Minutes of the 1^{st} Meeting of

the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (2024-2027) of

the Tuen Mun District Council

Date : 22 February 2024 (Thursday)

Time : 2:30 p.m.

Venue : Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

Present

Mr TSUI Fan, MH (Chairman)	TMDC Member
Mr TSANG Hin-hong, MH (Vice Chairman)	TMDC Member
The Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth, SBS, MH, JP	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Yau-hoi, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo, MH	TMDC Member
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member
Mr YIP Man-pan, MH	TMDC Member
Ms LAI Ka-man	TMDC Member
Mr HO Jun-hang, Benton	TMDC Member
Mr LAM Tik-fai	TMDC Member
Dr CHAN Kwai-wao	TMDC Member
Mr CHUI King-hang	TMDC Member
Mr FUNG Yuk-fung, MH	TMDC Member
Mr IP Chun-yuen	TMDC Member
Mr CHENG Yin-kwan, Andy	TMDC Member
Mr TSOI Shing-hin	TMDC Member
Mr CHUNG Kin-fung	TMDC Member

Ms YU Cheuk-ling, Katherine (Secretary) Executive Officer (District Council)3,

Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department

By Invitation

Miss MAK Ka-ying, Carren Senior Administrative Officer (Municipal Solid Waste

Charging Policy), Environmental Protection

Department

Mr CHEANG Sin-yeung, Clarence Administrative Officer (Municipal Solid Waste

Charging Policy), Environmental Protection

Department

Mr LI Mun-tong Housing Manager/Tuen Mun 2, Housing Department

In Attendance

Mr KWAN Ke-lin, Michael, JP District Officer (Tuen Mun), Home Affairs

Department and TMDC Chairman

Miss YU Mei-yu, Melinder Senior Liaison Officer (2),

Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department

Mr FUNG Koon-yue District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tuen

Mun)(Acting) / Chief Health Inspector (Tuen Mun)1,

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms WONG Yuk-lai Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control)

Tuen Mun, Food and Environmental Hygiene

Department

Mr TSANG Chun-wang, Roy Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional

West)1, Environmental Protection Department

Ms CHANG Yuet-ming, Charlene Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands

Office, Tuen Mun), Lands Department

Absent with Apologies

Mr YIP Kat-kong, Kenneth TMDC Member

I. Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present to the 1st meeting of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (2024-2027) (FEHC). As representatives of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) would brief Members on the "Implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Charging", Members who had not joined the FEHC were also invited to attend the meeting to participate in the relevant discussion.

- 2. The Chairman stated that as the audio recording of the meeting would be uploaded to the TMDC website, Members who wished to speak should first press the "Request to Speak" button under the screen of the audio system and wait to speak, and should speak only after he signalled them to do so.
- 3. To ensure the efficiency of the meeting, the Chairman set limitations on speaking time as follows: For each agenda item, each Member would be allowed to speak twice, with time limits of three minutes for the first speech and one minute for the second speech. Furthermore, for each tabled paper, the proposer might have an additional three minutes to introduce the content. Secretariat staff would assist in keeping track of time, and Members would be notified by a ringing sound when their speaking time elapsed. The Chairman continued that the meeting would be conducted according to the order of business on the agenda. He asked all Members present to keep their speeches concise and avoid repetition.
- 4. The Chairman requested that members of the public observing the meeting take note that the areas on either side of the screen of the overhead projector, located at the back of the conference room, were designated as press areas. Only journalists who were registered and issued with a media sticker as identification were permitted to remain in these areas.
- 5. The Chairman reminded Members that those who were aware of their personal interests in any matters discussed at the meeting should declare the interests before the discussion. He would, in accordance with Order 22(4) of the Tuen Mun District Council Standing Orders (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

6. The Chairman reported that the Secretariat received an application for leave of absence from Mr Kenneth YIP. Since Mr Kenneth YIP had to attend the inaugural ceremony and dinner of the Hong Kong Hakka Association, he asked the FEHC for the leave of absence from the current meeting. According to Order 64(1) of the Standing Orders, the above reason was not specified as one of the reasonable reasons for absence. Therefore, the relevant application for leave of absence was not approved.

