

(Translation)

Minutes of the 10th Meeting of
Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (2/17-18)

Date: 6 July 2017 (Thursday)

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Members

Mr CHOW Ping-tim (Chairman)
Mr CHENG Chit-pun (Vice Chairman)
Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH
Mr KOO Yeung-pong, MH
Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris
Mr LI Hung-por
Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis
Ms LAM, Lam Nixie
Mr LAM Faat-kang, MH
The Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben, JP
Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones
Mr CHAN Sung-ip, MH
Mr WONG Ka-wa
Mr WONG Wai-kit
Mr KOT Siu-yuen
Mr CHUNG Wai-ping, SBS, MH
Mr LO Siu-kit, MH
Mr TAM Hoi-pong

Co-opted Members

Mr LAM Kwok-on
Mr LAM Fook-chuen
Ms CHOW Chin-tung
Mr TSE Wing-hong
Ms LUI Dik-ming

Government Representatives

Mr CHONG Kong-sang, Patrick	Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr CHAN Kwok-hung	Chief Health Inspector 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr AU YEUNG Wai-ming, Arthur	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) ² , Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TAI Moon-kwong, Daniel	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) ² , Environmental Protection Department
Mr TSE Man-hong	Engineer (Tsuen Kwai) 1/Kowloon and New Territories South 1, Drainage Services Department
Mr CHONG Kwok-wai	District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Highways Department

Mr LI Pui-sang	Contract Project Coordinator/2 (New Territories West), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr CHAN Siu-wan, Wallace	Town Planner/Tsuen Wan 1, Planning Department
Mr WONG Shun-ping	Assistant Housing Manager (Shek Wai Kok 2), Housing Department
Mr KONG Tak-shing	Senior Land Executive/Control 2 (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr TSE Hing-chit	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr YUNG Chi-wai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr LEE Shing-fai, Henry	Executive Officer/Development, Tsuen Wan District Office

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat Representatives

Miss LAM Siu-yung, Daisy	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr LEE Nelson (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)1, Tsuen Wan District Office

Attendance by Invitation:

For discussion of items 2A and 2B

Mr WONG Wan-chi, Anbrose	Chief Inspector of Police (Operations 1) (Tsuen Wan), Hong Kong Police Force
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For discussion of item 2D

Mr NG Chi-hong, Caddy	Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2), Marine Department
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For discussion of item 3

Mr LEUNG Wai-man, Ray	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science) 1, Environmental Protection Department
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For discussion of item 4

Mr LEE Chee-kwan	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Assessment & Noise)3, Environmental Protection Department
Mr KO Chi-wai, Stephen	Senior Engineer 2/Noise Mitigation, Highways Department

For discussion of item 5

Mr WONG Fu-wing, Forrest	Leisure Manager I(Tree)NTW1 (Acting), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
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For discussion of item 6

Mr LAM Chung-nam

Senior Health Inspector (Environmental Hygiene) 1, Joint Office/Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr TSO Kwong-wing, Tommy

Professional Officer 1, Joint Office/Buildings Department

Mr KAN Ka-man

Engineer/New Territories West (Customer Services) Inspection, Water Supplies Department

Absent:

Member

The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael, BBS, JP

Action

The Meeting

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed the Members and representatives from the government departments to the 10th meeting of the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (EHAC) and introduced Mr LAM Chung-nam, Senior Health Inspector (Environmental Hygiene) 1 (SHI (Env Hygiene) 1) who attended the meeting on behalf of Mr KO Po-wai from the Joint Office (JO).

2. The Chairman reminded Members that according to Section 15(3) of the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders (the “Standing Orders”), “in the course of a meeting of the Council, all persons attending or sitting in on the meeting at the place of the meeting shall switch off all devices which might emit sound and shall not use any telecommunications devices for conversation” in order to ensure smooth proceeding of the meeting.

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 9th Meeting held on 4.5.2017

3. The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously confirmed by Members without amendment.

III Item 2: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(A) Paragraphs 15 to 19 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Request Government Departments to Assist in Resolving the Matters Concerning Occupation of Public Area by Metals and Waste Paper Recycling Shops at Tak Wah Street

4. The Chairman said that as this agenda item was raised by him, the Vice Chairman would take over the chair temporarily.

5. The Acting Chairman welcomed the representatives of government departments who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Mr WONG Wan-chi, Anbrose, Chief Inspector of Police (Operations 1) (Tsuen Wan) (CIP (OPS 1) (Tsuen Wan)) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF);
- (2) Mr CHAN Kwok-hung, Chief Health Inspector 1 (CHI 1) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD); and

- (3) Mr KONG Tak-shing, Senior Land Executive/Control 2 (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (SLE/Control 2) of the District Lands Office (DLO).

6. CHI 1 of the FEHD reported that since June 2017, the FEHD and other government departments had increased the frequency of joint operations from three times to five times. During the eight joint operations between May and June 2017, the FEHD had not found any article causing blockage in streets and obstructing cleansing operations. The situation had been significantly improved and the FEHD would continue to combat the occupation of public places by shops.

7. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he recognised the efforts of the HKPF and FEHD in increasing the frequency of joint operations and hoped that the operations would achieve effectiveness (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (2) as some objects causing obstruction had been placed at roadside, he enquired of the FEHD how these objects causing obstruction on carriageways would be disposed of (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (3) he suggested deploying large-size vehicles to facilitate the removal of objects causing obstruction during joint operations (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (4) he enquired the FEHD whether it had removed objects causing obstruction during joint operations and whether the Police could be requested to deal with road obstruction (Mr CHOW Ping-tim); and
- (5) he enquired whether only objects causing obstruction on pavements instead of carriageways had been disposed of in the past (the Acting Chairman).

(Note: Mr LI Hung-por and Mr LAM Faat-kang joined the meeting at 2:42 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. respectively.)

8. CHI 1 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) one of the major responsibilities of the FEHD was to ensure that pavements were free from obstruction. Routine cleansing of carriageways was outside the ambit of the FEHD, so no action could be taken;
- (2) the FEHD had been actively following up with the Police on the problem of road obstruction at Tak Wah Street. The FEHD had requested trucks to stand by during each joint operation, which would be summoned to the scene to remove objects when necessary, and had removed objects causing road obstruction at Tak Wah Street many times; and
- (3) the problem of road obstruction at the location concerned had been significantly alleviated. The FEHD would continue to work with the Police to address the problem of obstruction on carriageways.

(Note: Mr TAM Hoi-pong and Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris joined the meeting at 2:50 p.m. and 2:53 p.m. respectively.)

9. CIP (OPS 1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF responded as follows:

- (1) the HKPF would adopt corresponding measures having regard to the actual circumstances. The HKPF would first discuss with the owner of the object for its removal, and would issue fixed penalty notice (FPN) to the owner. If the object was unclaimed after investigation or the owner refused to remove the object, the HKPF might invoke section 32(2) of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Chapter 228) to request the FEHD to remove and confiscate the object. He opined that these operations were a great success and would continue to adopt this approach in dealing with objects causing road obstruction in collaboration with the FEHD;
- (2) the practice of removal of objects causing road obstruction had already been adopted during the joint operations carried out two months ago; and
- (3) since the objects on pavements would affect pedestrians to a greater extent, the primary objective of the joint operations was to concentrate efforts on dealing with objects causing obstruction on pavements. In the early stage of operations, there was no obstruction on carriageways. It was guessed that some people might have placed objects on carriageways instead due to the joint operations, so as to evade legal liability.

10. Mr CHOW Ping-tim welcomed the HKPF to continue to adopt this approach. To enable Members to have a better understanding of the progress of these joint operations, he suggested that the FEHD should provide the number of requests the Police made to the FEHD for seeking assistance in the removal of objects causing road obstruction at future EHAC meetings, and enquired whether members of the public could request the HKPF to invoke section 32(2) of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Chapter 228) to institute prosecution against offenders and request the FEHD to remove those objects left on roads that were allegedly unclaimed.

11. CIP (OPS 1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF responded as follows:

- (1) it was necessary to ascertain whether the objects were refuse, property or goods. If the objects were refuse, the HKPF would request to refer the case to the Cleansing Section of the FEHD for clearance;
- (2) owing to resource constraint, when frontline police officers were deployed to deal with the problem of miscellaneous objects causing road obstruction, the capacity of police force in other areas would be reduced, which might affect the law and order in the areas nearby; and
- (3) the HKPF would only take action against acts of obstruction in a proactive manner when public security was at stake, criminal cases had occurred, imminent public safety risks and serious obstruction to traffic had arisen.

(Note: Mr LAM Faat-kang left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.)

12. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(B) Paragraphs 20 to 22 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Strongly Request the Government Departments to Strengthen the Joint Law Enforcement Actions Against the Black Spots of Shop Extensions

13. The Chairman invited CHI 1 of the FEHD to report to the meeting.

14. CHI 1 of the FEHD said that a total of 434 FPNs had been issued in the period between 24 September 2016 and 30 June 2017. Among which, 144 FPNs had been issued at Chuen Lung Street, San Tsuen Street and Ho Pui Street under the District-led Actions Scheme, whereas the remaining 290 FPNs had been issued at other locations in Tsuen Wan district such as Lo Tak Court, Tai Ho Road, Dung Fat Street, Ham Tin Street, Tso Kung Square, Heung Wo Street, Tai Pa Street, Sha Tsui Road and Chung On Street. The FEHD would continue to carry out law enforcement actions to tackle the problem of shop extensions.

(C) Paragraphs 23 to 25 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Request for Taking Operation against the Easy-mount Frames on the Two Bridges of Fou Wah Centre, Citistore and Chung On Street

15. The Chairman asked the representative of the FEHD to report on the follow-up work taken by the FEHD on the obstructions caused by the easy-mount frames on the two bridges of Fou Wah Centre and Citistore as well as the walkway of Chung On Street.

16. CHI 1 of the FEHD reported that the FEHD had stationed officers at the footbridges linking Fou Wah Centre and Tsuen Fung Centre as well as the pavements at Chung On Street from time to time and conducted blitz inspections to combat the obstruction of access by easy-mount frames. In May and June 2017, the FEHD had issued two FPNs at the footbridge of Chung On Street and the footbridge connecting MTR Tsuen Wan Station and Discovery Park respectively; and one FPN had been issued at the footbridge connecting Tsuen Wan MTR Station and Lo Tak Court, with the seizure of 34 easy-mount frames and one commercial banner.

17. Ms LAM, Lam Nixie enquired the FEHD whether prosecutions would be instituted against local beneficiaries of the easy-mount frames in Tsuen Wan district.

18. CHI 1 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) it was the established practice of the FEHD that a FEHD officer would remove any easy-mounted frame that was left unclaimed. If the display of advertising frame was found, the FEHD would promptly issue a FPN to the displayer. If there was sufficient information displayed on the seized easy-mount frame (such as name and address) to prove the identity of the beneficiary, the FEHD would issue a warning letter and demand note to collect the fees for dismantling the easy-mount frame;
- (2) the information on the issuance of warning letter would be forwarded to other FEHD district offices. If easy-mount frames erected by the same beneficiary were found in any districts in the future, the FEHD could immediately institute prosecution against the beneficiary concerned; and
- (3) as it was relatively difficult for the FEHD to identify the beneficiaries of easy-mount frames erected by telecommunications providers, the FEHD could only seize the easy-mount frames without instituting prosecution.

19. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman were summarised as follows:

- (1) easy-mount frames had frequently been displayed on the footbridges linking Fou Wah Centre and Nam Fung Centre. Some of them had stands and stiffeners only,

and sometimes they had obstructed publicity materials of the activities under the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC). The Chairman enquired how the FEHD would deal with it; and

- (2) some promoters would sit at both sides of the bridge deck, which had breached the width and safety standards prescribed in the footbridge design. The Chairman enquired of the Police how they would solve the problem of road obstruction and ensure obstruction free access, and suggested that the Police should instruct frontline officers to deal with the problem of obstruction at locations with high pedestrian flow, in order to safeguard pedestrian safety and ensure obstruction free access.

20. CHI 1 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the locations concerned were target spots for inspection. Among the 34 easy-mount frames seized, some of them had been seized at these locations; and
- (2) if the erection of stands or stiffeners caused obstruction on road, the FEHD would affix Notice to Remove Obstruction on these objects. If the displayer or the beneficiary could be identified, the FEHD would institute prosecution immediately.

21. The Chairman said that the EHAC would write to the HKPF requesting them to address the occupation of footbridges for carrying out publicity activities.

(D) Paragraphs 26 to 30 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Strongly Request the Marine Department and Environmental Protection Department to Stop the Contractors of the Gin Drinkers Bay Public Cargo Working Area from Making Noise Nuisance whilst Operation in order to Safeguard a Quiet Living Environment in the Waterfront Area of Tsuen Wan

22. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of government departments who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Mr TAI Moon-kwong, Daniel, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)2 (SEPO (Regional W)2) of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD); and
- (2) Mr NG Chi-hong, Caddy, Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2) (SASM/Cargo Handling (2)) of the Marine Department (MD).

Besides, the MD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal. He asked Sr Asst Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2) of the MD to report the latest status.

23. SASM/Cargo Handling (2) of the MD reported as follows:

- (1) after the MD had discussed with the operator, the operator agreed to shorten its operating hours on Sundays by delaying the starting time from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and advancing the finishing time to 4:00 p.m., and to restrict its activities to receipt of goods only, in order to minimise the impact on the residents nearby; and
- (2) the MD had also discussed with the operator about the feasibility of shortening its operating hours on other days, especially during public holidays. However, the operator stated that as the economy was not doing well, it was unable to shorten the operating hours in public holidays which fell on Mondays to Saturdays just like

Sundays, but would wherever possible reduce the speed to minimise noise nuisance; and the starting time of operation would be delayed to 8:30 a.m. as well.

(Note: Mr WONG Ka-wa left the meeting at 3:32 p.m.)

24. SEPO (Regional W)2 of the EPD reported that the EPD had conducted on-going assessments of noise levels during operation at the public cargo working area on a regular basis. At around 3:00 p.m. on 29 May 2017 and around 2:00 p.m. on 19 June 2017, the average noise levels of the public cargo working area recorded at the rooftop of Hoi Sing Mansion, Riviera Gardens were 64 decibels (dBs) and 67 dBs respectively. The data showed that the relevant noise levels had not exceeded the noise limits as stipulated in the Noise Control Ordinance.

25. The Chairman said that there was no decline in the number of complaints recently. Some residents had recorded the operation of the cargo working area on a daily basis and found that only one to two vessels would unload goods at the unloading area every month, while the site had been used a yard for the rest of the time, thus giving rise to noise nuisance. He questioned whether the cargo working area had deviated from its original planned uses and defeated the purpose of setting up this working area. He opined that there was a need to review the overall planning policy of Hong Kong and consider the future development of the logistics industry. He asked the MD to request the operator to mitigate the noise nuisance and pointed out that the agreement entered into between the MD and the operator might have defeat the purpose of setting up the working area, and this agreement might not necessarily be valid during judicial review. He expressed disappointment and regret that the MD had failed to take into account the views and concerns of residents in the renewal of the contract with the operator. He said that the EHAC would write to the bureau concerned requesting for clarification as to whether the working area had contravened the designated uses and the relocation of the cargo working area.

(Note: The Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben left the meeting at 3:38 p.m.)

(E) Paragraphs 5 to 10 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Strongly Request the District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing to Specify the Requirement of Provision of Professional Consultancy Report on Environmental and Traffic Assessment by the Successful Tenderer in the Tender for the Grant of the Temporary Allocated Area in the Proposal in question, with a view to Ensuring that the Living of Residents of the Housing Estates Nearby would not be Adversely Affected due to the Grant of the Site, and Request the Departments to Review the District Consultation Mechanism of Grant of Sites, under which Communication and Cooperation with District Council and Members should be an Integral Part in future

26. The Chairman said that as this agenda item was raised by him, the Vice Chairman would take over the chair temporarily.

27. The Acting Chairman said that the EPD and DLO had submitted the written replies prior to the meeting for Members' perusal and asked SLE/Control 2 of the DLO to report on the latest status of this matter.

28. SLE/Control 2 of the DLO reported that the DLO had sought advice from the departments concerned on the rezoning of short-term tenancy sites proposed by the EPD in mid-April 2017 together with the views and concerns of the EHAC, and would conduct public consultation on the rezoning proposal via the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO) and Kwai Tsing District Office through due procedures.

29. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(F) Paragraphs 31 to 35 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 March 2017: Request the Departments Concerned to Pay Serious Attention to the Environmental Hygiene Problems under the Flyover at Tsuen Wan Road near Clague Garden Estate

30. The Chairman asked SLE/Control 2 of the DLO to report the latest status.

31. SLE/Control 2 of the DLO reported that the contract vegetation management team of the Lands Department (Lands D) had instructed its contractors to carry out tree pruning and invited Members to refer to the photos. In addition, the contract vegetation management team had sprayed larvicidal oil when carrying out pruning under the flyover. Furthermore, the DLO had also liaised with the FEHD on anti-mosquito operations near the location concerned. The contract vegetation management team had completed the inspection report in April 2017 and found that some trees required pruning or removal, which would be completed in May 2017. The matter would be reported to the Members at the next EHAC meeting.

(Note: Mr CHUNG Wai-ping left the meeting at 3:46 p.m.)

32. The Chairman said that the DLO was making a good progress in following up on this subject and photos had already been provided to Members for reference. He suggested that this subject should be further discussed under “Matters arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting”.

33. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he hoped that the DLO could pay attention to the method of tree pruning (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (2) as some motorists reflected that some trees had blocked their sightline during driving, he opined that tree pruning was required (Mr WONG Wai-kit);
- (3) given that the residents nearby complained that fallen leaves and rubbish had often accumulated on the ground, which had affected environmental hygiene, he hoped that the DLO could carry out clean-up regularly (Mr WONG Wai-kit);
- (4) withered leaves and water accumulated in banana trees had exposed pupils of the kindergarten near Clague Garden Estate to the risk of mosquitos. He was worried that residents might contract Japanese Encephalitis from mosquito bites and requested the DLO to remove the banana trees and step up efforts in clearing withered leaves (Mr KOO Yeung-pong); and
- (5) he thanked the pest control section of the FEHD for conducting pest control work at

the location concerned (Mr KOO Yeung-pong).

(Note: Mr TSE Wing-hong joined the meeting at 3:50 p.m.)

34. SLE/Control 2 of the DLO responded that last week the DLO had requested the contractor of the vegetation contract management team to clear up the climbing vegetation on ground. As regards the removal of banana trees, the vegetation contract management team of the DLO would schedule clearance work after referring to the relevant guidelines.

(G) Paragraphs 36 to 39 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 March 2017: Follow-up Report of the Drainage Services Department on the Use of Plastic Canvas at Tai Ho Road, Tai Chung Road and Ma Tau Pa Road for Odour Prevention

35. The Chairman welcomed Mr TSE Man-hong, Engineer (Tsuen Kwai) 1/Kowloon and New Territories South 1 (Engr/Tsuen Kwai 1) of the Drainage Services Department (DSD) who specially joined the meeting.

36. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 1 of the DSD reported that the DSD's observations showed that there was natural wear and tear of the plastic canvas on the culverts and the replacement of plastic canvas on the culverts near Tai Ho Road and Ma Tau Pa Road had completed in late May 2017. The DSD would regularly monitor and assess the culverts at the locations concerned and arrange maintenance work when necessary. In addition, the Public Works Subcommittee of the Legislative Council (LegCo) had endorsed the works programme including the provision of four dry weather flow interceptors (DWFIs) in Tsuen Wan. The DSD would seek funding approval from the Finance Committee (FC) of the LegCo. It was expected that the works to be carried out in Tsuen Wan district would be completed within two years after works commencement.

(Note: Mr KOO Yeung-pong left the meeting at 3:54 p.m.)

37. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he estimated that the FC of the LegCo might not be able to complete the deliberation of works projects by July 2017, and enquired of the DSD when tender invitation would be conducted (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben);
- (2) he enquired whether the four proposed DWFIs would be able to collect sewage from the culverts near Tai Ho Road and Ma Tau Pa Road or only the sewage from the culverts of Tai Ho Road (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben);
- (3) she was worried that the works schedule for provision of DWFIs by the DSD would be affected by the progress of funding approval of the FC of the LegCo (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (4) she enquired whether the four DWFIs would be constructed concurrently (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie); and
- (5) the construction of DWFIs was an important works project in Tsuen Wan district. He hoped that Members could convey the message to the political parties with which they affiliated that given that this project was a livelihood-related project at the district level, no hindrance should be imposed at LegCo meetings (Mr WONG

Wai-kit).

38. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 1 of the DSD responded that the DSD had started inviting tenders for the project and would enter into a works contract with the successful bidder after funding approval had been granted by the FC of the LegCo. The four DWFIs would serve the upstream of the box culverts at Tai Ho Road and Ma Tau Pa Road. This project would be completed within two years or so after works commencement, and the actual works schedule would be reviewed and finalised with the project contractor after entering into a contract.

39. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he enquired about the validity period of the tender proposals, and whether these tender proposals would become invalid if funding approval was not granted within this year (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben);
- (2) he enquired whether there were misconnected culverts downstream, and whether the DWFIs could solve the problem at downstream (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben);
- (3) she was concerned whether the construction cost would increase if the FC of the LegCo was unable to grant funding approval within this year (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (4) as the four DWFIs only covered Tai Ho Road and Ma Tau Pa Road, he enquired how the DSD could alleviate the odour from the box culverts at Tai Chung Road (Mr WONG Wai-kit);
- (5) he hoped that the DSD could reflect the issue to the Development Bureau (DEVB) and request rearranging the agenda of the FC of the LegCo, in order to consider livelihood-related projects as soon as possible (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (6) he opined that the practice of tender invitation before deliberation would drive up construction cost because bidders would anticipate that the tender would only be awarded after a period of time. He suggested that the DSD should review this practice and adopt the practice of deliberation before tender invitation to reduce construction cost (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (7) all agenda items for discussion at the LegCo were important. Under normal procedure, there should be sufficient time to scrutinise all agenda items (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben); and
- (8) reference could not be made to construction cost if the practice of deliberation before tender invitation was adopted, and thus Members were not able to scrutinise and consider the projects thoroughly (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben).

40. The Chairman said that LegCo matters should not be discussed at the EHAC meetings. He pointed out that the DSD had said that 70% of the odour could be reduced at most after installation of the four DWFIs. He asked whether this figure covered only Tai Ho Road and Ma Tau Pa Road or only 70% of the odour could be reduced because of the exclusion of Tai Chung Road. In addition, the DSD said that DWFIs had covered the sewage drains at the downstream of old areas in Tsuen Wan, he enquired whether this project could solve the problem of sewerage misconnection in old areas.

41. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 1 of the DSD responded as follows:

- (1) he would provide supplementary information in response to the enquiries on the

validity period of tender proposals and construction cost. In fact, there was precedents that if necessary, negotiation had been made with the bidders for extending the validity period of tender proposals;

- (2) although the proposed DWFIs near Chung On Street and Tai Ho Road were located at a distance from the estuary, they were all generally located at the downstream of old areas in Tsuen Wan; and
- (3) the installation of four DWFIs in Tsuen Wan was the first phase of the entire project. Last year, the DSD had also proposed other sewage system improvement projects in Tsuen Wan for discussion at the EHAC. He would submit supplementary information on this project and the effectiveness of DWFIs after the meeting.

(H) Paragraphs 44 to 48 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4.5.2017: Installation of IP Camera at the Black Spots of Refuse Disposal by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

42. The Chairman asked CHI 1 of the FEHD to report the latest status.

43. CHI 1 of the FEHD reported that the FEHD headquarters would commence tender invitation after consolidating views from various districts. He had reported the views of the EHAC on the quantity of cameras to the headquarters and would report to the EHAC when further information was available.

(I) Paragraphs 11 to 14 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Waste Reduction and Recycling for Lunar New Year Fair in Tsuen Wan

44. The Chairman said that the EPD and DLO had submitted the written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal and asked CHI 1 of the FEHD to report the latest status.

(Note: Mr KOT Siu-yuen left the meeting at 4:15 p.m.)

45. CHI 1 of the FEHD reported that he had reflected Members' views to the headquarters, including such measures as waste reduction, reuse of supplies, designation of recycling points and inclusion of conditions in the issuance of licences. The headquarters was now discussing with the EPD and expected that improvement would be made with respect to waste reduction and recycling in the 2018 Lunar New Year Fair as compared with last year.

46. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he enquired whether the FEHD headquarters would issue standardised guidelines to various districts in Hong Kong; if so, when the guidelines would be forwarded to Members for reference via the FEHD's district offices (Mr TAM Hoi-pong); and
- (2) he suggested setting up a non-standing working group under the EHAC to follow up on the matter and expected to hold the 1st working group meeting in September 2017 (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).

47. CHI 1 of the FEHD responded that the FEHD headquarters had been discussing with various districts on matters relating to waste reduction and recycling in the Lunar New Year Fair. The FEHD and EPD hoped that the districts could make improvements in a concerted

effort. The Community Green Stations organised in Sham Shui Po last year was a success. The FEHD might draw on this experience to formulate improvement measures for the Lunar New Year Fair in the coming year. The FEHD would report to the EHAC in a timely manner when there was progress.

48. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman and Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he suggested making reference to the practice of the Traffic and Transport Committee (T&TC) to set up a non-standing working group in September 2017 to follow up on the related matter (the Chairman);
- (2) he suggested first assessing the feasibility of tasking an existing working group with appropriate terms of reference to follow up on this matter (Mr WONG Wai-kit);
- (3) he said that the establishment of a non-standing working group aimed to carry out specific study on matters relating to waste reduction and recycling in the Lunar New Year Fair (the Chairman);
- (4) the tenure of the non-standing working group under the T&TC was eight months only. At that time, it was considered that there was no need to follow up on the related matters for a period of time upon completion of the work of the non-standing working group. However, he opined that it was necessary to consider whether the proposed working group could completely address the issues of the Lunar New Year Fair within its tenure and whether the existing working groups could follow up on this matter in the longer term (Mr LO Siu-kit); and
- (5) he opined that it was opportune to set up a non-standing working group to follow up on environmental measures for the Lunar New Year Fair in the coming year and expected that there was no need for this non-standing working group to hold meetings a few years after successful implementation of waste reduction and recycling measures for the Lunar New Year Fair, and thereafter a relevant working group would be tasked to follow up on matters relating to the Lunar New Year Fair (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).

49. The Chairman said that the EHAC could decide at the next meeting as to whether a non-standing working group would be set up, and he was confident that the work would bear fruit if he was appointed as Convenor of this working group.

(J) Paragraphs 49 to 52 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Request for an Overall Improvement of the Facilities and Hygienic Condition of the Public Toilets in Tsuen Wan District

50. The Chairman said that the FEHD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal and asked CHI 1 of the FEHD to report the latest status.

51. CHI 1 of the FEHD reported that the FEHD had appointed another contractor and continued to step up patrol in May and June 2017, during which three default notices had been issued and the corresponding amount deducted. The FEHD had reflected Members' concerns over the refurbishment works to the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and its project consultant, and requested early completion of the project. In addition, the

advance works of the refurbishment project for the public toilets at Tak Wah Street and Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building had commenced. The consultant had carried out underground investigation and structural survey for Tak Wah Park Public Toilet since 26 June 2017, and would hold a preliminary review meeting on 26 July 2017 to discuss the progress of the refurbishment works at the public toilet and another preliminary review meeting on 31 August 2017 to discuss its conditions. The FEHD would report further information to the EHAC in due course.

52. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman and Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he commended the FEHD for dealing with this issue seriously and the hygiene conditions of this public toilet had improved (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (2) he hoped that the FEHD could pay attention to the positions of toilet facilities during refurbishment works, so as to facilitate public use (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (3) he thanked the FEHD for its efforts and providing a temporary mobile toilet to facilitate public use when the public toilet was closed for investigation works, and reminded the FEHD to monitor the hygiene conditions of the temporary mobile toilet and as to whether it would obstruct pedestrian flow (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (4) he hoped that the FEHD could discuss details of the refurbishment works with TWDC Members of local constituencies upon completion of the investigation works (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (5) he opined that the poor hygiene conditions at public toilets in Hong Kong was caused by human factors such as inadequate training of cleaners (the Chairman); and
- (6) he hoped that the FEHD could provide such details as design drawings, materials, ratio of male to female cubicles and provision of automatic flushing facilities of the public toilets, and suggested that the FEHD should make reference to the design of other places (the Chairman).

53. CHI1 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the surveyor needed to ascertain the underground conditions of Tak Wah Park Public Toilet before carrying out investigation, but not all public toilets would require investigation. Preliminary review had been arranged for the refurbishment works for the two public toilets;
- (2) when providing a temporary mobile toilet near the public toilet, the FEHD had taken into account such factors as pedestrian flow, so as to avoid causing obstruction to passers-by and the residents nearby;
- (3) the FEHD would pay attention to the usage and cleanliness of the mobile toilet and would post a notice to inform the public of the locations of other nearby public toilets;
- (4) the FEHD would take into account Members' views in the design stage and provide the preliminary design drawings to the EHAC for perusal; and
- (5) the FEHD would report to the EHAC on the latest progress in due course.

(K) Paragraphs 61 to 65 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 May 2017: Proposal on

Provision of Acrylic Panels for the Seafood Stalls in the Markets of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

54. The Chairman asked CHI 1 of the FEHD to report the latest status.

55. CHI 1 of the FEHD reported that the FEHD would keep an open mind to improvements to market facilities. The FEHD had been discussing with stall owners on the retrofitting of transparent acrylic panels, and would step up efforts in clearing up puddles and cleansing drain outlets, with a view to improving market environment. The FEHD would follow up on the conditions of individual markets.

IV Item 3: Request the EPD to Re-examine the Locations of the Air Quality Monitoring Stations in Tsuen Wan District
(EHAC Paper No. 15/17-18)

56. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEUNG Wai-man, Ray, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Air Science) 1 (SEPO (Air Science) 1) of the EPD who specially joined the meeting.

57. Mr CHENG Chit-pun introduced the paper.

58. The Chairman said that the EPD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal and asked SEPO (Air Science) 1 of the EPD to give response.

59. SEPO (Air Science) 1 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the air quality monitoring network in Hong Kong included 16 monitoring stations, including 13 general air quality monitoring stations (the "general AQMSs") and 3 roadside monitoring stations (the "roadside AQMSs") to monitor the major air pollutant concentration. General AQMSs were installed at the rooftops of buildings of two to six storeys to monitor the air pollutant level to which the public were exposed most of the time, while roadside AQMSs were installed on busy roadsides to reflect roadside air pollution;
- (2) the major objective of the air quality monitoring network set up by the EPD was to collect data to assess the impact of air pollution on the public and assist in the formulation of air quality management policy and review of its effectiveness;
- (3) in designing the air quality monitoring network and selecting the locations for the air monitoring stations, the EPD would refer to internationally recognised standards such as the guidelines of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure the data were accurate, reliable, representative and internationally comparable;
- (4) the monitoring station at Princess Alexandra Community Centre at Tai Ho Road was a general AQMS which could reflect the air quality in Tsuen Wan. The EPD opined that it was not necessary to increase the number of monitoring stations for the time being;
- (5) currently there were three roadside AQMSs in the air quality monitoring network, which were located at the high-density mixed commercial and residential zones in Causeway Bay, Mongkok and Central with busy traffic and pedestrian flow. The data could reflect the seriousness of roadside air pollution in Hong Kong. If members of the public stayed at roadside for a long time, they could refer to the Air

- Quality Health Index (the “AQHI”) of roadside AQMSs to understand the health risks caused by roadside air quality;
- (6) the EPD would, according to established mechanism and international guidelines, review the representativeness of the air quality monitoring network, whether it was necessary to increase the number of monitoring stations and whether it was necessary to monitor more categories of air pollutants every year;
 - (7) mobile air quality monitoring vehicles would collect data in motion to reflect the air quality at the centre of roads which would be different from the air inhaled by pedestrians in general. Mobile monitoring vehicles would be affected by non-recurring factors, such as the speed of monitoring vehicle, its own emission, the distance with the vehicle at front, road traffic conditions and the types and emission of the vehicles nearby;
 - (8) the three existing roadside AQMSs were currently located at the pavements on roadside, which could reflect the quality of air inhaled by most pedestrians. It was in line with international practice; and
 - (9) as there was sufficient representativeness of the existing fixed monitoring stations which could collect data for a long period of time to reflect the air pollution level which the public were exposed to and provide real-time air pollution data for the review of the effectiveness of air quality management policy, the EPD had not introduced mobile monitoring vehicle scheme.

(Note: Mr LO Siu-kit left the meeting at 5:00 p.m.)

60. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman and Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) there were only three roadside AQMSs, he enquired whether a roadside AQMS could be set up at a busy road section in Tsuen Wan (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (2) on 10 May 2017, the AQHI in Tsuen Wan was one of the highest among all districts in Hong Kong, with the health risk at serious level, so he opined that it was contrary to the statement of the EPD that the existing roadside AQMSs were representative (the Chairman);
- (3) he enquired how to solve the air pollution problem in Tsuen Wan (the Chairman);
- (4) he enquired whether the air quality in Tsuen Wan town centre was deteriorating because of the increasing number of high rise buildings at the waterfront in Tsuen Wan, resulting in a poorer AQHI in Tsuen Wan as compared to other districts (the Chairman);
- (5) the EPD had not undertaken to increase mobile monitoring stations due to landscape changes of the coastal areas in Tsuen Wan. As a result, the EHAC and the public had no confidence in the EPD’s ability to improve the air quality in the district (the Chairman);
- (6) she was concerned about the impact of the development in the town centre in Tsuen Wan on the district air quality and enquired whether the poorer air quality in Tsuen Wan town centre as compared to other districts was caused by the increasing number of high rise buildings at the waterfront in Tsuen Wan (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (7) she opined that the development in Tsuen Wan had caused great impact on the air

quality. The TWDC had been seeking to retain the breezeway and improve air ventilation in the district to prevent “screen-like buildings” from affecting ventilation (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);

- (8) in the past the EPD had said that as Tsuen Wan was situated next to the navigation channel of large vessels and the quality of the fuel used by vessels under the Hong Kong standards was less satisfactory, Tsuen Wan had once been the district with the worst quality of air. She enquired whether there was improvement in air quality index after the requirements for vessel fuel were tightened (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie); and
- (9) she enquired how the air quality in Tsuen Wan would be affected by the residential buildings at the waterfront in Tsuen Wan upon completion and how the EPD would solve the air quality problem (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie).

61. SEPO (Air Science) 1 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) as the source of vehicle emission was close to the roadside, the EPD opined that it would be more proper and representative to make reference to the locations with more serious air pollution. The roadside AQMSs at Causeway Bay, Mong Kok and Central could reflect the situations at the busiest locations with the most serious air pollution;
- (2) the EPD had carried out short-term air monitoring at various roadside locations in Hong Kong in 2014, and found that the nitrogen dioxide (“NO₂”) level at the three roadside AQMSs was more serious than other roadside monitoring points on average. It showed that the existing roadside air quality monitoring network could represent the conditions of locations with serious roadside air pollution in Hong Kong;
- (3) the air quality in Hong Kong was mainly affected by the emission of pollutants from power plants, vehicles and vessels as well as regional air pollution. The EPD had taken measures at source to improve air quality. The annual average concentration of air pollutants in Tsuen Wan had decreased by 8% to 31% in the past five years;
- (4) the air quality in Hong Kong was also affected by the meteorological factors. For example, on 10 May this year, as affected by a ridge of high pressure, the weather in Hong Kong had been stable which was not conducive to the dispersion of air pollutants. They accumulated at Pearl River Delta and Pearl River Estuary. When air pollutants were blown to the west of Hong Kong by northeast monsoon, the monitoring stations in the west had recorded AQHI of 10+ on that day. When southeast monsoon prevailed later, the air quality in most districts had improved. As the air pollutants mainly came from regional pollution rather than vehicle emission on that day, the general AQMS in Tsuen Wan, which was situated in the west of Hong Kong, could better reflect the impact of meteorological factors than roadside AQMSs; and
- (5) regarding regional pollution, the EPD had formulated with the Guangdong government the 2015 Emission Reduction Targets and 2020 Emission Reduction Ranges in 2012 and would summarise the 2015 emission reduction outcome and formulate the 2020 Emission Reduction Targets within this year. To achieve the target, the governments of both places would continue to implement measures to

reduce regional emission and further improve the air quality in the Pearl River Delta region.

62. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman and Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) following the development of new towns, the traffic flow and the population density in Tsuen Wan had increased, and the EPD should improve public services alongside the development of new towns. He opined that the EPD had to review the locations and quantity of AQMS in Tsuen Wan, rather than focusing on explaining existing policy (Mr MAN Yu-ming);
- (2) he enquired the EPD about the criteria for setting up a roadside AQMS and the reasons why the EPD considered Tsuen Wan not an indicative location for providing a roadside AQMS (the Chairman); and
- (3) as there were many high-rise buildings at Tsuen Wan waterfront, the ventilation and breezeway had been changed, and he requested the EPD to carry out roadside monitoring (the Chairman).

63. SEPO (Air Science) 1 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the EPD would carry out another short-term roadside air monitoring in 2018 to monitor the level of NO₂ at different roadside locations in Hong Kong to review the representativeness of the existing three roadside AQMSs; and
- (2) in response to Members' concern, the EPD would consider increasing short-term monitoring points at the Riveria area in Tsuen Wan to carry out monitoring with other short-term monitoring points concurrently. The EPD was carrying out the tendering work.

64. The Chairman said that he hoped the EPD could provide the locations for carrying out short-term roadside monitoring in Tsuen Wan so that the EHAC could express its views on the locations for better recognition of the monitoring exercise. The EHAC would continue to discuss the matters concerned at the next meeting.

65. SEPO (Air Science) 1 of the EPD said that the EPD would, as far as possible, continue to carry out short-term roadside monitoring at the same locations as before, which were with high population and vehicle density as well as poorer air dispersion conditions. The EPD would report to the EHAC after identifying the monitoring locations.

V Item 4: Request to Review afresh the Noise Problem at Tsuen Wan Road and Fix a Timetable for Provision of Noise Barriers at Tsuen Wan Road
(EHAC Paper No. 16/17-18)

66. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of government departments who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Mr LEE Chee-kwan, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Assessment & Noise) 3 (SEPO (Assessment & Noise) 3) of the EPD; and
- (2) Mr KO Chi-wai, Stephen, Senior Engineer 2/Noise Mitigation (Sr Engr 2/Noise Mitigation) of the Highways Department (HyD).

67. Ms LAM, Lam Nixie introduced the paper.
68. SEPO (Assessment & Noise) 3 of the EPD responded as follows:
- (1) the EPD was highly concerned about traffic noise and would ensure that new roads were in compliance with environmental assessment (“EA”) requirements through the EA mechanism and the developers of new development projects should ensure that the development projects had met the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (the “HKPSG”) and the requirements of the Town Planning Board (TPB), and provide noise barriers for the residential buildings affected by the noise from existing roads nearby to mitigate traffic noise;
 - (2) City Point was available for intake in 2014, and the developer had conducted traffic noise assessment prior to submitting the development project to the TPB for consideration. To reduce the impact of traffic noise, the developer had adopted various noise mitigation measures according to the HKPSG, such as providing no windows for ventilation on the sides of the buildings facing Tsuen Wan Road, and the windows were designed to be fixed windows for lighting purpose only;
 - (3) the EPD had deployed staff to City Point to measure traffic noise in 2015 at the request of District Councillors, and continued to monitor the situation in 2016 and 2017. The EPD had reported to the TWDC in 2016 on the traffic noise level affecting the flats of City Point facing Tsuen Wan Road and the noise mitigation measures which were in line with the HKPSG;
 - (4) the EPD opined that proposals had been formulated since the design stages of City Point to address traffic noise from Tsuen Wan Road; and
 - (5) the EPD understood that Members were concerned about the technical feasibility of providing noise barriers at Tsuen Wan Road and had invited the HyD to study the feasibility of providing noise barriers at Tsuen Wan Road Flyover.
69. Sr Engr 2/Noise Mitigation of the HyD responded as follows:
- (1) the HyD would decide whether to provide noise barriers in accordance with five principles, that the noise exceeded 70 decibels, noise barriers would not obstruct emergency access and firefighting access, noise barriers would not obstruct road safety, noise barriers would not obstruct the access of pedestrians and vehicles, and there was sufficient space to provide noise barriers;
 - (2) the HyD had recently received an email from the resident(s) of City Point requesting the provision of noise barriers at the section of Tsuen Wan Road outside City Point. Although the traffic noise level at City Point was not in breach of the requirements of HKPSG, the HyD had sought to explore the feasibility of providing noise barriers at the road section at the request of the resident(s);
 - (3) the total length of the site of City Point was around 320 metres and the six-lane driveway of Tsuen Wan Road off the housing estate was a strategic route. The width of the flyover exceeded 20 metres with a distance from the ground of more than 13 metres with very busy traffic;
 - (4) to tackle traffic noise effectively, the HyD had to provide a 6-metre high noise enclosure exceeding 400 metres in length to cover the six-lane driveway at the road section, and about 20 metres above ground;

- (5) currently, the design of Tsuen Wan Road Flyover failed to accommodate the weight of the noise enclosure and as the noise enclosure had to cover six lanes, independent columns had to be erected on the ground directly under the two sides and the central barrier of the flyover to support the noise enclosure; and
- (6) the HyD had divided the road section into three parts. The first part was the approximately 80-metre long road section off Tower 7 and Tower 8 of City Point between Texaco Road and Wing Tak Street. Providing noise barriers in the first part would obstruct the existing driveway, which violated the said principle of providing noise barriers and not technically feasible. The second part was the road section of around 140 metres in length off Tower 3, Tower 5 and Tower 6 of City Point. There was no sufficient space at the central barrier separating the two-way driveway for the construction of columns to support the noise enclosure. The third part was the road section of around 100 metres in length off Tower 1 and Tower 2 of City Point. Although there was sufficient space to provide the columns for noise enclosure on the two roadsides and at the central barrier in between the two-way driveway, to ensure a safe working environment to the works staff, the eastbound and westbound express lanes had to be closed temporarily and suitable temporary traffic diversion measures had to be adopted during the works of noise barriers. However, the measures were expected to seriously affect the traffic flow at Tsuen Wan Road and the traffic network connecting with it. In view of the limited number of households to benefit from the project and the possible traffic congestion at Tsuen Wan Road and the traffic network nearby, the public might not find the proposal of providing noise barriers acceptable. In this regard, the HyD opined that it was technically not feasible to provide noise barriers at the road section of Tsuen Wan Road off City Point.

70. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman and Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) the information provided by the departments concerned was not detailed enough and Members could not immediately understand the information. He hoped that the departments concerned could improve the information submitted (the Chairman);
- (2) she opined that the proposal of providing fixed windows for the residents of City Point was formulated due to the fact that the Government allowed developers to construct residential buildings near the source of traffic noise (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (3) as the noise level exceeded 70 decibels on many occasions even when the fixed windows were tightly closed, she queried the accuracy of the EPD's remark that the noise level did not exceed 70 decibels. The EPD did not provide the actual measurement data and only provided written explanation that the noise was caused by the factories nearby and illegal car racing (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (4) they enquired about the reasons why noise barriers could be provided in the Central Kowloon Route project despite that the departments concerned had previously taken the view that the road of the project could not support noise barriers (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie and Mr TAM Hoi-pong);

- (5) she expressed dissatisfaction over the absence of details of the information provided by the departments concerned and the repetitive response to the letters of the residents over the years (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
 - (6) he opined that the traffic noise affecting City Point had existed since its design stage and site identification (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
 - (7) he had reservation over the EPD's remark that there had been no record of noise level exceeding 70 decibels, and enquired about the method for noise measurement by the EPD (Mr TAM Hoi-pong); and
 - (8) he enquired why the design of fixed windows had been approved (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).
71. SEPO (Assessment & Noise) 3 of the EPD responded as follows:
- (1) the EPD had monitored the noise level of City Point since its intake in 2014 and replied to the residents in 2015 that the noise level was in compliance with the requirements of the HKPSG. The EPD had reported to the TWDC in 2016 that the noise standard was 70 decibels;
 - (2) the design of the fixed windows was for lighting only. The EPD would measure the noise level at the windows for ventilation, which faced the direction opposite to Tsuen Wan Road;
 - (3) as City Point was closer to Tsuen Wan Road, the noise level would be higher. Windows for ventilation were designed to face the direction opposite to Tsuen Wan Road, with the use of architectural fin to reduce the noise level;
 - (4) the EPD learnt that the developer had communicated with the residents through different channels to let the residents understand how the design could lower noise level; and
 - (5) the EPD could make arrangement for noise measurement with Members at City Point.
72. Sr Engr 2/Noise Mitigation of the HyD responded as follows:
- (1) as the proposed Central Kowloon Route project was a new project which involved changing the alignment of Gascoigne Road Flyover, it required the construction of a new flyover following demolition works. Environmental assessment and noise mitigation measures had to be carried out at the flyover to meet the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance; and
 - (2) when providing noise barriers at existing roads, the HyD followed the principle of non-demolition of existing structures in designing effective noise barriers if practicable. Therefore, Tsuen Wan Road was different from the Central Kowloon Route project.
73. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:
- (1) redevelopment might take place along roads in developed areas, and the DLO would first carry out noise impact assessment. The developer had to prove that the measures taken could mitigate the impact caused by noise, including the passive design of reducing the number of windows. Quite a number of windows at City Point were facing Tsuen Wan Road and insulating glass must be used for effective noise and heat insulation. However, since its completion, there was no material

change to the actual situation. He enquired whether the noise impact assessment was incorrect, so that the noise mitigation measures could not cope with the noise, and questioned the existing mechanism (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);

- (2) she opined that the noise level there would not be lower than 70 decibels. The developer had used fixed windows and architectural fin to reduce noise, but the ventilation window of toilet, for example, was facing Tsuen Wan Road, and the flat was affected by noise. Single-glazed glass was used for fixed windows and the noise insulation was not effective. The developer had provided window handles for the residents, which meant the windows were actually for ventilation purpose, exposing the flats directly to the noise from Tsuen Wan Road. The architectural fin at the exterior of City Point did not serve the function of interrupting sound waves as claimed by the developer (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (3) she expressed dissatisfaction that the EPD had used the Police report of illegal car racing as an excuse of the increasing noise affecting the residents of City Point (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (4) she was discussing with the owners' corporation of City Point to follow up the results provided by the EPD showing a noise level below 70 decibels, while their own measurement showed a noise level exceeding 70 decibels (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (5) she expressed extreme dissatisfaction over the approval of residential development by the departments concerned and was worried that after the intake of the residential buildings nearby, the residents would be affected by noise (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie); and
- (6) as noise barriers could at last be provided in the proposed Central Kowloon Route project, the public would think that the Government was not trustworthy and she enquired whether the view that it was currently not possible to provide noise barriers at Tsuen Wan Road could be rebutted (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie).

74. SEPO (Assessment & Noise) 3 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the design of the small windows next to the fixed windows at City Point served to allow residents to clean and repair the fixed windows;
- (2) regarding the noise level at City Point, the design of the glass used for fixed windows met the requirements of the HKPSG;
- (3) the EPD mainly requested noise mitigation at the living rooms and the bedrooms, not including washrooms and kitchens;
- (4) the EPD was willing to conduct another noise measurement at City Point with Members and the owners' corporation; and
- (5) according to the planning standards, insulating glass was designed to deal with traffic noise exceeding 80 decibels. Therefore, there was no need to provide insulating glass for noise insulation when the noise level affecting City Point was between 70 and 80 decibels and the current glass design was sufficient.

75. Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (AA/Lands (DLO, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)) of the DLO responded that excessively detailed technical terms and details would not be included in land leases in general. For example, the requirement was noise impact assessment to the satisfaction of professional

departments. If the professional department was satisfied with the building design and materials, the DLO would accept the design.

(Note: Mr WONG Wai-kit left the meeting at 5:17 p.m.)

76. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) if the windows for the purpose of repairs was provided in compliance with standards, he enquired why noise measurement was not conducted right at the closed repair windows and why the residents were still affected by traffic noise (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (2) if the noise level measured at the closed windows for the purpose of repairs exceeded 70 decibels, and the traffic flow at Tsuen Wan Road remained unchanged, he enquired whether there was any inadequacy with the noise standards (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (3) he did not agree that it was proper to first carry out private residential developments next to carriageways and then request the Government to provide noise barriers at existing carriageways. He opined that residential developments should only be carried out after taking preventive measures against the impact of traffic noise on residents according to standards. He also questioned the current land grant system (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris); and
- (4) he enquired whether the EPD had measured the noise levels both when the ventilation windows were open and closed (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).

77. SEPO (Assessment & Noise) 3 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) according to the HKPSG, the permissible noise level at one metre from the ventilation window was 70 decibels. Therefore, the EPD measured the traffic noise level at one metre from the ventilation window facing the direction opposite to Tsuen Wan Road, and no measurement outside the “repair” window was required; and
- (2) as in past experience, the design of the existing fixed windows was sufficient to insulate the traffic noise there.

(Note: Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis left the meeting at 5:17 p.m.)

78. The Chairman said that the bearing capacity of Tsuen Wan Road Flyover could not be changed, but the noise that had affected the residents showed that the planning standards and requirements of the Planning Department and the EPD were outdated. The departments concerned had been negligent in approving applications. He requested the EPD to carry out a review and raise environmental assessment standards in considering future applications for works projects. He said that the Committee had followed up the Tsing Tsuen Bridge matters for more than 20 years until the first Chief Executive formulated policies for solution. As regards the noise problem at Tsuen Wan Road, it was necessary to strive for solutions persistently and he hoped that the senior officers could provide assistance at the policy level. He requested the EPD representative to report the noise measurement data at the next EHAC meeting.

VI Item 5: How to Ensure the Bird Safety and Tree Health during Tree Pruning
(EHAC Paper No. 17/17-18)

79. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of government departments who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Mr WONG Fu-wing, Forrest, Leisure Manager I(Tree)NTW1 (Acting) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD);
- (2) Mr AU YEUNG Wai-ming, Arthur, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2 (DDL M (Tsuen Wan) 2) of the LCSD; and
- (3) Mr TSE Hing-chit, Adm Asst/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) of the DLO.

80. Mr TAM Hoi-pong presented the paper.

81. The Chairman said that the DEVB, DLO and LCSD had submitted the written replies prior to the meeting for Members' perusal and asked Dep District Leisure Mgr (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD to give response.

82. DDL M (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD responded as follows:

- (1) when the LCSD took care of, maintained and managed the trees under its responsibility, it would follow the established system and guidelines, including the Guidelines for Tree Risk Assessment and Management Arrangement and the General Guidelines on Tree Pruning developed by the Tree Management Office (TMO). The Guidelines mainly served to remind staff of the objectives and techniques of tree pruning. The LCSD had no specific guidelines for the management of animals on trees;
- (2) the LCSD had set out in detail in its horticulture contracts with contractors the LCSD's objectives, methods and requirements of tree pruning, and requested contractors to make reference to the guidelines before carrying out tree pruning;
- (3) if birds were found on the trees that required pruning, the LCSD would first make an assessment before deciding on the methods and extent of pruning, or stop pruning when necessary in order not to affect the birds. In the past experience in managing the trees in Tsuen Wan district, the LCSD had never affected the habitation of birds due to tree pruning;
- (4) the LCSD had always attached great importance to staff training on tree management and caring. The LCSD's Training Section would organise more than 60 training programmes regularly per annum which covered knowledge on tree pruning and protection of wild animals. No workshops were arranged for the staff of contractors currently;
- (5) the contractors of the LCSD must follow the guidelines set out in the horticulture contract to assign the staff with the relevant horticultural certificate and having received suitable training to carry out tree pruning. The LCSD would closely monitor the work performance of contractors and ensure that tree pruning was carried out in a manner in line with the guidelines and requirements of the LCSD;
- (6) the contractor's staff responsible for tree pruning at Tin Hau Temple Garden had received education on tree caring and pruning, and had over 10 years' working experience in the field. The LCSD had deployed staff to the site to assess the

situation. The Frangipani tree was planted at the roadside of the pavement and the contractor's staff mainly pruned the branches extending to the pavement, which would not affect the growth of the tree but would minimise the impact on pedestrians; and

- (7) some of the yard waste after tree pruning would be delivered to Ngau Tam Mei Animal Waste Composting Plant for composting. Since 2014, the LCSD had placed composting bins to make compost at suitable venues under its purview, including Tsuen Wan Park, Tsuen Wan Riviera Park, Shing Mun Valley Sports Ground, Tso Kung Tam Nursery, Jockey Club Tak Wah Park and Tsuen King Circuit Playground. The LCSD would continue to promote the practice and place composting bins at suitable venues.

83. AA/Lands (DLO, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) of the DLO responded as follows:

- (1) the Lands D would award horticulture contracts to contractors according to the instructions of the TMO;
- (2) the Lands D had set up a Tree Unit and recruited Tree Assessment Officers who should possess membership of a professional institution on arboriculture recognised by the Government or who had worked in the industry and possessed relevant working experience;
- (3) the Lands D was mainly responsible for taking care of the natural trees on the unleased government land or government land managed by other departments on a non-periodic basis. The Lands D would assess the conditions of the trees on the above government land upon receipt of complaints or tree pruning requests to decide whether the trees should be pruned or removed; and
- (4) the Lands D understood that the public was concerned about tree caring. The Vegetation Contract Management Team of the Lands D had instructed contractors to check whether the trees were the habitat of animals, and consult professional advice when necessary.

84. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he agreed that it was necessary to be concerned about the health of trees and the safety of birds (Mr MAN Yu-ming);
- (2) he said that suitable tree pruning could safeguard the health of residents and environmental hygiene. For example, residents in Shek Wai Kok, Cheung Shan Estate and Lei Muk Shue Estate were frequently subject to the nuisance of birds or faecal droppings. Although he did not object to the protection of wild animals, the needs of the residents had to be taken into account in tree management. For example, during the outbreak of avian flu in Hong Kong, the Government would urge the public not to feed wild birds. If there were too many birds living on trees, the health of residents might be affected. He hoped that the departments concerned could strike a balance between conservation of environment and the needs of residents (Mr MAN Yu-ming);
- (3) he said some residents were worried that the broken trunks of trees would hurt passers-by, and opined that pruning trees in a reasonable manner when necessary could protect the safety of the public and promote the healthy growth of trees (Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones);

- (4) he was dissatisfied with the responses of the LCSD and DLO (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (5) the frontline staff of the LCSD failed to completely follow departmental guidelines in performing their duties (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (6) the ratio of LCSD staff to contractor's staff was so high that the LCSD could not fully monitor the work of the contractor. He hoped that the LCSD could increase the frequency of monitoring of the contractor's work (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (7) contractors often made unreasonable judgement on the spot. He suggested the departments concerned arrange for professionals to organise workshops for contractors or inspect the site so as to develop the judgement of the frontline staff of contractors (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (8) the method adopted by the contractor for tree pruning at Tin Hau Temple Garden was not correct. The tree was located at a minor road within the garden. The thin branches should be pruned rather than the thick trunks (Mr TAM Hoi-pong); and
- (9) many organisations in the market were offering courses which claimed to confer the title of arborist after graduation. He suggested the Government raise the qualification of certified arborists (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).

85. DDLM (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD responded as follows:

- (1) when there were problems with the health of trees, such as the risk of collapse, the LCSD would give priority consideration to public safety and then decide suitable treatment;
- (2) the LCSD's contractors had to submit a timetable for horticultural maintenance on a monthly basis and the LCSD's staff would monitor the performance of contractors according to the timetable;
- (3) the TMO had organised talks on tree maintenance in the past. Apart from government employees, contractors were also allowed to attend. If talks were organised in future, the LCSD would invite contractors to attend; and
- (4) the LCSD would convey the views of Members to the headquarters.

86. AA/Lands (DLO, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) of the DLO responded as follows:

- (1) the Lands D understood that there was a need to strike a balance in tree management. In dealing with tree problems, the Lands D would consider various factors and would consult professional departments when necessary;
- (2) the Vegetation Contract Management Team of the Lands D would actively follow up the work of contractors and had established a scoring system to record and reflect the performance of contractors; and
- (3) the Lands D had imposed stringent requirements on the recruitment of Tree Assessment Officers. Candidates should have a Bachelor's degree with first or second class honours or higher in arboriculture or a related field such as botany, biology (with courses in higher plants), forestry, geography (with courses in higher plants), horticulture, landscape studies, landscape management, landscape science from university, or equivalent.

87. The Chairman remarked that he had a deeper understanding of the tree management work of the LCSD and DLO after the discussion. The EHAC would have discussion when there were complaints again.

VII Item 6: Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District
(EHAC Paper No. 19/17-18)

88. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of government departments who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Mr LAM Chung-nam, SHI (Env Hygiene) 1 of the JO/FEHD;
- (2) Mr TSO Kwong-wing, Tommy, Professional Officer 1 (Professional Offr 1) of the JO/Buildings Department (BD); and
- (3) Mr KAN Ka-man, Engineer/New Territories West (Customer Services) Inspection of the Water Supplies Department.

89. The Chairman asked the representative of the JO to report the latest status of water seepage in buildings in the district.

90. Professional Offr 1 of the JO/BD reported as follows:

- (1) as at late May 2017, the JO had received a total of 879 reports of water seepage in Tsuen Wan, among which 595 cases had been handled. Among the handled water seepage cases, 209 cases were screened out and investigation was completed for 386 cases. Among the cases with investigation concluded, there were 124 cases with seepage ceased during investigation, 179 cases with the source identified, and 83 cases where the source could not be identified. The JO had initiated prosecution in four cases; and
- (2) during investigation, if the staff of the JO were denied entry into the premises for investigation, the JO would apply to court for a warrant to effect entry in premises in accordance with legislation to enter the premises for investigation and testing. The JO had issued a total of 14 Notices of Intention to Apply for Warrant of Entry and applied to the West Kowloon Magistrates' Court for entry warrants for four cases.

91. The Chairman was pleased with the increase in the number of Notices of Intention to Apply for Warrant of Entry issued by the JO, which reflected that the JO had become more proactive in solving water seepage problems. He hoped that the JO could keep up its efforts.

92. CHI 1 of the FEHD presented the work report on environmental hygiene in Tsuen Wan district.

IX Item 7: Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District (April 2017 to May 2017)

(EHAC Paper No. 20/17-18)

93. SEPO (Regional W)2 reported the EPD's work on environmental pollution control. As he would be posted out of Tsuen Wan district, he thanked the Chairman and Members for their advice and tolerance over the years.

94. The Chairman said that the EHAC had a pleasant working relationship with SEPO (Regional W)2 of the EPD who had assisted the EHAC in dealing with the environmental

issues in the district. He said that there was obnoxious odour emitted from Tsuen Wan Slaughter House recently and hoped the EPD could follow it up.

95. SEPO (Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that he would request the staff concerned to follow up and alleviate the problem.

X Item 8: Progress Report on Minor Environmental Improvement Programme and Maintenance Projects in 2017/18
(EHAC Paper No. 18/17-18)

96. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO briefly introduced the progress of various projects and added that the consultation and site investigation works of the new projects in paragraphs 2 to 12 had been completed. For item 5 (Provision of Rain Shelter with Benches near Yan Chai Hospital at Kwan Mun Hau Street, Tsuen Wan) and item 10 (Provision of Rain Shelter at Wing Shun Street, Tsuen Wan near Tower 1 of the City Point), the proposed works locations were full of underground cables and other service conduits which had hindered the laying of the foundation of rain shelters. The Works Section would consult the proponent to follow up the method to carry out the works. The tendering for new project item 7 (Provision of Rain Shelter with Benches near the Main Entrance of Rhine Garden at Castle Peak Road – Sham Tseng, Tsuen Wan) and maintenance project item 1 (Improvement Works of Planters and Leisure Facilities at Bayview Garden, Sheung Kwai Chung, Shiu Wo Street and Heung Wo Street) had been completed. The project costs did not exceed the anticipated costs.

XI Item 9: Application for District Council Funds for Activities Co-organised by Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement and Local Organisation
(EHAC Paper No. 21/17-18)

97. The Secretary introduced the paper and said that the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis, Mr KOO Yeung-pong, Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris, Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones, Mr LI Hung-por, Mr WONG Ka-wa, Mr WONG Wai-kit, Mr TAM Hoi-pong, Mr LO Siu-kit, Ms LUI Dik-ming, Mr LAM Fook-chuen, Mr TSE Wing-hong and Mr LAM Kwok-on were the Members of the Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement, so as to indicate that they had made declaration of the membership.

98. As the Chairman and the Vice Chairman had made declaration of interest, Members elected Mr CHAN Sung-ip to be the temporary Chairman in accordance with section 48(14) of the Standing Orders. The temporary Chairman permitted that the Members who were concurrently the Members of the Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement could speak and vote on the funding applications. He asked if any Members needed to make declaration of other interest immediately. No Members made declaration of other interest.

99. The EHAC endorsed the funding applications as follows:

	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Applicant Organiser/ Co-organiser</u>	<u>Amount Approved (\$)</u>
(1)	2017 Beach Cleanup by Families in Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan District Parent Teacher Association	68,000.00

	District	Federation Limited	
(2)	Rural Cleansing Programme in Tsuen Wan District	Tsuen Wan Rural Committee	67,700.00

XI Item 10: Work Progress Report of Working Groups under Environmental and Health Affairs Committee

(A) Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community

100. The Secretary reported that the Monitoring Group had held its 4th meeting on 16 May 2017 and discussed the work plan for this year. The Monitoring Group endorsed the allocation of District Council funds of \$14,000 for organising the flower show and \$49,000 for organising activities with the theme of “food waste”, and would write to invite the organisations proposed by group members and previous co-organisers to submit fund application forms.

(B) Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety

101. The Chairman reported that the Monitoring Group would convene a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the work plan for this year.

(C) Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement

102. Mr CHENG Chit-pun reported that the Task Force had held its 4th meeting on 20 June 2017 to discuss the work plan and budget for this year. The Task Force had endorsed an allocation of \$68,000 for co-organising the 2017 Beach Cleanup by Families in Tsuen Wan District with Tsuen Wan District Parent Teacher Association Federation Limited and an allocation of \$67,700 for organising the Rural Cleansing Programme in Tsuen Wan District with Tsuen Wan Rural Committee.

XII Item 11: Any Other Business

103. The Chairman said that the TWDC had earlier been informed that the EPD would provide an allocation of \$200,000 to each District Council to continue to carry out the Community Participation Programme in Environmental Protection. The theme of Programme was “Reduce Your Waste and Clean Recycling in Your Community” and was aimed at educating the public to “Use Less, Waste Less, Clean Recycling” at the community level and promote green living through organising promotional activities with district organisations. At its meeting held on 23 May 2017, the TWDC had endorsed the allocation of the \$200,000 from the EPD to the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee to carry out the Community Participation Programme in Environmental Protection. As in past arrangement, it was suggested that the Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community be responsible for following up the fund allocation.

104. The EHAC agreed to the proposal.

(A) Information Papers

105. Members noted the contents of the following information papers:

- (1) Financial Statement of the Funds Allocated to Environmental and Health Affairs Committee as at 21 June 2017

- (EHAC Paper No. 22/17-18);
- (2) Odour Prediction Assessment at the Riviera Gardens and Tsuen Wan Slaughter House (April 2017 to May 2017)
(EHAC Paper No. 23/17-18, submitted by the EPD);
 - (3) Work Report on the Problem of Sea Water Pollution of the Rambler Channel, Tsuen Wan (April 2017 to May 2017)
(EHAC Paper No. 24/17-18, submitted by the EPD);
 - (4) Noise Monitoring Result of MTR Tsuen Wan Depot (April 2017 to May 2017)
(EHAC Paper No. 25/17-18, submitted by the EPD); and
 - (5) Tsuen Wan District Anti-rodent Campaign 2017 (Phase 2)
(EHAC Paper No. 26/17-18, submitted by the FEHD).

XIII Adjournment of Meeting

106. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled at 2:30 p.m. on 7 September 2017 (Thursday) and the deadline for submission of paper was 23 August 2017.

107. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

23 August 2017