

Minutes of the 9th Meeting of
the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (2016-2017) of
the Tuen Mun District Council

Date: 26 May 2017 (Friday)

Time: 9:31 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	9:31 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kin-man, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, MH	TMDC Vice-chairman	9:31 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr SO Shiu-shing	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	2:16 p.m.
Mr KWU Hon-keung	TMDC Member	9:32 a.m.	1:15 p.m.
Mr TO Sheck-yuen, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHU Yiu-wah	TMDC Member	9:32 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.	11:33 a.m.
Ms WONG Lai-sheung, Catherine	TMDC Member	9:32 a.m.	1:19 p.m.
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LAM Chung-hoi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member	9:31 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	9:31 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	9:39 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr MO Shing-fung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YIP Man-pan	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	10:14 a.m.	11:46 a.m.
Mr PAK Hon-pan	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	11:12 a.m.
Mr LEE Wai-lam	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	12:49 p.m.
Ms KWAN Diana Ho-yin	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	1:38 p.m.
Ms LEE Wen-choi, Winnie (Secretary)	Executive Officer I (District Council)2, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department		

Absent with Apologies

Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo	TMDC Member
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Chun-bang	Co-opted Member

By Invitation

Mr LEUNG Wai-man, Ray	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science)1, Environmental Protection Department
Mr LUK Sung-ki, Henry	Senior Architect 23, Housing Department
Mr IP Cheung-kwok, Matthew	Senior Civil Engineer 7, Housing Department
Ms TANG Hoi-ming, Alison	Architect 18, Housing Department
Mr KAN Sai-yin, Samuel	Civil Engineer 35, Housing Department
Miss FUNG Ka-wun, Edith	Planning Officer 33, Housing Department
Dr Jun LIANG	Cluster Co-ordinator (Family Medicine & Primary Health Care)/Chief of Service (Family Medicine & Primary Health Care), New Territories West Cluster, Hospital Authority
Ms KWOK Lai-ping, Ruby	Senior Manager (Primary Health Care), Hospital Authority Head Office
Ms SIU Kin-heung, Mabel	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Tuen Mun)1, Social Welfare Department
Mr WONG Hung-lok, Steven	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)2, Environmental Protection Department
Mr MA Cheuk-hang, Patrick	Waste Reduction Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)23, Environmental Protection Department
Mr CHEUNG Shing-hsi, Lawrence	Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Community Relations), Environmental Protection Department
Mr YUEN Po-hung	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)1, Environmental Protection Department
Mr CHEN Kin-wun, Edwin	Environmental Protection Officer (Special Duties)31, Environmental Protection Department
Mr CHAN Hing-tai	Maintenance Inspector of Works/Tuen Mun, Highways Department
Mr CHEUNG Chi-keung, Endy	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr WONG Kin-san, Ricky	Engineer/Consultants Management 12, Water Supplies Department
Mr P W Chang	Senior Resident Engineer, AECOM CDM Joint Venture
Mr TSE Kit-chun, Jacky	Assistant Resident Engineer, AECOM CDM Joint Venture
Mr LUI Ka-ching, Ken	Senior Inspector of Works, AECOM CDM Joint Venture

Mr WONG Kwok-shui, David	Resident Engineer, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited
Dr YUEN Ka-yiu	Medical and Health Officer (Tobacco Control Officer)3, Department of Health
Dr LUI Siu-yun	Medical and Health Officer (Community Liaison)1, Department of Health
<u>In Attendance</u>	
Mr LO Chun-hang, Simpson	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 BOW Lok-sin, Rosaline	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHAN Pui-shing, Michael	Engineer/Tuen Mun 4, Drainage Services Department
Mrs LEUNG LUK Mei-yin	Housing Manager/Tuen Mun 1, Housing Department
Mr LIO Kit-Wah	Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)14, Environmental Protection Department
Miss HO Yuen-ching, Jessica	Senior Town Planner/Tuen Mun 1, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long West District Planning Office, Planning Department
Miss WU Ho-kei, Maggie	Town Planner, Planning Department
Ms CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl	Engineer/15 (New Territories West), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr MOK Hing-cheung	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tuen Mun), Lands Department

I. Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all participants and government department representatives in attendance to the 9th meeting of the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (“EHDDC”).

2. The Chairman reminded Members that any Member who was aware of a personal interest in a discussion item should declare the interest before the discussion. The Chairman would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”) Standing Orders, decide whether the Member who had declared the interest might speak or vote on the matter, might remain in the meeting as an observer, 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 an application for leave of absence had been received from Ms SO Ka-man, who sought the EHDDC’s consent to her leave of absence because she needed a rest after childbirth in May. As Members had no objection, the Chairman announced that Ms SO Ka-man’s application for leave of absence from the current meeting was accepted.

III. Confirmation of Minutes of the 8th Meeting Held on 24 March 2017

4. Members proposed no amendments to the minutes. The Chairman announced that the minutes of the 8th meeting of the EHDDC (2016-2017) were confirmed.

IV. Matters Arising

**(A) Repeated Request for Government’s Efforts to Reduce Air Pollution in Tuen Mun
(EHDDC Paper No. 10/2017)
(Paragraphs 5-10 of Minutes of the 8th meeting of EHDDC (2016-2017))**

5. The Chairman welcomed Mr Ray LEUNG, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science)¹ of the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”), to the meeting. Then she said that at its previous meeting, the EHDDC had discussed this matter and Members had raised no objection to setting up more air monitoring stations in Tuen Mun. After the meeting, the EHDDC had written to the Environment Bureau expressing Members’ views.

6. Mr Ray LEUNG of the EPD said the existing roadside air quality monitoring stations located in Mong Kok, Causeway Bay and Central covered high-density commercial, residential and mixed development areas with busy traffic, high pedestrian flow and many tall buildings in urban districts. He added that the monitoring data concerned revealed the roadside air pollution situation in Hong Kong. For members of the public who needed to spend most of a day at traffic-choked roadsides, as they stayed close to the sources of vehicle emission for a relatively long period of time, they might refer to the Air Quality Health Index recorded at roadside monitoring stations to understand the short-term health risk possibly caused by roadside air pollution, no matter which district they were in. He further said the department was aware of Members' expectation of more roadside air monitoring stations. The department would conduct short-term air quality monitoring at different roadside locations in Hong Kong (including Tuen Mun) in 2018 to see if there was a need to set up more roadside air monitoring stations.

