he was concerned that the current TIA did not include a cover design. If a covered walkway was built, the effective width and road condition level would be certainly affected. He said that he definitely supported the construction of a covered walkway. But he wondered whether the problem could be resolved by design without compromising accessibility.

35. Mr Alex TSE responded that more pillars would inevitably be used if a covered walkway was constructed, and the road condition level might be affected. The consultants had to study the related impact.

36. Ms CHAN Man-kuen responded that currently there should be different designs for different effects. The most important thing was for the HEC to express its strong aspiration. She believed that relevant government departments could design and construct the subway properly without comprising its accessibility. She said that she would not make any changes to her provisional motion.

37. Ms Iris WONG added that while relevant government departments could control the width of the walkway, they could not control the tree-lined section of On Muk Street and On Yiu Street. She suggested widening the section by modifying the greening scope.

38. Members unanimously endorsed the provisional motion in paragraph 32.

39. Ms Iris WONG moved the provisional motion below:

“Background

The Shek Mun columbarium will provide around 40 000 niches as well as a Garden of Remembrance. A lot of members of the public will pay their respects to their ancestors during Ching Ming Festival and Chung Yeung Festival. The Government estimates that around 60% of the public will take the MTR to Shek Mun Station and then walk to the columbarium, while the remaining 40% will adopt other modes of transport.

The adjacent Shek Mun Estate Phase 1 and Phase 2 have an estimated population of 15 000 and the outbound transportation mainly relies on the MTR and minibuses. It is expected that many visitors will go to the columbarium by minibus during the peak seasons of ancestor worship. Since the capacity of the minibuses obviously will not be able to cope with the sudden increase in passenger flow, residents of Shek Mun Estate will encounter difficulty in transportation.

Also, the distance between Shek Mun Station and the columbarium is over 500 metres consisting of a long and steep ramp, making it very inconvenient for the disabled to visit the columbarium.

Motion

The Health and Environment Committee of the Sha Tin District Council demands that the Government, after the columbarium is in operation, provide a shuttle bus service running between the Shek Mun columbarium and Sha Tin Station during the peak seasons of ancestor worship, so as to reduce the impact on the residents' access in the vicinity, encourage visitors to reduce the use of private vehicles and care for the disabled visitors."

Mr WONG Ka-wing seconded the motion.

40. Mr CHIU Man-leong asked whether the MTR University Station could be included into the motion.

41. Mr WONG Ka-wing said that the motion mainly concerned the MTR Sha Tin Station. But he did not hold any particular view about Mr CHIU Man-leong's suggestion.

42. Ms Iris WONG said that passengers taking the East Rail Line would transfer to the MOS Rail at Tai Wai Station. She mainly hoped that the accessibility of residents of Shek Mun Estate could be guaranteed. But the service frequency of GMB Route No. 67A was currently inadequate. Therefore, she asked the TD to deal with Sha Tin Station first. She would consider other options if the TD found the current proposal infeasible.

43. Members unanimously endorsed the provisional motion in paragraph 39.

44. The Chairman declared the end of discussion on the matter and thanked representatives of government departments again for their presence.

**Motions**

Motion by Ms YUE Shin-man on Requesting the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to Revise the Names of the Locations for the Dengue Fever Ovitrapping Index from "Wo Che" to "Sha Tin West" and from "Yuen Chau Kok" to "Sha Tin East"  
(Paper No. HE 43/2018)

45. Ms YUE Shin-man moved the following motion:

"Background

The Dengue Fever Ovitrapping Index of the Sha Tin District has recently risen to the alert level, causing public concern. The Sha Tin District is divided into 4 surveyed locations, including "Tai Wai", "Ma On Shan", "Wo Che" and "Yuen Chau Kok". Of the 4 locations, only "Wo Che" and "Yuen Chau Kok" share the same names with their respective subareas, which may easily mislead the public into thinking that the scope of the surveyed locations is overly narrow.

Motion

The Health and Environment Committee of the Sha Tin District Council demands that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department revise the names of the

locations for the Dengue Fever Ovitrap Index from “Wo Che” to “Sha Tin West” and from “Yuen Chau Kok” to “Sha Tin East” for easy identification by the public.”

Mr Victor LEUNG seconded the motion.

46. Mr MAK Yun-pui said that he did not know how to differentiate “Sha Tin East” from “Sha Tin West”. And he believed members of the public did not know that, either. He was concerned that there would be further division into “Sha Tin Northeast” and “Sha Tin Northwest” in future. Therefore, he opposed the motion, and suggested the division into “Shing Mun River East” and “Shing Mun River West” instead.

