

(Translation)

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of
Environmental and Health Affairs Committee Meeting (2/2016)

Date : 3 March 2016 (Thursday)

Time : 2:30 p.m.

Venue : Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Members

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

Co-opted Members

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

Government Representatives

Mr LEUNG Chun-hei, Winsor	Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr YIP Kwok-cheung	Chief Health Inspector 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr YEUNG Chi-yan	Deputy District Leisure Manager(Tsuen Wan)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TAI Moon-kwong, Daniel	Senior Environmental Protection Officer(Regional West)2, Environmental Protection Department
Mr CHU Man-kit	Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, Drainage Services Department
Mr CHONG Kwok-wai	District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Highways Department

FUNG Ka-ho, Carlos	Engineer/11(NTW), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr CHEUNG Ho-wing, Louis	Town Planner/Tsuen Wan 2, Planning Department
Mr WONG Shun-ping	Assistant Housing Manager/Shek Wai Kok 2, Housing Department
Mr KONG Tak-shing	Senior Land Executive/Control 2 (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr YUNG Chi-wai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr LEE Shing-fai, Henry	Executive Officer (Development) , Tsuen Wan District Office

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat Representatives

Miss LAM Siu-yung, Daisy	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Tsuen Wan District Office
Miss KWONG Mo-ting, Salina (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)1, Tsuen Wan District Office

Attendance by Invitation:

For discussion of item 6

Ms YIN Shuk-may	Pest Control Officer(Mosquito Risk Assessment & Advisory)2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms SUEN Kam-mui	Health Inspector(Pest Control), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

For discussion of item 7

Mr HUI Wing-chun	Senior Marine Officer/Cargo Handling(Special Duties), Marine Department
Mr NG Chi-hong, Caddy	Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2), Marine Department
Miss MOK Yee-ting, Flora	Environmental Protection Officer(Regional West)44, Environmental Protection Department

For discussion of item 8

Ms WONG Lai-chu, Phoebe	Estate Surveyor/West1 (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr WONG Hung-lok, Steven	Senior Environmental Protection

Mr YU Wing-lun, Alan
Officer(Waste Reduction & Recycling)2, Environmental Protection Department
Environmental Protection Officer(Waste Reduction & Recycling)23, Environmental Protection Department

For discussion of item 9

Mr KO Po-wai
Senior Health Inspector/Joint Office, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr YEUNG Shing-yam
Professional Officer/Joint Office, Buildings Department

Miss TONG Sze-yin
Engineer/Customer Services (Inspection) NTW, Water Supplies Department

Absent:

Member

The Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben, JP

Co-opted Member

Mr LAM Kwok-on

Action

The Meeting

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed the Members to the 2nd meeting of the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (EHAC) and introduced the government representatives.

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

3. The Chairman said that Mr LAM Kwok-on was absent with apologies.

II Item 1: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4. The Chairman said that the following matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings had been discussed by the EHAC of the last term. He made the following suggestions:

- (1) the matter about “Request the Government to Permanently Relocate the Discharge Area at Gin Drinkers Bay” had been discussed for a long time. As the issue concerned was similar to one of the agenda items of this meeting, it was suggested that this matter arising should be handled together with the relevant agenda item;
- (2) regarding “Request Government Departments to Assist in Resolving the

Matters Concerning Occupation of Public Area by Metals and Waste Paper Recycling Shops at Tak Wah Street”, it was suggested that this matter arising should be retained as the issue had not been solved;

- (3) regarding “Request Relevant Government Departments to Actively Improve the Semi-lawless (literally as “Not Monitored by All the Three Parties) Situation at Walkway around the Concord Square to Solve the Problem of Illegal Occupation of the Walkway by Shops that Affecting Pedestrian Safety”, it was suggested that this matter arising should be retained as the issue had not been completely solved;
- (4) regarding “Concern about the Effectiveness of Tobacco Control in Hong Kong”, it was suggested that this matter should not be followed up under matters arising for the time being as no Members had raised this matter recently and the written replies were submitted by the departments concerned to the EHAC at every EHAC meeting. The EHAC would take further follow-up actions if Members submitted paper on the issue again;
- (5) regarding “Request for Taking Operation against the Easy-mount Frames on the Two Bridges of Fou Wah Centre, Citistore and Chung On Street”, Members were asked whether this matter should be followed up under matters arising as the situation had been improved;
- (6) regarding “Strongly Request the Relevant Government Departments to Actively Take Various Necessary Measures According to the Power of Law Enforcement conferred by the Legislation to Improve the Noise Problem caused by Performing Songs in a Loud Voice with Sound-Amplifying Equipment at Park Island Pier or the Streets near the Park so as to Ensure a Good Living Environment without Noise Nuisance in Tsuen Wan District”, it was suggested that this matter arising should be retained as the situation still persisted without improvements and it was necessary to rely on advice and law enforcement by the police. Also, complaints were still received from the residents recently;
- (7) regarding “Further Improvement of the Quality of the Coastal Waters of Victoria Harbour”, it was suggested that this item under matters arising should be deleted for the time being as the matters relating to water quality would be handled by the newly established Coastal Affairs Committee (CAC). Depending on the follow-up actions taken by the CAC in future, it would be decided later whether the issue should be followed up again;
- (8) regarding “Request the Drainage Services Department to Improve the Sewage Pumping Station”, as he had not received complaints recently, it was suggested that this item under matters arising should be deleted for the time being if Members did not raise objection;
- (9) regarding “Request to Improve the Environment of the Waiting Area of the Minibus Terminus in Sai Lau Kok Multi-storey Carpark”, the works proposed by the EHAC of the last term had been completed and the situation had been improved. However, as summer was approaching, it was suggested that this matter arising should be retained for the time being to monitor the situation. The item would be deleted later if the operation

- of the terminus was found acceptable in summer;
- (10) regarding “Rodent Infestation in Tsuen Wan District”, it was opined that the rodent problem commonly existed, but the situation concerned was under control without deterioration at the moment. Thus, it was suggested that the issue under matters arising should not be followed up for the time being; and
 - (11) regarding “Request the Airport Authority to Provide the Full Document of L night and L den of the Health Impact Assessment Report on the Noise from the Two-runway and Three-runway”, Members were asked whether it was necessary to continue to follow up this matter arising as the Members concerned in the last term were well informed of the matters about noise.

(Note: Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis joined the meeting at 2:44 p.m.)

5. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Mr LAM Faat-kang, Mr WONG Ka-wa, Mr CHUNG Wai-ping and Mr LO Siu-kit were summarised as follows:

- (1) regarding “Request for Taking Operation against the Easy-mount Frames on the Two Bridges of Fou Wah Centre, Citistore and Chung On Street”, although the situation was improved recently, it was suggested that this matter arising should be retained so as to continue to monitor the situation. This matter arising might be cancelled later if the situation was under continuous improvements;
- (2) regarding “Request the Airport Authority to Provide the Full Document of L night and L den of the Health Impact Assessment Report on the Noise from the Two-runway and Three-runway”, as Lei Muk Shue was an area within the flight paths, it was hoped that the department concerned would submit relevant reports at every EHAC meeting;
- (3) it was suggested that the problem of aircraft noise might be followed up by the Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement; and
- (4) efforts had been made to find out more about the problem of aircraft noise. The flight paths might sometimes be affected by the wind direction, so areas including Luk Yeung were also affected by aircraft noise from time to time. It was opined that this matter could be handled in a simple way by requesting the relevant department to submit reports regularly and take follow-up actions when necessary. Thus, it was suggested that this matter arising should be retained.

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

- (1) regarding “Request for Taking Operation against the Easy-mount Frames on the Two Bridges of Fou Wah Centre, Citistore and Chung On Street”, it was agreed that this matter arising should be retained; and
- (2) regarding “Request the Airport Authority to Provide the Full Document of L night and L den of the Health Impact Assessment Report on the Noise from the Two-runway and Three-runway”, the focus of this matter was L night

and L den of the Health Impact Assessment Report, not the noise nuisance in the whole area. It was suggested that aircraft noise and the related matters might be followed up by the relevant working group.

III Item 2: Establishment of Working Groups under the Environmental and Health Affairs Committee

(EHAC Paper No. 3/2016)

7. The Secretary introduced the paper.
8. After discussion, the EHAC endorsed the establishment of the following Working Groups, including:
 - (1) the Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community;
 - (2) the Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety; and
 - (3) the Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement.
9. The EHAC endorsed the adoption of the terms of reference in 2012-15 by the Working Groups. The terms of reference of the Working Groups were set out in Annex I.
10. The EHAC endorsed the tenure of the Working Groups, Convenors, Vice Convenors and the Members who were concurrently the District Council Members (DC Members) from the date of the establishment of the Working Groups to 31 December 2019, and the tenures of the Members who were concurrently the Co-opted Members of the EHAC from the date of the establishment of the Working Groups to 31 December 2017 and from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019 respectively.
11. Members expressed their intentions to join the Working Groups by a show of hands. The membership lists of the Working Groups were set out in Annex II.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretary invited the Members who had not joined the Working Groups at the meeting in writing to join the Working Groups after the meeting.)

12. The Convenors and Vice Convenors of the Working Groups were elected as follows:

<u>Working Group</u>	<u>Convenor</u>	<u>Vice Convenor</u>
(1) Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community	The Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben	Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis
(2) Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety	Mr CHOW Ping-tim	Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis
(3) Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement	Mr LO Siu-kit	Mr CHENG Chit-pun

IV Item 3: Proposals and Assessment Mechanism of Minor Environmental Improvement Programme
(EHAC Paper No. 4/2016)

13. The Secretary introduced the paper.
14. Mr KOO Yeung-pong, Ms LAM, Lam Nixie, Mr LAM Faat-kang, Mr WONG Ka-wa and Mr TAM Hoi-pong gave the following views and suggestions:
 - (1) it was proposed that if a Member submitted the same project every year without changing the site of the project, a bonus of 20 points could be given to the project each year on a cumulative basis. Thus, the works that failed to be implemented due to insufficient points could be implemented in four years;
 - (2) it was suggested that the funds should be allocated to each constituency for use. The DC Members might liaise with one another and jointly use the funds if there was a need for implementing large-scale projects;
 - (3) the previous mechanism had worked effectively. It was opined that instead of giving bonus points to the application, the reasons for the low points given to individual application should be examined, so that the works could be implemented. In addition, it was believed that Members would consider whether the works were beneficial to the local residents in the assessment. It was opined that the previous mechanism should remain unchanged if it had worked smoothly and that the cumulative scoring system would be more complicated;
 - (4) it was considered that the previous mechanism was fairer and better; under which one or two projects could be implemented in almost every constituency. If the cumulative scoring method was adopted to ensure that individual project could be implemented, the new projects requiring urgent attention or the new projects proposed by the residents would be affected. Moreover, the cumulative scoring method would be more complicated;
 - (5) it was agreed that the cumulative scoring system should be adopted. It was believed that under this system, there was an opportunity for each constituency to take forward at least one or two projects within the four-year term of the EHAC and that was an important opportunity. Besides, although DC Members would consider that the projects in their respective constituencies were important, they would take other factors into account when they assessed the projects for other areas; and
 - (6) the previous mechanism was found satisfactory so far. Under this mechanism, Members could obtain the details of the projects in the programme proposed by other DC Members. In addition, the EHAC would arrange exploratory studies to find out more about the sites of the works and allow the proponents to explain their project proposals in details for Members' assessment. Under this mechanism, Members could also discuss with the DC Members of the adjacent constituencies or recommend their proposed works to other Members. This would effectively enhance the communication among DC Members, so no specific instances of

unfairness were found so far. Besides, if the scoring mechanism was too complicated, it would not work well and would increase the workload of the Secretariat.

15. The Chairman said he was aware that some Members would like to change the previous assessment mechanism but some Members gave support to the previous assessment mechanism. The EHAC had to seek a consensus for the effective maintenance and implementation of the proposals and assessment mechanism of the minor environmental improvement programme. He opined that the fairest approach was to allocate the funds evenly to the elected DC Members, but this proposal might not be agreed by Members. Moreover, the previous assessment mechanism had been adopted for years and worked well. It was up to Members to decide whether the mechanism should be changed. At present, Members could put forward proposals on changing the previous assessment mechanism. He would take an indicative vote on the intentions for making the decision if it was agreed by other Members. The previous mechanism should be adopted if no Members put forward new proposals.

16. Mr TAM Hoi-pong said that he had also considered allocating the funds evenly to the constituencies. He opined that the funds accumulated in each constituency were probably sufficient for the implementation of a medium-to-small scale project in each constituency in four years. He enquired what problems would arise from this proposal and whether the Secretariat would have any difficulties. He considered the Chairman's proposal to be the fairest of all and enquired if the funds accumulated annually were sufficient for the implementation of a project in the third or fourth year.

17. The Chairman said that the mechanism would be decided by the EHAC solely and it had nothing to do with the Secretariat. The Secretariat would implement the resolution made by the EHAC and give opinions only if the mechanism violated the guidelines on funds allocation.

18. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (ADO(TW)) of the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO) said that the TWDO or the Secretariat would tie in with or carry out the works in accordance with the mechanism formulated by the EHAC.

19. The Chairman said that the EHAC should make decision on the mechanism solely. Hence, Members had to make decision on the mechanism at this meeting, no matter the previous mechanism would be changed or not.

20. Mr LAM Faat-kang and Mr WONG Wai-kit gave the following views and suggestions:

- (1) it was opined that there was always room for improvement in the system. According to the records in the past several years, there were opportunities for implementation of all the works proposed by DC Members. The only difference was the number of works that were finally implemented in each

area. Thus, relatively speaking, it was opined that the reasonable allocation was achieved in the previous mechanism;

- (2) there was reservation over the proposal of the even allocation of fixed amount of funds. According to the last two terms of the EHAC, there were more works in some areas while fewer project proposals were submitted from some areas. If the funds were evenly allocated to the 18 constituencies in Tsuen Wan based on the even allocation approach, it was not fair either when considering from another perspective. Therefore, there was no absolutely fair approach. Most importantly, DC Members should negotiate among themselves about the effectiveness and financial resources of the project proposals;
- (3) the EHAC had to reach a resolution on the mechanism at this meeting. It should also submit project proposals, conduct exploratory studies and assessment after the meeting. As there were no concrete proposals for changing the previous mechanism at the moment, it was worried that the progress would be affected if no decisions were made on the mechanism at the meeting; and
- (4) some new DC Members worried that not even one single project could be implemented in four years. However, this had not taken place in the EHAC for years and Members would follow up the application on an equal basis. Besides, each DC Member had the responsibility to use public funds reasonably to ensure that the project proposals submitted would truly address the residents' needs.

21. The Chairman said that the EHAC should make a final decision on the assessment mechanism and asked Members to put forward new proposals.

22. Mr WONG Ka-wa proposed that a new project item should be provided under the existing assessment mechanism. A bonus of 20 points would be given to the project every year, provided that the wording of the project remained unchanged. Mr TAM Hoi-pong supported his proposal.

23. The Chairman asked the Secretary to repeat the proposal made by Mr WONG Ka-wa.

24. The Secretary said that Mr WONG Ka-wa had proposed that a bonus of 20 points would be given to the project every year, provided that the wording of the project remained unchanged under the existing assessment mechanism.

25. The Chairman added that where the project proposal put forth by a DC Member or EHAC Member was not included into the list of funded works for the current year, a bonus of 20 points would be given to the project proposal, if the DC Member or EHAC Member made the same project proposal for the next financial year and the title of the project remained unchanged.

26. Mr LI Hung-por, Mr CHAN Sung-ip and Mr WONG Ka-wa gave the following views:

- (1) with the funds of only some \$2 million allocated for the works every year, there would not be sufficient funds allocated for implementation of the works proposed by other DC Members if most of the funds allocated for the works for the year was spent on the projects with high cost that were given a bonus of 20 points in every subsequent year and was allowed to be carried forward for implementation during any subsequent financial year due to the low points they gained for the current year;
- (2) individual parties would probably be suppressed, no matter which party dominated the District Council. It was opined that Members actually tended to consider the proponents of the works, not the need for implementing the works, when making the formal assessment. As a result, the scoring of the works would be affected. Consequently, the project proposals submitted by individual DC Members would probably gain low points and the works could only be implemented when there was remaining balance of the funds; and
- (3) it was proposed that the DC Members should adopt the bonus points system for one of the projects only.

27. The Chairman said that, as further elaborated by Members, a DC Member or EHAC Member could propose one project only. The said mechanism would become infeasible if the DC Member or EHAC Member proposed more than one project. He added that the mechanism should be decided by the EHAC by voting and asked if Members would put forth any other proposals.

28. Mr TAM Hoi-pong enquired whether any DC Member had secured funds for two projects at the same time in the past.

29. The Chairman said that this took place frequently. According to the previous assessment mechanism, Members were required to score the proposals during the exploratory studies and return the scoring forms to the Secretariat to calculate the points for the works right after the exploratory studies. DC Members could make various project proposals during the same financial year and the EHAC would score each project. After scoring, the projects gained higher points could be implemented. In other words, the number of the projects that successfully secured funds would be subject to the scoring. Besides, although there was no ceiling for the number of the project proposals submitted, Members were advised to consider the effectiveness of the project proposals carefully when submitting the project proposals for purpose of pooling resources. The EHAC would also set out the types of implementable works. He reiterated that Members were invited to express their wish of changing the previous assessment mechanism right at the moment. He would deal with the proposals one after another.

30. Mr KOT Siu-yuen said that it was not sure if Mr WONG Ka-wa's proposal would be endorsed by the EHAC finally. Regarding the problems of fairness and political parties mentioned by Members, he opined that the problems did not exist in the EHAC. He had submitted one project proposal since he served as a DC Member and fortunately it was supported and implemented successfully. He believed that all EHAC Members, who were elected DC Members, would consider whether the works would truly and urgently address the residents' needs when making assessment.

31. The Chairman said that he had suggested that there was a need for a change to the District Council since he served as a DC Member in 1991. Although the District Council had made changes for some subject matters in the past, it was not entirely satisfactory. He agreed that Members could make new proposals to the District Council of each term for Members' discussion and the implementation in accordance with the resolution endorsed by the EHAC. He reiterated that, to make better use of time, he would not deal with the new proposals made thereafter if Members did not put forward other new proposals at the moment.

32. After voting, Mr WONG Ka-wa's proposal gained three votes in favour and seven votes against.

33. The Chairman stated that Mr WONG Ka-wa's proposal was vetoed. In addition, he had repeatedly asked Members earlier whether they had new proposals but no Members put forward new proposals. He had also reiterated that new proposals made thereafter would not be entertained and thus he asked if any Members objected to the adoption of the previous mechanism for the implementation of the minor environmental improvement programme in 2016-19.

34. The EHAC endorsed the adoption of the previous mechanism for the implementation of the minor environmental improvement programme in 2016-19.

35. The Chairman said that after the meeting, the Secretariat would invite the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) Members and the EHAC Members in writing to submit proposals for the minor environmental improvement programme in 2016-17 by 5 p.m. on 11 March 2016. Members were invited to take time out for attending the relevant exploratory study which would be conducted in the forenoon on 18 April 2016.

V Item 4: "Market Management Consultative Committee" for Public Markets under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
(EHAC Paper No. 5/2016)

36. Chief Health Inspector (Ch Health Insp) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) introduced the paper.

37. After discussion, the membership list of the Market Management Consultative Committee (MMCC) of Tsuen Wan District was as follows:

<u>Market Name</u>	<u>DC Members in MMCC</u>
(1) Yeung Uk Road Market	Mr LO Siu-kit (DC Member of the constituency), Mr KOO Yeung-pong and Ms LAM, Lam Nixie
(2) Tsuen Wan Market	Mr LO Siu-kit (DC Member of the constituency), Mr LAM Faat-kang and Mr KOT Siu-yuen
(3) Heung Che Street Market	Mr KOO Yeung-pong (DC Member of the constituency) and Mr KOT Siu-yuen
(4) Tsuen King Circuit Market	Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis (DC Member of the constituency), Mr LI Hung-por and the Hon CHAN Han-pan, Ben
(5) Sham Tseng Temporary Market	Mr CHENG Chit-pun (DC Member of the constituency) and Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris
(6) Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market	Ms LAM, Lam Nixie (DC Member of the constituency) and Mr KOO Yeung-pong

VI Item 5: Closure of Ma Kok Street Cooked-food Hawker Bazaar
(EHAC Paper No. 6/2016)

38. Ch Health Insp of the FEHD introduced the paper.

VII Item 6: Discuss the Prevention of Zika Outbreak in Hong Kong and Request the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to Enhance the Anti-mosquito Work
(EHAC Paper No. 7/2016)

39. The Chairman welcomed the following representatives from the FEHD to the meeting:

- (1) Ms YIN Shuk-may, Pest Control Officer(Mosquito Risk Assessment & Advisory)2 (Pest Control Offr(Mosquito Risk Assessment & Advisory)2); and
- (2) Ms SUEN Kam-mui, Health Inspector(Pest Control) (Health Insp(Pest Control)).

40. The Vice Chairman introduced the paper.

41. Pest Control Offr(Mosquito Risk Assessment & Advisory)2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) regarding the mechanism of the placement of ovitraps, according to the recommendations of the World Health Organisation, the ovitraps were mainly placed in densely populated places, such as housing estates, hospitals, schools and parks as well as the areas where local dengue fever cases were reported. The ovitraps in Tsuen Wan district were mainly

placed in the urban area of Tsuen Wan as well as in Ma Wan where local dengue fever cases were reported; and

- (2) as the places such as Sham Tseng and Tsing Lung Tau were rural areas with more natural breeding grounds, these places were not regarded as the routine surveillance sites by the FEHD for the time being.

(Note: The Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael joined the meeting at 3:48 p.m.)

42. Health Insp(Pest Control) of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD directly cleared fallen leaves and refuse and removed stagnant water on potential mosquito breeding grounds such as the terrains, slopes and barren lands densely grown with vegetation in Tsuen Wan district. Besides, the FEHD would carry out space spraying and fogging on a weekly basis to tackle the mosquito problem and to suppress the adult mosquito population. Also, the FEHD would carry out space spraying and fogging for more than once each week at mosquito black spots such as Hon Man Village, Belvedere Garden and Allway Gardens;
- (2) there were three *Aedes albopictus* monitoring spots in Tsuen Wan district, namely Tsuen Wan town centre, Sheung Kwai Chung and Ma Wan. The FEHD would carry out routine surveillance on the situations of the mosquito black spots in these areas and tackle the mosquito problem by removal of stagnant water and application of space spraying and fogging;
- (3) the FEHD would contact the Housing Department (HD), Drainage Services Department (DSD) and Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to follow up the grass-cutting work so as to prevent mosquitoes from breeding and hiding, thus affecting the Ovitrap Index;
- (4) the first phase of the Anti-mosquito Campaign had already been launched during 15 February 2016 and 18 March 2016. The Campaign would last for five weeks. The FEHD would regularly organise publicity on education and activities on mosquito control at various sites such as Yeung Uk Road Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Lei Muk Shue Estate; and
- (5) the “Inter-departmental Task Force on Anti-mosquito Work” of the FEHD would convene a meeting to enhance the participants’ understanding of the Campaign on 8 March 2016.

43. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Vice Chairman, Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris, Ms LAM, Lam Nixie, Mr WONG Ka-wa, Mr WONG Wai-kit, Mr CHUNG Wai-ping, Mr LO Siu-kit and Mr TAM Hoi-pong were summarised as follows:

- (1) it was noted that the FEHD had carried out anti-mosquito operations regularly in the rural area in the vicinity of Lei Muk Shue. The FEHD was appreciated for its efforts. Gratitude was also expressed to the HD for providing assistance. In addition to mosquito-borne transmission, person-to-person Zika virus infection was also possible. Enquiry was raised on what kind of safety measures the public should take when they

visited the affected areas and whether the FEHD had prepared the relevant promotional materials;

- (2) currently, the ovitraps could only show the existence of *Aedes albopictus*, without recording any mosquito population in the areas concerned. It was suggested that the FEHD should provide the population figures of other mosquito species in addition to that of *Aedes albopictus*. Moreover, concern was expressed over the recurrence of dengue fever. It was agreed that additional ovitraps should be placed in the areas concerned;
- (3) it was suggested that Members could directly report the mosquito black spots to the FEHD for consideration and follow-up work. It was opined that the anti-mosquito work could hence yield better outcome;
- (4) in addition to enhancing the anti-mosquito work, it was hoped that the FEHD would strengthen the rodent control. