

(Translation)

Minutes of the 21st Meeting of
Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (1/2019)

Date: 2 May 2019 (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, Lam Nixie

The Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben, BBS, JP

Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones

Mr CHAN Sung-ip, MH

Mr WONG Ka-wa

Mr WONG Wai-kit, MH

Mr KOT Siu-yuen

Mr YAU Kam-ping, BBS, MH

Mr LO Siu-kit, MH

Mr TAM Hoi-pong

Co-opted Members

Mr LAM Fook-chuen

Mr CHUNG Ho-yin

Government Representatives

Mr CHOW Chun-hun, Gary

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

Mr KUAN Man-hou

District Environmental Hygiene
Superintendent (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 (W), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr KAN King-ming, Victor	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 and 4

Mr CHEUNG Kam-hing, Billy	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)4, Environmental Protection Department
Ms NG Wai-kei, Vicky	Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)44, Environmental Protection Department

For discussion of item 2C

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

For discussion of item 2E

Mr LO Tim-fat	Chief Inspector of Police (Operations) (Tsuen Wan)1 (Acting), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr NG Yu-tai	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Police Community Relations Office (Tsuen Wan District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr CHEUNG Kim-hung, Michael	Engineer/Tsuen Wan 2, Transport Department

For discussion of item 2F

Mr LO Tim-fat	Chief Inspector of Police (Operations) (Tsuen Wan) ¹ (Acting), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr NG Yu-tai	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Police Community Relations Office (Tsuen Wan District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr WU Chun-tung	Inspector of Police (Headquarters) (Enforcement and Control Division) (Traffic New Territories South), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr WONG Chi-keung, Brian	Engineer/Monitoring and Projects, Transport Department

For discussion of item 2H

Ms TAN Mime	Assistant Secretary (Greening and Landscape) ² , Development Bureau
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For discussion of item 2K

Dr YUEN Ka-yiu	Medical & Health Officer (Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office) ³ , Department of Health
Mr NG Kwan-lok	Executive Officer I (Enforcement) ² , Department of Health
Dr LUI Siu-yun	Medical & Health Officer (Community Liaison) ¹ , Department of Health

For discussion of item 2L

Mr LO Tim-fat	Chief Inspector of Police (Operations) (Tsuen Wan) ¹ (Acting), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr NG Yu-tai	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Police Community Relations Office (Tsuen Wan District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr POON Ka-man	Senior Engineer 1/Tsuen Wan Road, Highways Department
Mr LEUNG Allen	Engineer 2/Tsuen Wan Road, Highways Department
Mr YUEN Ting-fung, Jacky	Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1, Transport Department

For discussion of item 2M

Ms WONG Wai-ling, Winnie	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Management Policy) ³ , Environmental Protection Department
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For discussion of item 20

Mr CHEN Kin-tung, Tommy

Senior Estate Surveyor/Central (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)

For discussion of item 7

Mr CHU Tung-fai

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

Mr LAI Ching-ho, Dennis

Professional Officer 4-1, Joint Office/Buildings Department

Mr KAN Ka-man

Engineer/NTW (Customer Services) Inspection, Water Supplies Department

Absent:

Members

Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis

Mr LAM Faat-kang, MH

Co-opted Members

Mr LAM Kwok-on

Ms CHOW Chin-tung

The Meeting

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed the Members and representatives from the government departments to the 21st meeting of the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (EHAC) and introduced Mr YAU Kam-ping who attended the meeting for the first time.

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

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 20th Meeting held on 7.3.2019

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

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

(A) Paragraphs 5 to 9 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: 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

4. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Mr CHEUNG Kam-hing, Billy, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)4 (Sr Env Protection Offr (Regional W)4); and
- (2) Ms NG Wai-kei, Vicky, Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)44 (Asst Env Protection Offr (Regional W)44).

Besides, the Marine Department (MD) had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal.

5. Sr Env Protection Offr (Regional W)4 of the EPD reported that the EPD continued to monitor the effectiveness of the short-term measures which were implemented to further reduce noise. According to the EPD, the measures were effective in reducing the noise level. The EPD had been regularly assessing the noise level at the scrap metal recovery works during operation in the Rambler Channel Public Cargo Working Area (the "PCWA") over the past two months. The assessments yielded results similar to those in the past. The noise insulation fabric adopted by the contractors was effective in lowering the level of noise generated by machines in operation. The EPD would continue to monitor the noise level at the scrap metal recovery works in the PCWA.

6. The Chairman expressed regret at the MD's failure to send representatives to attend the EHAC meeting. The EHAC would request the MD to send representatives to attend the future meetings of the EHAC in writing. Besides, he requested the EPD to provide photos showing the use of noise insulation fabric by the contractors during operation for perusal and comment by Members.

7. Sr Env Protection Offr (Regional W)4 of the EPD responded that the EPD would discuss with the MD on the submission of relevant photos before the next EHAC meeting.

(B) Paragraphs 10 to 14 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Installation of IP Camera at the Black Spots of Refuse Disposal by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

8. The Chairman asked District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tsuen Wan) (Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan)) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to report the latest status.

9. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD reported that all existing IP cameras were working properly. It was not necessary for the FEHD to take prosecution action and the situation had been improved. The FEHD had received five proposed locations for installing additional IP cameras from Members and submitted the proposals to the Headquarters. The priority of installing additional IP cameras would be tabled at the next EHAC meeting for discussion.

(C) Paragraphs 15 to 23 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: 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

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

11. 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; and
- (3) Mr NG Ming-lau, Resident Engineer of the Atkins China Limited (Atkins).

12. Resident Engineer of Atkins reported that the electrical and mechanical installation works would be conducted at Wo Tik Street and Tsuen Wan Market Street from May to June 2019. The progress of the works at Hoi Pa Street and Chung On Street was satisfactory. It was expected that all the works in Tsuen Wan district would be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

13. Mr CHOW Ping-tim hoped that the progress of the works would not be affected by the rainy season. He also enquired about the DSD's progress in arranging for Members an on-site inspection at the locations where odour-control hydrogel (hydrogel) had been applied on a trial basis.

14. Engr/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the DSD would submit the information on hydrogel within the week of the meeting for perusal by the Chairman. Should the Chairman had other queries, the DSD would make further arrangements accordingly.

15. The Acting Chairman hoped that the DSD would make appropriate arrangements as soon as possible.

16. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(D) Paragraphs 24 to 29 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Request to Enhance the Inspection for and Efforts in Combating the Disposal of Construction Waste Casually in Tsuen Wan District

17. The Chairman said that Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)2 (Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2) of the EPD and Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD would give response to Members' enquiries on behalf of the EPD and FEHD respectively. The EPD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal.

18. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD reported that the FEHD had instituted 132 prosecutions from March to April 2019, among which five cases involved illegal dumping of construction waste.

19. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD reported that the EPD had conducted 142 inspections from February to March 2019, during which two fixed penalty notices (FPNs) were issued.

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

- (1) he pointed out that several heaps of construction waste were disposed of at the rear lane of Ham Tin Street. He enquired whether the departments would only clear the

waste upon receipt of complaints or they would take the initiative to conduct inspections. He also enquired about the departments' criteria for assigning staff to conduct inspections at specific locations (Mr LO Siu-kit);

- (2) he thanked the FEHD for its efforts (Mr KOO Yeung-pong);
- (3) he opined that illegal dumping of construction waste usually took place at night and the quantity of waste was small. He suggested that the departments should consider setting up additional planters at the roadside (Mr KOO Yeung-pong);
- (4) he hoped that the EPD would enhance the inspection and clear construction waste once identified (Mr KOO Yeung-pong);
- (5) the problems of littering and dumping of construction waste were more serious at the park outside Tai Pei Square. He hoped that the situation would be improved after the FEHD's installation of IP camera at this location (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (6) he suggested that when illegally dumped construction waste was found, the EPD should concurrently notify the Highways Department (HyD) and FEHD for more effective identification of black spots of illegal dumping of construction waste (Mr LO Siu-kit); and
- (7) he requested that the departments should pay attention to illegal dumping of construction waste near the shops selling renovation materials (Mr LO Siu-kit).

21. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that apart from sending its staff to conduct investigation at the scene upon receipt of complaint, the EPD would also proactively carry out inspections at black spots of illegal dumping of construction waste at different timeslots. For example, it would conduct ambush operations in the evening or during nighttime. Once the EPD identified illegally dumped construction waste, it would notify the department concerned to arrange for prompt clearance. The EPD had all along been exchanging information with other departments, with a view to planning suitable law enforcement operation and arranging for clearance of waste more effectively.

(Note: Mr KOT Siu-yuen and Mr LI Hung-por joined the meeting at 3:09 p.m.)

22. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD responded that the staff of the FEHD would pay attention to the patterns of illegal dumping of construction waste when conducting routine inspection or investigating complaints. The FEHD would then assign its staff to carry out blitz inspection and take prosecution action at different timeslots (e.g. during the small hours). The offenders of the aforesaid cases were prosecuted after a late-night operation. The FEHD would institute prosecution against the offenders of illegal dumping of construction waste on the spot. If construction waste was found on the street, the FEHD should refer the case to the EPD and HyD for follow-up. The FEHD would proactively liaise with the management offices of buildings in which renovation works were underway and briefed the renovation workers on the proper ways of handling construction waste. The FEHD would also take prosecution action on an irregular basis.