7. Members made comments and enquiries on the matter, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member pointed out that after the opening of Tuen Mun - Chek Lap Kok Link and Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, there would be much more Mainland-originated vehicles passing Tuen Mun. The Member worried that Hong Kong's air quality might be affected as the Mainland's requirements on the control of pollutant emission from vehicles were different from those of Hong Kong. Therefore, the Member requested that more air monitoring stations be set up in Tuen Mun to monitor the impact of pollutant emission from Mainland vehicles on the air quality of Hong Kong;
- (ii) A Member said air pollution was serious in Tuen Mun, adding that air quality had far-reaching impacts on the public's health amid population ageing in Hong Kong. The Member suggested the Government tackle the source and work with the Mainland government to ameliorate air quality in the Pearl River Delta ("PRD") region and Hong Kong as a whole;
- (iii) While welcoming the EPD's plan for short-term roadside air monitoring,

a Member held the view that the public wanted to know information about roadside air pollution in Tuen Mun, rather than about air pollution on the roadside with the worst air quality in Hong Kong. The Member therefore suggested the Government review its policy objective. Another Member reckoned the Government should carry out long-term monitoring of air quality instead of temporary monitoring measures;

- (iv) Noting that there were power plants and sludge treatment facilities in the area of Lung Kwu Tan, a Member believed air pollution was caused by accumulative emissions from obnoxious facilities and suggested a short-term roadside air quality monitoring point be set up there to gauge the facilities' impact on air quality. Besides, the Member requested the department to report to the EHDDC about the sites selected for setting up short-term roadside monitoring points;
- (v) Worrying that air quality would be affected by illegal fuels used by vehicles, a Member requested the EPD to work with other related departments to combat illegal fuels. Another Member suggested developing Tuen Mun into an electrified city where only electricity-driven vehicles were allowed to enter, in a bid to improve its air quality; and
- (vi) A Member worried that the air quality of the northwest area and Town Centre would be affected if the exits of Western Bypass were situated on Tsun Wen Road and Tsing Tin Road.

8. The EPD gave responses to Members' comments and enquiries, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) Currently there were a total of 16 air quality monitoring stations in Hong Kong, among which 13 were general monitoring stations and three were roadside monitoring stations. To ensure the representativeness and international comparability of air quality data, the EPD devised air quality monitoring networks and sited monitoring stations by reference to internationally-recognised guidelines (including the guidelines of the United States Environmental Protection Agency). Roadside monitoring stations were set up to reveal poor roadside air quality;
- (ii) The department conducted short-term air quality monitoring from time to

time at various roadside locations across the territory. The previous short-term monitoring exercise had been conducted in 2014, in which diffusion tubes had been placed at roadside locations with high pedestrian and traffic flow or poor air dispersion conditions to measure the levels of roadside nitrogen dioxide, so as to check the representativeness of the existing roadside air monitoring stations. Findings of the 2014 short-term monitoring exercise showed that the roadside air quality monitoring networks could serve to reveal poor roadside air quality at that time. In the forthcoming short-term monitoring, the roadside monitoring points used at the previous exercise would be used again as far as possible for easy comparison, and there would be 10 roadside monitoring points in Tuen Mun (see [Annex 1](#) for details). But the department might consider setting up additional roadside monitoring points in the light of Members' views;

- (iii) An air quality monitoring station was usually set up at the height of a two to six storey building to monitor the quality of air to which the public were exposed to most of the time. For members of the public in Tuen Mun who did not stay at the roadside for a long period of time, they might refer to the data collected by general monitoring stations in Tuen Mun and Yuen Long to estimate the impact of air quality on the public;
- (iv) The air quality of Hong Kong was mainly affected by pollutant emission from vehicles, vessels and power plants and by regional air pollution. The EPD had been taking measures against various air pollution sources in a bid to improve air quality;
- (v) On pollutant emission from vehicles, the Government was implementing a two-pronged measure involving elimination and regulation with a view to phasing out more than 82 000 pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles in phases. Emission control on LPG and petrol vehicles would be strengthened, and emission reduction devices would be installed on franchised buses. General cross-boundary vehicles were required to apply for a licence in Hong Kong and comply with Hong Kong laws, and the fuel standards of Hong Kong, Macau and Mainland China were similar. In addition, the department would relay Members' views on combating illegal fuels to the Customs and Excise Department;

- (vi) On pollutant emission from vessels, the Government imposed an upper limit on the sulphur content of locally-supplied marine light diesel, and it also required that ocean going vessels should use low sulphur fuel while at berth in Hong Kong;
- (vii) On pollutant emission from power plants, the Government issued technical memorandums to impose upper limits on pollutant emission from power plants;
- (viii) The Government had designated the major fixed sources of air pollutant emission (e.g. cement plants and incinerators) as “specified processes” and put in place a licensing system under which the facilities concerned were required to comply with the emission controls in the Best Practicable Means;
- (ix) Tuen Mun was geographically located in the west of Hong Kong and its air quality was more vulnerable to regional pollution. The Hong Kong and Guangdong governments had set the 2015 and 2020 emission reduction targets and rates for four major pollutants (i.e. sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, respirable suspended particulates and volatile organic compounds) in the PRD region. They would also review the achievements in emission reduction for 2015 and set the emission reduction targets for 2020. To achieve the emission reduction targets, the two governments would roll out air quality improvement measures. Also targeting the sources of pollution, the measures taken by the Mainland government included phasing out highly polluting industries and “yellow-label vehicles”, using desulphurisation and denitrification technologies, tightening the supply of motor vehicle fuels, implementing the stricter National V emission standards and so forth. The two governments would continue to promote air quality improvement measures with a view to enhancing air quality in the PRD region; and
- (x) Thanks to the escalated emission reduction efforts in recent years, air quality had improved more remarkably. Data collected by general air monitoring stations in Tuen Mun from 2014 to 2016 showed that the concentrations of respirable suspended particulates, fine suspended particulates, nitrogen dioxide, ozone and sulfur dioxide had dropped by 4% to 33%, compared with the 4% to 24% declines as per the data

collected by general monitoring stations in other districts.

9. The Chairman concluded by requesting the EPD to inform the EHDDC about the locations for setting up additional short-term roadside air monitoring points after they were confirmed. EPD

V. Discussion Items

(A) Tuen Mun Area 29 (West) Public Housing Development (EHDDC Paper No. 19/2017)

10. The Chairman welcomed Mr Henry LUK, Senior Architect 23, Mr Matthew IP, Senior Civil Engineer 7, Ms Alison TANG, Architect 18, Mr Samuel KAN, Civil Engineer 35, and Miss Edith FUNG, Planning Officer 33, of the Housing Department (“HD”); Dr Jun LIANG, Cluster Co-ordinator (Family Medicine & Primary Health Care)/Chief of Service (Family Medicine & Primary Health Care), New Territories West Cluster of the Hospital Authority (“HA”) and Ms Ruby KWOK, Senior Manager (Primary Health Care) of the HA Head Office; and Ms Mabel SIU, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Tuen Mun)¹ of the Social Welfare Department (“SWD”), to the meeting.