7. The Secretary reported that no other applications for leave of absence from Members were received.

III. <u>Discussion Items</u>

- (A) Implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Charging
- (B) Suggesting the Environmental Protection Department to Prioritise the Establishment of Community Recycling Facilities and Allow Sufficient Time for the Public, Property Management Offices and Cleaning Companies to Get Accustomed to the New Recycling Practices (FEHC Paper No. 1/2024)
- (C) Suggestion on Optimising the Arrangements for Municipal Solid Waste Charging Scheme and Enhancing Promotion of Food Waste Smart Bins (FEHC Paper No. 2/2024)
- 8. The Chairman welcomed Miss Carren MAK, Senior Administrative Officer (Municipal Solid Waste Charging Policy), Mr Clarence CHEANG, Administrative Officer (Municipal Solid Waste Charging Policy) of the EPD, and Mr LI Mun-tong, Housing Manager/Tuen Mun 2 of the Housing Department (HD), to the meeting.
- 9. Miss Carren MAK of the EPD gave a presentation on the original policy intent and the latest work progress of the implementation of Municipal Solid Waste Charging (MSW charging) with PowerPoint slides (Annex).
- 10. The Chairman said that since discussion items (A), (B) and (C) were correlated, he would combine the discussion of these items.
- 11. The first proposer of FEHC Paper No. 1/2024 said that while members of the public generally agreed to implement environmental friendly measures in the community, there remained doubts about the MSW charging policy. As such, he believed that the EPD should, before implementing the MSW charging, strengthen promotion and education in the community, such as educating citizens on waste separation. In this regard, he said that currently there was a lack of collection points of the "GREEN@COMMUNITY" and the community recycling network in public housing estates. In addition to the waste reduction and recycling support efforts of the "Green Outreach", he suggested that the Government provide more resources for District Councils and Care Teams to help promote the MSW charging. during the Chinese New Year, members of the public relayed to him that there was an insufficient number and capacity of food waste smart bins (FWSBs) in the district, and that some FWSBs were not cleared even though they had been fully filled. Regarding the scheme of recycling food waste to earn reward points for redeeming plastic bags, he suggested that the Department consider adding a scheme of earning reward points for redeeming food waste separation devices, so as to promote environmental protection. Lastly, he believed that in implementing the MSW charging, a monthly subsidy of \$10 to recipients of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) was inadequate. He hoped that the EPD and the Social

Welfare Department would explore the feasibility of providing more subsidies to the needy.

- 12. A Member believed that it was necessary to raise citizens' environmental awareness in order to help implement the MSW charging, and that the Government should promote the pilot scheme on FWSBs at the current stage and emphasise less on punitive measures. He also pointed out the inadequate publicity of the pilot scheme at different types of buildings. As some foreign domestic helpers did not understand the details of the MSW charging, he suggested that the Department produce relevant publicity materials in different languages. Moreover, he was concerned about law enforcement efforts against illegal waste dumping in rural areas, and pointed out that some refuse collection points in the rural areas were quite remote and inconvenient for use by local residents. Therefore, he hoped that the Government could step up communication with village representatives and villagers to understand the needs of residents in rural areas.
- 13. A Member was concerned about defects of food waste recycling facilities and enquired about whether FWSBs could detect any anomalies and be repaired She hoped that the Department could install a FWSB for every immediately. building in public rental housing (PRH) estates. In addition, she believed that the publicity campaign for food waste recycling was inadequate, and therefore suggested that the Department arrange for personnel to provide demonstration near FWSBs to educate users of food waste recycling facilities. This could keep such facilities clean and reduce the follow-up workload of cleaning workers. She also expressed a concern about the issue of increased workload of cleaning workers in housing estates as a result of handling recycling work, and enquired the Department whether it would provide extra support and subsidy for them. Apart from this, she proposed enhancing promotion of FWSBs to private housing estates and strengthening publicity and education work.
- 14. The first proposer of FEHC Paper No. 2/2024 elaborated on the paper. Since the implementation of the MSW charging had been postponed to 1 August 2024, he suggested that the EPD step up promoting the applications of FWSBs and collaborate with the HD to distribute food waste bins to every PRH household, as well as to conduct regular promotion campaigns in PRH estates. Since not each building of PRH estates in the Tuen Mun District was equipped with a FWSB, he deemed it necessary to install one for each building as soon as possible. He hoped that the Department could strengthen promotion of FWSBs to private housing estates, including stepping up publicity efforts on "Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in Private Housing Estates" in every housing estate. In this regard, he enquired about the number of applications for "Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in Private Housing Estates" by housing estates in the Tuen Mun District. He also proposed providing additional "GREEN\$" smart gift redemption units to further encourage residents to practice recycling, thus raising the awareness of recycling throughout society.