(E) Paragraphs 38 to 47 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: 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

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

24. The Acting Chairman said that he welcomed Mr CHEUNG Kim-hung, Michael, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 2 (Engr/Tsuen Wan 2) of the Transport Department (TD) who specially joined the meeting. In addition, the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were Mr LO Tim-fat, Chief Inspector of Police (Operations)1 (Tsuen Wan) (Acting) (CIP(OPS)1 (Atg.)) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), Senior Land Executive/Control 2 (Sr Land Ex/Control 2) of the District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (DLO) and Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD.

25. Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator (NPC) of the HKPF reported that the HKPF had issued two summonses in March 2019 to institute prosecution against cyclists who committed cycling on footpath.

26. Engr/Tsuen Wan 2 of the TD reported that the TD would continue to urge the operators of Automated Dockless Bicycle Rental Services (ADBRS) to remove the ADBRS bicycles in Tsuen Wan district as soon as possible. The ADBRS operators had removed ADBRS bicycles in Tsuen Wan district in April 2019 and reflected that the number of ADBRS bicycles continued to decline in the district.

27. Sr Land Ex/Control 2 of the DLO reported that during the joint operation in mid-April 2019, a total of 27 bicycles were removed by the DLO and eight of them were ADBRS bicycles.

28. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD reported that the FEHD had also participated in the joint clearance operation and would provide manpower and vehicles to facilitate the operation.

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

- (1) he agreed that the number of ADBRS bicycles in the district had been reduced. However, illegal parking of bicycles and cycling in an opposite direction to the traffic were still common at locations such as Yeung Uk Road in Tsuen Wan town centre. This might pose danger to pedestrians (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (2) he enquired why the HKPF instituted prosecution against persons who committed cycling on footpath by way of summons instead of issuing FPN. He also hoped that the departments would step up the law enforcement action against illegal parking of bicycles and cycling on footpath (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);

- (3) the acts of cycling in a direction opposite to the traffic and carrying bulk loads on bicycles were undesirable. The current prosecution figures reflected the inadequacy of law enforcement. He hoped that the HKPF would step up the prosecution action (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (4) according to his observation, the number of blue ADBRS bicycles in Tsuen Wan district was on the rise (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (5) he enquired whether the departments had set up a complaint mechanism for the public to report the locations of illegal parking of bicycles (Mr LO Siu-kit); and
- (6) as some damaged bicycles were abandoned at the bicycle parking spaces outside Tsuen Wan Market, he hoped that this area would be included in the joint clearance operation (Mr LO Siu-kit).

30. NPC of the HKPF responded that prosecution against offenders of cycling on footpath should be instituted by way of summons. The police officer would record the personal data of the offender at the scene. The HKPF would then apply to the court for a summons which required the offender to appear in the court hearing.

31. CIP(OPS1) (Atg.) of the HKPF added that the HKPF had all along been applying to the court for summons to institute prosecution against offenders who committed cycling on footpath. The issuance of FPNs was not applicable to such cases. The HKPF had been keeping in view the cycling offences in the district and would conduct irregular enforcement operation against the cycling offences in the district on a monthly basis.

32. Sr Land Ex/Control 2 of the DLO responded that the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO) was responsible for co-ordinating the handling of complaints on illegal parking of bicycles in the district. The DLO would refer the case at Tsuen Wan Market to the TWDO and consider arranging for a joint operation to remove illegally parked bicycles at this location.

33. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(F) Paragraphs 48 to 54 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Construction of Noise Barriers at Tuen Mun Road Return of a Quiet Home Environment for Tsing Lung Tau and Sham Tseng

34. The Chairman said that he welcomed Mr WONG Chi-keung, Brian, Engineer/Monitoring and Projects (Engr/Monitoring and Projects) of the TD and Mr WU Chun-tung, Inspector of Police (Headquarters) (Enforcement and Control Division) (Traffic New Territories South) (IP (Enforcement & Control Div) (Traffic NTS)) of the HKPF who specially joined the meeting. Besides, the HyD and EPD had submitted the written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal.

35. NPC of the HKPF reported that the HKPF had taken 21 enforcement actions against speeding in March 2019.

36. Engr/Monitoring and Projects of the TD reported that during vehicle examination, the TD would conduct enhanced inspection of exhaust pipes or silencers to check whether these components had been damaged or altered. If problems were identified, the vehicle in question would not be allowed to travel on roads.

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

- (1) although the EPD pointed out in its written reply that the measured noise level at Hong Kong Garden did not exceed the noise standards set out in the Noise Control Ordinance, the noise level of 65 decibels (dB) would still have an impact on the residents. Therefore, he did not share the EPD's view that the noise level was far below the standards (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (2) according to the prevailing Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, the road traffic noise limit was set at 70 dB. However, another set of noise standards was imposed on construction sites. The noise level of about 70 dB would be bearable for a specific location with a higher level of background noise. However, as Tsing Lung Tau and Sham Tseng were relatively quiet during nighttime, it would be acceptable if the noise level was lowered to 50 to 60 dB. Having said that, the EPD currently adopted the noise limit of 70 dB across the board and failed to conduct the noise measurement flexibly. As a result, the residents were seriously disturbed by traffic noise in daily life. He hoped that the EPD would cater for the public's needs by rectifying the deficiencies in the design of the existing noise barriers and promptly installing additional noise barriers at the road section nearest Hong Kong Garden (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (3) while acknowledging that the traffic noise level at Sea Crest Villa exceeded the standards, the EPD refused to install noise absorptive materials at the noise barriers on the grounds that the effectiveness was limited. It also rejected the proposal of constructing noise barriers alike those at Tsuen Wan Bypass along Sham Tseng Viaduct. He thus expressed dissatisfaction at the EPD (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (4) illegally modified vehicles would generate significant noise. While the annual vehicle examination should be arranged by appointment, the owners might restore the modified parts of their vehicles prior to the examination. It would thereby hamper the TD's effective identification of illegally modified vehicles. As such, he opined that the TD failed to make targeted efforts to tackle the problem of illegally modified vehicles. He hoped that the TD would allocate more resources to address the problem and institute prosecution against owners of illegally modified vehicles once such vehicles were identified on roads (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (5) currently, the EPD would only calculate the average noise level within a specific period based on the noise measurements taken in residential flats during the noise test. However, the noise test failed to reflect unexpected noise nuisance which would have a more serious impact on the public (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben);

- (6) prior to the annual vehicle examination, some owners might restore the modified parts of their vehicles in order to pass the examination. He therefore requested that the TD should consider deploying its staff for road patrols. Once the TD's staff on patrol identified vehicles suspected of being illegally modified, they could request to examine these vehicles or collect evidence for prosecution on the spot (the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben); and
- (7) he enquired how the HKPF would deal with vehicles suspected of being illegally modified which were found during patrol (the Chairman).

38. Sr Env Protection Offr (Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that she would convey Members' suggestions to the responsible section.

39. Engr/Monitoring and Projects of the TD responded that apart from accepting appointments for the annual vehicle examination made by vehicle owners, the TD also required vehicles in complaint cases to undergo an examination upon receipt of the complaints. Vehicle Examiners of the TD would act in response to the HKPF's operations and assist with the Police's enforcement work at the scenes of the operations. However, the TD would not conduct inspections on individual roads.

40. IP (Enforcement & Control Div) (Traffic NTS) of the HKPF responded that the enforcement figures of the HKPF between 2018 and the first quarter of 2019 were self-explanatory. The Traffic New Territories South arrested two persons suspected of illegal road racing in March 2019 as well as three persons suspected of dangerous driving and violating the conditions of trade licence in April 2019. The number of vehicles detained by the HKPF for examination on the spot in Tsuen Wan district was 402, 858 and 248 in 2017, 2018 and the first quarter of 2019 respectively.

41. The Chairman enquired of the HKPF whether the vehicles detained at the scene in Tsuen Wan district had been involved in illegal road racing or the vehicles involved in illegal road racing mainly originated from other districts.

42. IP (Enforcement & Control Div) (Traffic NTS) of the HKPF responded that the aforesaid number of vehicles detained for examination included those detained by the HKPF during the enforcement operations on the road sections near Tuen Mun Road and Castle Peak Road along which the residents were subject to more serious noise nuisance. He believed that the figures could sufficiently reflect the enforcement actions taken by the HKPF in the district. However, there was no evidence suggesting that the vehicles detained at the scene had been involved in any illegal road racing activities, their originating districts or that the two sets of data were correlated. According to the HKPF, besides taking law enforcement actions, the departments concerned should work in tandem to improve the situation.

(Note: The Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben left the meeting at 3:23 p.m.)