11. Mr Henry LUK of the HD, Ms Mabel SIU of the SWD and Ms Ruby KWOK of the HA gave PowerPoint presentations (Annex 2) to introduce the paper.

12. A number of Members expressed support for the public housing development. They made comments and enquiries on its design and auxiliary facilities, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member considered that the works took too long to complete and requested the Government to speed up efforts to resolve housing problems;
- (ii) A Member noted that as shown in the current consultation paper, the number of units proposed to be built was higher than initially planned. But in view of the public’s housing demand, the Member did not oppose the proposal;
- (iii) As regards the development plot ratio, a Member asked whether the “non-residential portion” included the two community facilities, namely a

community health centre (“CHC”) and a residential care home for the elderly (“RCHE”);

- (iv) A Member suggested that a day care centre for the elderly be set up in the RCHE, and that the RCHE be set up on the ground or first floor to make it easier for elderly people to escape in case of emergency;
- (v) A Member said a separate lift should be built in view of the high attendance at the CHC. Another Member asked about the services to be offered by the CHC and opined that public out-patient services, as opposed to methadone services, should be provided;
- (vi) A Member noted that leisure and community facilities (e.g. a multi-purpose room and a reading room) would be provided in the podium garden under the initial plan. The Member asked why these facilities were not included in the current design;
- (vii) A Member believed that the inadequate supply of visitor parking spaces would fuel illegal parking in the nearby area. Besides, the Member enquired about the standard ratio of public housing units to parking spaces. Moreover, a Member suggested a car park be built in the basement, and opined that more parking spaces should be provided in public service facilities than in ordinary public housing estates;
- (viii) A Member requested the Government to hand over the road concerned immediately to the Transport Department (“TD”) for its management. Besides, owners of Leung King Estate should not be held responsible for any damage to the road caused by the works;
- (ix) Noting that the roundabout would occupy part of the area of Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool, a Member asked whether the works would occupy any area of the nearby housing estate;
- (x) A Member said the location of the proposed roundabout was different from that in the initial design, adding that the four entrances and exits in the current design would be used by a large number of vehicles (including ambulances) and this would have impact on the emergency access for fire services and hence, pose risks. The Member requested

the department to consult the Tuen Mun North-west Area Committee, Leung King Estate Owners' Corporation ("OC") and Siu Lung Court OC about the road. The Member also requested the TD to assign staff to attend the related meetings. Another Member pointed out that congestion and dangers could occur easily as the main entrances and exits of the roundabout crossed the rails of Light Rail. The Member suggested the main entrances and exits be sited at Po Tin, and the proposed housing estate be connected with Po Tin Estate;

- (xi) A Member requested the Government to provide more transport facilities such as bus routes to cope with the population increase; and
- (xii) Believing that the public would be inconvenienced by the six-month closure of the car park in Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool, a Member suggested that where possible, the closure be implemented in winter (non-swimming seasons) to minimise impact.

13. Mr Henry LUK of the HD gave responses to Members' enquiries, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) The siting of the RCHE on the fifth floor was in compliance with the current legal requirements. The department would request the consulting company to consider reserving as much safe space as possible in the design, so that elderly people could be at ease while waiting for rescue in case of incidents. Moreover, the siting of the CHC on the first to fourth floors could make the design more coherent and the arrangement of escalators smoother. In addition, a separate lift would be built for the RCHE and the CHC;
- (ii) The department would explore with the SWD the provision of the services of a day care centre for the elderly;
- (iii) The feasibility of providing a multi-purpose reading room had been studied. But due to the very limited size of the site, the permissible non-residential floor area was already fully utilised under the current plan;
- (iv) Members' concerns about the design of the roundabout were noted. The

roundabout was situated within the site in the original plan, but safety problems could thus arise as road users might have misunderstanding about the road use requirements, so it was moved to the currently proposed location to ensure greater safety and prevent traffic chaos on the intersecting roads at the housing estate. An assessment report showed that the current design had no adverse impact on the traffic nearby. The department would discuss issues about the safety of the roundabout with the TD and request it to provide appropriate directions and put up appropriate signs to support the development. The road concerned would be handed over to the contractor for management and maintenance during the construction period. Furthermore, the department guaranteed that the proposed roundabout would not occupy any space of Leung King Estate or Siu Lung Court;

- (v) Consideration had been given to the proposal to link the proposed housing estate with Po Tin Estate. Yet, the provision of traffic access points at Po Tin Estate would entail the removal of an existing refuse depot and the provision of a new one somewhere else. And a technical study showed that it was difficult to identify a suitable place for setting up a refuse depot that could not only meet the current legislative requirements in size but maintain the daily refuse disposal operation at Po Tin Estate. For these reasons, coupled with the legal issues and other uncertainties involved, the department could hardly build a vehicular road between Po Tin Estate and the proposed site. Despite this, the Government would build pedestrian links there to boost accessibility. In view of Members' concerns, the department would further consider the proposal;
- (vi) It was expected that the TD would enhance transport facilities having regard to factors in the surrounding environment;
- (vii) The department had given due consideration to the proposal to increase parking spaces. Yet, the proposal could hardly be implemented as it would cause a delay in the works, and the whole development would certainly take longer than scheduled as a result. Moreover, the provision of a large number of parking spaces would exacerbate congestion on roads/at junctions;

- (viii) The Tuen Mun North-west Area Committee and representatives of residents living nearby would be consulted; and
- (ix) It took time to carry out works in some space of the car park in the swimming pool and on the vehicle access roads and pavements next to the swimming pool. Yet, the department would discuss with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) working out a schedule that could minimise nuisance to the public.