- 15. A Member believed that the implementation of the MSW charging required various complementing measures to change citizens' living habits in the long term. He relayed citizens' opinions on the MSW charging and hoped that as a District Council Member he could ensure effective communication between the Government and the people. He continued that some citizens were worried about the financial burden arising from the MSW charging, and suggested that the Government charge on different kinds of waste in phases by, for example, postponing the waste charge on large furniture, so that citizens were given sufficient time to adapt. Meanwhile, the Department could consider introducing the "Demonstration Scheme" in different areas to fully grasp the problems to be encountered in actual implementation of the MSW charging, and improve the scheme before its formal implementation across the territory to reduce the adverse impact on society.
- 16. A Member expressed support for the implementation of environmental policy by the Government and was willing to advise the Government on enhancing green practices. Taking Tuen Mun North as an example, she noted that there were only "GREEN@KIN SANG" and "GREEN@YAN TIN", reflecting a lack of recycling facilities. Moreover, as for the situation in rural villages, she enquired about the locations where villagers would collect garbage bags and the relevant arrangements. She said that there was an insufficient number of FWSBs in village areas, and had also asked the Department to provide larger three-coloured recycling bins in village areas but to no avail. In this regard, she hoped that the Department could enhance community recycling facilities when implementing the MSW charging.
- 17. A Member said that raising citizens' awareness of recycling was of the utmost importance. He continued that the FWSBs provided in PRH estates were not exclusively used by residents of the estates, which made some residents unable to participate in recycling and collect souvenirs. In this regard, he suggested that the EPD and the HD should strengthen cooperation in promoting the use of FWSBs to enhance citizens' awareness of recycling food waste. Furthermore, he said that many private housing estates had not applied for installing FWSBs due to worries about odour and hygiene issues. Therefore, he hoped that the Government could step up liaison with owners' corporations (OCs) and owners' committees to promote the Pilot Scheme on FWSBs. In the regard, he enquired the EPD about the number of private housing estates that had applied for the pilot scheme. He also hoped that the Department review the situation and provide more green stations like those of the "GREEN@COMMUNITY", so that citizens could redeem souvenirs and obtain green information conveniently.
- 18. A Member shared his district experience in meeting members of the public and explored the effectiveness of different approaches in promoting the MSW charging. He said that citizens' and OCs' insufficient knowledge of FWSBs, such as believing that FWSBs would cause odour and operation problems, led to reluctance to use and install FWSBs in housing estates. He believed that the Department should step up publicity and education work to dispel public misunderstanding. He also cited Yau Oi Estate as an example, where only seven FWSBs were available for share use by residents in 11 buildings, suggesting that the Department allocate additional resources

to further strengthen promotion of recycling prior to the implementation of the MSW charging.

- 19. Miss Carren MAK of the EPD made a consolidated response as follows:
- (a) The Department was dedicated to expanding recycling network in the district. Currently, the Department had established over 180 recycling points across the territory, covering 80% of all single-block buildings. In addition, the Department launched the "Source Separation of Waste Programme" in 2000 to encourage setting up three-coloured waste separation bins in private housing estates or buildings. Some 2 600 housing estates/private buildings as well as over 1 200 commercial and industrial premises in Hong Kong had been equipped with recycling facilities.
- (b) Regarding the operation of FWSBs, they would transmit signals when fully filled or failures occurred, and then the contractors would carry out repairs as soon as possible.
- (c) The Department would collaborate with the HD to step up publicity and education work. To enhance citizens' understanding on the use of FWSBs, the "Green Outreach" would also be deployed to produce promotional videos, provide tutorial pictures near FWSBs, and set up customer service hotlines.
- (d) In response to concerns raised by OCs of private buildings, the Department would further explain to and communicate with property management companies and OCs.
- (e) Regarding PRH estates sharing the use of food waste recycling facilities, the Department explained that currently the EPD allocated resources based on the principle of "resources sharing". The Department hoped that by sharing recycling facilities among several PRH estates, the recycling network in PRH estates could be expanded as far as practicable under limited resources. In the long term, the Department would expand the coverage and number of recycling facilities and consider increasing the frequency of food waste collection. Besides, there were currently 183 recycling points in the Tuen Mun District and such number was expected to increase to 206 by August 2024. As for the number of FWSBs, there were 49 and 5 in public and private housing estates respectively, and those for private housing estates was expected to increase to 25 by August 2024. In this regard, the Department would step up publicity work to ease public concerns.
- (f) On the arrangement of distributing designated bags, representatives of the EPD explained the relevant procedure through a PowerPoint presentation. The monthly subsidy of \$10 distributed to CSSA recipients was calculated on the basis of the average daily domestic waste disposal volume of a three-member household, which was about 13 litres. Therefore, the expenditure per person per month on purchasing designated bags was \$10. After the implementation