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

- (1) the problem of illegal road racing could not be eradicated because the number of vehicles detained at the scene did not suffice to achieve a deterrent effect (the Chairman);
- (2) he opined that the Police should conduct enforcement operations against illegal road racing at locations such as Tsuen Wan Road in the district and these operations could achieve a deterrent effect. He hoped that the Police would allocate more resources for deployment (Mr WONG Wai-kit);
- (3) the situation of illegal road racing had worsened in recent years compared to that in the past. He suggested that apart from conducting enforcement operations targeted at illegal road racing, the Government should amend the legislation in order to prosecute owners of vehicles generating excessive noise. It should also draw reference from the adoption of roadside noise detection cameras in Taiwan, so as to identify and request vehicles generating excessive noise to undergo examination (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (4) regarding the TD's mechanism of requesting a vehicle to undergo examination upon receipt of complaints, he enquired whether such a request would be made according to the number of complaints lodged against the vehicle in question. Also, he enquired about the information required for lodging a complaint (Mr CHENG Chit-pun);
- (5) the TD had requested that a complaint on vehicle noise nuisance should be accompanied by photos. He considered that this was an unreasonable practice because noise nuisance could not be reflected in photos (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (6) he enquired whether the TD would accord priority to considering the reports made by Members (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (7) he agreed that the enforcement operations of the Police were effective in combating illegal road racing. However, apart from law enforcement, the departments should lower the noise requirement for constructing noise barriers and tighten the noise requirement for imported vehicles (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (8) illegal road racing occurred in various districts. He opined that an underground system of induction loops could effectively reduce vehicular speed. He hoped that the Government would expeditiously amend the legislation to facilitate the departments' adoption of different technologies in law enforcement (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
- (9) a vehicle might generate noise due to higher rotational speed of the engine during deceleration. He had enquired of the EPD whether certain types of vehicles which produced a higher level of noise were suitable for import in the past (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (10) he opined that the Police's enforcement operations against illegal road racing could put people's mind at ease. Besides, he commented that the noise requirement of imported vehicles should be tightened and a study should be promptly conducted to identify solutions to rectify the blunder which was made in the planning of Hong Kong Garden in the past, with a view to alleviating the noise nuisance (Mr LO Siu-kit);

- (11) the EPD had organised a course on the prosecution procedures against smoky vehicles for Members in the past and distributed complaint forms to Members for reporting smoky vehicles. He opined that the problem of vehicle noise could be tackled with reference to this arrangement (the Chairman);
- (12) he enquired about the Police's advice on making legislative amendments to facilitate prosecution (the Chairman); and
- (13) he enquired whether a complainant should provide photos when lodging complaint on vehicle noise to the TD (Mr LI Hung-por).

(Note: Ms LAM, Lam Nixie joined the meeting at 3:32 p.m.)

44. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 of the EPD responded that she noted Members' views and would convey the views to the responsible section for follow-up.

45. Engr/Monitoring and Projects of the TD responded that the public were welcome to report vehicles generating excessive noise to the TD. If the TD received a complaint with sufficient evidence, a Vehicle Examiner would issue an examination order to the owner requiring the vehicle in question to undergo examination. Besides, the TD would continue to keep in view the tests of roadside noise detection cameras overseas. Besides looking into complaints on vehicle noise, the TD should also handle complaints about other vehicle problems. Vehicle Examiners would consider various factors before taking any action. In this connection, the public should provide accurate information (e.g. photos or video clips)for a balance of the interests of all parties and the avoidance of disturbance of other irrelevant vehicle owners.

46. IP (Enforcement & Control Div) (Traffic NTS) of the HKPF responded that he agreed that the introduction of legislative amendments and exploration of other solutions could help mitigate traffic noise. The TD planned to implement the Average Speed Camera System (ASCS) Trial Scheme on Tsuen Wan Road in the fourth quarter of 2019. The HKPF welcomed the introduction of new technologies and legislative amendments to combat the related offences and would continue to carry out the law enforcement work.

47. The Chairman said that the EHAC would request the EPD to assign subject officers to attend meetings.

(G) Paragraphs 55 to 59 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Issue about Recycling Flow of the "Regulated Electrical Equipment"

48. The Chairman said that the EPD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal. Besides, the EHAC would pay a visit to WEEE-PARK and T-PARK in the afternoon on 22 May 2019 and decide whether it would continue to discuss this agenda item at the next meeting.

(H) Paragraphs 60 to 67 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: The Need for Improving the Way of Tree Planting as Revealed by Typhoon Slashes

49. The Chairman welcomed Ms TAN Mime, Assistant Secretary (Greening and Landscape) 2 (AS (Greening and Landscape)2) of the Development Bureau (DEVB) who specially joined the meeting. Besides, the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were

Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2 (Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and Senior District Engineer/General (3) (Sr Dist Engr/G(3)) of the HyD.

50. AS (Greening and Landscape)2 of the DEVB reported that the consultant engaged by the DEVB had completed the first phase of the study in December 2018 and drawn up the Street Tree Selection Guide. The DEVB commenced the second phase of the consultancy study on improving the planting environment for trees in urban areas in late March 2019. The study aimed to explore ways to improve the planting environment. It was expected to be completed by 2021.

51. Sr Dist Engr/G(3) of the HyD reported that the HyD was mainly responsible for the maintenance of tree pits and paving blocks, whereas the LCSD was responsible for the maintenance of roadside trees. The HyD would tie in with the replanting work of the LCSD and provide assistance in improving tree pits. The HyD would draw reference from the established construction plans for different types of tree pits. At the EHAC meeting held on 1 November 2018, the HyD introduced methods to improve tree pits (e.g. widening tree pits and merging adjacent tree pits to create a larger growing space for tree roots). However, these methods could only be used if the actual underground situation permitted, and no impact on pedestrians and traffic was expected.

52. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD reported that the LCSD would replant about 60% of the trees which collapsed or should be removed in the wake of typhoon Mangkhut and the replanting rate of trees in roadside tree guards was 90%. It failed to replant trees in situ mainly because of the higher tree density in the surrounding area or the undesirable terrain and environment.

(Note: Mr WONG Ka-wa left the meeting at 3:43 p.m.)

53. Ms LAM, Lam Nixie said that the roadside trees at Phase 3 of Belvedere Garden often wither because the tree pits were relatively shallow. She enquired about the DEVB's plan of updating the construction standards of tree pits which were outdated. On this side of Castle Peak Road at Belvedere Garden, the roadside planters were shallower than those on the other side and both trees and bushes were present. The situation was unsatisfactory. She hoped that the departments would take the initiative to make improvements.

54. AS (Greening and Landscape)2 of the DEVB responded that the DEVB had issued guidelines in 2012/2013 which recommended that the departments should, where practicable, refine the design details of tree pits on footpaths and should not remove trees hastily for widening of tree pits during the implementation of works. The departments should also consider whether planters could be improved without affecting the health of various kinds of existing plants.

55. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD responded that the LCSD was responsible for the maintenance of trees within 10 metres from the kerb of non-expressway public roads, including the roadside trees at the waterfront along Hoi On Road. Moreover, the

LCSD usually planted trees in larger flower beds or green zones at its venues and seldom adopted tree guards.

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

- (1) he said that the performance of the LCSD in respect of tree replanting was satisfactory. However, he opined that the DLO was less effective in removing collapsed trees and replanting trees due to insufficient arborists. He therefore hoped that the DEVB would review the situation concerned (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (2) he pointed out that the LCSD had already taken up the maintenance of trees within 10 metres from kerb of non-expressway roads. He opined that the DLO required more resources and manpower to conduct replanting work for trees which collapsed in the areas under its management. Otherwise, the LCSD should take up the maintenance of trees within 15 metres from kerb of public roads (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (3) she requested the DEVB to provide the Street Tree Selection Guide and the guidelines issued by the DEVB in 2012/2013 for Members' perusal (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (4) she enquired about the tree species which the department concerned would plant at Tsuen Wan waterfront. There was news that the department planned to plant *Bauhinia variegata* at the waterfront. However, she opined that as *Bauhinia variegata* required more frequent maintenance, it might not be suitable to plant this tree species at the waterfront where sea breeze carried a higher level of salinity. She therefore recommended that other tree species should be planted instead (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie); and
- (5) as the DLO had thus far not conducted any replanting work for native trees which had collapsed, it gave people an impression that the DLO failed to manage trees properly. He enquired of the DEVB about the guidelines on managing this situation (the Chairman).

57. AS (Greening and Landscape)² of the DEVB responded as follows:

- (1) the DEVB would provide the EHAC with the relevant information after the meeting for Members' perusal;
- (2) the DEVB would approach the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) to learn about the direction of selecting tree species for Tsuen Wan waterfront and ask the CEDD to provide the relevant information for Members;
- (3) the departments had expeditiously removed the collapsed trees under different circumstances;
- (4) the departments had clear delineation of duties and scope of work. They were responsible for managing trees in different areas and had already conducted tree risk assessment and tree management work;
- (5) to make prudent use of public money, the departments would consider whether replanting of trees should be carried out having regard to the proposed use of land, so as to prevent the replanted trees from being removed when the land was under development in the future. The departments would also review whether trees should be planted at the sites under their management;
- (6) the DLO had already conducted large-scale clearance of collapsed trees;
- (7) the LCSD would maintain trees within 10 metres from kerb of non-expressway roads and take proper follow-up actions; and

- (8) in general, trees found on land which was not managed by any government departments as well as on unleased and unallocated government land were wild trees. If the land would be used for development in the future, the departments would conduct greening during the implementation of works having regard to the circumstances.

58. Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) of the DLO responded that the DLO had substantially completed the clearance of collapsed trees on unleased and unallocated government land on 30 April 2019. At present, only a small number of collapsed trees were pending clearance. Members were welcomed to provide information on the locations where clearance of collapsed trees was required after the meeting for follow-up. Moreover, the planting of trees was not under the DLO's purview. The Vegetation Contract Management Team of the Lands Department was only responsible for providing irregular maintenance for trees on unleased and unallocated government land which was not managed by other government departments and was located 10 meters from kerb of public roads.

59. The Chairman said that during the development at Tsuen Wan Town Lot 393 in the New Territories in the past, the developer was required to retain the trees at the site. Also, the number of newly planted trees was also set out in the land lease. However, this arrangement was inapplicable to government land. He suggested that Members could put forward proposals on approaches to tree planting in Tsuen Wan district to the DEVB after the meeting. Currently, the DEVB was conducting a study on enhancing the standards of tree planting. It was expected to be completed in 2021. Further discussion could only be carried out upon completion of the study. If Members held that certain locations were noteworthy, the EHAC would discuss these locations at the next meeting.

(I) Paragraphs 68 to 76 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Strongly Request to Enhance the Rodent Control and Prevention

60. The Chairman said that the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were Sr Dist Engr/G(3) of the HyD, Assistant Housing Manager/Shek Wai Kok 2 (Asst Housing Mgr/SWK 2) of the Housing Department (HD), Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)2 of the LCSD and Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD.

61. Asst Housing Mgr/SWK 2 of the HD reported that the HD would continue to enhance the rodent control and prevention work in public housing estates.

62. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD reported that the FEHD would continue to strengthen the street cleansing as well as pest and rodent control work in the district. It would also implement an eight-week anti-rodent operation in target areas, e.g. improving the hygiene condition at rear lanes and cracking down on littering. The staff of Pest Control Section under the FEHD would place rodent baits at locations of rodent infestation, fill the rat holes as well as reminding operators of restaurants and shops to properly handle refuse and food waste. Hopefully, these measures would help control and alleviate the rodent infestation in the district.

63. Sr Dist Engr/G(3) of the HyD reported that the HyD had completed the replacement of more than 20 ordinary drainage channel covers with porous drainage channel gratings in the old areas in Tsuen Wan in early April 2019. The HyD would continue to tie in with the operations of the FEHD and the relevant departments and step up the inspections at rear lanes. The HyD would immediately conduct repairs once damages or holes were identified on the ground.

64. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD reported that the LCSD had strengthened its anti-rodent work for the venues under its management and roadside planters. Members were welcomed to raise improvement proposals, if any, and the LCSD would take follow-up actions accordingly.

65. The Chairman said that the EHAC would not continue to discuss the captioned item at the next meeting.

(J) Paragraphs 80 to 84 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Request the Departments to Improve the Footbridge Cleanliness and Enhance the Public Education, and Strongly Request for Frequent Enhancement of Cleansing Services of Tsuen King Circuit Flyover to Maintain its Cleanliness

66. The Chairman said that the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were Sr Dist Engr/G(3) of the HyD and Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD.

67. Sr Dist Engr/G(3) of the HyD reported that the HyD had provided the EHAC with the cleansing timetable in April 2019 for footbridge nos. NF437, NF439 and NF440 near Tsing Lung Tau and footbridge no. NF334 near Summit Terrace on Castle Peak Road in early April 2019 in writing. Also, the HyD had provided Members with the photos taken during the cleansing services at the EHAC meeting. The HyD would furnish the EHAC with the cleansing timetable in May 2019 once it was confirmed.

68. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD reported that the FEHD would continue to deploy its staff to the locations concerned to provide routine street sweeping services.

69. The Chairman opined that the cleansing services for footbridges were satisfactory and hoped that the HyD would continue to cleanse the footbridges on a regular basis. The EHAC would not continue to discuss the captioned item at the next meeting.

(K) Paragraphs 85 to 97 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Strongly Request the Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office of the Department of Health to Improve and Strengthen the Law Enforcement in Tsuen Wan District for Further Protecting the Residents of Tsuen Wan District from the Secondhand Smoke and Restoring the Government's Legislative Intent of the Designation of No Smoking Areas in Protection of the Public from the Smoking Nuisance

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

71. The Acting Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Department of Health (DH) who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Dr YUEN Ka-yiu, Medical & Health Officer (Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office)³ (Med & Health Offr(TACO)³);
- (2) Dr LUI Siu-yun, Medical & Health Officer (Community Liaison)¹; and
- (3) Mr NG Kwan-lok, Executive Officer I (Enforcement)² (EO I (Enforcement)²).

Besides, the DH had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal.

72. Med & Health Offr(TACO)³ of the DH responded as follows:

- (1) to protect public health, the Government's established policy was to discourage smoking among the public, curb the widespread use of tobacco and minimise the impact of secondhand smoke on the public;
- (2) the DH would adopt a progressive and multi-pronged approach to reduce the smoking prevalence and prevent the youth from picking up the habit of cigarette smoking. The smoking prevalence in the territory had reduced from about 23% in the 1982 to 10% in 2017;
- (3) the scope of statutory no smoking areas (NSAs) had been substantially expanded since the amendment to the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance in 2006. At present, all indoor public places and workplaces as well as many outdoor areas had been designated as statutory NSAs;
- (4) the smoking ban had been extended in stages to cover a total of about 240 public transport facilities (PTFs), including those in 13 locations in Tsuen Wan district, and 11 bus interchanges leading to expressways or tunnels;
- (5) in 2018, the DH had received a total of 18 100 complaints about illegal smoking over the territory, conducted more than 32 200 inspections and instituted more than 8 820 prosecutions. In the same year, the TACO had received 765 complaints about illegal smoking in Tsuen Wan district, conducted 1 611 inspections and instituted 475 prosecutions;
- (6) the TACO would follow up each complaint about illegal smoking, conduct blitz inspections at nighttime and during public holidays, as well as proactively conducting inspections at the locations where the problem of illegal smoking was more serious;
- (7) the TACO would bring individual problems of illegal smoking at venues managed by the FEHD, LCSD and HD to the attention of the respective departments, and make referrals accordingly; and
- (8) the DH had formed a task force comprising retired officers of disciplinary forces to strengthen the law enforcement at nighttime and during public holidays. The Government would continue to review the staffing establishment of the TACO from time to time and seek additional resources according to the established procedures where necessary.

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

- (1) she informed the TACO that some people smoked at the rear staircases on the upper floors of The Pavilia Bay. She worried that it would pose a fire hazard to the residents and hoped that the TACO would take follow-up actions (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (2) he expressed dissatisfaction at the TACO for its failure to give response to Members' views raised at the previous meeting. For example, Members hoped that the new public transport interchange (PTI) on Hoi Kwai Road would be designated as a statutory NSA (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (3) he hoped that the DH would strengthen communication with the EHAC and provide the EHAC with the figures and geographical distribution of complaints and enforcement operations against illegal smoking on a regular basis (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (4) while only a few restaurants were open until midnight in Tsuen Wan district, the problem of illegal smoking was serious at the restaurants. However, the staff of the TACO had neither conducted inspections nor taken law enforcement action at the restaurants which were open late into the night. It would give people a false impression that smoking was permitted at these restaurants and expose diners who were non-smokers to second-hand smoke (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (5) he requested that the TACO should assign its staff to conduct inspections at venues frequented by the public (e.g. restaurants and parks) in the district on a regular basis (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (6) he requested the TACO to promptly tackle the problem of gathering of numerous smokers at the corridor on the ground floor of Tsuen Kam Centre on horse racing days. He also requested the TACO to provide the enforcement figures at this location and the restaurants nearby (Mr KOT Siu-yuen);
- (7) he hoped the TACO would step up its inspections in the markets to enhance the deterrent effect (Mr LAM Fook-chuen);
- (8) he opined that the inspections conducted at parks or markets by the staff of the TACO could achieve a better deterrent effect than that conducted by the frontline staff of other departments (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (9) he hoped that the TACO would enhance its inspections at restaurants and, in particular, check whether diners smoked illegally inside the booths at the restaurants (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (10) he suggested that the TACO should arrange for plain-clothes officers to conduct decoy operations on a trial basis to confirm whether there was illegal smoking; if yes, the TACO could arrange for law enforcement operations afterwards with a view to improving the existing practices of law enforcement (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (11) he enquired if it was an offence to smoke within the area of the footpath outside the PTI on Sai Lau Kok Road (Mr CHAN Sung-ip);
- (12) he enquired whether the DH would designate new NSAs proactively or in response to the public's proposals of designating certain locations as NSAs (Mr KOO Yeung-pong); and

- (13) the TACO had requested the management office of a private footbridge to remove no smoking notices on the footbridge in the past. He hoped that the Government would consider designating private footbridges as statutory NSAs (Mr KOO Yeung-pong).

(Note: The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael joined the meeting at 4:00 p.m.)

74. Med & Health Offr(TACO)3 of the DH responded as follows:

- (1) the DH would examine the information of PTFs obtained from the TD on an annual basis. If a new PTF met the legislative requirements, the DH would arrange for designating it as a statutory NSA. If an existing PTF no longer met the relevant legislative definition due to changes in its layout, the DH would remove it from the legislation;
- (2) the DH would examine the new PTFs in the district and designate the PTFs which met the relevant legislative definition as NSAs when updating the list of PTFs designated as NSAs in the future;
- (3) the TACO would inspect various kinds of premises. It had conducted more than 2 200 and 3 000 inspections at markets and restaurants respectively in 2018;
- (4) the outdoor area of Tsuen Kam Centre was not designated as a statutory NSA because the percentage of enclosed area did not meet the statutory requirement for “indoor” area. If a location was designated as a statutory NSA despite failing to meet the requirement for enclosed area, it would have a far-reaching implication and all streets in the territory would be involved;
- (5) when formulating the policies of tobacco control, the DH should consider an array of factors including the needs of various parties and whether the policies were practicable in terms of implementation and law enforcement. The DH would convey Members’ views to the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) for consideration; and
- (6) apart from conducting inspections upon receipt of complaints, the TACO would also proactively send its staff to conduct inspections at the locations with a more serious problem of illegal smoking. According to the guidelines of the DH, Tobacco and Alcohol Control Inspectors should perform duties in uniform so as to ensure safety. The plain-clothes officers might be deployed to conduct investigations subject to the circumstances.

75. EO I (Enforcement)2 of the DH responded as follows:

- (1) from January to March 2019, the DH had received a total of 212 complaints about illegal smoking, conducted inspections for 381 premises among which more than 100 were shopping centres, and instituted 91 prosecutions in Tsuen Wan district;
- (2) besides, the DH had conducted 42 inspections at parks, including 12 inspections at Jockey Club Tak Wah Park during which four FPNs were issued, 15 inspections at Tsuen Wan Park during which three prosecutions were initiated and 11 inspections at Tsuen Wan Riviera Park during which three prosecutions were initiated;
- (3) from January to March 2019, the DH had conducted 30 inspections at ordinary food premises and issued seven FPNs, and conducted 42 inspections at places of public entertainment (e.g. bars and mahjong schools) in Tsuen Wan district;
- (4) since 2018, the DH had conducted 30 inspections at Yeung Uk Road Market and issued nine FPNs;

- (5) the DH would liaise with the Member after the meeting in respect of the issue of people smoking at the rear staircases of The Pavilia Bay; and
- (6) the staff of the TACO had conducted blitz inspections at the restaurants beside the off-course betting centre on the ground level of Tsuen Kam Centre but found no offender of illegal smoking. The DH had requested the operators of the restaurants to comply with the smoking ban and would conduct inspections at the restaurants again.

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

- (1) he hoped that the DH would submit the inspection and enforcement figures in writing in the future (the Acting Chairman);
- (2) as new footbridges connecting different locations in Tsuen Wan district would be completed soon, he hoped that the DH would relay to the FHB the need to revise the requirement for the percentage of enclosed area with respect to the designation of NSAs (the Acting Chairman);
- (3) he enquired whether it was an offence to briefly enter a PTI with a lighted cigarette (the Acting Chairman);
- (4) he enquired whether the accesses at the PTI on Sai Lau Kok Road and the extension outside MTR Tsuen Wan Station had been designated as NSAs (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);
- (5) he hoped that the TACO would provide the enforcement figures in the district proactively (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (6) the new PTI on Hoi Kwai Road was still not designated as a statutory NSA even though it had been commissioned for some time. It was undesirable to review the designation of statutory NSAs on an annual basis because this PTI would experience a period of regulatory vacuum prior to the review (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (7) the sole requirement for designating an area as a statutory NSA was that the enclosed area should be at least up to 50% of the total area on all sides. He opined that this requirement should be revised and proposed introducing a supplementary requirement which took into account the number of smokers within a specific area. He hoped that the DH would consider other relevant factors (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (8) the process of reviewing the legislation on smoking ban was slow. He hoped that the FHB and DH would consider amending the legislation promptly to alleviate the serious impact of secondhand smoke. He also suggested that the DH should study the dispersion area of secondhand smoke and scientifically formulate requirements for designating NSAs based on the results of the study (Mr CHOW Ping-tim); and
- (9) the gathering of smokers inside Tsuen Kam Centre would cause serious nuisance to nearby residents. He opined that it was improper to persistently rely on the FEHD to provide assistance in taking prosecution action. He believed that the said problem could only be solved when the requirement of the percentage of enclosed area was relaxed for the designation of NSAs. He proposed that the EHAC should issue a letter to the FHB requesting for amendment to the relevant legislation (Mr KOT Siu-yuen).

77. Med & Health Offr(TACO)³ of the DH responded as follows:

- (1) he undertook that the TACO would relay Members' request for relaxing the requirement of the percentage of enclosed area with respect to the designation of NSAs and proposal of designating footbridges as statutory NSAs to the FHB;
- (2) it was an offence for any person to enter an NSA with a lighted tobacco product. Tobacco and Alcohol Control Inspectors would immediately institute prosecution against the offender without prior warning once identified; and
- (3) the DH would request the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited (MTRCL) to tackle the problem of illegal smoking within the enclosed areas which failed to meet the legislative requirement for indoor area under its management.

78. The Acting Chairman said that the EHAC would issue a letter to the FHB requesting for relaxing the requirement of the percentage of enclosed area with respect to the designation of NSAs and for designating footbridges as statutory NSAs.

79. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(L) Paragraphs 98 to 103 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Request to Immediately Draw Up the Construction Schedule of Noise Barriers on Tsuen Wan Road and Formulate the Short-term Measures in order to Reduce the Annoyance Caused to the Residents

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

- (1) Mr YUEN Ting-fung, Jacky, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1 (Engr/Tsuen Wan 1) of the TD;
- (2) Mr POON Ka-man, Senior Engineer 1/Tsuen Wan Road (Sr Engr 1/Tsuen Wan Road) of the HyD; and
- (3) Mr LEUNG Allen, Engineer 2/Tsuen Wan Road of the HyD.

Besides, the representative of the department responsible for giving response was CIP(OPS)¹ (Atg.) of the HKPF. The EPD had submitted a written reply on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal.

81. Sr Engr 1/Tsuen Wan Road of the HyD reported that with respect to the widening of Tsuen Wan Road, extension of the existing flyover on Texaco Road and improvement works for the associated junctions, the HyD was currently working to engage a consultant to conduct the investigation and work out the feasible plans and preliminary designs for the proposed works. The scope of the investigation included conducting environmental impact assessments pursuant to the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance and public consultation, as well as gazettal of the projects according to the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) and handling of different opinions. The investigation was expected to commence in the second quarter of 2019 and to complete in 2022.

82. Engr/Tsuen Wan 1 of the TD reported that the TD was planning to implement the ASCS Trial Scheme for about six months in the fourth quarter of 2019. The scheme aimed to test the feasibility and reliability of the system being adopted in Hong Kong and seek views from the court on the evidence collected by the system. The TD preliminarily planned to install digital cameras at the entrance and exit of the road section under surveillance to record all vehicles

passing through the entrance and exit and the time of passage. Also, the automatic number plate recognition technology would be adopted for identification of vehicles. Based on the data on time, the average speed of vehicles could be calculated.

83. CIP(OPS)1 (Atg.) of the HKPF reported that Traffic New Territories South would handle and institute prosecution against the speeding of vehicles.

(Note: Mr LI Hung-por, Mr MAN Yu-ming and Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones left the meeting at 4:58 p.m.)

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

- (1) some departments could only commence certain constructions works after the HyD completed the investigation. The reserved land for the constructions works was therefore left vacant. She enquired whether the HyD's investigation and other construction works could be implemented concurrently (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (2) she had approached the FEHD to learn more about the proposed location for relocation of the cooked food market. She wished to discuss with the departments after the meeting on how they could coordinate and work in tandem to implement the relevant projects in parallel. It was hoped that the works for the cooked food market could promptly commence without affecting the widening of Tsuen Wan Road (Ms LAM, Lam Nixie);
- (3) he enquired of the TD about the number of surveillance points which would be set up on Tsuen Wan Road under the ASCS Trail Scheme. Also, he hoped that the TD would include Tuen Mun Road in the trial scheme (Mr WONG Wai-kit);
- (4) he opined that offenders of speeding enjoyed the thrill of acceleration. As such, a speeding motorist might slow down when entering the first surveillance point and accelerate before travelling past the second monitoring point. He therefore suggested that the cameras to be installed at the surveillance points should also function as speed enforcement cameras. Besides, he requested the TD to provide the EHAC with the detailed information and brief the EHAC on the trial scheme prior to the implementation (the Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael); and
- (5) he enquired of the HyD whether the funding it applied for was used for engaging a consultant to conduct a consultancy study or for paying the construction cost (Mr LO Siu-kit).

85. The Chairman stated that as the construction of cooked food market was not within the scope of discussion of the captioned item, the Member should discuss it with the departments after the meeting. In addition, the discussion on detection of vehicular speed fell beyond the terms of reference of the EHAC. However, as it might be regarded as a short-term noise mitigation measure, the representative of the TD might give a brief reply in this regard.

86. Sr Engr 1/Tsuen Wan Road of the HyD responded that the HyD had already made funding application for the investigation. It was expected that the funding would be approved within a few weeks or by the end of May 2019. Although the investigation was anticipated to be completed in 2022, the widening of Tsuen Wan Road could not commence immediately after the completion of the investigation. As the cooked food market was a permanent facility, the

building and its foundation would affect the design and implementation of the proposed widening of Tsuen Wan Road. It might pose problems such as inadequate space for the foundation works and hampering the implementation of works at the flyover. Therefore, the HyD could not support the proposal of concurrently implementing the relocation works of the cooked food market and conducting the investigation study.