14. Ms Ruby KWOK of the HA also gave responses to Members’ enquiries and comments, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) For the CHC, it was planned that the HA would provide general public out-patient services. The services expected to be offered included medical consultation, multi-disciplinary healthcare services and so forth, but no HA-operated methadone service would be provided;
- (ii) Users of the CHC were mainly aged people - who made up about 40% of the total, low-income groups and people with chronic illness. Given the high patient attendance, a CHC set up on the lower floors could make it more accessible to patients; and
- (iii) The HD determined the number of parking spaces based on the ratio set in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (“HKPSG”). And based on the service demand and the above guidelines, the HA provided data for the HD to plan the design. Moreover, as doctors and medical practitioners of the New Territories West Cluster had to provide services at different clinics in the cluster, some of the parking spaces had to be reserved for use by doctors and medical practitioners to reduce their travel time and hence boost healthcare efficiency. Hopefully, Members would understand this.

15. In addition, Miss Edith FUNG of the HD said the public housing development was in line with the HKPSG, with the ratio of parking spaces for private vehicles to public housing units set at 1:26-40. She added that the number of the proposed parking spaces for private vehicles was determined with the consent of the TD.

16. The EHDDC would like the HD to consult again the Tuen Mun North-west Area Committee, Leung King Estate OC and Siu Lung Court OC. As the matter under discussion involved transport facilities, the EHDDC requested the TD to send its staff to attend the related meetings and report back to the EHDDC after the consultation.

(B) Community Participation Programme in Environmental Protection 2017/18
(EHDDC Paper No. 20/2017)

[The Chairman left the conference room temporarily and the meeting was chaired by the Vice-chairman.]

17. The Vice-chairman welcomed Mr Steven WONG, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)², and Mr Patrick MA, Waste Reduction Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)²³, of the EPD to the meeting.

18. Mr Steven WONG of the EPD gave a PowerPoint presentation (Annex 3) to briefly introduce the paper.

19. Members made comments and enquiries on the matter, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member believed that promoting basic education about “clean recycling” in schools was more effective than organising carnivals that promoted environmental protection;
- (ii) Opining that exhibitions could produce publicity effects, a Member suggested the EPD provide financial support for district organisations in this regard and be proactive in offering assistance (by, for example, subsidising the transport costs of panel delivery and arranging free panel delivery services). The Member also suggested roving publicity and education activities be held in housing estates;
- (iii) A Member suggested the Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities follow up on the detailed arrangements for activities;
- (iv) A Member pointed out that some restrictions were imposed on the EPD’s

allocation of funding to district councils (“DC”) for organising activities. The Member suggested the department undertake publicity and education by other means besides funding to DCs, so as to boost effectiveness; and

- (v) A Member believed that the lack of outlets for recycled items would dampen the public’s motivation for recycling.

20. Mr Steven WONG of the EPD gave responses to Members’ enquires, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) The promotion of “clean recycling” could enhance the quality of recyclables collected through source separation, making the recovery of valuable recyclables more effective;
- (ii) The EPD could provide some general knowledge about recycling and information about “clean recycling”, and produce exhibits for roving exhibitions in districts;
- (iii) The EPD allocated funding to various DCs with the aim that they could, having regard to the promotion theme for the current year and the features and needs of their respective districts, identify non-governmental/non-profit-making organisations on their own for organising environmental protection activities tailored to their districts; and
- (iv) Thanks were due to Members for their ideas on the publicity and education activities held by the EPD. The department would carry out suitable publicity and education work through different projects.

21. The Vice-chairman concluded by inviting the department to take Members’ views into account in organising suitable publicity and education activities. As regards the \$200,000 funding that the EPD allocated to the TMDC for promotion of environmental protection, the Vice-chairman asked Members whether they agreed that the funding be passed to the Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities for follow-up. Members had no objection to the suggestion.

(C) “Municipal Solid Waste Charging” Scheme
(EHDDC Paper No. 21/2017)

[The Chairman returned to the conference room and resumed chairmanship of the meeting.]

22. The Chairman welcomed Mr Lawrence CHEUNG, Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Community Relations), Mr YUEN Po-hung, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)¹, and Mr Edwin CHEN, Environmental Protection Officer (Special Duties)³¹, of the EPD to the meeting.

23. Mr Lawrence CHEUNG of the EPD gave a PowerPoint presentation (Annex 4) to briefly introduce the scheme.

24. Members made comments and enquiries on the matter, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member said many members of the public (especially elderly people) were against the scheme which they considered would add to their financial burden. The Member added that the implementation timeframe for the scheme was too tight and there was neither adequate publicity nor wide consultation. A Member had doubts about the long-term effectiveness of the scheme, while another Member supported the scheme, opining that it should be implemented without delay;
- (ii) Believing that the success of the scheme hinged on the public's motivation, a Member suggested the department encourage the public's cooperation by providing convenient arrangements and suitable support for them;
- (iii) A Member held the view that the details of the scheme had to be well thought out and clearly specified (e.g. what recyclables were not subject to charges);
- (iv) A Member reckoned that the financial burden on low-income families would be taken into account in the implementation of the scheme. The Member cited a related study which indicated that a monthly charge from about \$21 to \$30 was reasonable. Another Member considered that the

charge currently proposed by the Government was too low to be effective;

- (v) A Member asked how the Government would monitor whether there was any illegal disposal of waste by the public and what penalties it would impose on those who disposed of waste illegally. The Member called for strict enforcement by the Government, worrying that poor regulation could lead to waste piling up in the district;
- (vi) A Member asked what steps would be taken if the public did not use designated garbage bags and how the disposal of oversized waste would be monitored. A Member reckoned that the scheme would put great pressure on management companies, while another Member worried that the refusal of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”) to collect unlabeled waste would cause pollution to the environment;
- (vii) Opining that an excessively wide variety of designated garbage bags would cause confusion, a Member suggested the arrangements be simplified and oversized designated garbage bags be replaced by labels for oversized waste;
- (viii) A Member enquired about the transitional arrangements and whether imposing charges based on both rubbish bin and designated garbage bag would lead to double charging. A Member opined that an excessively long adaptation period was not recommended, whereas another Member considered the half-year adaptation period too short because the public needed to adjust their living habits in response to the scheme;
- (ix) A Member enquired how recyclables would be handled. Another Member reckoned that a “reward and punishment” mechanism should be put in place, under which rewards would be offered to members of the public who engaged in source separation and supplied recyclables as an incentive for the public’s participation in recycling. Another Member suggested allowing the public to reuse the plastic bags they received in shopping as garbage bags;
- (x) A Member requested the Government to actively promote source

separation and prop up the recycling industry. In the Member's view, the charges collected under the scheme should be used in promoting recycling. Another Member suggested large-scale collection points be set up in the 18 districts;

- (xi) A Member considered that the Government had not invested adequate education resources in this regard. Another Member asked about the details of the Government's publicity and education work for the scheme;
- (xii) A Member asked about the waste reduction targets of the scheme; and
- (xiii) A Member suggested the Government make use of environmental protection projects to fuel economic development and create job opportunities.