- of the MSW charging, the Department would continue to review the situation to address any deficiencies.
- (g) There were currently 1 100 sets of three-coloured recycling bins in rural areas. Members were welcome to suggest to the Department sites for additional recycling facilities if necessary.
- 20. Mr LI Mun-tong of the HD said that the Department would work closely with the EPD. The HD would facilitate the EPD to provide recycling facilities in PRH estates if it was notified to do so.
- 21. A Member expressed support for the MSW charging policy, saying that the MSW charging publicity efforts should not only focus on punitive charges. Instead, it was more important to cultivate citizens' habit of recycling, thus reducing waste at source. He reflected that many people still lacked understanding on the use and price of designated bags. He pointed out that when implementing "one bag for two uses", consideration should be given to standardising the colour of plastic bags distributed by contractors, so as to prevent citizens from mistaking wrong types of bags for disposing waste. In the long term, this would help alleviate the workload of cleaning workers in identifying designated bags. Moreover, he found that some residents of Siu Hei Court and Yuet Wu Villa disposed of food waste at food waste recycling facilities in Wu King Estate. As a result, Wu King Estate's FWSBs often reached full capacity. In this regard, he proposed providing FWSBs at government premises for use by the public. Separately, he asked the Department about the daily treatment capacity of a food waste plant.
- 22. A Member hoped that the EPD could keep considering public opinions and improving the measures for MSW charging. As for the "Demonstration Scheme", he considered it necessary to enhance distribution of free designated bags in different communities to cultivate citizens' habit of using them. Regarding the use and reward redemption arrangements of FWSBs, he pointed out that some elderly people without smart phones could not download the relevant mobile application. He suggested that the Department consider introducing smart cards with chips, making it easier for elderly people in the district to earn reward points by tapping the card.
- 23. A Member said that the current MSW charging trial at government offices and various buildings might not be able to provide a full picture on the actual results of the MSW charging. He proposed expanding the scope of the trial, such as conducting it in districts with more hygiene black spots, in order to take into account further experience in implementation for reference.
- 24. A Member said that drawing reference only from the MSW charging trial conducted by government departments might not be comprehensive enough. He proposed extending the trial scheme to PRH estates, Home Ownership Scheme housing estates and private residential buildings to gather information for reference. In addition, he expressed a concern about waste disposal by fishing boats in Tuen Mun Typhoon Shelter, where refuse collection was arranged by the Marine

Department. He said that he had asked the EPD whether it would arrange for contractors to assist in collecting recyclables there in the future. In this regard, he hoped that the Department would look into ways to handle the recycling of marine refuse properly to complement the implementation of the MSW charging policy. Besides, in response to the limited coverage of FWSBs, he suggested that the Department consider providing FWSBs at places such as public markets. He also proposed studying additional sites for processing solid waste and marine refuse.

- 25. A Member relayed citizens' concerns about the financial burden imposed on them arising from the MSW charging, and they might dispose of garbage in orange litter bins on the street. He suggested that the Department draw reference from overseas practices in reducing the number of litter bins on the street, thereby preventing people from disposing of garbage indiscriminately. Separately, he said that some citizens relayed their concerns about the overly stringent requirements for the cleanliness of recyclables at recycling facilities, which would greatly dampen the public's willingness to recycle. He enquired whether the Department would consider lowering the requirements for the cleanliness of recyclables.
- 26. A Member said that he had conducted publicity campaign for the MSW charging along Castle Peak Road from Sam Shing Estate to the Gold Coast, and received positive feedback from citizens on the idea of promoting waste reduction at source by way of the MSW charging. However, since community recycling facilities nearby were inadequate, the Department could consider identifying more sites for providing recycling facilities there, expanding the coverage of GREEN@COMMUNITY for participation by residents.
- 27. A Member expressed support for the MSW charging and opined that enhancing education and publicity could cultivate citizens' habit of recycling. However, some citizens relayed to him that in respect of environmental policy, on one hand the Government was rumoured to be cancelling the "One-for-One Replacement" Scheme for electric vehicles and, on the other hand, implemented the MSW charging, leading to speculation that its implementation was prompted by a decline in government revenue.
- 28. A Member reflected the difficulties OCs could face in law enforcement upon the implementation of the MSW charging. He said that OCs, property management companies and cleaning contractors were worried about future workload and the difficulties in law enforcement. In this regard, he believed that the Government should do a better job in education and publicity, and that merely distributing designated bags to citizens for trial use would have limited effect on education and publicity. He proposed a parallel scheme combining the use of designated bags and recycling facilities. For example, distributing 15 designated bags to a four-person household at one time, on the condition that they would properly recycle garbage and food waste. In addition, as the pilot scheme where citizens could buy designated bags at supermarkets or retail points had been underway for over a month, he enquired the Department about the progress of implementation of the scheme.

- 29. A Member was concerned that frontline workers might suffer from exhaustion due to an increased workload under the MSW charging. He hoped that the Department could provide additional support for them and express care. He was also concerned about the situation of cross-district use of food waste recycling facilities, and suggested that the Department comprehensively enhance the coverage of such facilities. He hoped to understand the procedure of applying for provision of food waste recycling facilities and suggested that the EPD consider residents' needs when choosing the sites for installing FWSBs. Besides, considering some citizens might not have downloaded the relevant mobile application, he suggested the Department deploy staff to communities to promote the redemption of rewards through recycling, thus attracting more people to participate in environmental protection. He further suggested that the Department strengthen education for the public on raising green awareness and conduct studies on an overall strategy to drive the growth of recycling industry and improve supporting facilities.
- 30. A Member was concerned about the implementation of the MSW charging, which had been deferred to 1 August, and enquired about the Department's specific work arrangements to support policy implementation. He hoped to understand the relevant details and expected results, so that Members could explain them to the public.
- 31. A Member said that the data provided by the Department on recycling points and FWSBs were not conducive in persuading the public that there were adequate community recycling facilities to support the MSW charging. In this regard, he hoped the Department review the situation of recycling facilities.
- 32. Miss Carren MAK of the EPD made a consolidated response as follows:
- (a) Regarding the inadequacy of food waste recycling facilities, the Department was studying the possibility of providing FWSBs at suitable refuse collection points for convenient use by residents of "three-nil buildings" or private buildings.
- (b) The Department would consider whether the "Demonstration Scheme" should cover various types of buildings including residential premises and malls as well as hygiene black spots.
- (c) The original intent of using the smart phone application was to provide citizens with a one-stop service of earning reward points and redeeming gifts. If some elderly individuals were not familiar with the operation of application, the Department would strengthen publicity and education work and study the possibility of adopting stored-value cards for "GREEN\$" for gift redemption.
- (d) Regarding the recycling of marine refuse, "GREEN@COMMUNITY" provided door-to-door collection service for over 180 housing estates in Tuen Mun, including Sam Shing Estate which was of concern to Members.
- (e) Lowering the requirements for cleanliness of recyclables was not feasible because unclean recyclables might contaminate other recyclables, affecting the

- recycling work. The Department would strengthen education for the public on how to do clean recycling.
- (f) Regarding concerns of OCs and property management companies, the Department introduced the "Demonstration Scheme" with the aim of ensuring the industry and frontline workers better understand the operation of recycling facilities prior to the implementation of the MSW charging.
- (g) Regarding updates on the sale of designated bags, the number of designated bags sold at designated retail points had been increasing, and currently most housing estates mainly purchased the bags in bulk order through the Department.
- (h) Regarding suggestions for providing additional FWSBs, the Department would expand the provision to all housing estates in the Tuen Mun District before August as planned, review its effectiveness and consider additional locations according to need.
- (i) Regarding taking forward the MSW charging after deferral, the Department was prioritising the "Demonstration Scheme" and strengthening public education. The media would be arranged to conduct on-site filming to enable the public to understand how the MSW charging would be implemented. Meanwhile, the Department would joint hands with news media to produce a "dummies guide" for publishing on free newspaper to maximise the publicity effect.
- 33. Mr LI of the HD responded that the HD would work closely with the EPD on the arrangement of installing FWSBs in PRH estates.
- 34. The Chairman requested the Department to take note of Members' opinions. As a concluding remark, he expressed the hope that through efforts of all parties concerned, the MSW charging would continue be implemented by way of "focusing on education, supplemented by support".

IV. Items for Information

(A) Report by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHC Paper No. 3/2024)

- 35. A Member was concerned about the larger number of rodents captured between July and December 2023 at San Hing Tsuen and To Yuen Wai. There were between 48 and 71 rodents captured at San Hing Tsuen each month, and a dozen captured at To Yuen Wai each month. She was worried that the rodent infestation would deteriorate in summer, affecting environmental hygiene. In this regard, she asked representatives of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to respond on the follow-up work.
- 36. Mr FUNG Koon-yue of the FEHD said that apart from enhancing district cleansing work, the Department also provided pest control services at strategic locations, such as applying rodenticides and cage traps at rodent black spots at night,

with remarkable results. The Department would closely monitor rodent black spots in order to carry out anti-rodent work more effectively.

- 37. A Member enquired that, in the report of the Pest Control Section (Tuen Mun) of the FEHD, whether the numbers of live rodents captured and dead rodents collected only included the data from locations managed by the FEHD.
- 38. Mr FUNG Koon-yue of the FEHD responded that the numbers in the report only reflected the situation in public places managed by the FEHD, while other locations would fall under the purview of other departments. For example, PRH estate areas would be managed by the HD.
- 39. A Member enquired the FEHD on the cause of rampant rodent infestation in PRH estates. She hoped that the Department would study the cause of rodent infestation in San Hing Tsuen through surveillance equipment and collect relevant information for further elaboration. In addition, she reflected to the Department the serious rodent infestation problem in Ching Tin Estate, where rodents were believed to come from the nearby construction site of light public housing. She asked the Department to mitigate district rodent infestation, so that the daily life of local residents would not be disturbed.
- 40. Ms WONG Yuk-lai of the FEHD responded that the Department recently allocated additional resources for anti-rodent work and set rodent cage traps at night at various locations, not limited to urban areas, and therefore the number of rodents captured had increased. The Department would continue to conduct routine anti-rodent work, subject to funding approval. Regarding the follow-up work for Ching Tin Estate, apart from communicating with the Ching Tin Estate Office, the Department would also collaborate with major residential estates to conduct regular clean-up operations and enhance rodent infestation surveillance.