47. Mr TING Tsz-yuen said that there were currently four surveyed areas, including “Tai Wai”, “Ma On Shan”, “Wo Che” and “Yuen Chau Kok”, which were easily identifiable for the public. And if “Sha Tin East” and “Sha Tin West” were used, it would instead cause confusion among members of the public. He wondered whether “Sha Tin East One” and “Sha Tin West One” should be used, as in the case of area committees under the Sha Tin District Office (STDO). He opined that it was unnecessary to change the names of surveyed areas.

48. Mr CHIU Man-leong said that “Wo Che” as a surveyed area actually extended from Sha Tin Town Centre to Man Lai Court. But its use would cause confusion. When the ovitrap index of “Wo Che” was said to be high, residents of Wo Che Estate would be worried but those of Man Lai Court might take it lightly. The name changes would help raise awareness of mosquito prevention and avoid confusion.

49. Ms TUNG Kin-lei agreed with Mr CHIU Man-leong. It would easily cause confusion if the name of a surveyed area was the same as that of a housing estate. “Wo Che” as a surveyed area extended from Man Lai Court to the University Station. As a result, residents outside Wo Che Estate might have a lower awareness of mosquito prevention. The names of areas should be clear. If the names of STDO’s area committees were adopted, such as “Sha Tin East One” and “Sha Tin East Two”, even DC Members would be confused at times. She hoped that the motion would be acceptable to everyone.

50. Mr Michael YUNG said that there was no dispute about the division of “Tai Wai” and “Ma On Shan”. However, there was confusion in Ma On Shan, where Heng On Estate and Yiu On Estate had been designated by government departments as “Ma On West”. He had lived in Ma On Shan for more than two decades but had no idea where “Ma On West” was. But there had been indeed such a name on road signs. It would be acceptable to change “Wo Che” to “Yuen Wo”, since it included the entire Yuen Wo Road. He suggested changing the names as “Shing Mun River East” and “Shing Mun River West”, since Sha Tin District was actually divided by the river.

51. The Chairman agreed that there was no dispute about the division of “Tai Wai” and “Ma On Shan”. The FEHD had included “Wo Che” and “Yuen Chau Kok” into “Lek Yuen”. When the ovitrap index of “Lek Yuen” was reported to be high at that time, he asked the FEHD about the specific locations and was told that the mosquito problem occurred in Pok Hong Estate. Later, the FEHD accepted the advice and divided “Lek Yuen” into two areas. He opined that the proposed division of “Shing Mun River East” and “Shing Mun River West” was feasible.

52. Mr Victor LEUNG said that sometimes members of the public would be confused about the area names. He opined that original motion was well intended but could be improved. The most important thing was to provide the public with clarity.

53. Mr Sunny CHIU asked whether “Sha Tin East” and “Sha Tin West” as proposed by the original mover covered the same areas as “Shing Mun River East” and “Shing Mun River West”.

54. Mr SIU Hin-hong said that members of the public might be confused about the locations of mosquito problems if the names were changed to “Sha Tin East” and “Sha Tin West”.

55. Mr Derek LAI, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sha Tin) of the FEHD responded that “Wo Che” covered the area from Man Lai Court to Fo Tan, including Yuen Wo Road, Lek Yuen Estate, Wo Che Estate, Sha Tin New Town Plaza, Sha Tin Park, Sha Tin Jockey Club Swimming Pool, etc., instead of referring to only Wo Che Estate. “Yuen Chau Kok” mainly covered the area on the east bank of Shing Mun River. The ovitrap index had been as high as 42% when the surveyed area was newly designated. Thanks to the efforts of various government departments, the index had dropped to 17% in August and more recently to 12.5%. The Pest Control Advisory Section preliminarily said that it could consider changing the names of surveyed areas.

56. Ms YUE Shin-man appreciated the work of the housing manager of Wo Che Estate and Link Asset Management Limited (the Link). Only three out of the 42 ovitraps were placed in Wo Che Estate, the residents of which, however, had been much worried since the news report that the ovitrap index was as high as 42% in “Wo Che”. She revised the motion as follows:

“Motion

The Health and Environment Committee of the Sha Tin District Council demands that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department revise the names of the locations for the Dengue Fever Ovitrap Index from “Wo Che” to “West of Shing Mun River” and from “Yuen Chau Kok” to “East of Shing Mun River” for easy identification by the public.”

Mr Victor LEUNG seconded the motion.

57. Mr MAK Yun-pui thanked the mover for listening to others’ opinions. During his first speech, he had suggested changing the names to “Shing Mun River West” and “Shing Mun River East”. He asked his suggestion to be included into the meeting minutes.

58. Mr Sunny CHIU wondered whether the proposed name changes would still be subject to the FEHD’s consideration even if the motion was endorsed. The FEHD had said just now that “Wo Che” was not the same as Wo Che Estate. He asked which part of “Wo Che” had a high ovitrap index of 42%.

59. Mr Michael YUNG said that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) divided the district into “Sha Tin South” and “Sha Tin North”, instead of “Sha Tin East” and “Sha Tin West” as in the original motion, which would be even more confusing. He was glad that the mover accepted others’ advice. He asked whether the FEHD would forward the HEC’s

proposal to the relevant section for consideration, if the request for name changes was endorsed today.

60. Mr Derek LAI responded that the motion, upon receipt, would be handed over to the Pest Control Advisory Section for consideration. The FEHD placed an average of 50 to 60 ovitraps in each surveyed area with a heavy flow of people. An index of 42.6% meant that mosquito eggs were found in about 20 ovitraps.

61. The Chairman stated that the matter would be put to vote and that the voting system would be used since there were abstentions. He reminded members that a copy of instructions on the voting system had already been placed on each table.

62. The voting results showed 24 affirmative votes, 3 abstention votes and 2 members did not cast a vote. The Chairman announced the endorsement of the motion in paragraph 56.

### Questions

Question to be Raised by Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael on Water Supply in Sha Tin and Ma On Shan

(Paper No. HE 44/2018)

63. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) the paper of the Water Supplies Department (WSD) apparently failed to respond to the much-asked questions. Members would not know if their constituencies would be affected each time when there was a water mains burst. The WSD did not do enough in monitoring its water supply networks;
- (b) questions a, b3-b6 and c asked the WSD to provide maps to illustrate the pipeline alignment. But the WSD failed to do so. He hoped that the WSD would provide related maps so that members could know how the water mains were placed and where their ends were located;
- (c) according to the WSD's paper, in the event of interruption of flushing water supply due to an emergency (such as a burst of flushing water mains), members of the public could get fresh water from the inside service with buckets or other appropriate containers for temporary flushing (not directly connecting the inside service to the flushing system). In such a case, the WSD would not prosecute members of the public considering their hygiene needs and public interests. He opined that the WSD certainly could not prosecute members of the public for that, since the water supply was interrupted exactly because of the water mains burst. According to the information provided by Sha Tin East One Area Committee (STE1AC), there were at least eight water system problems in the area, including five water mains bursts which even affected the entire Ma On Shan. The average figures listed in the WSD's paper were just a ploy and meaningless;
- (d) on one occasion, a 600mm pipe was damaged and burst. The WSD sent three water wagons to Chevalier Garden, but one of them failed to supply water, leaving the residents in uproar. In another case, a 400mm pipe was damaged



and burst. The WSD sent four water wagons but the arrangement took too much time; and

- (e) he asked why Mr CHAN Kwok-tai as the Chief Engineer was absent from the meeting. He was not satisfied with the WSD's reply as to Mr CHAN's absence. The STE1AC had said that Mr CHAN would be invited to their meeting. He believed that Mr CHAN would not go because he was even absent from the HEC meeting. He had solicited water pipes plans from the WSD two weeks before and had not yet received a reply. The Chief Secretary for Administration had promised respect for the District Councils when visiting Sha Tin earlier. He wondered how such respect would be possible when a WSD representative did not even attend the meeting.

64. The views of Mr CHIU Man-leong were summarised below:

- (a) people's livelihood in Ma On Shan was severely affected by the particularly large number of water main bursts in recent years. For example, the area from Kam Tai Court to Ocean View was often affected. He asked the WSD how such bursts could be prevented; and
- (b) the development project under Home Ownership Scheme at Ma On Shan Road had caused water main bursts many times. He asked whether the WSD would provide guidelines to other government departments so as to minimise such accidents.

65. Mr Rick HUI expressed concern about the cases of black particles found in drinking water in Tai Wai. The WSD said that the remaining works were expected to be completed by the end of the year. He wondered whether the problem would disappear from housing estates on both sides of Chui Tin Street, including Sun Chui Estate, Golden Lion Garden and King Tin Court, upon the completion of related works.

66. Mr Wilson LI said that the flushing water supply in Ma On Shan was unstable, and the fresh water supply to Double Cove had been suspended in the past two days. The yellowish flushing water tended to damage water tank. Besides, a very long salt water pipe from Kam Ying Road to Sai Sha Road required repair. He reminded the WSD to make proper traffic arrangements. Many people were dissatisfied with the supply of fresh and flushing water. The WSD should take the matter seriously.

67. The Chairman asked when the meeting requiring Mr CHAN Kwok-tai's presence had been scheduled.

68. Mr LAM Kwok-chuen, Senior Engineer / New Territories East 2 of the WSD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the fresh water supply system was of a circular design, while the flushing water was supplied from Ma On Shan Salt Water Service Reservoir to the town centre and Tai Shui Hang area. Some burst incidents lasted for a longer time, the water supply was suspended from 1 to 73 hours;
- (b) the 73-hour case involved the burst of a salt water main at On Muk Street. Since the original material was fragile, the entire water main was replaced as

well, in order to avoid any future burst. The works had to pause in the middle of the night due to noise complaints and did not resume until the next morning. He offered an apology on behalf of the WSD to the affected people for any inconvenience caused at the time;

- (c) the WSD was aware of incidents of fresh and salt water pipe bursts in Kam Tai Court. It regularly inspected the conditions and water pipes and had installed sonar devices to test leaks in areas concerned, in particular at the water mains at Ma On Shan Road, since it was a trunk road;
- (d) water mains were damaged and burst in three HD projects in July and August this year. The WSD would provide plans and enhanced inspections to see if related works would pose a risk to water mains. As far as he understood, the three water mains in question were no longer used after the works. Members mentioned that one of the water wagons deployed to Chevalier Garden failed to supply emergency temporary fresh water. He did not have related information at hand and would learn more about it;
- (e) the works at Chui Tin Street in Tai Wai were intended to replace the water mains involved in an accident two years before. Similar accidents should not recur upon the completion of the works;
- (f) as regards the problem of yellowish salt water, the WSD would continue to cleanse salt water pipes regularly to maintain water quality. As regards the works at Kam Ying Road, the WSD understood the impact on the traffic and would remind the relevant engineering teams to communicate with DC Members before the works; and
- (g) Mr CHAN Kwok-tai was absent because he had to attend a meeting at the headquarters. As far as he understood, the headquarters meeting had been scheduled prior to the invitation to the present meeting. And the exact time would be provided after the meeting.

69. The Chairman asked the WSD to directly contact Mr Michael YUNG after the meeting to provide additional information if it could not respond to Mr YUNG's question at the moment.

70. Mr Michael YUNG said that the WSD had not yet publicly responded whether it could provide related information, including plans, locations of pipeline materials and a chronology of water mains bursts. He asked whether the Department of Health (DH) had evaluated or calculated the increased risk of hand-foot-mouth disease (HFMD), if any, triggered by water supply suspension.

71. Mr LAM Kwok-chuen promised to provide further information after the meeting.

72. Dr LUI Siu-yun, Medical and Health Officer (Community Liaison) 1 of the DH responded that HFMD mainly spread by contact with an infected person's nose or throat discharges, saliva, fluid from vesicles or stool, or else by touching contaminated objects. The DH did not have information about HFMD triggered by the water supply system.

73. Mr TING Tsz-yuen said that the WSD's information should be provided to all members through the Secretariat.

74. Mr LAM Kwok-chuen agreed with Mr TING Tsz-yuen's suggestion.

75. The Chairman asked the WSD to provide related information to the Secretariat after the meeting and had the information included into the paper of "Responses of Government Departments to Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting" for the next meeting.

Question to be Raised by Mr WONG Yue-hon on the Implementation of the Producer Responsibility Scheme on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment  
(Paper No. HE 45/2018)

76. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he pointed out that Environmental Protection Department (EPD) kept promoting in its announcements of public interest (APIs) and publications the idea that sellers should provide free removal services for customers. However, he opined that it was misleading since consumers actually paid the costs when purchasing products;
- (b) he asked whether the contractor had any service pledge, and whether there would be any punishments and arrangements if the used equipment was not taken away on the same day as the delivery;
- (c) he asked how long it would take to arrange recycling services if members of the public engaged recyclers on their own and whether the recyclers had any service pledge. He also wondered whether people would be charged if they lived in tenement buildings without lifts;
- (d) he pointed out that according to the response, the contractor would refurbish some serviceable electrical appliances for further donation to families in need. He enquired about the specific arrangements and asked whether there was any quantitative requirement;
- (e) he pointed out that according to the paper, the operator of the scheme would bear the expenses of and be entitled to proceeds from the sale of secondary materials, which had nothing to do with the operation fee. He wondered whether the operator, who was responsible of dismantling the appliances, would squeeze every last penny from the scheme if it sold all the materials. He wondered whether there was a minimum quantity of materials to be donated by the operator each year or each quarter. He asked what people in the community could apply for refurbished items, and whether applications were filed via NGOs or by the persons in need on their own. He would like to learn more about it;
- (f) he cited newspaper reports saying that some retailers doctored sales slips to make the sales and delivery dates different. There were more worthless waste appliances in the streets as well. He hoped that the EPD could work with the FEHD to deal with the problem; and

- (g) the EPD had very strict requirements on the operator. As a result, there were few eligible bidders in the market. He asked whether the EPD would consider relaxing the requirements and providing more assistance for applicants of the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF), so as to help small and medium-sized recyclers transform.

77. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he said that he had seen some abandoned refrigerators in Ma On Shan Village. He wondered whether they should be dealt with by the EPD or the FEHD;
- (b) he also asked whether worthless items discarded on the street should be dealt with by the FEHD, the EPD or the District Lands Office, Sha Tin (DLO/ST);
- (c) he asked why there was only one contractor when the scheme was launched and why an additional licence would not be issued until later for the sake of competition. He opined that adequate complementary measures should be provided for an environmental protection initiative;
- (d) he said that with the scarcity of space in Hong Kong, it was difficult for members of the public to wait for recyclers to pick up used appliances. If delivery and pick-up could not be done on the same day, some of them might instead dispose of used appliances in corridors or lift lobbies, which would increase the workload of cleansing contractors of housing estates. He asked how the EPD would handle and monitor the matter, especially if another contractor would be appointed; and
- (e) he asked how the Government would utilise the recycling levy collected from the contractor and whether it would use the amount to subsidise “Ecopark”. He said that he had visited related premises of St. James’ Settlement, where they refurbished used electrical appliances and then donated the same to grassroots. He wondered whether ALBA Integrated Waste Solutions Hong Kong Limited (ALBA-IWS) had similar arrangements for the recycling and separation of unusable components.

78. Mr WAI Hing-cheung asked whether the EPD had noticed more abandoned appliances in the market, on the street or else at refuse collection points in the past six months. There was only one operator in charge of the recycling at present. He enquired about the operator’s performance. He also asked whether the EPD had received any public complaints about not knowing how to do with their used appliances or could not wait until the operator collected them. With the scarcity of space in Hong Kong, residents might have to place used equipment outside their flats. As a result, estate management offices and owners’ corporations might have to shoulder responsibilities. Residents would not welcome that. He asked whether any environmental recyclers wished to recycle electrical appliances and what the EPD would do if yes.

79. Ms YUE Shin-man said that many residents complained that no one came to collect the old appliances long after their purchase of new products. As a result, they disposed of used equipment at places under HD’s management and it took the HD a lot of manpower and resources to clear the items. She wondered whether the “regulated electrical

equipment” (REE) approach was arguable. If recycling was not good, the HD’s workload would be further increased and residents would be troubled as well.

80. Mr SIU Hin-hong said that the policy was well intended but might cause undesirable results if it was not handled properly. He had assisted voluntary agencies in disposing of used appliances, which, if not handled properly, could be dangerous. He asked whether the EPD would require used appliances to be tested before they could be resold. The EPD said that an additional contractor would be appointed. He wondered whether it meant great demand and profits.

81. Dr Alain LAM, Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Management Policy) of the EPD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Producer Responsibility Scheme on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) covering REE came into effect on 1 August of the year. Under the new ordinance, sellers of REE (including washing machines, air-conditioners, refrigerators, televisions, computers, printers, scanners and monitors) were required to arrange free removal of used equipment of the same class for customers;
- (b) since the commencement of the legislation, the EPD had been monitoring the appointments of WEEE • PARK, the contractor, which was found to attain its performance pledge for collecting the used equipment at the customer’s request three working days after the date of sale, that is, on the same day when the new equipment was delivered;
- (c) the Secretary for the Environment had mentioned the “T+3” pledge. For instance, if a customer purchased a new item on Monday, the seller could arrange for delivery of the new item and the Government operator’s removal of the used one on the same day on Thursday. For a customer who did not purchase a new item but would like to use the collection service anyway, the “T+7” pledge applied. In other words, the operator would remove the used item after a week or so. Members of the public could rest assured;
- (d) he said that the contractor was required to donate 1 000 or more pieces of used electrical equipment each year. The EPD would send the donated items to recipient families or individuals in need at the request of social workers, and would closely monitor the contractor’s performance;
- (e) he emphasised that WEEE • PARK was a WEEE treatment and recycling facility, not a scheme to subsidise recyclers. He said that during the public consultation in 2010, it was found that Hong Kong had insufficient processing capacity and it was necessary to develop such a treatment and recycling facility. WEEE • PARK was designed, built and operated by ALBA-IWS as the operator appointed through open tender. The Government paid the operation fee based on the actual weight of WEEE collected and treated;
- (f) he said that Hong Kong generated 70 000 metric tonnes of WEEE each year, about 80% or 56 000 metric tonnes of which were REE. The EPD required the WEEE • PARK to have a design capacity of about 30 000 metric tonnes

per year, approximately a half of the abandoned REE generated in the territory each year. The EPD had been monitoring the performance of WEEE-PARK since its opening on 19 March this year. Most of the electrical appliances collected were worthless. Not many valuable ones, such as air-conditioners and TV sets, had been recycled and processed;

- (g) he said that the control over the disposal, import and export of abandoned REE would come into effect on 31 December of the year. After that, any person engaged in the storage, treatment, reprocessing or recycling of e-waste must first obtain a waste disposal licence, and any person importing or exporting e-waste must first obtain a permit;
- (h) three recyclers apart from ALBA-IWS had obtained licences, and eleven other licence applications were being processed. The EPD noticed that many applications involved the recycling of computers, since they were more valuable. But there were not many applications involving refrigerators, since their recycling process was more complicated. At present, after logistics companies collected used appliances, they would sell most valuable e-waste to Apliu Street, or shipped the same to underdeveloped countries for illegal dismantling, which polluted the local environment. The EPD hoped that the waste generated locally would be disposed of locally as well. St. James' Settlement had refurbished electrical appliances and donated the same to families in need. It had completed its mission and ALBA-IWS would take over the task;
- (i) each piece of electrical equipment would be inspected by a Grade A electrical worker before being donated to a family in need. According to a new policy in the Sha Tin District commencing on 14 May, cleansing staff of the FEHD would first classify abandoned REE in refuse collection points, before contacting ALBA-IWS for collection and processing. There was no significant change in the amount of disposal after the enactment of the new ordinance;
- (j) even if members of the public did not purchase any REE equipment, they could still call the recycling hotline 2676 8888 to make an appointment with the Government's service operator for free collection in about a week's time, so as to save efforts and money; and
- (k) the EPD encouraged other recyclers to work with ALBA-IWS. If related items could not be exported, they would need to be processed in Hong Kong anyway. Therefore, it was important to ensure sufficient processing capacity locally in line with the scheme.

82. Mr Derek LAI responded that according to the existing mechanism, if members of the public disposed of REE at refuse collection points, the FEHD would notify the EPD's recyclers for recycling. In most cases, if the FEHD notified a recycler on Monday, the items would be collected on Wednesday.

83. The Chairman said that members of the public had not been very clear about the details of the REE policy since its launch, which resulted in repercussions in the community. With the upcoming introduction of the levy on domestic waste, he hoped that

the EPD could give briefings in the district beforehand and could communicate with the FEHD and the HD on the implementation.

### **Information Items**

Report of Working Group  
(Paper No. HE 46/2018)

84. Members noted the above paper.

### **Information Papers**

Sha Tin District Anti-mosquito Campaign 2018 (Third Phase)  
(Paper No. HE 47/2018)

Statistical Overview of Sha Tin District Environmental Hygiene Service (as at 31 July 2018)  
(Paper No. HE 48/2018)

85. Mr LI Sai-hung said media reported today that the ovitrap index of Tai Wai was 11.5% in, indicating that the area was seriously infested with mosquitoes. He asked how the ovitraps were distributed and whether the indexes of individual ovitraps could be provided. He also asked whether the FEHD had relevant countermeasures.

86. Ms TUNG Kin-lei found it strange that the index in Tai Wai had risen from 9% to 11%. The index had been high in Wo Che in Sha Tin. She wondered whether Wo Che had been the focus and other areas had been neglected. Recently, many members had asked the FEHD to conduct anti-mosquito work in the district. She thanked the FEHD for its efforts to reduce the index in Wo Che from the alert level to an acceptable level. She had invited the FEHD to inspect the slope behind Mei Chung Court, where there was serious infestation of mosquitoes. And she asked which ovitraps in Tai Wai had increased indexes.

87. Mr WONG Hok-lai asked about the indexes of different ovitraps and appreciated a list of related data. There were no ovitraps in most parts of his constituency, where the mosquito problem was in fact serious. He enquired about the criteria for the locations of ovitraps in Tai Wai.

88. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) the Under Secretary for Food and Health had inspected the anti-mosquito work in Sha Tin at the invitation of political parties. The relevant steering group under the Sha Tin District-led Actions Scheme had also invited the Under Secretary to join the anti-mosquito work and the publicity on environmental hygiene in the district. However, it was impossible to pay equal attention to all those tasks in view of limited manpower. In that case, he asked the FEHD whether there was a good strategy for joint clean-up operations with other government departments after typhoons, since the situation was really bad; and
- (b) apart from mosquitoes, the rodent problem was also serious. He would communicate with the Superintendent on the matter after the meeting. There

was only pest control team, while related contractors deployed the highest number of five mobile teams on 21 September. However, records did not show the deployment of those teams on Tuesday, when the Secretary for Food and Health visited Sha Tin. He wondered whether teams were seconded from other districts for the operation.

89. The views of Mr MAK Yun-pui were summarised below:

- (a) as for the mosquito problem, there were many housing estates in Ma On Shan, with different estate management companies. Food premises in wet markets in housing estates were managed by those management companies, while public places were managed by the FEHD. Coordination and cooperation among different departments were required to truly eliminate mosquitoes and rodents. Chung On Estate had been seriously infested with mosquitoes and rats earlier, probably due to the large number of food premises. If the FEHD did not properly coordinate and monitor related efforts, he opined that other measures would not necessarily be effective. He hoped that the FEHD could duly coordinate with other government departments in anti-mosquito and anti-rodent work;
- (b) there was infestation of mosquitoes in places managed the DLO/ST. He and several Superintendents had inspected areas in Sha Tin. But he was often told that these and those places were managed by the DLO/ST and it was difficult for the FEHD to go in and carried out anti-mosquito work. It showed that the FEHD should properly coordinate with other government departments instead of taking remedial measures when problem arose. Dengue fever occurred in Lion Rock exactly because anti-mosquito measures had not been taken in advance, which made it difficult to gain public trust; and
- (c) he hoped that the FEHD would adjust the amount of larvicidal liquid, oil and sand, since many members of the public opined that related devices were ineffective. He hoped that the FEHD would change the current strategy and do a better job in future.

90. The views of Mr TING Tsz-yuen were summarised below:

- (a) he thanked the Superintendent for visiting the district with his colleagues and fellow members recently. Members of the public appreciated the work of the pest control teams but had reservations about the performance of the contractors, which he hoped the FEHD could properly monitor;
- (b) management companies of private housing estates did not necessarily do a good job in mosquito control. For example, in both Kam Ying Court and Saddle Ridge Garden in his constituency, there were slopes managed by private companies, which, however, did not carry out anti-mosquito work actively because of the high costs. In view of that, he asked the FEHD how many prosecutions had been instigated against mosquito breeding in private housing estates, and he hoped that related figures could be provided in the next statistical overview; and



- (c) he had communicated with the Chief Secretary for Administration on the matter. While typhoons were inevitable, it was important to have sufficient manpower for the clean-up afterwards.

91. The views of Mr Alvin LEE were summarised below:

- (a) in terms of the rodent problem, there was a seawall off the Ma On Shan waterfront promenade, where many anglers abandoned a lot of fish and sand worms. He had recently received a large number of complaints about rodent infestation at the place. He hoped that the FEHD would issue advice to anglers and strengthen rodent control work at the place. If it was not within the FEHD's jurisdiction, he hoped that the Superintendent could refer the matter to other relevant government departments; and
- (b) measures by government departments would not be enough. He hoped that the FEHD would mobilise the HD, as well as private housing estates and contracted management companies in Ma On Shan, to take sustainable and effective actions. The ovitrap index in Ma On Shan was not low in August, probably due to the large number of construction sites and projects. For example, there was often stagnant water at a vehicle pound opposite Kam Tai Court. There was a construction site of residential buildings at Ma On Shan Road North, and one of a single block outside Vista Paradiso. Private developers should pay attention to mosquito problems at their sites. He hoped that the FEHD would remind those developers of their responsibility in that regard.

92. Mr James CHAN said that the public would certainly blame the FEHD for mosquito and rodent problems. Chung On Estate and Kam Fung Court, for example, included parks managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), plots managed by the DLO/ST, markets and shopping centres managed by the Link, as well as different estate management offices. With so many entities involved, pests would run rampant without concerted efforts in mosquito and rodent control. He hoped that the FEHD could duly coordinate related efforts. The parking spaces behind Chung On Market were poor in hygiene. He hoped that the FEHD would step up prosecution. If prosecution and coordination could be strengthened, then members of the public would see improvements.

93. The views of Mr Wilson LI were summarised below:

- (a) in terms of environmental sanitation, the public might not appreciate the efforts of different parties even when they tried their best. But if they did not try, the situation would be very serious. He had previously visited the district with the Superintendent. And on the morning of the meeting, he had received complaints from residents about serious rodent problems at Wu Kwai Sha Youth Village and at the seaside promenade;
- (b) in terms of the mosquito problem, there were many trees in Double Cove near Starfish Bay. He hoped that the FEHD would step up anti-mosquito work at the location. In terms of environmental sanitation, as residents of Seanorama were moving in, some of them had recently complained about the large quantity of works at the section of Wu Kai Sha Road onto Choi Sha Street, which resulted in many environmental hygiene problems. He hoped

that the FEHD would pay attention;

- (c) the environmental sanitation at the footbridge connecting Double Cove had improved. But there were more people smoking and drinking in stairways and leaving garbage behind. He hoped that the FEHD would do a proper job in publicity, education and law enforcement. The environmental hygiene under Lake Silver was far from satisfactory. He asked the FEHD to strengthen the clean-up; and
- (d) in terms of post-typhoon work, different government departments were geared up to face related challenges. They cut grass in different subways, including the one from Wu Kai Sha Village to Double Cove, but they failed to remove weeds. He hoped that the FEHD would strengthen the clean-up and that government departments would address environmental hygiene problems after typhoons as promptly as possible.

94. Mr Derek LAI gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) some media reports said that the ovitrap index in Tai Wai was the highest, even higher than that in August. The ovitrap index covered a large scope, with 50 to 60 ovitraps in each surveyed area. The ovitraps mainly attracted *Aedes albopictus* to lay eggs in order to determine its infestation level. Starting from July this year, the number of ovitraps increased to 57 in each area. And Wo Che was designated as a new surveyed area in Sha Tin;
- (b) in view of the earlier outbreak of dengue fever in Cheung Chau and Wong Tai Sin, the FEHD now announced the index at an earlier time. There had been a temporary index, but now indexes were announced by phases. For the first phase, ovitraps were retrieved at the end of the first week of each month, for the counting of mosquito eggs in each device. The index in Tai Wai was 11.5% on the day of this meeting. If 50 ovitraps were placed in Tai Wai, then 11.5% indicated mosquito eggs found in 5 or 6 ovitraps;
- (c) for the second week, 50 to 60 ovitraps would be placed again for the counting. Besides, as *Aedes albopictus* was the vector of dengue fever, the FEHD would also check whether the hatched mosquitoes were of the species. The FEHD placed ovitraps as per the WHO's recommendation to monitor the infestation level of *Aedes albopictus*, and calculated the index of each surveyed area by the end of the third week;
- (d) the index was classified into 4 levels, with Level 1 for an index of 0-5%, Level 2 for 5-20%, Level 3 for 20-40%, and Level 4 for an index over 40%. Level 3 was the alert level, when the FEHD would meet and join hands with other government departments for anti-mosquito work. Levels 1 and 2 would also require mosquito control actions. If the index exceeded 20%, the FEHD would contact other relevant departments as necessary for anti-mosquito work, depending on the locations of ovitraps with eggs;
- (e) the index in Tai Wai was 22.8% in July and 9.8% in August. And the index for the first phase announced today was 11.5%. For Wo Che, the index was 42.6% in July and 17.8% in August. And the index for the first phase

announced today was 12.5%. The indexes in different surveyed areas had been published on the FEHD website;

- (f) there were a total of 25 pest control teams under the contractors and the FEHD across Sha Tin. The contractors had added one team at the beginning of summer in addition to their original 19 teams. And one more team had been deployed in July under the Sha Tin District-led Actions Scheme. As a result, there were 21 contractor teams and four FEHD teams;
- (g) in view of the recent dengue fever epidemic, the Under Secretary for Food and Health had convened two meetings of the Inter-departmental Pest Control Steering Committee since the beginning of the year, instead of one annual meeting each year as usual, in order to discuss and coordinate pest control work with relevant policy bureaux, government departments and agencies;
- (h) for private housing estates located in surveyed areas with an index of more than 20%, the FEHD would provide relevant property management offices with technical advice and methods on mosquito control. The FEHD would also distribute anti-mosquito leaflets and posters to enhance their knowledge and efforts of mosquito control;
- (i) all government departments had contingency measures for typhoons. For its part, the FEHD would clean up garbage and waste in public places afterwards, especially those at outfalls, in order to prevent mosquito infestation caused by stagnant water;
- (j) as for law enforcement, the FEHD had site patrol teams and instigated 11 prosecutions between July and September, including 10 cases involving construction sites and one involving a private estate; and
- (k) he would follow up on the situations in specific places after the meeting together with relevant members.

95. Members noted the above paper.

**Date of Next Meeting**

96. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 pm on 8 November 2018 (Thursday).

97. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat  
STDC 13/15/40

October 2018