25. Mr Lawrence CHEUNG of the EPD gave responses to Members' enquiries, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) It was the Government's hope that the scheme could provide financial incentive for the public to change their behaviours and participate actively in waste reduction and recycling, thus promoting the circular economy and the growth of the recycling industry. Besides, the Government would step up support for the recycling industry through measures such as the Recycling Fund;
- (ii) The policy concerned had been discussed since 1995, and related schemes had been launched in overseas regions such as Taipei and Seoul;
- (iii) Communication with the SWD was underway to explore how to support low-income groups;
- (iv) Designated garbage bags would be made of 50% recyclable materials and produced locally to facilitate the use of locally recovered plastics. The Government would provide more channels for the collection of waste plastics for recycling;
- (v) There would be discussion with supermarkets on the provision of "shopping and garbage bags" (plastic bags that could be used for both

shopping and waste collection) and the setting up of convenient outlets for the sale of designated garbage bags ;

- (vi) Designated garbage bags of different sizes served different purposes. If waste reduction was promoted effectively, the public would gradually switch to smaller-sized plastic bags to save money. Large garbage bags with a capacity of up to 100 litres would mainly be used by small industrial and commercial organisations or shops;
- (vii) The property management sector was very concerned about how to ensure residents' use of designated garbage bags, because the FEHD's staff might refuse to collect waste not properly wrapped in designated garbage bags when the waste was loaded onto a refuse collection vehicle or delivered to a refuse collection depot. To avoid this, a property management office might need to keep some large designated garbage bags as backup to make good the waste that did not meet the legal requirements, and the costs concerned would eventually be shared among all residents of the building concerned. In view of this, the EPD was exploring effective ways to enhance households' compliance with the requirements on the use of designated garbage bags through community involvement projects implemented by non-profit-making organisations;
- (viii) It was difficult to conduct surveillance against waste disposal on roadsides, but it was believed that the public would unlikely be tempted to dispose of domestic waste in separate batches in roadside litter bins. Improvement would be made to the design and distribution of recycling bins in public space;
- (ix) There would be a preparation period of 12 to 18 months from the passage of the legislation to its official implementation, and this would be followed by a half-year adaptation period, during which the Government would join with groups such as district organisations and OCs in strengthening publicity and education;
- (x) The scheme might be subject to changes after it was discussed at Legislative Council meetings, and a detailed introduction would be given after the scheme was finalised; and

- (xi) The scheme was absolutely not the sole approach to waste reduction, but from the experience of overseas regions, it was held that municipal solid waste charging was an indispensable means of waste reduction. The Government would not only drive progress in a multi-pronged way, but launch appropriate publicity and education, enhance recycling facilities and support the work of the recycling industry.

26. Mr YUEN Po-hung of the EPD gave supplementary responses to the matter, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) The department would strengthen publicity and education for waste reduction and clean recycling by, for example, further promoting waste reduction and recycling in schools, housing estates and communities. It would also form outreaching teams to visit various districts for direct communication with residents;
- (ii) The economic value and recyclability of waste plastics were sensitive to the external economic environment. Through the Recycling Fund, the Government would provide support for the recycling industry to bring in suitable recyclable processing techniques; and
- (iii) The department would provide support for housing estates to contact recyclers and seek suitable outlets for recyclables.

27. The Chairman concluded by saying that the department should undertake a wide consultation in that some Members supported the scheme while some were against it. The Chairman invited the EPD to take note of Members' views and consult the EHDDC again if there were any adjustments to the scheme in the future.

EPD

- (D) Request for Regular Cleaning of Storm Water Drains in San Sau Street and San Wah Lane Area**
(EHDDC Paper No. 22/2017)
(Written Response of FEHD)
(Written Response of Lands Department)
(Written Response of Architectural Services Department)

28. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Hing-tai, Maintenance Inspector of Works/Tuen Mun of the Highways Department ("HyD"), to the meeting.

29. The proposer of the paper said drains in rural areas were often blocked by fallen leaves, kapok fluff and so forth. As the rainy season was approaching, he hoped the relevant departments (including the Architectural Services Department (“ArchSD”), the HyD and the Lands Department (“LandsD”)) would take steps as soon as possible. Besides, he hoped the FEHD and the LCSD would actively tackle the problem of biting midges arising from this.

30. Mr Michael CHAN of the Drainage Services Department (“DSD”), responded that the department had assigned its staff to conduct an inspection after heavy rain, and they had found that the situation had been satisfactory during the inspection because others departments had carried out regular maintenance and cleaning of the drains concerned.

31. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD said the district-based Pest Control Sections of the department would strengthen the related work. He would also relay Members’ views to the department for its arrangements for work on biting midge control.

32. Ms Rosaline BOW of the LCSD said the department had arranged anti-mosquito work carried out by a contractor of outsourced services since May, and it would also actively monitor the performance of the contractor.

DSD
ArchSD
HyD
LandsD
FEHD
LCSD

33. The Chairman concluded by inviting all the relevant departments to actively tackle problems with storm water drains in the San Sau Street and San Wah Lane area.

(E) Proposal to Strengthen Toilet Service in Tin Hau Temple Plaza
(EHDDC Paper No. 23/2017)
(Written Response of FEHD)

34. The Chairman welcomed Mr Endy CHEUNG, Senior Executive Officer (District Management) of the Tuen Mun District Office (“TMDO”), to the meeting.

35. A proposer of the paper said many elderly people who had participated in large-scale activities held at Tin Hau Temple Plaza had told her that the toilets there had been clogged up and the toilet facilities were inadequate. The problem of blocked toilets had been resolved after the TMDO had reported to the FEHD

about it. Still, by virtue of this paper, she hoped to invite the FEHD to increase caretakers and request organisers to provide portable toilets at the plaza when they held large-scale activities there.

36. A Member shared information about the background to the setting up of toilets at Tin Hau Temple Plaza and their usage during activities held there. Besides, the Member said the FEHD had provided portable toilets when large-scale activities such as Tin Hau Festival were held there, and the problem of inadequate toilet service had not occurred during the activities. For activities with a relatively large number of elderly people, such as banquets for the elderly, he suggested the TMDO remind the department/organisations holding large-scale activities to put up portable toilets there.

37. Mr SO Shiu-shing declared his interest as a committee member of the Tuen Mun Respect for the Aged Association. The Chairman allowed him to speak on the matter concerned. He suggested organisers be reminded to inform the FEHD in advance about any large-scale activities, in order to facilitate arrangements for portable toilets.