(B) Anti-mosquito Campaign 2024 in Tuen Mun District (Phase I) (FEHC Paper No. 4/2024)

41. Members noted the content of the report.

(C) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches (FEHC Paper No. 5/2024)

- 42. A Member enquired whether beaches in Tuen Mun would be closed under a "Very Poor" water quality grading, and whether the LCSD would post notices to remind citizens that the beaches were not suitable for swimming.
- 43. A Member said that the level of E. coli was very high at Castle Peak Beach, with the E. coli count reaching as high as 894 per 100 ml in August 2023 and maintaining at a relatively high level up till September 2023. In this regard, he enquired the EPD whether such situation was due to hot weather, accumulation of oil pollution in the typhoon shelter arising from rainstorm, or any other causes.
- 44. Mr Roy TSANG of the EPD responded as follows:

(a) The EPD set up a dedicated website providing the latest beach grading and daily water quality forecast on gazetted beaches across the territory in order to facilitate citizens to plan water activities ahead of time. Regarding the LCSD's arrangements for management of beaches and posting of notices, the Department would provide additional information after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: According to the information provided by the EPD, the LCSD was responsible for determining the opening and closing of gazetted beaches. The decision was made with reference to the advice provided by the EPD on the suitability of beach water quality for bathing purposes and the consideration of all other factors. Generally, a beach would be closed if it was ranked "Very Poor" repeatedly. At public bathing beaches of the LCSD designated for swimming, there were flag poles and notice boards for dissemination of message on water safety. In this regard, the LCSD had posted the latest beach water quality grading on the notice board at Castle Peak Beach.]

- (b) Under extreme weather in August and September 2023, rainstorms led to a deterioration of water quality at Castle Peak Beach, and its recovery had been slower than other beaches due to its enclosed environment rendering natural flushing less effective. Besides, Castle Peak Beach was relatively close to the typhoon shelter, where the movement or berthing of numerous vessels might affect the water quality. According to available data, the water quality at Castle Peak Beach had resumed normal after the weather stabilised. The Department would continue to monitor the water quality at Castle Peak Beach and take appropriate follow-up actions.
- 45. The Chairman expressed the hope to improve community environment through concerted efforts of relevant departments and Members.

(D) Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station (FEHC Paper No. 6/2024)

46. Members noted the content of the report.

(E) Tai Shui Hang Water Quality Monitoring Records (FEHC Paper No. 7/2024)

- 47. A Member reflected that village representatives and residents of Tai Shui Hang were worried that local water quality would be affected by the nearby landfill. He enquired whether the EPD could explain relevant data in more detail to reassure the residents.
- 48. A Member said that the public had been very concerned about discharge from the landfill, worrying that the landfill would affect water quality in the Tai Shui Hang area. There were also culturing activities in the vicinity, including fish ponds, hairy crab farms and oyster rafts. In this regard, he asked the EPD for detailed data of the water quality monitoring records, such as whether water monitoring was conducted before or after discharge. He also hoped to understand the definition of each index grading regarding the water quality test, in order to help ease public concerns.

49. Mr Roy TSANG of the EPD responded that the leachate arising from waste disposal at the landfill would not be discharged into Tai Shui Hang or water bodies near the landfill. Instead, the leachate would be processed by treatment facilities at the landfill before being carried by conduits to facilities under the Drainage Services Department for further treatment. As the landfill and Ha Pak Nai were separated by Tai Shui Hang, the Department conducted regular water quality monitoring at Tai Shui Hang to ensure no leakage or illegal discharge of landfill leachate. According to the water quality report, the water quality grading of Tai Shui Hang maintained at a level between "Good" and "Excellent", which was comparable to the good water quality of natural hill streams or river streams, and no leakage or illegal discharge was As for the definition of each water quality grading, the Department would provide supplementary information for Members' reference after the meeting. Besides, a liaison group had been set up between the landfill operator and village representatives to meet regularly. If needed, it could serve as a platform to enhance communication, listen to villagers' concerns on the landfill, provide and explain information about the landfill such as its operation and latest situation. believed that it could ease villagers' concerns more effectively.

[Post-meeting note: The EPD rated river water quality in five categories, namely "Excellent", "Good", "Fair", "Bad" and "Very Bad". The parameters used for assessment included dissolved oxygen, 5-day biochemical oxygen demand and ammonia-nitrogen. For detailed monitoring and grading methods, please refer to the following website:

https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/misc/river_quality/1986-2005/eng/2_sci_basis_content.htm]

(F) Reports of Other Government Departments (FEHC Paper No. 8/2024)

- (i) Report on Environmental Monitoring of Mud Pit V
- 50. Members noted the content of the report.
- (ii) Report on Water Seepage Problems at Buildings in Tuen Mun District
- 51. Members noted the content of the report.

(iii) Grass Cutting and Larvicidal Oil Spraying Work for Government Land in Tuen Mun District

52. A Member said that in general, areas covered by government land involved not only those under the management of the District Lands Office, Tuen Mun (DLO). He continued that recently some members of the public relayed to him that there was mosquito infestation near a manhole cover at a certain place, which involved departments including the FEHD, the DLO and the Highways Department (HyD). Therefore, he considered the content of the captioned report incomprehensive as it only contained response from the DLO. In addition, he asked the Department to provide the ovitrap index prior to larvicidal oil spraying, so that Members could compare the data and assess the effectiveness of the relevant work.

- 53. A Member enquired about the actual frequencies of regular grass cutting and larvicidal oil spraying. She also suggested to the DLO that enhanced grass cutting was necessary at certain locations in the Tuen Mun District, including the roundabout outside TWGHs Yau Tze Tin Memorial College and Tuen Mun Road towards Yuen Long at Lam Tei Interchange, so as to avoid blocking drivers' sightline.
- 54. A Member commented on the issue of grass cutting on government lands conducted by different government departments on the basis of site boundaries. He had earlier contacted the DLO and was told that the DLO, upon receipt of public views, would first verify the department in charge of the relevant land and handle the matter in accordance with established procedures. In this regard, he suggested the DLO prioritise arranging grass cutting work at sites affecting road safety and expedite follow-up work at the sites mentioned by Members.
- 55. Ms Charlene CHANG of the DLO said that all sites listed in Annex III were control areas under the DLO's management. Control areas were locations enclosed by wire fences and erected with a "Government Land" notice board. Some unleased and unallocated government lands were also categorised as control areas, i.e. those not under the management of any government departments. The DLO would provide assistance for complaints where the land administrator could not be immediately identified. If the land administrator was found to be a government department, MTR Corporation Limited or a housing estate, the DLO would refer the complaint to the relevant land administrator for follow-up. As for the frequency of grass cutting, the DLO conducted grass cutting work on a monthly basis. The DLO would further review the locations suggested by Members for enhanced grass cutting, including the roundabout outside TWGHs Yau Tze Tin Memorial College and Lam Tei Interchange. Priority would be given to cases involving obstructing traffic or pedestrian sightline and affecting road safety.

[Post-meeting note: On the issue of weed growth at the roundabout outside TWGHs Yau Tze Tin Memorial College and Tuen Mun Road towards Yuen Long at Lam Tei Interchange, the DLO confirmed that the relevant sites were under the purview of the HyD. Subsequently, the cases were referred to the HyD on 8 March 2024.]

56. Mr FUNG Koon-yue of the FEHD responded that for information on ovitrap index, Members could refer to Item 10 of the FEHC Paper No. 3/2024, which had set out in detail the ovitrap indices in four regions in the Tuen Mun District from July to December 2023, i.e. from summer to winter last year. Generally speaking, if the indices were kept below 20%, it meant that mosquito infestation was under control. Separately, he said that FEHC Paper No. 4/2024 reported on the first phase work of the anti-mosquito campaign in the Tuen Mun District; Annex I reported on the effectiveness of the third phase of the anti-mosquito campaign in 2023, including the number of inspections at target sites, the sites where mosquito problem had been dealt with, the quantity of waste being cleared, and the number of prosecutions; Annex II also provided the work plan of the first phase of the anti-mosquito campaign in 2024, including anti-mosquito operations such as applying larvicidal oil and conducting fogging work at sites with severe mosquito infestation.

57. A Member thanked the DLO and the FEHD for their detailed replies. However, he was concerned that since each department conducted anti-mosquito operations at sites under its own management, the report presented in this meeting failed to provide a full picture of all the anti-mosquito work. He shared his experience of the difficulties in finding appropriate departments to conduct anti-mosquito work for the public. He continued that although the above two departments had provided detailed information in the report, it still failed to fully account for the work results of other departments.

