

(Translation)

Minutes of the 18th Meeting of
Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (4/18-19)

Date: 1 November 2018 (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

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

Mr KOO Yeung-pong, MH

Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris

Mr LI Hung-por

Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis

Ms LAM, Lam Nixie

Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones

Mr CHAN Sung-ip, MH

Mr WONG Ka-wa

Mr WONG Wai-kit, MH

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

Mr CHUNG Ho-yin

Ms CHOW Chin-tung

Government Representatives

Mr CHOW Chun-hun, Gary

Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr KUAN Man-hou

Chief Health Inspector 2 (Tsuen Wan), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr AU YEUNG Wai-ming, Arthur

Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen

Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)2, Environmental Protection Department

Ms LO Sze-yan

Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, Drainage Services Department

Mr CHONG Kwok-wai

Senior District Engineer/General (3), Highways Department

Mr LI Pui-sang

Contract Project Coordinator/2 (New Territories West), Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr WONG Shun-ping	Assistant Housing Manager/Shek Wai Kok 2, Housing Department
Mr PANG Chin-chiu	Senior Land Executive/Control 2 (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr YIM Wai-hung	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr YUNG Chi-wai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tsuen Wan District Office
Miss TAI Tsz-yan, Angie	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, 2I, 2J, 2K and 2N

Mr WONG Wan-chi, Ambrose	Chief Inspector of Police (Operations)1 (Tsuen Wan), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr NG Yu-tai	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Police Community Relations Office (Tsuen Wan District), Hong Kong Police Force

For discussion of item 2B

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

Mr TANG Kin-on	Engineer/Consultants Management 13, Drainage Services Department
Mr NG Ming-lau	Resident Engineer, Atkins China Limited, Consultants Engaged by the Drainage Services Department

For discussion of item 3

Mr CHEUNG Hon-hei	Senior Engineer/Consultants Management 5, Drainage Services Department
Ms FU Ka-man	Engineer/Consultants Management 12, Drainage Services Department
Ms WONG Hiu-man, Angel	Environmental Protection Officer(Sewerage Infrastructure)42, Environmental Protection Department
Mr YE Yin, Justin	Assistant Environmental Protection Officer(Sewerage Infrastructure)41, Environmental Protection Department

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

(A) Paragraphs 5 to 16 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: 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

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

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

- (1) Mr WONG Wan-chi, Ambrose, Chief Inspector of Police (Operations 1) (Tsuen Wan) (CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan)) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF);
- (2) Mr KUAN Man-hou, Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD;
- (3) Mr YIM Wai-hung, Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (Adm Asst/Lands) of the DLO; and
- (4) Mr PANG Chin-chiu, Sr Land Ex/Control 2 of the DLO.

7. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD reported that nine joint operations were conducted from September to October 2018. During the operations, no obstruction of footpath and obstruction of cleansing caused by articles were found. The FEHD found that the cleansing was obstructed by unclaimed articles such as trolleys and metal cages on the ground floor at No. 40 Tak Wah Street and at Nos. 10-20 Hau Tei Square in five and seven operations respectively. These unclaimed articles were removed within four hours after the notices of obstruction to scavenging operations were put up.

(Note: Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis and Ms CHOW Chin-tung joined the meeting at 2:42 p.m.)

8. Mr CHOW Ping-tim opined that the problem of obstruction of carriageway by articles remained very serious. The persons-in-charge of the recycling shops continued to handle the goods with hand pallet trucks on the carriageway and the recycling shops also had plans to expand the operation. It was expected that the situation of street obstruction would become worse in future. He thought that even though the joint operations were ineffective in improving the situation of street obstruction, it was better than doing nothing at all. He therefore hoped that the departments would review the solutions for the problem of placing article between carriageway and footpath. Besides, the obstruction of footpath was improved but there was still no solution available to the problem of article obstruction between carriageway and footpath despite the EHAC had discussed the problem for years. The progress was not satisfactory. He proposed that the discussion under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting should be discontinued, and that an agenda item could be submitted for discussion again when Members deemed it necessary.

(Note: Mr KOT Siu-yuen left the meeting at 2:44 p.m.)

9. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF responded that solving the problem of obstruction of footpath by articles was not the major duty of the HKPF and he had nothing to add.

10. The Acting Chairman said that this agenda item would not be further discussed by the EHAC under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

11. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(B) Paragraphs 17 to 23 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: 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

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

- (1) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)2 (Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2) of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD); and
- (2) Mr NG Chi-hong, Caddy, Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2) (Sr Asst Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2)) of the Marine Department (MD).

13. Sr Asst Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2) of the MD reported that the MD carried out patrol as well as measurement of the noise index at berth RC27 in the Rambler Channel Public Cargo Working Area (the “PCWA”) at irregular hours in September and October 2018. During the period, it did not detect any noise level exceeding the noise standards set out in the Noise Control Ordinance.

(Note: Mr WONG Ka-wa joined the meeting at 2:49 p.m.)

14. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD reported that the EPD had been regularly assessing the noise levels produced at the PCWA during operation. The measurements in September and October 2018 by the EPD indicated that the noise levels did not exceed the noise standards set out in the Noise Control Ordinance.

15. The Chairman said that some members of the public lodged complaints about the persistent noise nuisance produced from the operation in the PCWA during holidays. It contradicted the tests and reports of the MD and EPD, and the situation was undesirable. He said that a large amount of scrap iron was continuously dumped onto the ground in the PCWA, thereby causing great noise nuisance to the residents. He therefore requested the departments to study the handling of light cargoes instead of loading/unloading scrap iron at the PCWA, with a view to changing the land use of the PCWA and relocate the PCWA to a site which was far away from residential areas for resolving the problem of noise nuisance in the long run. He also requested the EPD to increase the frequency of noise assessment to three times a month.

16. Sr Asst Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2) of the MD responded that the MD had discussed with the operators on 23 August 2018. The operators undertook to reduce the number of cranes in operation from four to three and to dispose the scrap iron on platforms made of wood and tires, and assured that the scrap iron would not be dropped directly onto the ground. The operators would also install additional sprinklers to reduce dust production.

17. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that the EPD would continue to monitor the situation of noise nuisance, and carry out the follow-up actions immediately when the noise level exceeding the noise standards set out in the Noise Control Ordinance was detected. He would also relay the Member's request for an increase in the frequency of noise assessment to the respective unit of the EPD.

(C) Paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Installation of IP Camera at the Black Spots of Refuse Disposal by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

18. The Chairman asked Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD to report the latest status.

19. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD reported that the two IP cameras installed at the refuse collection points (RCPs) in Gemini Beaches and Lung Yue Road were in operation and the situation of refuse disposal had been improved. The two IP cameras installed at the RCPs in Bayside Villas and Tung Po To Monastery were put into operation starting from 10 October 2018. Three suspected cases of fly-tipping had been identified so far, and the FEHD was following up on the cases. The FEHD would redeploy the two IP cameras installed at the RCPs in Gemini Beaches and Lung Yue Road to other locations where the need arose in order to extend the service scope of IP cameras.

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

- (1) he enquired about the details of the cases of fly-tipping found at the RCPs in Gemini Beaches and Lung Yue Road after the installation of IP cameras (the Vice Chairman);
- (2) he thought that the IP cameras could effectively control fly-tipping. He suggested that the FEHD should retain the warning banners for achieving the deterrent effect even after the IP cameras previously in operation were removed (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris); and
- (3) he opined that the manpower for conducting patrols could be saved through the application of the IP cameras. He hoped that the FEHD would install more IP cameras as soon as possible and consider displaying warning banners solely at the black spots to enhance the deterrent effect (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping).

21. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD had identified the fly-tipping at the RCPs in Gemini Beaches and Lung Yue Road, and would provide the relevant information after the meeting;

- (2) the FEHD would not disclose the timing of removal of the IP cameras. The FEHD would retain the warning banners to achieve the deterrent effect. The IP cameras would be installed again when necessary; and
- (3) he would relay the Member's request for the increase in the amount of IP cameras to the Headquarters of the FEHD.

22. The Chairman said that the FEHD was urged to install more IP cameras as soon as possible and it was expected that eight IP cameras would be put into operation in Tsuen Wan district next year. He agreed that the display of warning banners alone could effectively enhance the deterrent effect and control fly-tipping under the shortage of resources.

(D) Paragraphs 29 to 31 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Request to Review afresh the Noise Problem at Tsuen Wan Road and Fix a Timetable for Provision of Noise Barriers at Tsuen Wan Road

23. The Chairman said that the Highways Department (HyD) and EPD had submitted the written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal.

24. Members noted the written replies of the HyD and EPD.

25. The Chairman said that the captioned item would not be further discussed by the EHAC under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

(E) Paragraphs 32 to 37 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Strongly Request the Drainage Services Department to Press Ahead the "Upgrading of Tsuen Wan Sewerage" and Advance the Period of Completion to mid 2019 for Commissioning of the Four Dry Weather Flow interceptors As Far As Possible in order to Prevent the Residents from Suffering the Odour Nuisance of the Seawater Following the In-take of Various New Properties along the Coast at Tsuen Wan West Rail One after Another Starting from 2018

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 welcomed the representatives of the Drainage Services Department (DSD) who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Ms LO Sze-yan, Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2 (Engr/Tsuen Kwai 2);
- (2) Mr TANG Kin-on, Engineer/Consultants Management 13 (Engr/Consultants Mgt 13); and
- (3) Mr NG Ming-lau, Resident Engineer of the Atkins China Limited.

28. Resident Engineer of the Atkins China Limited reported that the works in Wo Tik Street, Hoi Pa Street and Market Street were in progress. The works in Chung On Street had commenced in mid-October 2018. It was anticipated that all the works would be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

29. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:
- (1) during the works period, it could be foreseen that there would be many complaints about seawater odour after the intake of large-scale residential properties in Tsuen Wan West. He opined that the DSD should expedite the progress of the works because the issue had extensive media coverage (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
 - (2) before the completion of the works, the DSD should repair and replace the large plastic sheets at the outfalls as soon as possible so as to reduce the odour nuisance to the residents (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
 - (3) he enquired about the efficiency on odour abatement under the “Upgrading of Tsuen Wan Sewerage” (Mr TAM Hoi-pong); and
 - (4) he requested the DSD to replace the damaged large plastic sheets and study the adoption of the technology of separating the pollutants from the sewage before discharge (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).

30. Engr/Consultants Mgt 13 of the DSD responded that the selected sites of the four dry weather flow interceptors in Tsuen Wan district were situated at the downstream areas which could intercept a larger amount of effluent flow from entering the stormwater drainage system. The DSD would urge the contractor to complete the works as soon as possible. Despite the realignment for part of the works was required in view of the existing underground pipelines, the target of completing the works in the third quarter of 2019 remained unchanged.

(Note: Ms LAM, Lam Nixie joined the meeting at 3:19 p.m.)

31. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the DSD had completed the rehabilitation of the large plastic sheets at all outfalls in October 2018.

32. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:
- (1) subsequent to the intake of the large-scale residential properties in Tsuen Wan West, members of the public would be affected by the odour (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping);
 - (2) as the odour mainly originated from the pollutants at the seabed, he thought that the construction of dry weather flow interceptors could only reduce the volume of pollutants discharged into the sea (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping);
 - (3) the seawater odour of Rambler Channel was very strong. He hoped that the Government would face up to and solve the problem (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping);
 - (4) the EPD had stated that as the sewers of the buildings in the old areas in Tsuen Wan were illegally connected to the stormwater drains, the odour was generated due to the accumulation of the waste discharged from the buildings at the outfalls (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
 - (5) in the initial stage of development in Tsuen Wan district, pollutants were discharged from factories into the sea. As a result, the odour was generated due to the accumulation of pollutants at the seabed. Unless Tsuen Wan, alike Kai Tak New Development Area, was re-planned by the Government and the new technologies such as biotechnology were developed or adopted, the pollutants at the seabed could not be cleaned up. He thought that the

Government should consider adopting the new technologies developed in the Mainland (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);

- (6) the dry weather flow interceptors could only trap 70% of the pollutants and the remaining 30% would accumulate at the outfalls. Even though the pollutants were prevented from being discharged into the sea, the odour was not contained. Smell could only be neutralised through the installation of additional facilities (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (7) he hoped that the works could be completed three to six months ahead of schedule (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (8) he thought that less odour could be generated if it was ensured that the pollutants could always be covered under the seawater (Mr CHOW Ping-tim); and
- (9) he frequently received the complaints about odour from members of the public. He suggested that the DSD should consider the use of water curtains at the outfall to contain the odour (Mr KOO Yeung-pong).

33. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the DSD would introduce the details of the study on odour-control hydrogel at the meeting of the Coastal Affairs Committee.

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

- (1) various committees had different terms of reference, but they were consistent with the objective to solve the livelihood issues in the district. It was unacceptable for the department to give response only in the meeting of individual committees (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (2) he hoped that the discussion could be focused on matters concerning the captioned agenda item (Mr WONG Ka-wa); and
- (3) he opined that the current discussion was made within the scope of the captioned agenda item (Mr CHOW Ping-tim).

35. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the odour-control hydrogel was a technology jointly developed by the DSD and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, through which the odour problem was improved by the inhibition of the growth of anaerobic bacteria and the decrease in the generation of Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) in drainage systems. The water outlets of the box culverts at Ma Tau Pa Road and Tai Chung Road were selected as trial spots for the study, and regular testing of air and measurement of changes in the concentration of H₂S were conducted. The findings in the first stage of the study demonstrated a positive effect of hydrogel on inhibition of the generation of H₂S. The second stage of the pilot study had been launched in early 2018 of which the objective would be the identification of the effective coverage of hydrogel and the effect of inhibiting the generation of other odours. It was anticipated that the second stage of the pilot study would be completed at the end of 2019.

36. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(F) Paragraphs 38 to 41 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Request to Enhance the Inspection for and Efforts in Combating the Disposal of Construction Waste Casually in Tsuen Wan District

37. The Chairman said that Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD and Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the EPD and FEHD respectively.

38. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD reported that the FEHD had issued 163 fixed penalty notices ("FPNs") and four summonses from September to October 2018. One FPN was issued against illegal dumping of construction waste.

39. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD reported that the EPD had conducted 150 inspections in August and September 2018, during which four FPNs were issued and three prosecutions were completed in October 2018.

40. Mr KOO Yeung-pong said that there were more old buildings in his constituency area, and the problem of "subdivided flats" was very common. He hoped that the EPD would provide the locations of illegal dumping of construction waste under prosecution because the illegal dumping of construction waste had grown so rampant recently.

41. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that the EPD would provide the relevant information after the meeting.

(Note: Mr WONG Ka-wa and Ms CHOW Chin-tung left the meeting at 3:38 p.m.)

(G) Paragraphs 56 to 60 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Proposal on Introduction of Solar-powered Outdoor Trash Compactor

42. The Chairman said that Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan)2 (Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the LCSD and FEHD respectively.

43. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD reported that the FEHD was currently carrying out a trial run of the solar-powered outdoor trash compactor at Sham Tseng, and would consider expanding the pilot scheme based on the results of the trial run.

44. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD reported that the solar-powered outdoor trash compactors installed in Tsuen Wan Park maintained normal operation. The LCSD would review the effectiveness of the solar-powered outdoor trash compactors and study the feasibility of introducing more solar-powered outdoor trash compactors.

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

- (1) he enquired about the mode of operation and the price of the solar-powered outdoor trash compactor (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping);

- (2) he hoped that the departments would compare the cost-effectiveness of the use of IP cameras and solar-powered outdoor trash compactors for striking a balance between the use and allocation of them and consider the frequent use of IP cameras under tight resources in order to strengthen law enforcement and reduce the occurrence of fly-tipping (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping); and
- (3) he asked the departments to study the effectiveness of the above two devices (the Chairman).

46. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD responded that the solar-powered outdoor trash compactor was operated by solar energy without additional power supply which was comparatively more environmentally-friendly. Its sensor would be activated when members of the public disposed of refuse and its opening would automatically open. The refuse inside would be compressed to free up space when a certain volume of refuse was accumulated. The cost of solar-powered outdoor trash compactors was usually higher than the general ones because they were imported goods.

47. The Chairman said that the captioned item would not be further discussed by the EHAC under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

(H) Paragraphs 61 to 67 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Request the Government to Intervene in Following up on the Cases involving Dangerous Dead Trees at Private Places that Threatening the Safety of Passers-by in order to Safeguard the Lives and Safety of the General Public

48. The Chairman said that the representatives of the department responsible for giving response were Adm Asst/Lands and Sr Land Ex/Control 2 of the DLO.

49. Adm Asst/Lands of the DLO reported that apart from the suspected dead trees being kept in view previously, many trees collapsed on the slopes near Allway Gardens due to the passage of the typhoon “Mangkhut” in September 2018. Allway Gardens should accord priority in dealing with the collapsed trees which had caused road obstruction, so that the residents’ access to and from Allway Gardens would not be affected. The DLO had liaised with the owners’ corporation, management office and representatives of the landscaping company of Allway Gardens to conduct the on-site inspections in October 2018. Only a few suspected dead trees which had been identified previously remained unremoved, and according to the management office of Allway Gardens, a quotation exercise was arranged for handling the remaining problematic trees, and it was anticipated that the removal of the dead trees would be completed in mid-November 2018.

50. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:
- (1) after the passage of the typhoon “Mangkhut”, there were more collapsed or leaning trees which were thicker and supported by railings only, posing more danger than the dead trees previously identified (Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis);
 - (2) she hoped that the management office of Allway Gardens would keep in view the said trees because the risk of collapse of dead trees would be higher after the soil had been washed away by the rainwater (Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis);

- (3) there were many collapsed trees on the slope near the 5-a-side soccer pitch next to Allway Gardens. The collapsed trees were piled up on half of the footpaths. In addition, two dead trees beside the small house accommodating the office of the owners' corporation of Allway Gardens posed hazards to passers-by (Mr LAM Kwok-on);
- (4) he hoped that the DLO would provide the proof that the dead trees had been removed (Mr LAM Kwok-on);
- (5) since the captioned agenda item was primarily for the follow-up of the problem of dead trees, he suggested that Members should liaise with the department in handling the situation of collapsed trees after the typhoon (the Chairman); and
- (6) he enquired whether three quarters of the dead trees in Allway Gardens had been cleared (the Chairman).

51. Adm Asst/Lands of the DLO responded as follows:

- (1) the DLO received many enquiries about the collapsed trees in Allway Gardens after the typhoon. The DLO had referred the enquiries to the management office and the owners' corporation of Allway Gardens for follow-up, and a letter of request was sent to the owners' corporation of Allway Gardens for proper maintenance of the precincts of the housing estate and all the trees under its management so as to avoid danger; and
- (2) during the recent on-site inspection by the DLO, there were still nine dead trees pending for clearance. According to the management office of Allway Gardens, three trees had been cleared in late October 2018 and several remaining trees would be cleared in November 2018.

52. The Chairman said that he requested the DLO to provide Members concerned with photos for making comparison. According to the progress reported by the DLO, it was anticipated that the captioned problem would be properly addressed before the next EHAC meeting.

(I) Paragraphs 68 to 75 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Strongly Request the Relevant Government Departments to Make Concerted Efforts to Handle and Solve the Noise Problem affecting the Residents caused by Performing Songs at Park Island Pier in Tsuen Wan so as to Return a Quiet Living Environment to the Residents

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

54. The Acting Chairman said that the Transport Department (TD) had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal. In addition, the representative of the department responsible for giving response was CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF.

55. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF reported that the HKPF received no complaints about the noise problem lodged by members of the public from September 2018 to 24 October 2018.

56. The Acting Chairman said that the captioned item would not be further discussed by the EHAC under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

57. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(J) Paragraphs 76 to 78 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Request for Strengthening the Law Enforcement on the Playing of Promotional Recordings Continuously and Loudly by the Shops

58. The Chairman said that the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF and Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD.

59. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF reported that the HKPF had conducted inspections in the vicinity of Ho Pui Street, San Tsuen Street and Chuen Lung Street from September 2018 to 24 October 2018. Three and eleven complaints were received respectively in September and October 2018 respectively; however, no prosecution was instituted due to insufficient evidence after investigation.

60. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD reported that the EPD had conducted 40 inspections and three prosecutions were completed with a fine amounting to \$15,500 in total in August and September 2018.

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

- (1) he opined that the situation was improved, but there were still complaints about the issue. He hoped that the EHAC would follow up on the captioned matter (Mr CHENG Chit-pun); and
- (2) he enquired the HKPF about the reason for the lack of evidence to institute prosecution (the Chairman).

62. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF responded that prosecution was not instituted because no member of the public was willing to testify.

63. The Chairman said that the EHAC would continue to discuss the captioned agenda item at the next meeting.

(K) Paragraphs 79 to 88 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Request the Government Departments to Seriously Handle the Trespass and Unchecked Parking of Shared Bicycles in Tsuen Wan District and Immediately Put Forth Effective Improvement Proposals to Keep Up With the Objective of Harmonious Sharing of Shared Bicycles among Members of the Public for Maintaining the Public Safety and Clean Environment in Housing Estates

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

65. The Acting Chairman said that the TD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal. In addition, the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF, Adm Asst/Lands of the DLO and Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD.

66. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF reported that the HKPF had taken law enforcement actions in September and October 2018. 4 FPNs were issued in October 2018 to institute prosecution against the members of the public who failed to observe the traffic signs and committed cycling on footpath.

67. Adm Asst/Lands of the DLO reported that during the recent joint operation, a total of nine bicycles were removed and three of them were under the Automated Dockless Bicycle Rental Services (ADBRS).

68. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD reported that the FEHD had participated in all joint clearance operations.

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

- (1) it was not appropriate for the use of ADBRS bicycles in Tsuen Wan town centre. He thought that the true picture was not reflected because only three automated bicycles had been seized in the joint clearance operation. Also, the joint operations were not very effective (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (2) he opined that the random parking of bicycles could not be solved through the resumption of the bi-monthly joint operations which was not frequent enough. He hoped that the frequency of the joint operations would be increased (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (3) he was concerned about the occurrence of random parking of bicycles in Shek Wai Kok which was located in an elevated position far away from the urban area. He opined that the Government should examine and review the long-term development of ADBRS (Mr MAN Yu-ming);
- (4) it was observed in the waterfront area that the situation of illegal parking of shared bicycles was not improved. He requested the TD to designate the area off Riviera Gardens and Tsuen Wan Park as a prohibited zone for shared bicycles (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (5) he thought that it was necessary to increase the frequency of joint clearance operations to help solve the problem (Mr CHOW Ping-tim); and
- (6) he enquired whether the joint clearance operation was scheduled for once every two months (the Acting Chairman).

70. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (ADO(TW)) of the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO) responded as follows:

- (1) the representatives of the TD had stated in a meeting that the operators of the ADBRS would be advised not to place bicycles in the town centre;
- (2) the TD was currently conducting a study on Members' proposal on extending the prohibited zone of shared bicycles. It was hoped that illegal parking of

shared bicycles within the prohibited zone would be eliminated upon the extension of the prohibited zone;

- (3) the TD would continue to liaise with the DLO and FEHD to conduct the joint clearance operations regularly. In view of the peak period of the use of shared bicycles during summer vacation, the frequency of the joint clearance operation had been increased to twice a month. After a subsequent review on departmental resources and effectiveness of the joint clearance operations was conducted, the frequency of the joint clearance operations was resumed to once every two months;
- (4) the TD would consider taking the initiative to increase the frequency of joint clearance operations based on the mobile applications and the actual situation, and welcomed Members to provide the information on the black spots of illegal parking of bicycles; and
- (5) the joint clearance operations did not aim at shared bicycles; instead, all illegally parked bicycles would be handled.

71. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD responded that the FEHD would make an all-out efforts to tie in with the joint clearance operations.

72. Adm Asst/Lands of the DLO said that he had nothing to add.

73. Mr LO Siu-kit said that remarkable results were not achieved even though there was an increase in the frequency of joint clearance operations during the summer vacation, and that the joint clearance operation which was conducted once every two months was scant. Six to seven shared bicycles had been parked on the section of footpath between Yeung Uk Road Market and Nina Tower already. Coupled with the fact that Tsuen Wan town centre was plagued by heavy pedestrian flow and heavy traffic, it was not appropriate for the use of bicycles. He suggested that the joint clearance operation should be carried out once a month.

74. ADO(TW) of the TWDO responded as follows:

- (1) currently, the joint clearance operation was conducted once every two months. The TWDO would liaise with the DLO and FEHD to study the increase in the frequency of the joint clearance operations;
- (2) the residents in the buildings nearby were informed in writing when the joint clearance operations were carried out during summer vacation; however, the practice was no longer adopted after taking into account of Members' view that it would lower the effectiveness of the operations; and
- (3) the DLO was legally bound to post the notices prior to the removal of bicycles.

75. Adm Asst/Lands of the DLO responded that the DLO should comply with the statutory requirement that a notice should be posted at least 24 hours prior to the removal of bicycles.

(Note: Mr MAN Yu-ming left the meeting at 3:55 p.m.)

76. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD responded that the abandoned bicycles were removed by the FEHD during the joint clearance operations. If the bicycles were still usable, they would be removed in the actions taken by the DLO.

77. Mr CHOW Ping-tim said that the operations were not very effective due to the practice of the posting of notice 24 hours prior to the removal of the illegally parked bicycles. He suggested that the illegally parked bicycles on footpaths could be removed by the FEHD on grounds of obstruction of cleansing. He thought that it would be effective only when the departments took enforcement actions under different circumstances according to the corresponding legislation. He suggested that Members should provide the locations of illegally parked bicycles for the departments to carry out the targeted joint clearance operations after the meeting.

78. The Acting Chairman said in his opinion, reference could be drawn from the practice of North District in which the Police took the lead to clear the illegally parked bicycles for enhancing the efficiency of the joint clearance operations in Tsuen Wan district.

79. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(L) Paragraphs 89 to 92 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Incense Smoke from Tin Hau Kung, Luk Yeung Sun Chuen, Tsuen Wan

80. The Chairman said that Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the EPD.

81. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD reported that the EPD had met the person-in-charge of Tin Hau Kung in October 2018. The person-in-charge of Tin Hau Kung had also implemented the improvement measures such as enhancing cleansing and maintenance of the air pollution control device, etc. The EPD had further conducted an on-site inspection subsequently, and considered that the air pollution control device at Tin Hau Kung was effective and no excessive smoke and odour were emitted. Meanwhile, the person-in-charge of Tin Hau Kung undertook that the burning of incense would be carried out at appropriate sites during the peak period of incense burning in order to further minimise the impact on the residents nearby.

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

- (1) he opined that the EPD should actively address the effectiveness of incense burners such as making legislation on the compulsory use of water filter devices in temples in order to minimise the nuisance and environmental impact (the Chairman);
- (2) he said that he was the current manager of Tin Hau Kung. The water filter devices in Tin Hau Kung was put in use 20 years ago, and incense burning would be carried out at the more appropriate locations in Tin Hau Kung during the peak period of incense burning in order to avoid causing nuisance to the residents nearby (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping); and

- (3) he thought that it might not be appropriate to make legislation on the requirement of the use of water filter devices in temples, and different devices should be employed having regard to local circumstances (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping).

83. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that the EPD would convey Members' views to Tin Hau Kung.

84. The Chairman said that the captioned item would not be further discussed by the EHAC under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

(M) Paragraphs 93 to 106 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Construction of Noise Barriers at Tuen Mun Road Return of a Quiet Home Environment for Tsing Lung Tau and Sham Tseng

85. The Chairman said that the TD, HyD and EPD had submitted the written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal. Besides, CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the HKPF.

86. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF reported that the Traffic New Territories South (Traffic NTS) had taken 16 and 10 law enforcement actions against speeding in August and September 2018 respectively.

87. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris were summarised as follows:

- (1) it was stated in the written reply of the EPD that the source of traffic noise at Phase 1 of Sea Crest Villa was Sham Tseng Viaduct. Hence, the installation of additional noise barriers at that section of Tuen Mun Road could not further reduce the noise effectively. It contradicted the EPD's statement at the previous EHAC meeting that the sources of traffic noise were the adjacent Tuen Mun Road and Sham Tseng Viaduct;
- (2) he still received the complaints about traffic noise from the members of the public after the completion of the reconstruction works of Tuen Mun Road. He opined that the data of traffic noise level of the departments was outdated. He suggested that the departments should assign their staff to conduct the on-site inspection at Phase 2 of Hong Kong Garden and Phase 1 of Sea Crest Villa to collect the latest data;
- (3) there was no significant difference between the environment of the road section of approximately 100 metres long without noise barrier on Tuen Mun Road and the road section nearby. He opined that it was necessary to review the need for the provision of additional noise barriers at the 100-metre-long road section to further reduce the traffic noise;
- (4) it was also stated in the written reply of the EPD that law enforcement actions against vehicles producing noise due to modification or poor maintenance were taken by the Police; however, according to the Police, the law enforcement actions mainly aimed at speeding vehicles. He enquired about the handling of vehicles producing noise due to modification or poor

maintenance without speeding. He also held that the Police should conduct law enforcement against vehicles producing noise due to modification or poor maintenance;

- (5) he suggested that the departments should measure the traffic noise during the sleeping hours at night so as to formulate the appropriate noise reduction measures; and
- (6) he opined that the provision of additional noise barriers could eradicate the problem of traffic noise.

88. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that the EPD would convey Members' views to the subject officers for follow-up as appropriate.

89. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF responded that when stopping vehicles during the law enforcement actions against speeding, the HKPF would conduct observation of the vehicles for their roadworthiness at the checkpoints. Vehicles would be immediately towed away from the spot when modification was detected. The HKPF would issue a notice for an examination of the vehicle which was involved in a minor road traffic offence. In August and September 2019, the Traffic NTS issued 2 notices of vehicle examination and towed away two vehicles, and issued three notices of vehicle examination and towed away one vehicle for examination. The objective of the law enforcement by the HKPF was to combat speeding.

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

- (1) it was reflected from the response given by the Police that currently, the vehicles producing noise due to modification or poor maintenance without speeding could not be handled. He thought that the impact might vary subject to the types or models of the vehicles (the Chairman);
- (2) if the vehicles of specific types or models producing noise more frequently were found, this could be relayed to the TD for taking targeted operations (the Chairman);
- (3) he considered that it was not desirable that currently, there was no legislation for handling the vehicles producing noise due to modification or poor maintenance without speeding (the Vice Chairman);
- (4) he hoped that the HKPF would keep in view the suspected illegal road racing which took place more frequently than before during small hours on weekdays recently. He suggested that the law enforcement should be stepped up (the Vice Chairman);
- (5) he expressed regret over the subject officers of the departments who failed to attend the EHAC meeting. He hoped that the department would take the initiative to arrange for the on-site inspections (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris); and
- (6) the suspected illegal road racing taking place on weekdays had become earlier and some of them even started at 10:00 p.m. He thought that the increase in the number of operations against speeding between 11:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. could effectively control the illegal road racing (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris).

91. CIP(OPS1) (Tsuen Wan) of the HKPF responded that the Traffic NTS would review the information provided by Members and consider conducting the operations against speeding and illegal road racing between 10:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.

(N) Paragraphs 115 to 121 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Issue about Recycling Flow of the “Regulated Electrical Equipment”

92. The Chairman said that the EPD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members’ perusal.

93. Mr TAM Hoi-pong said he thought that the recycling flow had become smooth. At present, ALBA Integrated Waste Solutions (Hong Kong) Limited (ALBA-IWS) was required to operate in a borrowed temporary land in Kowloon Bay. He enquired whether the EPD had under-estimated the recycling rate of members of the public or over-estimated the processing capability of ALBA-IWS, and about the EPD’s estimate of the market share of ALBA-IWS after the legislation came into effect.

94. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that the EPD would convey the Member’s views to the subject officers for follow-up.

95. The Chairman said that the EHAC would continue to discuss the agenda item at the next meeting.

(O) Paragraphs 122 to 128 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Noise Generated from MTR Tsuen Wan Depot

96. The Chairman said that the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited (MTRCL) had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members’ perusal. The representative of the department responsible for giving response was Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD.

97. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD reported that the EPD did not find the noise level generated from the depot had exceeded the noise standard, and the situation was improved. When unusual noise was found to be generated from the depot, the EPD would request the MTRCL to follow up. The EPD would continue to liaise with the MTRCL, and hoped that the MTRCL would make further improvement to tackle the noise problem.

98. The Chairman said that the EHAC would continue to discuss the agenda item at the next meeting.

(P) Paragraphs 129 to 142 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018: Request the Home Affairs Bureau, Food and Health Bureau and Development Bureau to Allocate Resources to Address the Prevailing Unexpected Grave Situation of Dengue Fever by Immediately Reinforcing the Effectiveness of the Anti-mosquito Measures in Tsuen Wan District Taken by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and Lands Department to Actively Liaise with the Management Offices of Residential Properties to Make Concerted Efforts to Prevent the Virus Brought by the Mosquito Problem, With a View to Safeguarding the Public Health

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

100. The Acting Chairman said that the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) and Development Bureau (DEVB) had submitted the written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal. Besides, the representatives of the departments responsible for giving responses were Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD, ADO(TW) of the TWDO, Sr Land Ex/Control 2 of the DLO and Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD.

101. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD reported that the territory-wide All-out Anti-mosquito Operation launched by the FEHD in August 2018, including publicity and spraying mosquito larvicidal oil bore fruit. The Area Ovitrap Index (AOI) had recorded a drastic decrease in August and September 2018. In September 2018, the AOI in Tsuen Wan town centre, Ma Wan and Tsuen Wan West was 0, and that in Sheung Kwai Chung was 9.4. The FEHD would liaise with the management staff of the venues to conduct site inspections and take appropriate actions according to the AOI. The FEHD would continue to carry out the anti-mosquito work in winter and launch a large-scale anti-mosquito campaign as early as possible prior to the onset of the rainy season in 2019 for carrying out precautionary measures properly.

102. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD reported that the LCSD would continue to carry out the mosquito prevention and anti-mosquito work at the venues under its management and strive for more resources to step up the relevant work in the coming year .

103. Sr Land Ex/Control 2 of the DLO reported that the DLO would continue to carry out the anti-mosquito work in enclosed government land.

104. ADO(TW) of the TWDO reported that the TWDO would continue to liaise with other departments to step up the publicity and anti-mosquito work through the District-led Actions Scheme.

105. The Acting Chairman said that the captioned item would not be further discussed by the EHAC under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

106. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(Q) Paragraphs 143 to 150 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2018:
Proposal on Introduction of Reverse Vending Machine in Tsuen Wan District

107. The Chairman said that the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD, Assistant Housing Manager/Shek Wai Kok ² (Asst Housing Mgr/SWK ²) of the Housing Department (HD) and Ch Health Insp ² of the FEHD.

108. Ch Health Insp ² of the FEHD reported that the FEHD would actively tie in with the policy of the EPD.

109. Asst Housing Mgr/SWK ² of the HD reported that the HD would continue to keep in view the development of the introduction of reverse vending machines. Also, the HD would tie in with the policy of the EPD and consider the use of these machines in future according to the actual needs of the housing estates.

110. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD reported that the LCSD would tie in with the instructions and policies of the EPD in future.

111. Mr CHENG Chit-pun enquired about the details of the scheme on the introduction of the reverse vending machines formulated by the EPD and the progress of recycling the plastic waste which was the material selected for the pilot scheme.

112. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)² of the EPD responded that the EPD was currently conducting studies, including the feasibility of the use of reverse vending machine, and planned to launch a pilot scheme of reverse vending machine in 2019.

113. The Chairman said that he hoped that the EPD would take the initiative to submit the findings of the studies to the EHAC, and that the captioned item would not be further discussed by the EHAC under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

IV Item 3: Upgrading of West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan Sewerage - Phase 2
(EHAC Paper No. 48/18-19)

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

- (1) Mr CHEUNG Hon-hei, Senior Engineer/Consultants Management 5 (Sr Engr/Consultants Mgt 5) of the DSD;
- (2) Ms FU Ka-man, Engineer/Consultants Management 12 of the DSD;
- (3) Ms WONG Hiu-man, Angel, Environmental Protection Officer (Sewerage Infrastructure)⁴² of the EPD;
- (4) Mr YE Yin, Justin, Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (Sewerage Infrastructure)⁴¹ of the EPD;
- (5) Mr FOK Chun-sing, Project Manager of the Atkins China Limited; and
- (6) Mr LEE Wing-kin, Principal Engineer of the Atkins China Limited.

115. Sr Engr/Consultants Mgt 5 of the DSD and Principal Engineer of the Atkins China Limited introduced the paper.

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

- (1) he supported the implementation of the project and enquired whether the DSD would concurrently connect the sewers in Lo Wai Village to the main drainage channel outside the village according to a paper issued by the Government in 2007 (Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones);
- (2) he enquired how the smooth traffic at Tuen Mun Road – Yau Kom Tau and Castle Peak Road – Sham Tseng was ensured by application of the trenchless excavation technology (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (3) he was concerned about the occurrence of traffic accidents due to the works between Sham Tsz Street and the roundabout on Castle Peak Road. He enquired the DSD whether road closure due to the works at the above sites was required (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (4) she supported the implementation of works by the DSD. She enquired the DSD about the handling of the existing sewers for prevention of pollution problems, and also hoped that the DSD would shorten the duration of road closure (Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis); and
- (5) he enquired whether the works would be conducted in Heung Wo Street (Mr KOO Yeung-pong).

117. The Chairman said that the EHAC should discuss environmental pollution problems such as dust and noise, instead of transport issues. He hoped that Members would focus on the discussion of the environmental issues of the works.

118. Sr Engr/Consultants Mgt 5 of the DSD responded that in Phase 2 of the project, the main drainage channel would be replaced to cope with the community development at the upstream area of Lo Wai Village in future, and the sewers in Lo Wai Village would be handled under other work projects.

119. Environmental Protection Officer of the EPD responded that the works of the sewers in Lo Wai Village, Chuen Lung Village and Kau Wa Keng would be conducted under the same project concurrently. The EPD was actively striving for the resources for the project, and the DSD and DLO were also planning to gazette the project. The EPD had earlier liaised with the DSD to seek views from various village representatives on the project.

(Note: The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael joined the meeting at 4:33 p.m.)

120. Principal Engineer of the Atkins China Limited responded as follows:

- (1) first of all, the trenchless excavation technology would be applied for excavating two shafts for delivery of machines and access by workers to the drainage channel. By doing so, no excavation of trenches on the road surface was required;
- (2) the trenchless excavation technology would be applied for the works between Sham Tsz Street and the roundabout on Castle Peak Road;

- (3) as there were more underground utilities in the urban areas, the DSD would remove the old pipes after the pipelaying works or fill the old sewers with cement slurry; and
- (4) as the works would be affected due to the constraint of traffic conditions and underground utilities, one lane would be closed when the works was in progress. The DSD would urge the contractor to complete the works as soon as possible.

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

- (1) she enquired the DSD about the handling of the old sewers in the rural areas (Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis);
- (2) he asked the DSD to keep in view the noise produced during the works and to arrange for the works to be carried out during daytime as far as possible (the Chairman);
- (3) during the excavation works in Tsuen Wan town centre, rodents would have a free access to the ground. He thus asked the DSD to cover the trenches and shafts with hard plates for the prevention of signs of rodents and maintenance of the environmental hygiene around Tsuen Wan town centre (the Chairman); and
- (4) he supported the early implementation of the works. Given that the residents would be affected in the course of the works involving several locations in the district which would last until 2026 for completion, he hoped that the DSD would maintain liaison with the district councillors of the constituency areas or the EHAC in order to ensure the smooth progress of the works (Mr CHUNG Wai-ping).

122. Sr Engr/Consultants Mgt 5 of the DSD responded as follows:

- (1) the DSD would handle the old sewers by means of filling the old sewers with cement slurry or removing the old sewers;
- (2) the DSD would include a requirement in the contract that the contractor should cover the trenches and shafts with hard plates after completion of works every day for prevention of rodents; and
- (3) the DSD would also include a requirement in the contract that the contractor should adopt temporary measures to mitigate the impact of dust and noise during the construction period, and set up a public enquiry hotline.

123. The Chairman said he hoped that the DSD would consider setting up a liaison group to facilitate the liaison with Members and stakeholders. The EHAC supported the DSD for taking forward the captioned project.

V Item 4: The Need for Improving the Way of Tree Planting as Revealed by Typhoon Slashes

(EHAC Paper No. 49/18-19)

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

- (1) Ms LEE O-Sze, Salina, Assistant Secretary (Greening and Landscape) 3 (AS(GL)3) of the DEVB;
- (2) Mr CHOW Yun-tong, Senior Landscape Architect/D(NT) (Sr Landscape Architect/D(NT)) of the HyD; and
- (3) Mr LI Pui-sang, Contract Project Coordinator/2 (W) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD).

Besides, Asst Housing Mgr/SWK 2 of the HD, Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD and Adm Asst/Lands of the DLO would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the HD, LCSD and DLO respectively. The DEVB, Architectural Services Department and DLO had submitted the written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting.

125. Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris introduced the paper.

126. AS(GL)3 of the DEVB responded that a good growing space was beneficial to the healthy growth of trees and soft soil allowed the effective absorption of water and nutrients of the trees, thereby bringing a comfortable environment to the members of the public. The Government held that it was opportune for a review on the current approach of tree planting after the typhoon. The DEVB would actively consider the Member's proposal and study other appropriate measures.

(Note: Mr CHAN Sung-ip left the meeting at 4:54 p.m.)

127. Sr Landscape Architect/D(NT) of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) after the passage of typhoon "Mangkhut", there were over 50 000 collapsed trees in Hong Kong and the trees survived the typhoon were more or less damaged;
- (2) the HyD had conducted an on-site inspection on Castle Peak Road – Tsing Lung Tau and found that there were collapsed and leaning trees;
- (3) as indicated in the standard drawing no. 5141 of the HyD, there was a root barrier of 0.6 metre deep for prevention of the impact brought by the roots to the underground utilities ;
- (4) the number of floor tiles for the coverage of soil was reduced as far as possible in the newly established standard drawings of HyD for provision of sufficient spaces for tree growth. The HyD would also remove the tiles from tree pits to free up space for tree growth when necessary without prejudice to the standard width of footpath;
- (5) the construction guidelines of the roadside greening zones were demonstrated in other standard drawings of the HyD. The greening zones could be provided if the space for tree planting was sufficient. However, given the limited space of footpaths, insufficient space above the ground and high pedestrian flow in urban areas, the standard drawing no. 5141 was served as a reference for making consideration for tree planting in tree pits in urban areas under the said constraints if necessary;
- (6) the examples of the application of the provision of roadside greening zones in different districts in Hong Kong including Tsuen Wan were demonstrated in the Greening Master Plan;

- (7) when planning for the adoption of the standard drawing of greening zones in tree planting, the HyD should take into account the factors including the road space, pedestrian flow, traffic and underground utilities;
- (8) as there were drainage channels connecting to the seawall along the footpath at Castle Peak Road – Tsing Lung Tau, it would be difficult for the HyD to plant trees according to the standard drawing regarding the provision of a continuous greening zone. The design considerations included seeking a balance between the provision of a continuous greening zone at part of the Castle Peak Road – Tsing Lung Tau and the accessibility of pedestrians to command a view of scenery at the seawall;
- (9) the HyD had used grilles to cover the tree pits previously. If the grilles were not timely removed, the roots might wind around the grilles. Therefore, the grilles were replaced with floor tiles to facilitate the tree growth as well as the repair and maintenance;
- (10) the HyD held that the indoor sunken design of tree pits of Singapore Changi Airport was not applicable to the streets in Hong Kong because the root collar of a tree should not be covered and should be examined to ensure that the trees were healthy. The sunken tree pits would bring about difficulties in examinations of trees and give rise to accumulation of refuse;
- (11) in view of the developmental needs, road excavation was carried out frequently for pipelaying works or road maintenance. Therefore, the design of the installation of plastic structural columns at the soil layer for supporting the surface of footpath could not suit the actual local environment. The applicability and feasibility of the design should be further explored;
- (12) the coherent soil trenches were reserved together with the continuous greening zone and the road surface paved with floor tiles as shown in the Greening Master Plan; and
- (13) the HyD would work in collaboration with the dedicated departments for tree maintenance to expand the tree pits without affecting the pedestrian flow.

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

- (1) different contractors for tree maintenance were engaged by various departments of which the delineation of the rights and responsibilities in handling trees was not clear. He suggested that the Tree Management Office (TMO) should take up the coordinating role and set up a dedicated hotline to centralise the handling of complaints about trees (the Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael);
- (2) the views given by the Members previously were found beyond the scope of discussion of the captioned agenda item. He asked the DEVB to convey Members' views to the TMO (the Chairman);
- (3) he enquired the HyD whether the concrete frames of the tree pits underneath the ground were expanded when the tree pits on the road surface were expanded, so that the roots could go very deep into the soil (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);

- (4) the grilles for covering the tree pits could prevent pedestrians from stepping on the soil and retain the soil space. He enquired whether the HyD would continue to use or refine the grilles (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (5) he suggested that the HyD should change to grow the tree species with narrower tree crown, and enquired about the establishment of arborist in the HyD (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (6) she enquired about the feasibility of the adoption of green pedestrian walkway in Hong Kong and the dedicated departments for this. She also suggested that a pilot scheme should be rolled out to test the effectiveness (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (7) the trees in Tsuen Wan district were planted according to the standard more than 20 years ago. According to the standard at that time, the soil layer for plantation was relatively thin. The hidden cause of the collapse of trees which were planted in the relatively thin soil layer in all districts in Hong Kong was revealed after the passage of the typhoon “Mangkhut”. The departments should establish a database of trees for early handling of trees with a high risk of collapse (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (8) she had witnessed that the contractor had put the seedlings together with the seedling bags for the roots into the tree pits when planting trees. She therefore requested the departments to strengthen the monitoring of the performance of the contractors (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (9) she thought that the Government should formulate a comprehensive plan for tree planting and tree maintenance and improve the existing standards, instead of adopting an inactive approach such as reducing tree planting or changing to grow other tree species of narrower tree crowns (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (10) after the typhoon, there were many collapsed trees on the slope beside Allway Gardens. The taller trees other than *Acacia confusa* had collapsed. She hoped that the departments would review the tree species which were planted on the slopes of shallower soil (Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis);
- (11) she enquired whether the same species of trees should be planted after the removal of the leaning trees which caused danger (Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis);
- (12) he commended the DEVB and HyD for making preparation for the meeting (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (13) the frames of tree pits were mostly made of concrete or compressed soil. The roots might not go outside the tree pits (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (14) he thought that only the grilles right atop the tree pits would direct the roots to grow around them. He suggested that the grilles should be suspended from the pedestrian walkway and separated from the soil surface, thus preventing pedestrians from stepping on the soil (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (15) he hoped that the HyD would study how to seek a balance between the provision of a continuous greening zone along the pedestrian walkway on the Castle Peak Road – Tsing Lung Tau and the accessibility of pedestrians to command a view of scenery at the seawall (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (16) the problematic planting method for many trees in Hong Kong was revealed after the typhoon. The departments should draw on the experience of the

collapse of trees caused by the typhoon and invite experts to study the improvement of the tree planting methods and propose a policy which was conducive to optimising the overall approach of tree planting in Hong Kong (the Chairman);

- (17) as the DEVB was the bureau chiefly responsible for handling the subject matters, he opined that the DEVB should study the enhancement of the powers and functions of the TMO and coordinate various departments to review the improvement of the approach of tree planting (the Chairman);
- (18) he requested the DEVB to provide a timetable for optimising the approach of tree planting, and enquired whether a task force was formed to coordinate the relevant review work (the Chairman); and
- (19) he enquired about the tree species which normally grew around the grilles (the Chairman).

129. AS(GL)3 of the DEVB responded as follows:

- (1) after the passage of the typhoon “Mangkhut”, the DEVB had immediately coordinated the departments for tree maintenance to collect the data of the environment of the collapsed trees for examination of the environment at scene and as to whether the space for the growth of trees was reduced due to the longevity of trees and nearby developments as well as the difficulties encountered by the departments in daily tree maintenance, thereby making improvement to the environment for planting and preparation for future tree planting and the selection of appropriate tree species. The tree management work would be implemented under the “right tree, right place” principle, so that the members of the public would benefit from long-term greening;
- (2) as indicated in the guidelines published by the Government in 2012-2013, it was necessary to review the possibility of improving the existing planting conditions when the current locations with planted trees were affected by construction works; and
- (3) the DEVB would provide the timetable of optimising the approach of tree planting after the meeting.

130. Sr Landscape Architect/D(NT) of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) the HyD would replace the soil layer when expanding the tree pits based on the actual situation. However, some trees had a risk of collapse when the soil was replaced because the roots might make the trees become unstable;
- (2) the floor tiles were currently used to achieve greater flexibility in the course of road maintenance work for protecting the soil surface because there were difficulties in conducting road maintenance work when the roots were found growing around the grilles;
- (3) the HyD would plant the right trees at right places;
- (4) some landscape architects of the HyD also possessed the qualification of arborist recognised by the International Society of Arboriculture, but the relevant data were not readily available at the moment;
- (5) the HyD would improve the existing growing space of trees mainly through expanding the tree pits. The HyD would also consider formulating a standard drawing on paving floor tiles on adjacent soil trenches;

- (6) the Technical Circular (Works) issued by the DEVB in 2012 indicated that roadside greening zones in the new development areas should be reserved at the planning stage. The HyD would carry out the greening work on roads by following this direction;
- (7) the HyD would step up the monitoring procedures of tree planting so as to ensure that the seedlings would not be put together with the seeding bags for the roots into the tree pits;
- (8) the HyD would consider planting trees on slopes according to the technical publications of the CEDD and replanting appropriate trees according to the actual situation; and
- (9) the tree roots entangling the grilles might not be derived from tree species. However, some tree species such as banyan were fast-growing and their roots might grow around the grilles. The HyD would avoid planting this type of trees at the roadside tree pits.

131. Contract Project Coordinator/2 (W) of the CEDD responded that the CEDD would provide the technical guidelines on tree planting on slopes after the meeting.

132. The Chairman said that the DEVB was coordinating various departments to review the approach of tree planting. He requested the DEVB to provide a timetable of the review progress and the approach to handle collapsed trees on slopes in private lots after the meeting. Besides, he proposed to the DEVB to consider conducting a pilot scheme of the new approach of tree planting in Tsuen Wan. The EHAC would continue to discuss the captioned item under the matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

(Note: Mr LI Hung-por joined the meeting at 5:25 p.m.)

VI Item 5: Strongly Request to Enhance the Rodent Control and Prevention
(EHAC Paper No. 50/18-19)

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

- (1) Ms LO Sze-yan, Engr/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD;
- (2) Mr WONG Wai-keung, Assistant Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 1 of the DSD; and
- (3) Mr CHONG Kwok-wai, Senior District Engineer/General (3) (Sr Dist Engr/G(3)) of the HyD.

Besides, Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD and Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the FEHD and LCSD respectively.

134. The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael and Mr CHENG Chit-pun introduced the paper.

135. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD responded that the LCSD had all along been very concerned about the hygiene condition of venues under its management. To combat the rodent problem, cleansing work in the venues including removing food remnants had been reinforced. The LCSD regularly urged the contractors to trim the plants that were too close together and place rodenticides. As

Tsuen Wan Park had a high patronage, it was a priority site of rodent elimination for the LCSD. Also, in view of the development in the vicinity of Tsuen Wan Park, the contractors would be required to place additional rodenticides in Tsuen Wan Park. Moreover, the adoption of new measures which were appropriate for rodent prevention and control would be considered. The LCSD would apply the new channel grating with square holes in Kwok Shui Road on a trial basis, and a solar-powered outdoor trash compactor was provided in Tsuen Wan Park.

136. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD had recently strengthened its efforts in combating the problem of disposal of refuse by the food premises in the rear lanes to reduce the food sources of rodents. The FEHD would also carry out the publicity on the methods for rodent control and prevention for the food premises and housing estates;
- (2) the FEHD would actively identify and seal the rodent burrows at planters, etc. or the places which were the harbourage for the rodents. The FEHD had liaised with Members in early October 2018 to conduct the inspection at the rear lanes in various designated target areas of rodent elimination. Through the coordination of the TWDO, the FEHD liaised with the departments including the HyD and Buildings Department (BD) to seal the damaged places which were probably the harbourage for rodents;
- (3) the FEHD in general applied rodenticides for rodent infestation and traps for capturing rodents. The FEHD would also proactively keep in view and study various new technologies such as the applicability of the development of rodent trapping devices driven by pressurised gas (A24) in Hong Kong; and
- (4) the proposals on the study on rodent disinfestation through sterilisation by the FEHD in collaboration with the pest control experts in universities and the feasibility of development of a mobile application for members of the public to provide the locations where rodents were spotted would be conveyed to the Headquarters.

137. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the DSD would, based on the information available, formulate an annual plan for regular clearance of the underground drains including but not limited to those in the areas packed with food premises. The DSD would also regularly check the structure and hygiene condition of the underground drains. Besides, high priority was accorded to the disposal of waste produced during clearance of drains which would otherwise become the food for rodents. The DSD would continue to maintain close liaison with the FEHD, HyD, LCSD and HD for enhancing the environmental hygiene work.

138. Sr Dist Engr/G(3) of the HyD responded that the HyD had liaised with the FEHD and relevant departments to carry out 4 joint operations in the old areas in Tsuen Wan to step up inspections at rear lane. The damaged parts or the holes on the road surface were repaired if detected. The porous drainage channel gratings as mentioned in the paper were mainly placed at the outlets of the gullies at pedestrian crossings to prevent wheelchairs from being trapped at the long holes of the channel gratings when passing

by. They were not applicable to prevent the rodents. However, the HyD would study the feasibility of the replacement of the drainage channel gratings upon inspections during the joint operations with the porous drainage channel gratings.

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

- (1) he asked the HyD to review the locations in Tsuen Wan district which were suitable for installation of the new channel gratings (the Chairman);
- (2) he enquired whether the FEHD only used the rice-shaped baits for rodent infestation currently. He hoped that the FEHD would study the use of new types of rodenticides for enhancing the effectiveness (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (3) some studies revealed that 90% of rodents in a rodent nesting place were killed through rodent infestation with dry ice which brought about little impact on the environment. He hoped that the FEHD would study the use of dry ice in rodent infestation (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (4) he asked the FEHD to undertake to study the proper ways to handle the food waste from households and disposed of in rear lanes, with a view to eliminating the rodent problem at source (the Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael);
- (5) given that members of the public were concerned about the consumption of the rodenticide by their pets mistakenly, the toxicity of the poison used by the FEHD was not strong enough (the Chairman);
- (6) there was still room for improvement in tackling the rodent problem in Tsuen Wan town centre. The situation of casual disposal of food waste and refuse might become more serious after the introduction of municipal solid waste charging in future (Mr LO Siu-kit); and
- (7) he requested the FEHD to strengthen the refuse collection and street cleansing service to shorten the time of refuse left unattended in the streets and reduce the food sources of rodents, thus increasing the chance for rodents to consume the baits (Mr LO Siu-kit).

140. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD undertook to convey Members' views on rodent control and prevention with new technologies to the Headquarters of the FEHD;
- (2) rodent infestation with dry ice was only applicable for the enclosed rodent holes. The dry ice was ineffective in the rodent holes with multiple entrances; and
- (3) the "rodent rice" was the rice glued with poisons of three or four types. The FEHD would replace and use different poisons based on the attractiveness of the rodenticide to rodents.

141. The Chairman said that the rodents developed resistance to baits rapidly. He thought that the baits were not very effective. Besides, he opined that it was necessary to consider the cleaning of the dead body of the rodents when dry ice was used in rodent infestation; otherwise, a plague outbreak would strike. He hoped that the FEHD would actively study the better use of new technologies for rodent control and prevention.

VII Item 6: Request the Government to Allocate Additional Resources to Handle the Renewable Resources Recycled from Yard Waste

(EHAC Paper No. 51/18-19)

142. The Chairman said that the DEVB and EPD had submitted the written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal. The representative of the department responsible for giving response was Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD.

143. Mr TAM Hoi-pong introduced the paper.

144. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD responded that after the slash of the typhoon "Mangkhut", the FEHD was mainly responsible for clearing the dead branches in the streets and actively removed the collapsed trees in collaboration with other departments. Apart from waste collection, more than 15 logistic movements of grab lorries were arranged for collection of collapsed trees pending for clearance from the roads during the first week after the typhoon "Mangkhut".

145. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD responded that the LCSD had all along been making delivery of some of the dead branches to the Animal Waste Composting Plant at Ngau Tam Mei for treatment. It was, however, difficult to fully recycle loads of collapsed trees and dead branches which were the damages caused by the slash of the typhoon earlier. The LCSD would continue to study the measures of better use of tree resources.

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

- (1) he proposed that the LCSD should provide a chipper for Tsuen Wan, so that trees could be handled on the spot and thus alleviating the need to transport the collapsed trees to the landfills (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (2) he hoped that the EPD would discuss and coordinate with other departments for making improvements to the handling of yard waste during the typhoon season in the coming year (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (3) some dead trees in good condition still had the value and potential for use. It was highly recommended that they could be stored on a long-term basis for public's use (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (4) he hoped that the EPD would provide the information and the timetable of the implementation of policies including recycling and turning waste into resources, etc. (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris); and
- (5) he hoped that the EPD would set up a resources recovery centre in every district for treatment of useful resources such as collapsed trees (the Chairman).

147. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)² of the EPD responded that the EPD would convey Members' views to the subject officers for follow-up.

VIII Item 7: Strongly Request the Leisure and Cultural Services Department to Set a Time Limit from Not Earlier than 9 a.m. to Not Later than 10 p.m. on Broadcasting by Sound Equipment when the Venues in the Parks were hired to Organisations for Use and Set a Restriction on the Orientation of the Loudspeakers and Decibel Level of the Noise, so as to Rule Out the Chance of Making Strong Noise which Causing Disturbance to the Restful Sleep of the Residents in Tsuen Wan.

(EHAC Paper No. 59/18-19)

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

(Note: The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael and Mr LAM Kwok-on left the meeting at 6:01 p.m.)

149. The Acting Chairman said that Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the LCSD.

150. Mr CHOW Ping-tim introduced the paper.

151. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD responded as follows:

- (1) the LCSD would process the applications for non-designated uses according to the departmental guidelines, and the organisers were required to commence the activities after 9:00 a.m. and complete the activities before 10:00 p.m. as far as possible;
- (2) as the event held on that day was a distance running competition and road closure was also required for the competition, it was arranged to start at an earlier time to minimise the impact of road closure on traffic;
- (3) the LCSD apologised for the impact of the noise generated from the activity on the daily lives of the residents nearby. When the LCSD processed the applications for similar activities in future, the impact on residents nearby would be considered prior to the approval of application. The LCSD had also reminded the organiser in writing that the LCSD guidelines on volumes should be followed and improvement measures for controlling the volume generated during the activities should be proposed when application for organising similar activities were made again; and
- (4) in view of the on-going flat intake near Tsuen Wan Park, the LCSD would determine in a stricter manner whether the activity was suitable to be organised at the location concerned, and would also study the provision of a roof cover in the venue concerned in order to ease the impact of noise brought to the residents nearby.

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

- (1) he was discontented with the LCSD's failure to undertake to impose a time restriction on the activities organised at the venue. It was not satisfactory that the LCSD failed to learn a lesson and make adjustment (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (2) the host of the distance running activity who made effort to create a vivid atmosphere by speaking in a very loud volume for 2 hours had caused

persistent nuisance to the residents nearby. It was different from the previous source of noise nuisance generated by the horn sound produced at the start of the race. He thought that the problem could only be solved through setting up the time restriction, which could also prevent members of the public from having a negative perception towards the activities funded by the TWDO due to the noise nuisance caused by the activities (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);

- (3) the kick-off ceremony of the distance running competition was undertaken by a new contractor who wished to create a more boisterous atmosphere. Some loudspeakers were probably tilted towards the residents when the public address system was set up. He opined that it was not satisfactory and there was room for improvement (Mr LO Siu-kit); and
- (4) the Tsuen Wan Sports Festival Co-ordinating Committee noted the comments and requests of the LCSD and would hold a meeting to review the arrangements for making improvements in future (Mr LO Siu-kit).

153. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD responded that the relevant guidelines of the LCSD covered all the land-based venues in Hong Kong under the LCSD's management. The LCSD did not impose a time restriction on the activities having regard to the specific time for the activities to be held. If an activity was held at an earlier or later time in future, the LCSD would maintain a close liaison with the organisers for the arrangements of the activities in order to develop the appropriate measures on minimising the impact of the activities on the residents nearby.

(Note: Mr LI Hung-por left the meeting at 6:09 p.m.)

154. Mr CHOW Ping-tim said he thought that it was not necessary for the LCSD to impose a time restriction for the activity; instead, the use of public address system in early morning should be restricted.

155. The Chairman resumed the chair.

IX Item 8: Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District
(EHAC Paper No. 52/18-19)

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

- (1) Mr CHU Tung-fai, Senior Health Inspector (Sr Health Insp) of the Joint Office (JO)/FEHD;
- (2) Mr TSO Kwong-wing, Tommy, Professional Officer (1) (Professional Officer (1)) of the JO/BD; and
- (3) Mr KAN Ka-man, Engineer/New Territories West (Customer Services) Inspection of the Water Supplies Department.

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

158. Professional Offr (1) of JO/BD reported as follows:

- (1) as at late September 2018, the JO received a total of 1 731 reports of water seepage in Tsuen Wan district, among which 1 198 cases had been processed. Among the processed water seepage cases, 599 cases were screened out, and 599 cases were concluded. Among the concluded cases, the water seepage ceased during investigation amounted to 149, the source of water seepage was identified for 237 cases, and the source of water seepage was not identified for 213 cases. The JO had initiated prosecution for seven cases; and
- (2) during investigation, if the staff of the JO were denied entry into the premises for investigation, the JO would apply to the court for a “Warrant to Effect Entry into Premises” under the law to enter the premises for investigation and testing. The JO had issued a total of 26 “Notices of Intention to Apply for Warrant of Entry” and had applied to the West Kowloon Magistrates’ Courts for “Warrants of Entry into Premises” for one case.

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

- (1) he enquired the FEHD how the investigation for the water seepage involving a number of floors was carried out. For example, the water seeped from a flat on the fourth floor to a flat on the second floor, but no complaint was lodged by the flat on the third floor. He asked whether the FEHD would carry out investigation for such a case or not (Mr KOO Yeung-pong); and
- (2) she enquired whether the FEHD could carry out the investigation after obtaining the consent from the occupants of the flats of all levels of the part of the building between the flat which was suspected to be the source of water seepage and the flat which had lodged the complaint (Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis).

160. Sr Health Insp (Joint Off) of JO/FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) upon receipt of a complaint, the FEHD would carry out the colour water tests in the flat which was believed to be affected by water seepage after obtaining the consent from the flat of the lower floor;
- (2) when a number of floors were involved, the FEHD would be required to obtain the consent from the flat one floor below the flat which was suspected to be the source of water seepage before conducting the colour water tests so as to save from making compensation;
- (3) if the FEHD encountered difficulties during investigation, the FEHD would refer the cases to the Professional Officers of the BD for processing and carry out the investigation as recommended by the Professional Officers; and
- (4) the FEHD would first measure the humidity of the ceiling of the affected flat. The flat was confirmed to have been affected by water seepage if the humidity exceeded 35. Then, a test would be conducted in the flat one floor above. If the humidity of the ceiling of the flat on upper floors also exceeded 35, an investigation would also be carried out. However, it was rare that water seepage was not detected in the flat one floor above the affected flat. In case of any doubt about a situation, the FEHD would refer the case to the Professional Officers of the BD for determining the direction of investigation.

161. Professional Offr (1) of the JO/BD said that when the colour water tests were carried out, the colour water might seep down to the flats from which no report about water seepage was made. Therefore, obtaining consent on colour water tests from the flats on different floors before carrying out the investigation would be favourable. If water seepage was detected in the flats on different floors, the BD would actively consider carrying out the investigation.

162. The Chairman said that there were difficulties in the investigation if the JO failed to obtain the consent for carrying out the colour water tests from the flats on different floors.

163. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD introduced the Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District.

164. Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris hoped that the FEHD would provide the information on prosecution made against members of the public who violated the offence of dog fouling.

165. Ch Health Insp 2 of the FEHD said that the plain clothes officers of the FEHD had started conducting inspections over the past six months in order to enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement, and would provide the relevant information on prosecution after the meeting.

X Item 9: Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District (August 2018 to September 2018)
(EHAC Paper No. 53/18-19)

166. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD introduced the Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District.

XI Item 10: Progress Report on Minor Environmental Improvement Programme and Maintenance Projects in 2018/19
(EHAC Paper No. 54/18-19)

167. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO briefed on the progress of the projects and added that the tender exercise of the new construction project nos. 6, 12 and 17 would be conducted in November 2018. All the 18 projects were under the tender exercise or commencement of work currently. He suggested the injection of net funding of the new construction projects into the maintenance works for carrying out other maintenance work projects.

168. The Chairman enquired whether the Members endorsed the proposal. The EHAC agreed to endorse the proposal.

XII Item 11: Work Progress Report of Working Groups under Environmental and Health Affairs Committee

(A) Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community

169. Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis reported that the “All Green Dishes” Community Promotional Activity co-organised by the Monitoring Group and the Tsuen Wan Safe

and Healthy Community Steering Committee would be held in November 2018 and December 2018, which aimed to promote among the residents of Tsuen Wan district the lifestyle of “Use Less, Waste Less” through reducing waste and the use of chemicals which were harmful to the environment in daily life. Besides, the “Dump Less, Save More, Recycle Right” Day Tour co-organised by the Monitoring Group and the Residents Association of Tsuen Wan Hoi Bun District would be held on 15 December 2018, which aimed to familiarise the residents in Tsuen Wan district the concepts of recycle, reuse and reduction in purchase through visits to the green initiatives or green-industrial institutions. Besides, the Children Puppetry – A Green Pioneer co-organised by the Monitoring Group and the Tsuen Wan Culture & Recreation Co-ordinating Association Limited would be held in November 2018 and December 2018, which aimed to teach the children in the district the importance of environmental protection through the performance of puppetry under the theme of environmental protection. The Monitoring Group would organise other activities in due course.

(B) Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety

170. The Chairman reported that the District Service Scheme cum Carnival under the “First Thing is Health 2018” would be held on 24 November 2018, 1 December 2018 and 8 December 2018. Also, the “Precaution against Virus Infection and Awareness of Food Safety cum Extravaganza in Tsuen Wan District” would be held on 5 January 2019 to enhance Tsuen Wan residents’ concern over deadly viruses and awareness of healthy eating through promoting the theme of “Precaution against virus infection and Forming good eating habits”.

(C) Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement

171. Mr LO Siu-kit reported that the “Building Cleaning Programme in Tsuen Wan District” would be held from 1 November to 27 November 2018 in which cleansing work for the public places of 20 private buildings in Tsuen Wan district would be carried out to improve the living environment of the residents and hygiene condition in the district. In addition, the “Rear Lane Improvement Works in Tsuen Wan District” would be held from November 2018 to December 2018 to instil the importance of maintain environmental hygiene in the residents of Tsuen Wan district through conducting improvement works at the three rear lanes and mural painting at one of the rear lanes.

XIII Item 12: Any Other Business

(A) Information Paper

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

- (1) Financial Statement of the Funds Allocated to Environmental and Health Affairs Committee as at 16 October 2018 (EHAC Paper No. 55/18-19);
- (2) Odour Prediction Assessment at the Riviera Gardens and Tsuen Wan Slaughter House (August 2018 to September 2018) (EHAC Paper No. 56/18-19, submitted by the EPD);
- (3) Work Report on the Problem of Sea Water Pollution of the Rambler Channel, Tsuen Wan (August 2018 to September 2018) (EHAC Paper No. 57/18-19, submitted by the EPD); and

- (4) Noise Monitoring Result of MTR Tsuen Wan Depot (August 2018 to September 2018)
(EHAC Paper No. 58/18-19, submitted by the EPD).

XIV Adjournment of Meeting

173. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled at 2:30 p.m. on 3 January 2019 (Thursday) and the deadline for submission of paper was 14 December 2018.

174. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat
21 December 2018