38. Ms KONG Fung-yi, a proposer of the paper, declared her interest as the chairperson of the Tuen Mun Elderly United Association. She said that by submitting this paper, she hoped government departments and activity organisers would pay attention to the problem of inadequate toilet service in the future.

39. Mr TO Sheck-yuen declared his interest as a member of Tin Hau Temple and the vice-chairman of the Tuen Mun Respect for the Aged Association. In his view, the TMDO should remind the organisers of large-scale activities to be held at Tin Hau Temple Plaza to pay attention to the need for portable toilets. He shared the view that there should be more toilet cleaners.

40. The Chairman reminded Members that after declaring interests, they should wait for the Chairman's instruction before speaking.

41. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that the toilet service currently provided at Tin Hau Temple Plaza was enough to meet daily needs, but in case of large-scale activities, the TMDO would remind the organisers to provide adequate temporary toilets and the FEHD would strengthen the existing toilets service and assign caretakers to perform duty. The FEHD provided six temporary toilets to

meet needs during the Lunar New Year Fair, as this was an activity organised by the FEHD. Yet, the department could hardly provide temporary toilets for activities not organised by government departments.

42. Mr Endy CHEUNG of the TMDO responded that after receiving an application for a large-scale activity, the TMDO would keep in touch with the FEHD to ensure there would be adequate manpower to keep toilets clean during the activity and all maintenance works in progress could be completed before the activity. If necessary, the organiser might engage a contractor to provide portable toilet facilities. The TMDO would add a reminder to the application form for use of venues, and the TMDO's staff would also give a verbal reminder to the organiser when making contacts with it.

43. The Chairman would like the relevant departments to take note of Members' views. She would like the FEHD to provide temporary toilet facilities in case of activities held by government departments, and the TMDO to draw the applicant organisations' attention to the matter concerned in case of activities held by district organisations.

FEHD
TMDO

(F) Strong Request for Comprehensive Inspection and Replacement of Underground Water Mains in Tuen Mun Pier Area

(EHDDC Paper No. 24/2017)

(Written Response of TD)

(H) Request for Full Investigation into Causes of a Number of Underground Water Main Burst Incidents in Tuen Mun and Improvement to Notification Mechanism on Emergency Temporary Water Suspension

(EHDDC Paper No. 26/2017)

44. The Chairman suggested the above two papers be discussed together as they were both about the maintenance of underground water mains and related matters. Members had no objection to the suggestion.

45. The Chairman welcomed Mr Ricky WONG, Engineer/Consultants Management 12 of Water Supplies Department ("WSD"); Mr P W Chang, Senior Resident Engineer, Mr Jacky TSE, Assistant Resident Engineer, and Mr Ken LUI, Senior Inspector of Works of AECOM CDM Joint Venture; and Mr David WONG, Resident Engineer of Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited, to the meeting.

46. A proposer of EHDDC Paper No. 24/2017 elaborated on the paper, saying that the EHDDC had earlier discussed a delay in the works to water mains on Wu Chui Road and Lung Mun Road, but water main bursts had happened at other locations later. In view of this, the paper was submitted to request the WSD to examine the phenomenon of water main ageing and replace water mains at risk of bursting on a full scale.

47. A proposer of EHDDC Paper No. 26/2017 said three incidents of salt water main burst had happened in the Tuen Mun Pier area in the first half of 2017, affecting the daily lives of the public and traffic. He added that resident service vehicles had been unable to enter housing estates such as Butterfly Estate, Siu Shan Court and Wu King Estate as a result, causing inconvenience to residents. He therefore suggested improving the notification mechanism. Moreover, he enquired whether a circular salt water supply system could be built, by which alternative pipes could be used to supply salt water in case of incidents. Besides, he said suspension of salt water supply had caused hygiene problems in toilets of shopping centres. He enquired whether a system could be built so that fresh water could be used as a substitute for flushing in case of incidents. He also asked whether residents could be compensated for the extra water charges they incurred because they had to switch to fresh water for flushing amid suspensions of salt water supply.

48. Other Members also made comments on the matter, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) Noting that two incidents of water main burst had recently happened on Castle Peak Road, a Member reckoned that the problem of ageing water mains in the entire Tuen Mun should be examined;
- (ii) A Member called for improvement to the mechanism for notification about water main bursts, whereby proactive notification should be given to TMDC Members of the constituencies concerned and nearby constituencies and to the relevant housing estates (by, for example, notices posted in prominent places like lifts), and information on websites and mobile applications should be updated instantly. Besides, the Member suggested such details as the affected housing estates be provided on websites and mobile applications. In this connection, a

Member noted that information on the existing mobile applications was not updated instantly;

- (iii) A Member suggested the department make repair parts readily and adequately available in order to expedite repairs in case of incidents;
- (iv) A Member considered that the liaison representatives appointed by the department should be familiar with the situation of the district and attend TMDC meetings. As some of the enquiries of Members fell outside the purview of the representatives present at the current meeting, the Member suggested the department send appropriate representatives to the next meeting for further discussion on this matter;
- (v) As regards main bursts in private places, a Member asked whether the department would provide technical information, such as maintenance companies or charges, for the housing estates in need to help them go through the tendering exercises for repairs as quick as possible;
- (vi) A Member enquired whether the locations of water main bursts on Mei Lok Lane and Lung Mun Road near Wu Chui Road were covered in the current phase of water main replacement works;
- (vii) Opining that the department should pay attention to the maintenance of water mains, a Member noted that water main bursts happened occasionally despite a mechanism in place for inspection of mains. The Member asked if there were any problems with the current mechanism and any connections with low inspection frequency, manpower problems or obsolescence of equipment;
- (viii) A Member enquired whether the department would consider connecting Lok On Pai Salt Water Pumping Station to the pier area; and
- (ix) Noting that continued water main replacement works were carried out at the On Ting section of Tuen Mun Heung Sze Wui Road, a Member said the contractor had earlier conducted a test on the road arrangements for the above section and changed the road section to a one-way traffic without notification to the TMDC Member of the nearby area, causing severe congestion; however, the contractor had not re-opened the road

immediately in the light of the situation.