87. Engr/Tsuen Wan 1 of the TD responded that the TD was selecting suitable locations for the ASCS Trial Scheme and Tsuen Wan Road was one of the selected sites. The TD would select locations with fewer slip-roads for the trial scheme. Besides, the TD noted Members' suggestions on the detection of vehicular speed and would further study the matter. The TD would also seek Members' views prior to the trial scheme.

88. The Chairman said that generally, the funding for a construction project would be granted upon the completion of feasibility study and cost estimation. Hence, it would take some time before the relevant project commenced. Members could coordinate the implementation of the project with the departments after the meeting.

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

(M) Paragraphs 104 to 108 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: How Should the Members of the Public Properly Handle the "Items of Left-out Materials" that are Blocked from Channels for Recycling

89. The Chairman welcomed Ms WONG Wai-ling, Winnie, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Management Policy)³ (Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Management Policy)³) of the EPD who specially joined the meeting.

90. Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Management Policy)³ of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) according to the Hong Kong : Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022, the Government had progressively implemented the Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRSs) for different products. The PRSs, in order of implementation, were the Plastic Shopping Bag Charging Scheme, the PRS on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment which covered the regulated electrical equipment, and the PRS on Glass Beverage Containers;
- (2) the EPD had examined the necessity, feasibility and priority of introducing the PRSs for various products. After taking into account various factors, the EPD decided to further introduce the PRS on Plastic Beverage Containers and would implement this PRS as soon as possible;
- (3) the EPD had all along maintained close liaison with the recycling industry for discussion on the implementation of voluntary recycling programme. The voluntary PRSs on rechargeable batteries, computer products, and fluorescent lamps and tubes were implemented in collaboration with the industry;
- (4) the EPD had discussed with the industry on extending the recycling programme to cover single-use batteries and light emitting diode (LED) tubes. However, according to the industry, most of the single-use batteries available in the market in Hong Kong were alkaline batteries which did not contain heavy metals. The EPD had also drawn reference from the restrictions on the contents of mercury and heavy metal in

single-use batteries imposed by different countries and noted that the governments of many countries had started to impose restrictions on heavy metal (e.g. mercury) content in single-use batteries. Also, the industry had implemented the voluntary recycling programme for single-use batteries on a trial basis in 2012. Upon implementation, it was found that the cost of recovery and export of single-use batteries was a burden on the industry. After discussion, it was concluded that the recovery and processing of single-use batteries was not cost-effective. The EPD had therefore decided that the voluntary recycling programme would not be extended to single-use batteries in the near future. Moreover, the landfills in the territory had been constructed with impermeable liners to intercept and treat leachate. Therefore, it was safe to dispose of single-use batteries in the landfills;

- (5) as LED lighting fittings were made of plastics and metals without harmful substance (e.g. mercury), they were not chemical wastes and would not cause serious impact on the environment. Noting that the value and effectiveness of recycling LED lighting fittings were low, the industry had decided not to extend the voluntary recycling programme to cover LED lighting fittings at this stage after consideration;
- (6) the EPD had established the Community Recycling Network since 2011. It consisted of 17 community recycling centres, two community recycling vehicles and 50 collection points which offered waste-commodities exchange service for the public who brought along recyclables such as waste plastics, glass containers, and small waste electrical and electronic equipment, with a view to creating an atmosphere for the public to develop a lasting habit of recycling. The Network also served as an effective platform for disseminating information on waste reduction and recycling in the community; and
- (7) the EPD had also planned to provide recurrent subsidies for the established community recycling centres which were based in various districts, in order to support their operation and sustainable development and enhance the waste reduction and recycling support for the residents in the districts.

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

- (1) although the EPD had set up the collection points in the community, the utilisation rate of the collection points was low. It was probably due to inadequate publicity (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (2) some housing estates gradually replaced the fluorescent tubes installed at common areas with LED lighting fittings with a view to obtaining subsidy or reducing electricity consumption. While many fluorescent tubes were disposed of at the same time, the community recycling centres were unable to handle a large quantity of fluorescent tubes. As a result, the disposed fluorescent tubes were not handled properly (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (3) he opined that the EPD failed to formulate appropriate regulations or guidelines on proper treatment of fluorescent tubes containing mercury for the public (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris);
- (4) he suggested that the Government should encourage the public to switch to rechargeable batteries by economic means. For example, the retail price of single-use batteries should include the recycling cost (Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris); and
- (5) the contractor had set up on-street recycling bins for glass beverage containers. As

the FEHD would not empty recycling bins printed with the recycling logo on the street, the recycling bins might cause problems of street management (e.g. street obstruction). Hence, he hoped that the EPD would prepare detailed plans for the recycling programmes such as a timetable for collecting glass beverage containers (Mr LO Siu-kit).

92. Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Management Policy)³ of the EPD responded that all the seven existing Community Green Stations in the territory would collect recyclables including fluorescent tubes which contained mercury. The EPD's e-waste collection vehicle would also collect fluorescent tubes in various housing estates on a weekly basis. Generally speaking, if a fluorescent light tube was intact, the mercury therein would not be released into the air or evaporate, and would not therefore pose any danger. After recycling, the fluorescent tubes would be transported to the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in Tsing Yi for proper treatment. Moreover, rechargeable batteries could be recharged more than 100 000 times. The EPD would continue its publicity and educational work to encourage the public to use rechargeable batteries instead of single-use batteries. The EPD would relay the Member's views on recycling of glass beverage containers to the responsible section.

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

- (1) he understood that the EPD tended to encourage the public to use rechargeable batteries by means of publicity and education. Also, he hoped that the EPD would note Members' views and consider setting the retail prices of single-use batteries at higher levels than those of rechargeable batteries, thereby providing a greater incentive for the public to switch to rechargeable batteries; and
- (2) he enquired whether the EPD would consider introducing legislation to prohibit the public from disposing of the "items of left-out materials" after establishing channels for proper treatment.

94. Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Management Policy)³ of the EPD responded that the EPD noted Members' views and would keep a close watch on the situation in the future. The EPD did not have a timetable of implementing PRSs for other products or introducing legislation for the time being. Nevertheless, it would conduct feasibility studies on implementing PRSs for different products on a regular basis and give consideration to the implementation of these PRSs at that time.

95. The Chairman opined that the EPD should expedite the implementation of green policy in the territory. He said that the Government often drew reference from the policies adopted in other regions when introducing new policies. However, the green policy of Hong Kong lagged behind those of other regions. Members and the public were confused about the Government's decision on the policy priorities. He hoped that the EPD would study the existing policies of other countries (e.g. Germany) and Members' views proactively.

(N) Paragraphs 109 to 114 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Request to Fully Improve the Planters and the Environmental Hygiene of the Construction Sites in Tsuen Wan District

96. The Chairman said that the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD and Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD.

97. Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD reported that the LCSD would continue to provide proper maintenance for plants in the roadside planters under its management. If refuse was found inside the planters, the LCSD would contact the responsible department for follow-up and clearance.

98. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD reported that staff of the FEHD would pay attention to the hygiene conditions of roadside planters during the provision of routine street sweeping services and promptly remove refuse in the planters once found. The FEHD had also provided litter bins at the location concerned. The FEHD considered that the hygiene condition of the enclosed construction site near footbridge no. NF251 had become acceptable during a routine inspection.

99. The Chairman said that the EHAC would not continue to discuss the captioned at the next meeting.

(O) Paragraphs 115 to 126 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 March 2019: Concern about the Greening and Management of the Planters at the Roundabout Next to the Toll Plaza in Ma Wan

100. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHEN Kin-tung, Tommy, Senior Estate Surveyor/Central (Sr Estate Surveyor/Central) of the DLO who specially joined the meeting. Besides, the representatives of the departments responsible for giving response were Dep District Leisure Mgr(Tsuen Wan)² of the LCSD and Sr Dist Engr/G(3) of the HyD.

101. Sr Estate Surveyor of the DLO reported that after checking the records, the DLO and different departments found that the consultant engaged by the developer had submitted a proposal of enhancing the design standard of the greening zone to the HyD in 2002 and agreed that the maintenance of the plants in the planters at the greening zone should be taken up by the lot owner concerned as an agent instead of the LCSD. Therefore, the government departments were of the view that the lot owner was still responsible for the maintenance of the greening zone at present. Also, a letter had been issued to the management office of the housing estate concerned, requesting follow-up work on the greening condition of the said location. However, no reply had been received so far.

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

- (1) the developer unilaterally suggested that the management of the greening zone should be taken up by the management office of the housing estate concerned back then. However, currently, it failed to fully ascertain whether the lot owner was responsible for the management of the greening zone. He therefore hoped that the departments

would continue to participate in the coordination and follow up on the management responsibilities of the greening zone (Mr TAM Hoi-pong);

- (2) he hoped that the DLO would continue to check the records, in order to ascertain whether the argument of the developer was substantiated and which party should be responsible for provision of water supply for the planters (Mr TAM Hoi-pong); and
- (3) he enquired how the DLO would handle the matter if the developer or management office refused to give a reply or take follow-up actions (the Chairman).

