

Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (2018-2019) of  
the Tuen Mun District Council

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Date: 25 May 2018 (Friday)

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Venue: Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”) Conference Room

<u>Present</u>		<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Ms LUNG Shui-hing, MH (Chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KAM Man-fung (Vice-chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	10:47 a.m.
Mr LEUNG Kin-man, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, BBS, MH	TMDC Vice-Chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr SO Shiu-shing	TMDC Member	9:34 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KWU Hon-keung	TMDC Member	9:36 a.m.	11:18 a.m.
Mr TO Sheck-yuen, MH	TMDC Member	9:36 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Mr CHU Yiu-wah	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KONG Fung-yi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr NG Koon-hung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	11:20 a.m.
Ms WONG Lai-sheung, Catherine	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:32 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHING Chi-hung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Man-wah, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHU Shun-nga, Beatrice	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSANG Hin-hong	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr MO Shing-fung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YEUNG Chi-hang	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YAN Siu-nam	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TAM Chun-yin	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KEUNG Kai-pong	Co-opted Member	10:50 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Tsim-heng	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSOI Shing-hin	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kin-shing	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Chui-wan, Ida (Secretary)	Executive Officer I (District Council) <sup>2</sup> (Acting), Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department		

### By Invitation

Miss CHAN Tsz-yan, Yandy	Senior Administrative Officer (Water Policy Division), Environmental Protection Department
Mr WU Fan	District Engineer/Tuen Mun, Highways Department
Ms CHOI Sau-kuen, Kelly	Police Communications Relations Officer (Tuen Mun District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr NG Wing-yiu	Marine Officer/Pollution Control Unit, Marine Department
Mr LEE Tin-shing	Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Pollution Control Unit, Marine Department
Miss KWOK Sze-wan, Cynthia	Engineer/Islands 1, Transport Department
Mr CHAN Tze-ho	Chief Engineer/West 4, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr LO Man-kin	Senior Engineer/3 (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr POON Chi-cheong	Engineer/21 (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr Igor HO	Executive Director, AECOM Asia Company Limited
Mr CHOW Yam-wai, Steven	Senior Electrical & Mechanical Engineer (Electric Vehicle)2, Environmental Protection Department
Mr SZETO Pak-yiu, Paddy	Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (Mobile Source)71, Environmental Protection Department

### In Attendance

Miss TSUI Man-yee, Joanna	Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)1, Home Affairs Department
Mr LEUNG Kam-wai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr LEE Kam-ho, Edwin	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tuen Mun), Food and Environment Hygiene Department
Ms CHAN Wing-yee	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHAN Pui-shing, Michael	Engineer/Tuen Mun 4, Drainage Services Department
Mr CHEUNG Chun-kit	Housing Manager/Tuen Mun 1, Housing Department
Mr YEUNG Mo-man	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)1, Environmental Protection Department
Miss HO Yuen-ching, Jessica	Senior Town Planner/Tuen Mun 1, Planning Department
Mr CHAN Yuen-heng, Jason	Engineer/15 (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr TAM Kwok-leung	Administrative Assistant/Lands (Acting) (District Lands Office, Tuen Mun), Lands Department
Mr CHOW Hing-yu	Project Coordinator/Design 3, Water Supplies Department

Absent with Apologies

Mr LAM Chung-hoi	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo	TMDC Member
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member
Mr YIP Man-pan	TMDC Member
Ms KWAN Daina Ho-yin	Co-opted Member

**I. Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all participants and government department representatives in attendance to the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (“EHDDC”).

2. The Chairman reminded Members that Members who were aware of their personal interests in any matters discussed at the meeting should declare the interests before the discussion. The Chairman would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the Tuen Mun District Council Standing Orders, decide whether the Members who had declared interests might speak or vote on the matters, might remain at the meeting as observers, or should withdraw from the meeting. All cases of declaration of interests would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

**II. Absence from Meeting**

3. The Secretary reported that no application for leave of absence from Members had been received.

**III. Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting**

4. As Members proposed no amendments to the minutes, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the EHDDC (2018-2019) were confirmed.

**IV. Discussion Items**

**(A) Improving Public Cleanliness  
(EHDDC Paper No. 22/2018)**

5. The Chairman welcomed Miss Yandy CHAN, Senior Administrative Officer of the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”), Mr WU Fan, District Engineer of the Highways Department (“HyD”), Ms Kelly CHOI, Police Communications Relations Officer of the Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”), Mr NG Wing-yiu, Marine Officer, and Mr LEE Tin-shing, Senior Assistant Shipping Master, of the Marine Department (“MD”), and Miss Cynthia KWOK, Engineer of the Transport Department (“TD”), to the meeting.

6. Miss Joanna TSUI, Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)<sup>1</sup> of the Home Affairs Department (“HAD”), introduced the contents of the paper.

7. Mr WU Fan of the HyD added that the department was mainly responsible

for the construction and maintenance of roads and their ancillary facilities and that problems related to environmental hygiene were under the purview of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”). Under the current arrangement, the HyD was responsible for the structural repair and maintenance work of footbridges and pedestrian subways in Tuen Mun district. It would also deploy staff to check structural conditions regularly and arrange for repair when appropriate. The maintenance work included carrying out structural cleansing (e.g. using power water jet cleaners) for footbridges and pedestrian subways regularly to keep the structure in good condition. In view of the situation in Tuen Mun district, the department would arrange to carry out structural cleansing for footbridges and pedestrian subways once a month and would increase the frequency to once every two weeks based on maintenance needs and the actual situation. On the other hand, the FEHD was responsible for routine sweeping of pavements of footbridges and pedestrian subways. It would also, in view of the actual situation such as identifying immediate environmental hygiene problems, carry out targeted floor cleaning work.

8. Members made different comments and enquiries on the contents of the paper, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member said that the hygiene conditions of the footbridge next to Tsing Tin Playground and the pedestrian subway near Lok Sang House, Kin Sang Estate were to be improved and requested relevant departments to arrange to clean the above locations regularly. He also opined that the majority of marine refuse might mainly come from vessels and requested the MD to step up the promotion against marine littering to vessels. In addition, he commended that the FEHD had effectively carried out district cleaning work and hoped that the department would continue to strengthen cleaning efforts in the district;
- (ii) A Member opined that after relevant departments had stepped up enforcement actions, the situation of shop front extension had improved significantly and hoped that the relevant actions could be taken continuously. Nonetheless, she pointed out that the problem of illegal parking of bicycles was severe in the district and some members of the public deposited household items at bicycle parking sites. She requested the relevant department to step up patrol and enforcement actions. She continued that some members of the public would walk past pedestrian subways when they walked the dog and the dog excreta affected the hygiene conditions of pedestrian subways so she requested the relevant department to step up

cleaning efforts. Separately, she suggested the FEHD promote proper treatment of food waste among restaurants in the vicinity of Hung Kiu and enhance the efforts in anti-rodent work, and requested the FEHD to step up promotion and enforcement actions at black spots of feeding birds and wild pigs;

- (iii) A Member pointed out that many feral pigeons gathered under the bridge (near the public toilet) near Siu Hong Light Rail Stop. The FEHD had visited the site and said that if a member of the public scattered rice on the ground and the feral pigeons ate all rice, such behaviour was not considered as affecting environmental hygiene and the department could not take enforcement actions against such behaviour. In this regard, he asked whether the department had any solutions to combat illegal bird feeding;
- (iv) A Member pointed out that there were often pets fouling San Hui Bridge and the pedestrian subway in Area 4B. The Member opined that the department should step up enforcement actions and enquired about the relevant number of prosecutions;
- (v) A Member pointed out that at the refuse collection point in Yau Oi Estate, there was apparently construction waste illegally deposited by external parties and hoped that relevant departments could assist in handling the above situation;
- (vi) A Member said that there were also rodent problems in Leung King Estate and hoped that relevant departments could, together with the management company, strengthen the anti-rodent work. She also suggested the FEHD step up the anti-mosquito work on the hillside near San Wai Light Rail Stop and educate the public not to feed birds;
- (vii) A Member pointed out that the growth of the trees in the vicinity of Castle Peak Road was not satisfactory and when arranging for trimming, the District Lands Office had not considered whether the appearances of the trees were visually pleasing after trimming so she suggested the District Lands Office remind contractors to consider the appearances of the trees when trimming. In addition, she enquired about the HyD's work plan on the beautification of footbridges in the district and the Drainage Services Department's ("DSD") work plan on keeping drainage channels clear;

- (viii) A Member pointed out that there were often members of public depositing construction waste at the refuse stations at San Hing Tsuen and Tsing Chuen Wai and some dumping domestic waste randomly on Ng Lau Road (near the parking meters) so he urged relevant departments to step up enforcement actions. He also pointed out that there were often feral pigeons gathering near Lam Tei Main Street, the market and the bus stop and suggested the FEHD strengthen promotion at the above locations and educate the public not to feed wild birds. Separately, he suggested the Tuen Mun District Office (“TMDO”) enhance routine cleaning efforts at some open spaces (e.g. once a month);
- (ix) A Member pointed out that the cleaning work at some locations (e.g. public housing estates) involved a number of government departments and asked whether the Housing Department (“HD”) was a member of the Steering Committee on District Administration and whether the department would conduct joint operations with the relevant departments to improve the hygiene conditions of public housing estate areas. Separately, he enquired about the specific number of new staff the FEHD planned to hire and their duties and asked the relevant departments about the plan to open up idle government sites;
- (x) A Member pointed out that more and more vessels had parked on Tuen Mun River (near Glorious Garden). Since that area might involve the management of a number of government departments, the Member asked whether the TMDO could arrange for joint operations to remove nails and strings fixed by vessel owners at the above location so as to reduce the likelihood of parking of vessels at the above site;
- (xi) A Member opined that the HyD should enhance cleaning efforts on footbridges of Castle Peak Road. In addition, he said that the hygiene conditions in the vicinity of Castle Peak Bay Waterfront Promenade (“the Waterfront Promenade”) were to be improved and there were often many vessels parking at that site so he reckoned that the follow-up work of the MD was to be improved. In addition, he said that the Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”) had promised to arrange for trees to be planted at Tuen Mun Road Bus-Bus Interchange but the department had all along not commenced the relevant work after the opening of the above site and requested the department to honour its promise; and

- (xii) A Member pointed out that individual locations involved the management of different government departments and thus proposed that one department be responsible for the coordination work of such kind of locations. In addition, he said that the HyD currently cleaned footbridges once a month and such frequency was inadequate so he hoped the department could strengthen the work in the relevant aspect.

9. The Chairman said that there was a dog excreta collection bin on the footbridge connecting Glorious Garden and Tuen Mun River but some dog owners had not cleaned up dog excreta properly after walking their dogs at the above site and environmental hygiene was affected. She urged the HyD to enhance cleaning efforts.

10. Mr WU Fan of the HyD responded that the department currently arranged to clean footbridges and pedestrian subways once a month and would increase the frequency to once every two weeks when necessary. The department would also arrange for structural maintenance regularly. If there were immediate environmental hygiene problems (e.g. animal excreta), the FEHD would assist in arranging relevant cleaning work. Regarding the beautification of footbridges, if paints of footbridges had peeled off or footbridges were in deteriorating conditions, the HyD would arrange for re-painting and refurbishment.

11. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that if members of the public relayed to the department that excreta, vomitus or others were identified on footbridges and subways, the department would arrange for immediate handling. In addition, since the management of public housing estates was related to the HD, management companies and Link Asset Management Limited (“the Link”), the department would visit the estates with relevant representatives and provide staff concerned with technical advice to step up anti-rodent and anti-mosquito efforts. Separately, he said that under the existing legislation, bird feeding was not illegal unless the person had dirtied public areas while feeding. In this regard, the department not only deployed staff to step up patrol at feeding black spots in the district, but also to conduct blitz inspections at the relevant locations to prosecute persons contravening cleansing legislation. In July, the department would also set up a dedicated prosecution team in the district, under which plain-clothes officers would step up patrol at illegal feeding black spots, conduct blitz operations and issue fixed penalty notices to persons who had dirtied the streets.

12. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD continued that starting from 1 April 2018, the

department had, under street cleansing contracts, newly deployed a team of staff to be responsible for street cleansing, and the frequency of cleaning non-gazetted beaches (e.g. Lung Kwu Tan and the Waterfront Promenade) would increase from once a week to three times a week and from once a month to four times a month respectively. In view of the funding allocated by the HAD under a district pilot scheme, the department had also newly deployed a mosquito control team responsible for anti-mosquito work in the district and would increase manpower when needed. Regarding the situation where members of the public deposited waste at San Hing Tsuen, Tsing Chuen Wai and Ng Lau Road, the department would step up promotion, study the feasibility of installing monitoring facilities and arrange for plain-clothes officers to step up patrol at the relevant locations. Regarding the situations where members of public fed birds on Lam Tei Main Street and dogs fouled public places, the HAD had provided additional resources to the district. Starting from July, the department would set up a dedicated prosecution team in Tuen Mun district, under which plain-clothes officers would step up patrol at illegal feeding black spots and conduct blitz operations. Details would be reported to Members when appropriate.

13. Mr NG Wing-yiu of the MD responded that, apart from routine sea surface cleaning work, the department would arrange for the large-scale scavenging vessel Sea Cleaner Class to clean Tuen Mun waters at least three days a week. Since 2018, the department had altogether conducted enforcement operations 9 times and publicity initiatives 23 times (among which 11 times had been conducted in April and May 2018) and had prosecuted a person dumping refuse into the sea from a vessel. Before the fishing moratorium and the Lunar New Year, the department would hold meetings with relevant departments to discuss points to note with the aim of reminding the public about maintaining marine cleanliness. He said that the department had been very concerned about the hygiene conditions of the sea surface near the Waterfront Promenade and had already instructed the contractor to accord priority to cleaning up marine refuse at that site. Currently, there were around eight scavenging vessels operating in Tuen Mun waters every day. Given the higher possibility of accumulating refuse in summer and under the influence of the southwest monsoon, the department would, in view of the circumstances, enhance the cleaning efforts of marine refuse in that area.

14. Miss Joanna TSUI, Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)<sup>1</sup>, thanked Members' comments. She said that as some of the open spaces were pending handover to relevant departments for management and only cleansing companies under regular cleansing contracts could be arranged to sweep regularly at the

moment, the environmental hygiene conditions were not satisfactory. In this regard, the department would study the feasibility of enhancing the cleaning efforts at the relevant locations through District-led Actions Scheme. Regarding the situation where illegal structures and marine refuse had been identified on the riverside of Tuen Mun River and the Waterfront Promenade, the department would assist in liaising with relevant departments to strengthen joint clearing operations. She pointed out that the HD was one of the members of the Steering Committee on District Administration but the department had, in view of the situation, invited department representatives to attend the meeting.

15. Mr TAM Kwok-leung of the Lands Department (“LandsD”) responded that the department would arrange regular mowing for government sites under its management (i.e. sites enclosed by wire fences) and complaint black spots. If members of the public relayed that the situation of individual locations was poor, the department would arrange for a one-off mowing operation. Regarding the situation on Castle Peak Road, he would gain an understanding from Members for follow-ups after the meeting and would remind contractors to pay attention to the appearances of trees and grasses when trimming.

[Post-meeting note: After the meeting, the District Lands Office, Tuen Mun had gained an understanding of the situation on Castle Peak Road from the relevant Members. Since the HyD was not responsible for the repair and maintenance of the relevant site, the District Lands Office, Tuen Mun was arranging for the necessary mowing operation and had reminded its contractor to pay attention to the health of the trees when trimming, including whether the live crown ratios were appropriate and whether the crowns were symmetrical.]

16. Mr Michael CHAN of the DSD responded that the department would, in view of seasonal needs, strengthen efforts to clean and clear drainage channels in the district and clean the riverside of Tuen Mun River regularly. If members of the public relayed that the hygiene conditions of individual locations were poor, the department would conduct joint operations with the FEHD or tie in with the work of other departments where necessary.

17. Members made different comments and enquiries on the responses of the departments, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member proposed that departments make reference to the FEHD’s practice to make a prior report on its work plan to the EHDDC so that the TMDC could monitor the results of the departments’ work more effectively;

- (ii) A Member pointed out that individual public housing estates were no longer managed by the Link and hoped that the departments could also follow up on this type of public housing estates. The Member suggested the HD and the FEHD meet with the District Council (“DC”) members of the constituency regularly to jointly follow up on the cleaning work of public housing estates. In addition, the Member requested relevant departments to provide supplementary information regarding how to follow up on the situation where refuse produced outside the estates was dumped in the estates by some members of the public;
- (iii) A Member asked what information the public needed to provide the FEHD with in order to help the department take enforcement actions against the situation of bird feeding by some members of the public;
- (iv) A Member urged the FEHD and the HyD to strengthen cleaning efforts on two footbridges of Castle Peak Road and requested that the management of the Waterfront Promenade be enhanced and the landing facilities illegally erected on the two sides of the Promenade be removed;
- (v) A Member pointed out that the drainage channel on San Sau Street and in Area 4B often emitted odour and suggested the TMDO arrange for joint operations to clear the drainage channel at the above sites;

[The Chairman left the conference room at this juncture and the Vice-chairman temporarily took over the chairmanship of the meeting.]

- (vi) A Member said that she had previously reflected to the DSD that there was a piece of bulky waste near the drainage channel and the department had replied that it had been cleared. Later, the Member discovered that that piece of bulky waste was moved to a slope near the drainage channel so she relayed the situation to the DSD again and the department said that the case would be passed to the LandsD for follow-ups. She suggested the department enhance the supervision of contractors’ work to ensure that their cleaning work was properly carried out instead of moving the refuse to other spots; and
- (vii) A Member asked the HyD about the cleaning arrangement for central reservations (i.e. the area between two carriageways) and the time table for

cutting weeds at those sites.

18. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that the public could provide the department with basic information (e.g. bird feeding time of members of the public) so that the department could arrange for plain-clothes officers to patrol and collect information and to take enforcement actions after having accurate information. In the first half of 2018, the department had taken enforcement actions at six black spots. Among them, four cases were initiated by department staff from Tuen Mun District and the other two were initiated by department staff from the intelligence unit. In addition to housing estates managed by the HD and the Link, if private estates needed, the department could also provide technical advice on keeping the estates clean. Moreover, the refuse collection points set up by the department in industrial areas mainly handled domestic waste but from time to time, to evade disposal charges, some people would illegally deposit industrial wastes (e.g. tyres) at the refuse collection points. In this regard, the department would install Internet Protocol cameras at that site to increase deterrent effect. Regarding the hygiene conditions of the footbridges of Castle Peak Road, he would contact relevant Members for follow-ups after the meeting.

19. Mr Michael CHAN of the DSD responded that regarding the odour emission of the drainage channel on San Sau Street and in Area 4B, he would contact the relevant section for follow-ups and gain an understanding from contractors about how they handled public complaints.

20. Mr WU Fan of the HyD responded that in regard to the arrangements for cleaning and cutting weeds at central reservations, he would provide supplementary information to Members after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: The HyD said that the cleaning work of ordinary roads and their central reservations was under the purview of the FEHD and weeds trimming work of planting areas on central reservations of ordinary roads was handled by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”). The weeds on stone pitching surfaces on central reservations were cleared by the HyD.]

21. Miss Joanna TSUI, Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)<sup>1</sup>, responded that the Working Group on Castle Peak Bay under the TMDC had all along been following up on the problem of illegal landing facilities erected by fishermen on the two sides of the Waterfront Promenade. Although the TMDO had arranged for a joint operation earlier, considering that the current situation was to be improved, the

TMDO would contact relevant departments to carry out another joint operation to clear the illegal structures at that site. In addition, regarding the odour emission of the drainage channel on San Sau Street and in Area 4B, the TMDO would maintain close contact with the DSD and provide assistance when appropriate.

22. A Member reiterated that DC Members hoped to have a better understanding of the work of government departments. After the FEHD had spontaneously made prior reports on its work plans to the TMDC, the environmental hygiene conditions of Tuen Mun district improved remarkably. She suggested other departments make reference to the practice concerned and report their work plans to the TMDC spontaneously.

23. The Vice-chairman asked the government departments to note Members' comments and consider reporting work plans to the TMDC spontaneously.

**(B) Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area Advance Works, Phases 1 & 2 – Road and Sewerage Works**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 23/2018)**

24. The Vice-chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Tze-ho, Chief Engineer, Mr LO Man-kin, Senior Engineer, and Mr POON Chi-cheong, Engineer, of the CEDD, and Mr Igor HO, Executive Director of AECOM Asia Company Limited, to the meeting.

25. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation (Annex 1), Mr CHAN Tze-ho of the CEDD briefed Members on the arrangement for the captioned works.

[The Chairman returned to the conference room at this juncture and resumed her chairmanship of the meeting.]

26. A Member reckoned that the “rehouse before clearance” arrangement was commendable. However, he expressed concern over the arrangements for relocating villagers to the village resite area next to Deep Bay Link and extending Deep Bay Link only upon the growth of the population and traffic demands in the vicinity of Yick Yuen. He opined that Route 11 should be built as soon as possible to connect with urban areas. Otherwise, following the completion of the development plans of San Hing Tsuen and Area 54, the traffic of Castle Peak Road would become more overloaded.

27. A Member opined that the works arrangement of the department was tricky and pointed out that the works were not simply to build ancillary facilities for the

area but to build roads making it more convenient for construction vehicles to travel to and from the construction site of Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area later. He reckoned that the relevant rehousing arrangement was still pending deliberation and asked whether the works involved the resumption of private land and when such works would be carried out. In addition, he reminded the department that after the completion of the sewage outfall, it could not collect sewage charge from villagers without any prior consultation.

28. Mr CHAN Tze-ho of the CEDD responded that the Government had sought funding from the Legislative Council for the preliminary study of Route 11 and would brief the TMDC after having preliminary findings. In addition, he said that the Development Bureau had just announced new arrangements for ex-gratia compensation and rehousing for Government's clearance exercises and had planned to brief the TMDC later. He continued that connecting the sewage outfall along Tsing Yick Road was only a preliminary idea and that the department would, when creating a detailed design, consult DC members of the constituency and residents concerned before implementing relevant arrangements.

29. A Member opined that the Government should prepare for future traffic demands and thus proposed to connect the two reserved junctions on Ha Tsuen Road and Yuen Long Highway linking with Kong Sham Western Highway so as to join Route 11 and asked the department to give a response why, for over 10 years, the relevant arrangement still had not been implemented.

30. Mr Igor HO of AECOM Asia Company Limited responded that in view of the overall traffic plan of Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area, connecting roads joining Kong Sham Western Highway and the road network within the district would be constructed step by step and that the works introduced at the moment were preliminary development.

31. A Member reckoned that the department should plan the traffic of Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area more holistically instead of focusing on individual works projects. He pointed out that the entrance of Ha Tsuen section of Deep Bay Link was built on private land and was thus illegal.

32. The Chairman asked the CEDD and the consultant to note Members' comments. She said that the Development Bureau had preliminarily planned to brief the TMDC on the details of arrangements for the proposed ex-gratia compensation and rehousing for Government's clearance exercises at the meeting on

3 July 2018.

(C) **Request for the Provision of a Refuse Collection Point at Tsing Yick Road**

**(EHDDC Paper No. 24/2018)**

**(Written Response of FEHD)**

33. The proposer of the paper said that since the number of residents in the vicinity of Tsing Chuen Wai was increasing, the refuse station at that site was overloaded. He proposed that the FEHD provide a refuse collection point near Tsing Yick Road to divert the refuse at that site.

34. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that the department attached great importance to Members' comments and had visited the above site in April 2018 to identify a suitable location to provide a refuse collection point. The department was consulting residents and departments concerned and would commence relevant preparation work after finishing the consultation.

35. The Chairman asked the FEHD to report to the proposer of the paper on the progress of the relevant work when appropriate.

(D) **Request for the Provision of a Refuse Collection Point at To Yuen Wai**

**(EHDDC Paper No. 25/2018)**

**(Written response of FEHD)**

36. The proposer of the paper said that the number of residents in the vicinity of To Yuen Wai was increasing and many residents deposited domestic waste on the roadside. He proposed that the FEHD provide a refuse collection point at the above site to keep the environment clean.

37. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that village representatives of To Yuen Wai had already provided a suitable location to set up a refuse collection point. The department was consulting relevant departments in this regard and had already provided additional rubbish bins at Tsing Yick Road and To Yuen Wai to meet the residents' need.

38. The Chairman asked the FEHD to report to the proposer of the paper on the consultation results when appropriate and enhance cleaning efforts at the above locations.

(E) **Request for Setting Up Electric Vehicle Battery Charging Facilities at Government Car Parks, Lamp Posts and Parking Meters**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 26/2018)**  
**(Written Response of EPD)**  
**(Written Response of Government Property Agency)**  
**(Written Response of Buildings Department)**

39. The Chairman welcomed Mr Steven CHOW, Senior Electrical & Mechanical Engineer, and Mr Paddy SZETO, Assistant Environmental Protection Officer, of the EPD, to the meeting.

40. The first proposer of the paper opined that promoting environmental protection was a global trend but the Government had not taken action and had even terminated a range of measures on promoting electric vehicles (“EVs”), including terminating the exemption of EVs from first registration tax (“FRT”) on 1 April 2017. He urged the Government to comprehensively review the policy on the promotion of EVs and set phased targets for such promotion. He also proposed that parking spaces in newly built commercial and residential buildings be required to provide charging facilities, and suggested installing charging facilities for EVs at government car parks, lamp posts and metered parking spaces. He was worried that under the pressure of petrol suppliers, the Government would procrastinate on the policy on the promotion of EVs. He reckoned that such approach not only contradicted environmental protection, but also deprived the public of options.

41. Members made different comments on the proposals of the paper, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member opined that EVs were more environmentally friendly than petrol vehicles and the department should provide more ancillary facilities for EVs in order to encourage more car owners to switch to EVs;
- (ii) A Member reckoned that charging facilities for EVs were not high-tech facilities so it should not be difficult if the Government had decided to provide more charging facilities in the community. The Member also pointed out that charging facilities for EVs had already been installed on the streets in Mainland cities such as Shenzhen and Zhejiang and that compared with the Mainland, the ancillary facilities for EVs in Hong Kong were lagging behind; and
- (iii) A Member opined that the Government should devise a holistic plan and set objectives for EV policy, for example, how to properly handle waste EV

batteries.