49. Mr Ricky WONG of the WSD said he was responsible for the consultant management of water main replacement works, and Members' enquiries about the existing water supply arrangements should be handled by another section. He gave responses to Members' enquiries, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) Most of the mains on Wu Chui Road and Lung Mun Road were covered in the "Phase 3 of the Contracts for Replacement and Maintenance Waterworks". The department had completed the laying of new water mains on the section of Wu Chui Road near the pier, and it would carry out the works for joining old and new water mains after the connection works for sub-mains in Melody Garden. The department would complete the works as quick as possible;
- (ii) Since the implementation of the 15-year Replacement and Rehabilitation of Water Mains Programme in 2000, the department had so far replaced 30% to 40% water mains, and the numbers of cases of main burst and leakage had both dropped markedly, from 57 in 2000 to five as at the date before the current meeting and from 800 in 2000 to 170 or so as at the date before the current meeting respectively;
- (iii) The reasons for water main bursts were manifold, which might be associated with such factors as the numbers of years for which the mains had been used, the materials of the mains, the traffic load at the locations concerned and the works nearby;
- (iv) If traffic diversion was necessary due to a water main burst or leakage, the department would discuss appropriate arrangements for rehabilitation works with the Police and the TD immediately and minimise impacts on the public. The department would release related news by radio broadcast or instant news and request the contractor to assign traffic assistants to offer help at major traffic junctions or roads;
- (v) The water main rehabilitation works on Wu Chui Road was expected to be complete between July and August. The salt water supply to the entire Tuen Mun was taken care of by Tuen Mun Sea Water Pumping Station and Lok On Pai Salt Water Pumping Station. The department

was exploring main improvement works to connect Lok On Pai Salt Water Pumping Station to Tuen Mun West and, by then the operation of Tuen Mun Sea Water Pumping Station could be suspended to facilitate the replacement of mains not covered in the improvement programme at the moment (including water mains on Wu Chui Road near Mei Lok Lane);

- (vi) Improvements would be made to the notification mechanism for emergency suspension of water. Moreover, the department had developed a mobile application for the public to get information about the situations easily, such as the types of the water supply suspended, the reasons, the time during which the public was affected, the affected areas, and the arrangements for temporary water supply. He knew there was room for improvement in the part “Emergency Suspension of Water” of the mobile application, and the department would consider Members’ views;
- (vii) The repair to the leaking salt water mains on Castle Peak Road was expected to be completed shortly on the evening of the meeting. The department would inform the TMDC Member of the constituency concerned about any updates;
- (viii) The consulting company had been told about the flaws in the water main works on Tuen Mun Heung Sze Wui Road. It had also been requested to inform the relevant TMDC Members before making such traffic arrangements in the future and to take contingency measures immediately to address any traffic problems caused during its tests. In this regard, Mr David WONG of Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited said the arrangements had been flawed as the application had been made in haste. He added that the consulting company would be cautious in the future and inform the relevant TMDC Members about the progress of works in due course; and
- (ix) It was expected that the relevant section of the department would be glad to offer appropriate advice on issues concerning private mains.

50. The Chairman concluded by saying that as the WSD representative was unable to answer some of the enquires made by Members, the EHDDC resolved

WSD

to further discuss the matter at the next meeting and invite the department to assign the staff of the relevant section to attend it.

(G) Request Government to Completely Solve Food Waste Problem

(EHDDC Paper No. 25/2017)

(Written Response of EPD)

[The Chairman left the conference room temporarily and the meeting was chaired by the Vice-chairman.]

51. A proposer of the paper was dissatisfied with the department as it had sent only one representative to the meeting to respond to Members' enquiries and comments on this issue. Then he suggested the Government set up a comprehensive system to handle matters concerning the recycling, transportation and processing of food waste and the outlets of the food waste recycled. Furthermore, he said some food waste recycling companies had been warned by the EPD about inadequate recovery volume. He would like the department to explain why the recovery volume of recycling companies was not adequate. He was disappointed about the effectiveness of the food waste recycling trial scheme implemented earlier by the HD and the EPD in public housing estates. Besides, he enquired whether the scheme had been scrapped and whether it would be re-launched in Tuen Mun in the future.

52. Mr LIO Kit-Wah of the EPD responded that the department was actively boosting the recovery volume of recycling centres, and it would provide details about the recycling trial scheme for public housing estates later.

53. A Member remarked that the Government should actively promote food waste recycling, which could help reduce solid waste at source. Noting that the department had sent no designated officers to the meeting, a Member requested it to assign designated officers to attend the next meeting to answer Members' enquiries.

54. The Vice-chairman concluded by saying that Members voiced the opinions of the public and offered suggestions on policies at meetings, so he hoped the department would respect the TMDC by sending suitable officers to its meetings. He continued to say that the EHDDC resolved to further discuss the matter at the next meeting.

EPD

(I) Request for Review on Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance and Designation of Tuen Mun Road Bus-bus Interchange as No-smoking Area

(EHDDC Paper No. 27/2017)

(Written Response of Department of Health)

55. The Vice-chairman welcomed Dr YUEN Ka-yiu, Medical and Health Officer (Tobacco Control Officer)³, and Dr LUI Siu-yun, Medical and Health Officer (Community Liaison)¹, of the Department of Health (“DH”) to the meeting.

56. A proposer of the paper said the Government had earlier designated eight bus interchanges located in tunnel portal areas as trial no-smoking areas. He asked for information about the effectiveness of the trial areas, including any rise or decline in the recent prosecution figures, and requested the Government to include Tuen Mun Road Bus-bus Interchange (“TMR BBI”) as a statutory no-smoking area.

57. Other Members also made enquires and comments on the matter, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member held the view that the Government should review the definition of “statutory no-smoking area”, designate bus stops with high passenger flow (including TMR BBI and the bus stop at Goodview Garden near Yau Oi South, etc.) as no-smoking areas having regard to the legislative intent, and consult the TMDC about the locations to be designated as no-smoking areas;
- (ii) A Member believed that smoking at bus stops could affect the health of waiting passengers and smokers’ improper disposal of cigarette butts could also affect environmental hygiene. Therefore, the Member suggested all bus stops in Hong Kong be designated as no-smoking areas; and
- (iii) Noting that complaints about passive smoking were on the rise, a Member reckoned that if the Government wanted to protect the public’s health, it should set up no-smoking areas at once instead of in phases. Besides, the Member asked whether it was because of the shortage of enforcement manpower that the department set up no-smoking areas in

phases.