103. Sr Estate Surveyor of the DLO responded as follows:

- (1) the DLO would allow the developer and management office a reasonable time to give replies. The DLO would consider whether there was sufficient evidence to confirm that the owners of the housing estate concerned were responsible for the management of the planters. Since 2015, the developer had repeatedly expressed its willingness to hand over the greening zone to the Government. If the developer replied that it was still willing to hand over the greening zone to the Government and undertook to meet the LCSD's requirements for taking over the greening zone (e.g. provision of water supply), the DLO would continue to coordinate work on this issue; and
- (2) the DLO had consulted the HyD on the provision of water supply system at the viaduct. According to the HyD, as the viaduct was a reinforced concrete structure, it might be technically infeasible to drill holes through the structure for pipelaying works of the water supply system.

104. The Chairman said that the EHAC would follow up on the reply given by the developer or management office to the DLO at the next meeting.

IV Item 3: Request for a Trial Run of Introduction of Collection Boxes for Drugs in Tsuen Wan District
(EHAC Paper No.2/2019)

105. The Chairman said that the Environment Bureau (ENB) and FHB had submitted written replies on the captioned matter prior to the meeting for Members' perusal.

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

107. The Chairman said that the ENB and FHB did not assign representatives to attend the meeting. The ENB and FHB only pointed out in the written replies that there was no appropriate way to handle drugs returned by the public for the time being and the returned drugs would not be reused, but they did not indicate whether they supported or objected to the proposal. He opined that it should simultaneously study the way to handle the drugs returned by the public when formulating a collection system. Otherwise, the problem would remain unresolved if there was no proper way to handle the collected medicines after introducing the collection boxes for drugs.

108. The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael said that currently, hospitals would treat residual drugs as chemical waste and send these to the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre for destruction. He

was discontent with the written replies of the ENB and FHB and hoped that they would discuss with the Hospital Authority (HA) on the measures for collection of residual drugs.

109. Mr CHENG Chit-pun proposed that the EHAC should invite the DH and HA to comment on the captioned matter.

110. The Chairman said that the EHAC would issue a letter to the ENB and FHB to express dissatisfaction over their failure to send representatives to attend the EHAC meeting and enquire whether a drug collection scheme could be implemented in Tsuen Wan with reference to the treatment of residual drugs by hospitals. The EHAC would also invite the DH and HA to comment on the captioned matter.

V Item 4: Strongly Request the Environmental Protection Department to Enhance the Inspection of the Daily Operation of Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse to Ensure its Compliance with the Daily Cleansing of Lairage at least Eight Times under the Agreement and Maintain the Hygiene Control of Pigs Delivery Vehicles, with a view to Preventing the Residents of Riviera Area from being Affected by the Aggravating Swine Odour
(EHAC Paper No.3/2019)

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

112. Mr YAU Kam-ping made declaration of his appointment as the Director of the Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse (TWSH).

113. The Acting Chairman determined that according to section 48(12) of the Standing Orders, Mr YAU Kam-ping who made declaration of his appointment as the Director of the TWSH should remain silent during the discussion of the captioned matter and should not participate in the decision-making or voting.

114. The Acting Chairman welcomed the representatives of the EPD who specially joined the meeting, including:

- (1) Mr CHEUNG Kam-hing, Billy, Sr Env Protection Offr (Regional W)4; and
- (2) Ms NG Wai-kei, Vicky, Asst Env Protection Offr (Regional W)44.

Besides, the representative of the department responsible for giving response was Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD.

115. Mr CHOW Ping-tim introduced the paper.

116. Sr Env Protection Offr (Regional W)4 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the EPD attached great importance to whether odour nuisance was caused by slaughterhouses. If a slaughterhouse was found in violation of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance, the EPD would strictly enforce the law;
- (2) the EPD had all along been closely monitoring the environmental conditions at the TWSH over the past years. According to the EPD's observations, most of the findings of the odour prediction assessment revealed that the odour levels ranged from "nil" to "very weak" or "low" at Riviera Gardens, the TWSH and nearby locations.

In the past two months, the ECP continued to monitor the odour situation at the TWSH as usual and the findings were also consistent with those in the past;

- (3) the EPD had also approached the operator of the TWSH and confirmed that the TWSH was in normal operation. Besides, the EPD had never found that the TWSH breached the Air Pollution Control Ordinance or caused nuisance to the residents nearby;
- (4) the EPD had reminded the operator of the TWSH to cleanse the lairages so as to minimise the odour and ensure that the operation of the TWSH complied with the requirements of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance; and
- (5) the EPD would continue to monitor the odour situation at the TWSH. Regarding the requests raised under the captioned item requested, namely stepping up the inspection of the daily operation of Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse to ensure its compliance with the daily cleansing of lairage at least eight times under the agreement and maintaining the hygiene control of pig-carrying vehicles, as the FEHD was responsible for monitoring the daily operation of the TWSH, its representative would continue to give response to the Chairman.

117. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD responded that the operator of the TWSH had, in response to the advice given by the FEHD and EPD, adopted a series of mitigation measures targeting the odour emitted from the TWSH which disturbed the residents nearby. These mitigation measures included hosing down livestock within 15 minutes from unloading at the TWSH; thoroughly cleansing the live pig reception area after each and every unloading of pigs; thoroughly cleansing all lairages at least eight times daily; cleansing the slaughter hall, meat dispatch bank and waste storage areas immediately after each shift of operation; covering a major proportion of the open apertures facing Riviera Gardens to reduce the impact of odour emission; installing windows at selected openings of lairages facing Riviera Gardens and closing all windows facing Riviera Gardens during slaughtering hours; using bleaching powder during cleansing operations at the TWSH to reduce odour; providing cleansing and sterilisation facilities for pig-carrying vehicles through the TWSH; using chemical odour neutralising agents to reduce odour at the TWSH; and diverting the transportation route of pig-carrying vehicles away from Riviera Gardens. The staff of the TWSH had all along been implementing the aforesaid measures to reduce the emission of odour from the TWSH on a daily basis. The FEHD also conducted regular inspections at the TWSH to ensure that the TWSH maintained good environmental hygiene.

118. Mr CHOW Ping-tim said that the odour nuisance of the TWSH had been improving. It only deteriorated over the past six months. Hence, he hoped that various departments and the TWSH would make improvements through enhanced coordination, so as to prevent the odour nuisance from worsening during the summer vacation.

(Note: The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael left the meeting at 5:54 p.m.)

VI Item 5: Funds Allocation for the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee 2019/20
(EHAC Paper No. 4/2019)

119. The Secretary introduced the paper.

120. The EHAC endorsed the funds allocation in 2019/20 as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>*Total Amount of Allocation in 2019/20 (\$)</u>	<u>*Allocation Available for Use from April to December 2019 (\$)</u>	<u>*Allocation Available for Use from January to March 2020 (\$)</u>
(1) District Minor Works Funds (Minor Environmental Improvement Programme)			
(a) New Construction Projects	2,600,000.00		
(b) Maintenance Projects	200,000.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Sub-total:	<u>2,800,000.00</u>		
(2) District Council Funds (Community Involvement Projects)*			
(a) Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community	64,000.00	50,000.00	14,000.00
(b) Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety	206,000.00	206,000.00	0.00
(c) Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement	134,000.00	134,000.00	0.00
(d) Exploratory Study Travelling Expenses	7,600.00	4,100.00	3,500.00
(e) Publication of Report of the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee 2016-19	35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00
(f) Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total:	<u>446,600.00</u>	<u>429,100.00</u>	<u>17,500.00</u>

* The allocation included 5% deficit budget.

121. The Committee endorsed that the Secretariat was authorised to approve the applications for any changes to the name, venue, date and time of the activities of the organisations concerned at its own discretion in accordance with the approved funding applications on condition that the approved budget had not been changed, and the funding granted would remain unchanged.

VII Item 6: Maintenance Projects of Minor Environmental Improvement Programme in 2019/20

(EHAC Paper No. 5/2019)

122. Senior Inspector of Works (Sr Insp of Works) of the TWDO introduced the paper.

123. The EHAC endorsed the maintenance project as follows:

<u>Maintenance Project</u>	<u>Estimated Expenditure (\$)</u>
(1) Improvement works to the planters, ramps and signs at Tsuen Fung Centre, Heung Che Street, Castle Peak Road and Footbridge at Tai Ho Road in Tsuen Wan	200,000.00

VIII Item 7: Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District

(EHAC Paper No. 6/2019)

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

- (1) Mr CHU Tung-fai, Senior Health Inspector of the Joint Office (JO)/FEHD;
- (2) Mr LAI Ching-ho, Dennis, Professional Officer 4-1 (Professional Offr 4-1) of the JO/Buildings Department (BD); and
- (3) Mr KAN Ka-man, Engineer/New Territories West (Customer Services) Inspection of the Water Supplies Department.

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

126. Professional Offr 4-1 of JO/BD reported as follows:

- (1) as at late March 2019, the JO received a total of 572 reports on water seepage in Tsuen Wan district, among which 336 cases were processed. Among the processed cases, 206 cases were screened out, and 140 cases were concluded. Among the concluded cases, the water seepage ceased during investigation amounted to 41 cases, the source of water seepage was identified for 83 cases, and the source of water seepage could not be identified for 16 cases. The JO had instituted prosecution for three 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 6 “Notices of Intention to Apply for Warrant of Entry” and did not make any application to the West Kowloon Magistrates’ Courts for “Warrant of Entry into Premises”.

127. Dist Env Hygiene Supt(Tsuen Wan) of the FEHD introduced the Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District.