42. Mr Steven CHOW of the EPD responded that the objective of the EV policy was to improve roadside air quality. Since over 90% of the pollutants emitted by vehicles came from commercial vehicles, the policy to promote the use of EVs focused on promoting the use of electric commercial vehicles. Measures included waiving FRT for electric commercial vehicles, establishing Pilot Green Transport Fund to subsidise the transport sector to try out green innovative technologies (including electric commercial vehicles), and fully subsidising franchised bus companies to purchase 36 single-deck electric buses for trial (26 of which had been put into service). Regarding private cars, given the surge in the number of private cars, the Government considered it necessary to control the overall growth in the number of private cars so as to avoid causing traffic congestion and worsening roadside air pollution. However, the Government at the same time encouraged car owners to choose EVs when purchasing private cars. Therefore, the Government not only continued to offer FRT concessions of up to \$97,500 between 28 February 2018 and 31 March 2021, but also introduced a new “One-for-One Replacement” Scheme in the same period. Eligible current car owners who had purchased a new electric private car and scrapped his/her eligible old private car could enjoy a higher FRT concession of up to \$250,000.

43. Mr Steven CHOW of the EPD continued that regarding the installation of charging facilities, given the differences in Deeds of Mutual Covenant or constraints from electricity supply among others, there would be certain difficulties in installing charging facilities in old buildings. In terms of newly built buildings, the Government had, since 2011, tightened gross floor area concessions to encourage developers to put in place EV charging-enabling infrastructure (including sufficient electricity supply, cabling and conduits) in private car parks of new buildings so as to enable owners of electric private cars to install chargers. According to the latest figure provided by the Buildings Department (“BD”), buildings obtaining occupation permits under the above measure had altogether provided around 10 000 parking spaces with charging-enabling infrastructure. In terms of outdoor public charging networks, the department had currently installed and was trying out outdoor EV chargers at Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Headquarters in Kowloon Bay, Wetland Park, Wai Tsuen Sports Centre and Shek Kip Mei Park and the trial was expected to be completed in 2018. Nonetheless, installing EV charging facilities at metered parking spaces would attract EVs which needed charging to occupy metered parking spaces for a prolonged period or cause traffic congestion due to EVs waiting for charging nearby. Therefore, the Government

needed to make a thorough consideration. He said that the Environment Bureau (“ENB”) was, together with relevant policy bureaux and departments, reviewing policies and measures to promote the use of EVs, including exploring how to encourage the installation of charging facilities in view of the usage of EVs. The Government would later announce the progress and results of the relevant work when appropriate.

44. Members made different comments and enquiries on the EPD’s response, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member opined that the TD’s policy of not encouraging the installation of charging facilities at metered parking spaces was adverse to the promotion of EVs, and asked whether there would be identification tags for EV batteries so as to track car owners who deposited waste batteries randomly;
- (ii) A Member reckoned that the department had no determination to promote EVs. The Member also pointed out that the United Kingdom had recently introduced electric buses in phases and did not understand why Hong Kong could not do so;
- (iii) A Member opined that the Government should formulate long-term targets and phased measures for EV policy. When different countries were promoting EVs and reducing the use of diesel vehicles and fuel vehicles in phases, the Special Administrative Region (“SAR”) Government terminating the exemption of EVs from FRT in the 2017 Budget was against the trend;
- (iv) A Member reckoned that the society had reached a consensus on popularising EVs and urged the SAR Government not to stick to old practices but to adopt different approaches and provide incentives to promote EVs; and
- (v) A Member said that EV manufacturers would arrange for the recycling of waste EV batteries so there was no need to worry about car owners’ random disposal. In addition, he urged the Government to formulate EV policy as soon as possible to prevent Hong Kong from lagging far behind other countries in terms of promoting green cities.

45. Mr Steven CHOW of the EPD responded that the department understood that the use of EVs was a global trend but all vehicles in the territory were imported so the department would pay close attention to the development of vehicle manufacturers in different regions. He said that the Government was currently

fully subsidising franchised bus companies to try out single-deck electric buses and the department also hoped to introduce double-deck electric buses to Hong Kong. However, the technology of double-deck electric buses was yet to be developed and internationally, the number of models available for use was extremely small at the moment. Also, the passenger capacity and operational efficiency could not satisfy local demands. Therefore, the department would continue to monitor the development in other regions and introduce double-deck electric buses for trial when appropriate. EV batteries were regulated by Waste Disposal Ordinance. They must be collected by licensed chemical waste collectors for delivery to licensed chemical waste disposal facilities to undergo preliminary treatment and subsequently exported to recycling facilities in Korea, Japan and Belgium for treatment. Although the number of waste EV batteries was limited at the moment, the department had proactively discussed with EV manufacturers the arrangement for proper treatment of waste EV batteries.

46. A Member opined that the department's response was ambiguous and asked the EPD to scrutinise the proposals of the paper seriously and set targets for EV policy as soon as possible.

47. The Chairman asked the EPD to consider Members' comments, including studying the feasibility of providing tax concessions for EVs and installing more relevant ancillary facilities for charging, and making reference to approaches adopted by other countries to promote EVs. She also asked the EPD to, in future, proactively report to the EHDDC on relevant progress when further information was available.

**(F) Request for Refurbishment of Bench Shelters in the Tuen Mun Promenade**

**(EHDDC Paper No. 27/2018)**

**(Written Response of LCSD)**

48. The first proposer of the paper said that some residents relayed to him that bench shelters in the Tuen Mun Promenade persistently lacked cleaning and paints had peeled off. He asked the LCSD about the frequency of cleaning the benches and their shelters and when it would complete the study on replacing the bench shelters with other material.

49. Ms CHAN Wing-yee of the LCSD responded that the department had requested cleaners to strengthen cleaning efforts for the bench shelters and the relevant works department would arrange for re-painting soon. Regarding the

long-term enhancement plan, the department would study with the works department about using eco-friendly wood to build the benches and shelters instead. Since the study took time, the department would report to Members on the relevant situation after the works department had completed the quotation procedure and confirmed the replacement.

50. The Chairman asked the LCSD to continue to follow up on the situation in the Tuen Mun Promenade.

**(G) Request for Easing the Problem of Light Pollution by Introducing Legislation to Regulate External Lighting (EHDDC Paper No. 28/2018) (Written Response of ENB)**

51. The first proposer of the paper said that many members of the public were affected by external lighting and thus had poor sleeping quality. However, there was currently no legislation regulating external lighting in Hong Kong but the Charter on External Lighting (“the Charter”), which was only voluntary in nature. Even if the Charter signatories did not comply with its contents, they bore no consequences. She opined that in the long run, the Government should introduce legislation to regulate external lighting and demand shops to switch off or dim the lights at designated times to avoid affecting the sleeping quality of the public.

52. A Member agreed with the proposals of the paper and pointed out that among the about 4 900 current Charter signatories, the majority were large chain stores and banks, with each branch counted as one individual entity. The Member opined that the department had exaggerated the number of Charter signatories. In addition, some shops located in railway stations had also signed up to the Charter. He reckoned that the department accepting indoor shops to sign up contradicted the purpose of the Charter. He urged the department to proactively regulate external lightings (including their illumination level, flickering rate and operating time) and to introduce legislation to regulate shops in the long run.

53. A Member opined that there were many inadequacies in the Charter, for example, providing no guidelines on the orientation and the illumination level of lighting, such that even when the public filed a complaint to the EPD, the department could not handle due to the lack of guidelines and equipment to measure whether the lighting was excessive. He reckoned that Hong Kong should follow the practices of foreign governments and provide guidelines on the illumination level and orientation of lighting for the reference and improvement of shops.

54. Mr YEUNG Mo-man of the EPD responded that introducing legislation to regulate light pollution was under the purview of the ENB and he would relay Members' proposals to the bureau. Currently, there was no legislation regulating external lighting in Hong Kong. If the department received relevant complaints, it would advise shops to make improvement.

55. The first proposer of the paper said that the bureau had mentioned in the written response that it would review the effectiveness of the Charter in the year 2018-19 before considering whether it was necessary to introduce legislation. She asked the bureau when the review would be completed and hoped that the bureau would, after completing the review, brief the TMDC on the results of the review concerned.

56. Mr YEUNG Mo-man of the EPD responded that the ENB would review the implementation of the Charter in the year 2018-19, including conducting survey and collecting public views, and would also consider comments of stakeholders before studying the need for legislation. He said that he would relay the above Members' requests to the bureau.

57. The Chairman hoped that the ENB would, after completing the review on the effectiveness of the Charter, submit the report to the TMDC for reference.

**V. Reporting Items**

**(A) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 29/2018)**

58. Members noted the contents of the report.

**(B) Report of FEHD**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 30/2018)**

59. Members noted the contents of the report.

**(C) Strategy and Work on Improvement of the Environment and Hygiene of Hong Kong by FEHD**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 31/2018)**

60. Members noted the contents of the report.

(D) **Anti-mosquito Campaign 2018 in Tuen Mun (Phase II)**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 33/2018)**

61. Members noted the contents of the report.

(E) **Progress Report of Local Public Works and Rural Public Works as at April 2018**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 33/2018)**

62. Members noted the contents of the report.

(F) **Reports of Working Groups under EHDDC**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 34/2018)**

(i) **Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities**

63. The Convenor of the above working group briefly introduced activities held by the working group in the previous year. He said that the working group's work plan this year was largely the same as the previous year and would later invite district organisations to co-organise activities.

(ii) **Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities**

64. Members noted the contents of the report.

(iii) **Working Group on the Development and Complementary Facilities in Area 54**

65. Members noted the contents of the report.

66. The Chairman announced that the above three working group reports were endorsed.

(G) **Other Government Departments' Progress Reports as at 29 April 2018**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 35/2018)**

(i) **Progress Report by DSD about Works in Tuen Mun District**

67. Members noted the contents of the report.

(ii) **Report on Environmental Monitoring of Mud Pit V**

68. Members noted the contents of the report.

(iii) **Report on Water Seepage Problems at Buildings in Tuen Mun District**

69. Members noted the contents of the report.

70. A Member said that some residents relayed to her that after conducting dye-tracing tests, the FEHD could not identify the sources of water seepage for cases of water seepage on home ceiling. She reckoned that the department should not rely only on dye-tracing tests but should purchase advanced equipment to identify the sources of water seepage. She continued that many water seepage testing companies in the market would use advanced equipment to identify the sources of water seepage and the Small Claims Tribunal would, when handling claim cases, accept reports issued by this kind of companies. Therefore, she reckoned that the department should follow the above practice.

71. Another Member had earlier submitted a discussion paper requesting the department to purchase advanced equipment to identify the sources of water seepage and noted from newspaper recently that the FEHD had already purchased advanced equipment such as ultrasound devices and infrared devices. Therefore, the Member asked under what circumstances the department would use advanced equipment to identify the sources of water seepage.

72. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that water seepage cases could be caused by the deterioration of fresh water pipes, sewers or building structures so cases were currently followed up by the FEHD, the Water Services Department and the BD respectively. The FEHD and the BD had set up Joint Offices for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (“JO”) a few years ago to handle water seepage cases and had all along adopted dye-tracing tests to identify the sources of water seepage. If the test confirmed that water seepage was not caused by the deterioration of sewers, building experts of the JO would follow up on whether the seepage was caused by the deterioration of the building. He noted that in view of needs, the JO had recently purchased advanced equipment such as infrared devices and reversible pressure test devices and said that he would provide Members with relevant information after gaining an understanding of the devices concerned.

73. The Chairman said that Members were very concerned about water seepage problems at buildings. She asked the FEHD to report to the EHDDC when further information was available.

74. Members made different comments and enquiries on the FEHD’s response, which are summarised as follows:

(i) A Member said that water seepage problems at buildings were worsening and

opined that the department should establish an independent department to review the procedures of handling cases and seek additional resources from the Government when necessary. He also said that the service quality of the department's contractors was not satisfactory and suggested enhancing the supervision over their inadequacies and review the effectiveness of the JO's work;

- (ii) A Member said that he had handled a case in which a number of dye-tracing tests had been conducted before identifying the sources of water seepage. He reckoned that since infrared devices had already been purchased, the department should use them as early as possible; and
- (iii) A Member opined that the FEHD had not answered the enquiry and pressed the department under what circumstances it would use advanced equipment to identify the sources of water seepage.

75. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that if the environment suspected of water seepage reached a certain level of humidity (e.g. water droplets appearing on ceilings or walls), the department would use dye to test the sewer. If the sewer was confirmed not the source of water seepage, the case would be passed to the JO for follow-ups. The FEHD had not outsourced its work currently but the BD had hired consultants to assist in handling part of its work. The BD would first conduct a water ponding test to confirm there was no seepage on the floor slab before considering the feasibility of using advanced equipment such as infrared devices or ultrasound devices to identify the sources of water seepage. He said that the department had already established a task force to review water seepage complaints and had planned to enhance the work procedures of JO in each district so that the handling of water seepage cases could be sped up then.

76. A Member said that water seepage problems at Siu Hong Court were very severe. After completing the water ponding test, the consultant would end the investigation on the grounds that the sources of water seepage could not be identified and ask the flat owner to contact loss adjusters for follow-ups on his/her own. He pointed out that only for a very small number of cases would the department use equipment to identify the sources of water seepage so he asked the JO under what circumstances it would use ultrasound devices and hoped that the FEHD would purchase and make good use of advanced equipment to handle water seepage cases as soon as possible. Separately, another Member remarked that she had recently handled a water seepage case where water droplets had already appeared on the flat

owner's ceiling but the JO had said that the sources of water seepage could not be identified and had ended the case investigation. In this regard, she asked whether the department could include infrared test as a routine checking procedure.

77. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that he would gain an understanding from the BD about the procedures of using advanced equipment to handle water seepage cases and would relay to the department the proposal to include infrared test as a standard procedure in handling water seepage cases.

(iv) Progress Report of Water Main Laying Works in Tuen Mun District

78. Members noted the contents of the report.

**(H) Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station (EHDDC Paper No. 36/2018)**

79. Members noted the contents of the report.

80. A Member said that some residents relayed to him that the drainage channel on the junction of Tsun Wen Road and Shek Pai Tau Road had emitted serious odour for nearly one year and asked whether the DSD could render assistance.

81. Mr YEUNG Mo-man of the EPD responded that drainage channel emitting odour was often caused by drainage blockage. The EPD and the DSD would jointly follow up on this case.

82. Mr Michael CHAN of the DSD responded that the department could arrange with the contractor for using equipment to clean the drainage channel at that site so as to solve the relevant problem.

83. The Chairman asked the EPD and the DSD to follow up on the problem of drainage channel emitting odour at the above site after the meeting.

## **VI. Any Other Business**

**(A) Community Participation Programme in Environmental Protection 2018/19**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 37/2018)**

84. The Chairman said that in the past six years, the EHDDC had participated in Working the Community Participation Programme in Environmental Protection funded by the Group on Tuen Mun EPD. The theme for the year 2018-19 was "Reduce Your Waste and Clean Recycle Mun

in Your Community”. The EPD would provide each of the 18 DCs with a funding of \$200,000 to implement the programme. She asked Members to consider whether to accept such funding and whether, based on previous arrangement, to pass the funding to the Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities for follow-ups.

85. As Members had no objection, the EHDDC decided that the above funding be passed to the Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities for follow-ups.

86. A Member said that at the last EHDDC meeting, the CEDD had consulted Members in regard to the proposed arrangement for using the temporary barging facility in Lok On Pai, Siu Lam to transport inert construction waste generated from the works of Sandy Ridge Cemetery to Tung Chung and Hong Kong International Airport. A total of 11 Members expressed objection that day. Later, the department said that it would not further consider using the temporary barging facility in Lok On Pai, Siu Lam. He commended the final decision of the department and said that there were currently many obnoxious facilities in Tuen Mun already and hoped that the Government would treat Tuen Mun fairly, accept constructive comments readily and improve people’s livelihood.

## **VII. Date of Next Meeting**

87. There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 12:17 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 13 July 2018 (Friday).

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: 4 July 2018

File Ref: HAD TM DC/13/25/EHDDC/18