58. Dr YUEN Ka-yiu of the DH gave responses to Members' enquiries and comments, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) The TMDC's support for the department's tobacco control efforts was appreciated. The extension of statutory no-smoking areas was one of the many tobacco control measures taken by the Government;
- (ii) It was the Government's hope that clearly delineated locations could be identified in bus interchanges for designation as trial no-smoking areas; meanwhile, the Government needed to take the usage of interchanges and enforcement feasibility into account. By designating bus interchanges in tunnel portal areas as statutory no-smoking areas, the current measure was the first attempt to extend statutory no-smoking areas to other public facilities. The Government was reviewing the implementation of this measure and considering the feasibility of further extending no-smoking areas to other facilities or areas, including TMR BBI;
- (iii) The effectiveness of the measure was under review. Prosecution figures had been relatively high at the beginning of the implementation of the measure, but currently there were still a number of prosecution cases;
- (iv) The public needed time to adapt to the new measure, and the effectiveness of the measure was reflected not only by prosecution figures. The Government would seek the public's opinions (such as whether they agreed that other interchanges should be designated as no-smoking areas and whether smoking areas should be set up in interchanges). As for whether to designate TMR BBI as a no-smoking area, the Government had no timetable at the moment;
- (v) Under the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance, certain facilities that matched the ordinance could be designated as statutory no-smoking areas by gazette publication. However, the reason why the bus interchanges in tunnel portal areas had been designated as statutory no-smoking areas earlier was that the Secretary of the bureau had exercised power to amend a schedule of the ordinance so as to include the locations concerned as no-smoking areas. The department would relay Members' views on

review of the ordinance to the bureau;

- (vi) In launching the measure, the Government had to balance the interests and concerns of different members of the public and give thought to such arrangements as the enforcement of the law and the delineation of no-smoking areas; and
- (vii) Members' suggestion for designating all bus stops as no-smoking areas would be passed on.

59. The Vice-chairman concluded by expressing the hope that the department would take active follow-up action as most of the Members considered that TMR BBI should be designated as a no-smoking area as soon as possible. Regarding a Member's proposal to designate the Yau Oi South bus stop as a no-smoking area, as the proposal was outside the scope of the current agenda item, the Vice-chairman would like the department to give a response to the Member who made the enquiry after the meeting.

DH

[Post-meeting note of the DH: Regarding the proposal to designate the Tuen Mun Yau Oi (South) bus terminus as a no-smoking area, due to changes in the routes of public transport services, the existing Yau Oi (South) bus terminus in Tuen Mun failed to meet the legislative requirement of Section 3 (1AB)(b) of the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance, which required more than one specified route. For this reason, it was not a no-smoking area. In response to the views previously expressed by the TMDC, the department had posted health education information about smoking hazards and cessation at the location to encourage the public to avoid and quit smoking. The Government would review the tobacco control policies in force from time to time. Before the further extension of no-smoking areas or the introduction of new tobacco control measures, the authority concerned would have thorough study and consideration, balance the aspirations of various parties and undertake extensive discussion and consultation, in a bid to ensure effective enforcement and easy compliance by the public.]

VI. Reporting Items

(A) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches **(EHDDC Paper No. 28/2017)**

60. Members noted the content of the report.

(B) Report of FEHD**(EHDDC Paper No. 29/2017)**

61. A Member requested the department to actively tackle the problem of mosquitoes and biting midges. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that the department's first-phase mosquito control had been completed with its results published in EHDDC Paper No. 30/2017, and the second-phase mosquito control would be carried out from 3 July to 8 September this year.

62. A Member said he had received complaints from residents of Siu Lun Court about the rodent problem. He asked whether the department would join OCs or management companies in conducting anti-rodent publicity or place baits on government land near housing estates if rodent signs were found in HOS courts or private housing estates. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD said the department had carried out an anti-rodent operation titled "Designated Target Areas" from 8 May to 7 July this year, and invited the management companies and shops nearby to participate in a briefing session, with a view to coordinating efforts against the rodent problem in private and public places.

63. A Member asked about how to contact government departments in case rodent signs were found. Mr Edwin LEE of the FEHD responded that the department looked forward to widespread education about this in the community. He added that residents might contact the department through OCs or management companies, and if individual members of the public wanted to approach the FEHD, they might visit the FEHD's District Environmental Hygiene Offices to obtain leaflets and seek advice.

(C) Anti-mosquito Campaign 2017 (Phase II) in Tuen Mun**(EHDDC Paper No. 30/2017)**

64. Members noted the content of the report.

(D) Progress Report of Local Public Works and Rural Public Works as at April 2017**(EHDDC Paper No. 31/2017)**

65. Members noted the content of the report.

(E) Reports of Working Groups under EHDDC**(EHDDC Paper No. 32/2017)**

[The Chairman returned to the conference room and resumed chairmanship of the

meeting.]

(i) Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities

66. Members noted the content of the report.

(ii) Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities

67. The Convenor of the working group said that due to low attendance, the previous meeting of the working group had been changed to a forum. He expected members of the working group to actively attend its meetings. The Chairman urged the working group's members to attend its meetings as far as possible.

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

68. The Chairman said that at its previous meeting, the EHDDC resolved to write to the Transport and Housing Bureau ("THB") expressing Members' demand for the building of covers over Siu Hong Road. After that, the HD had been authorised by the THB to give a response indicating that the TMDC might consider building covers over the walkways through district improvement works, or alternatively, it might follow the approach proposed in the Chief Executive's 2016 Policy Address by selecting a suitable walkway in the district for the construction of covers, which would be undertaken by the HyD, after consulting the local community and taking feasibility into account. After that, the working group had discussed the matter concerned and resolved to report to the EHDDC on the above status for the EHDDC to consider whether to pass the proposals to the Steering Group on Construction of Covered Walkway in Tuen Mun under the District Facilities Management Committee ("DFMC") for follow-up. The Chairman further said there should be a lead Member who would submit a proposal under the District Minor Works Programme to the DFMC. She suggested the Convenor of the working group act as the lead Member. Members had no objection to the suggestion.

69. There being no further comments, the Chairman announced that the reports of the above three working groups were endorsed.

(F) Progress Reports as at 30 April 2017
(EHDDC Paper No. 33/2017)

(i) DSD's Progress Report on Works in Tuen Mun District

70. Members noted the content of the report.
- (ii) Environmental Monitoring Report on Mud Pit No. 5
71. Members noted the content of the report.
- (iii) Water Seepage Report on Buildings in Tuen Mun District
72. Members noted the content of the report.
- (iv) Progress Report on Water Pipes Installation in Tuen Mun District
73. Members noted the content of the report.
- (G) **Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station**
(EHDDC Paper No. 34/2017)
74. Members noted the content of the report.

VII. Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

75. There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 2:59 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 21 July 2017.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: 12 July 2017