58. Mr FUNG Koon-yue of the FEHD responded that apart from conducting antimosquito work at public places, the Department also provided information on antimosquito measures to other relevant departments, stakeholders, as well as management companies of public and private housing estates. The Department would, before rainy season, hold inter-departmental meetings on combating mosquito infestation to review with relevant departments and stakeholders/managing parties potential sites for mosquito breeding under their management. In addition, members of the public would be reminded to step up anti-mosquito measures.

V. Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

59. There being no other business, the Chairman announced that the meeting closed at 4:41 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 18 April 2024 (Thursday) at 2:30 p.m.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

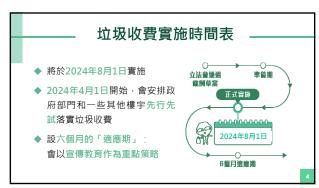
Date: April 2024

File Ref.: HAD TM DC/13/25/ FEHC/23



垃圾收費簡介





先行先試落實垃圾收費

- ◆ 2024年4月1日開始
- ◆ 計劃先安排在政府部門大樓實地展示如何實施垃圾收費·政府 部門需要付費購買垃圾收費指定袋及標籤
- ◆ 亦會物色一些其他樓宇作實地展示,而參與展示的住宅樓宇, 均會由政府免費提供垃圾收費指定袋及標籤
- ◆ 先行先試的安排對政府來說亦有演練作用‧協助我們預先理順 在執行磨合期時或會出現的各種問題











垃圾收費法例要求





應對違規垃圾 的建議措施







主要工作最新進展













持份者溝通 – 屋邨 / 屋苑居民

- 環保署綠展隊向大型公/私營屋邨/苑設置攤位的居民推廣垃圾收費資訊·包括
 - ▶ 推廣實施日期
 - ▶ 收費模式
 - ▶ 指定袋容量
 - ▶ 向管理辦事處派發海報/橫額/單張以居民供張貼/取閱







持份者溝通 - 鄉村 / 鄉郊處所

- 與鄉議局及鄉事委員會會員等主要持份者會面
- 於2023 年8月開始·安排了流動宣傳車到訪不同鄉 村宣傳垃圾收費
- 透過宣傳攤位、播放宣傳短片及展示指定袋/指定標 籤樣本等活動,推廣良好作業指引
- 讓村民了解垃圾收費的安排及如何實踐減廢回收· 以達致「揼少啲、慳多啲」









回收支援 – 屯門區

屯門區一共設有5個回收環保站/便利點·包括綠在屯門、 綠在新壚、 綠在建生、 綠在安定和綠在欣田

綠在屯門 (回收環保站)

- 營辦團體:仁愛堂有限公司 - 地址:屯門屯義街9號

綠在新壚 (回收便利點)

- 營辦團體:綠社區教育慈善基金會有限公司
- 地址:屯門新墟屯門鄉事會路4-26號明偉大樓地下 12號舖
- 緣在屯門及緣在新墟營辦商亦在區內設立回收流動點·詳情請瀏覽香港減廢網







區議會的支援

- 區議員可協助向常區市民宣傳垃圾收費
- 環保署會向區議員提供海報及宣傳單張
- 有關垃圾收費詳情及宣傳物料 亦可於垃圾收費專題網站下載: https://www.mswcharging.gov.hk/tc/







查詢熱線: 2838 3111或電郵至 msw_hotline@epd.gov.hk

關愛隊的支援

- 關愛隊亦可協助向當區市民宣傳垃圾收費
- 可按不同小區的實際情況、關愛隊的地區網絡及跨區域動員能力等·為垃圾收費提供任何形式的宣傳推廣·例如:在社交媒體(如 Facebook)網上宣傳、探訪/接觸區內的市民時派發單張、街頭宣傳、在舉辦其他活動時同時提供有關垃圾收費的資訊





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為何要推行?

- 隨著都市固體廢物收費(垃圾收費)在2024年8月1日實施·住戶 將有更大誘因進行減廢回收·以盡量減少就垃圾收費需繳付的費用
- 確保住宅樓宇有足夠回收設施·為居民提供方便的回收途徑·以及 收集到的回收物得到妥善處理·以加強公眾對回收系統的信心
- 加快香港邁向碳中和的步伐





受規管的住宅樓宇

指合共擁有100個單位或以上的屋苑和屋邨和 擁有100個單位或以上的單幢住宅樓宇。無論 有關住宅樓宇屬公營或私營房屋均受規管

將涵蓋約1,500個屋苑和屋邨·以及超過1,000幢單幢住宅樓宇 (約690萬個住戶·佔全港人口總數超過九成)

受規管住宅樓宇的物管公司和業主組織的 - 法律責任 -

- (一)設立回收系統分類收集五種訂明回收物・包括:紙張、金屬、 塑膠、 玻璃容器及紙包飲品盒;
- (二) 將收集到的回收物交予認可下游回收商;及
- (三) 保留回收記錄