IX Item 8: Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District (February 2019 to March 2019)

(EHAC Paper No. 7/2019)

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

X Item 9: Progress Report on Minor Environmental Improvement Programme and Maintenance Projects in 2019/20

(EHAC Paper No.8/2019)

129. Sr Insp of Works of the TWDO briefed Members on the progress of various projects. He added that the TWDO was receiving replies concerning the consultation on various projects from the departments and public utilities companies and no special comments had been received so far. The ground investigation for some projects was scheduled for May 2019 with a view to identifying the location of underground public utilities and making arrangements for the next stage of the works. The ground investigation was expected to take two months to complete.

XI Item 10: Application for District Council Funds for Activities Co-organised by Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety and Local Organisation

(EHAC Paper No. 9/2019)

130. The Secretary introduced the paper and said that the Chairman, Mr MAN Yu-ming, Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis, Mr KOO Yeung-pong, Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones, Mr KOT Siu-yuen and Ms CHOW Chin-tung were the Members of the Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety, so as to indicate that they had made declaration of their membership.

131. The Chairman made declaration of his Chairmanship of the Residents Association of Tsuen Wan Hoi Bun District. He therefore asked the Vice Chairman to take over the chair temporarily according to section 48(14) of the Standing Orders.

132. The Acting Chairman approved that the Members who were concurrently the Members of the Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety could participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting of the funding application and determined that Mr CHOW Ping-tim who associated with the Residents Association of Tsuen Wan Hoi Bun District in an executive capacity, the co-organiser of the activity concerned, should remain silent during the discussion and could not participate in the decision-making or voting of the funding application.

133. The EHAC endorsed the funding application as follows:

	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Applicant Organiser/ Co-organiser</u>	<u>Amount Approved (\$)</u>
(1)	First Thing is Health 2019	Residents Association of Tsuen Wan Hoi Bun District	206,000.00

134. The Chairman resumed the chair.

XII Item 11: Application for District Council Funds for Activities Co-organised by Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement and Local Organisation
(EHAC Paper No. 10/2019)

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

136. The Chairman said that he had made declaration of his Membership of the Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement. As it was a nominal post, he could continue to preside at the meeting as well as participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting of the funding applications after making declaration of interest. He approved that the Members who were concurrently the Members of the Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement could participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting of the funding applications according to section 48(12) of the Standing Orders.

137. The Chairman asked Members to make declaration of other interest immediately. Mr YAU Kam-ping made declaration of his Chairmanship of the Tsuen Wan Rural Committee. Mr KOO Yeung-pong made declaration of his appointment as the Honorary Adviser which was a nominal post of the Tsuen Wan District Parent Teacher Association Federation Limited.

138. The Chairman determined that Mr YAU Kam-ping who was the executor of Cleaning Programme for Rural Areas in Tsuen Wan District 2019 should withdraw from the meeting during the discussion on the funding application and approved that Mr KOO Yeung-pong who had made declaration of his appointment as the Honorary Adviser of the Tsuen Wan District Parent Teacher Association Federation Limited could participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting of the funding applications according to section 48(12) of the Standing Orders.

139. Mr TAM Hoi-pong said he had always considered it inappropriate for a District Councillor to serve as an applicant for District Council (DC) funds for organising an activity. However, the authorised person of the organiser of Cleaning Programme for Rural Areas in Tsuen Wan District 2019 was a District Councillor. Besides, he had raised enquiries about the details of Parent-child Beach Clean-up in Tsuen Wan 2019 at a meeting of the Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement but his doubts were still unresolved. Therefore, he would abstain from voting on the funding applications of the two activities concerned.

140. The EHAC endorsed the funding applications as follows:

	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Applicant Organiser/ Co-organiser</u>	<u>Amount Approved (\$)</u>
(1)	Parent-child Beach Clean-up in Tsuen Wan 2019	Tsuen Wan District Parent Teacher Association Federation Limited	64,000.00
(2)	Cleaning Programme for Rural Areas in Tsuen Wan District 2019	Tsuen Wan Rural Committee	70,000.00

XIII Item 12: Application for District Council Funds for Activities Co-organised by Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community and Local Organisation
(EHAC Paper No. 11/2019)

141. The Secretary introduced the paper and said that the Chairman, Mr MAN Yu-ming, Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis, the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben, Mr KOO Yeung-pong, Mr TAM Hoi-pong, Mr WONG Ka-wa and Mr WONG Wai-kit were the Members of the Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community, so as to indicate that they had made declaration of their membership.

142. The Chairman said that he had made declaration of his Membership of the Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community. As it was a nominal post, he could continue to preside at the meeting as well as participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting of the funding application after making declaration of interest. He approved that the Members who were concurrently the Members of the Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community could participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting of the funding application according to section 48(12) of the Standing Orders.

143. The EHAC endorsed the funding application as follows:

	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Applicant Organiser/ Co-organiser</u>	<u>Amount Approved (\$)</u>
(1)	Workshop on Revitalisation	Women's Association of Tsuen Wan Kwai Tsing District	50,000.00

144. The Chairman resumed the chair.

XIV Item 13: Work Progress Report of Working Groups under Environmental and Health Affairs Committee

(A) Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community

145. The Secretary reported that the Monitoring Group endorsed an allocation of \$50,000 earmarked for co-organising "Workshop on Revitalisation" with the Women's Association of Tsuen Wan Kwai Tsing District. The activity would be held in July and August 2019. It aimed to foster local residents' understanding of the development of revitalised industrial buildings through visits to such buildings in Tsuen Wan district. It would also train residents to

become green instructors for promoting messages of environmental friendliness and enhancing the residents' awareness of environmental protection.

(B) Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety

146. The Chairman reported that the Monitoring Group endorsed an allocation of \$206,000 earmarked for co-organising “The First Thing is Health 2019” with the Residents Association of Tsuen Wan Hoi Bun District. The activities included “District Service Programme cum Carnival” and “Precaution against Virus Infection and Awareness of Food Safety cum Extravaganza in Tsuen Wan District” which would be held in August 2019. It aimed to enhance Tsuen Wan residents' concern over deadly viruses and awareness of healthy eating as well as encourage them to make concerted efforts to build a healthy community through various activities promoting the theme of “Precaution against virus infection and Forming good eating habits”.

(C) Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement

147. Mr LO Siu-kit reported that the Task Force endorsed an allocation of \$64,000 earmarked for co-organising “Parent-child Beach Clean-up in Tsuen Wan 2019” with the Tsuen Wan District Parent Teacher Association Federation Limited. The activity would be held on 15 September 2019. It aimed to enhance the awareness of residents and swimmers in Tsuen Wan district with respect to the importance of protecting and improving the environment and beaches. It also aimed to give families in Tsuen Wan district an opportunity to experience the reality of the “Easy to litter, Hard to clean” situation and reflect on their lifestyle for fresh inspiration for environmental protection. Besides, the Task Force endorsed an allocation of \$70,000 earmarked for co-organising “Cleaning Programme for Rural Areas in Tsuen Wan District 2019” with the Tsuen Wan Rural Committee. The activity would be held in August 2019. It aimed to provide a range of services for the elderly and residents in rural areas of Tsuen Wan free of charge, including home cleansing, simple home repair, weeding and tree pruning outside village houses, drainage clearance and waste collection, with a view to improving their living environment. The “Rural Area Cleaning Publicity Day” would also be held to enhance the villagers' awareness of keeping Hong Kong clean.

XV Item 14: Any Other Business

148. The Chairman said that as informed by the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) earlier, the EPD would provide an allocation of \$200,000 to each DC to continue to carry out the Community Participation Programme in Environmental Protection for the current year. The theme of Programme was “Dump Less, Save More, Recycle Right” and was aimed at cultivating the value of “Use Less, Waste Less, Clean Recycling” among the public at the community level and promoting green living through organising promotional activities with district organisations. At its meeting held on 26 March 2019, the TWDC endorsed that the allocation of \$200,000 from the EPD be delegated to the EHAC to carry out the Community Participation Programme in Environmental Protection. According to the previous arrangement, it was suggested that the Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community should be responsible for following up on the funding matter. Besides, owing to time constraint, he proposed that the EHAC should vote on funding applications by circulation of papers for the current year when necessary.

149. The EHAC unanimously agreed to the above two proposals.

(A) Information Paper

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

- (1) Financial Statement of Environmental and Health Affairs Committee Funds 2018/19 (EHAC Paper No. 12/2019);
- (2) Financial Statement of Minor Environmental Improvement Programme and Maintenance Projects 2018/19 (EHAC Paper No. 13/2019);
- (3) Odour Prediction Assessment at the Riviera Gardens and Tsuen Wan Slaughter House (February 2019 to March 2019) (EHAC Paper No. 14/2019, submitted by the EPD);
- (4) Work Report on the Problem of Sea Water Pollution of the Rambler Channel, Tsuen Wan (February 2019 to March 2019) (EHAC Paper No. 15/2019, submitted by the EPD);
- (5) Noise Monitoring Result of MTR Tsuen Wan Depot (February 2019 to March 2019) (EHAC Paper No. 16/2019, submitted by the EPD); and
- (6) Tsuen Wan District Anti-mosquito Campaign 2019 (Phase2) (EHAC Paper No. 17/2019, submitted by the FEHD).

XVI Adjournment of Meeting

151. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on 4 July 2019 (Thursday) and the deadline for submission of paper was 25 June 2019.

152. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

25 June 2019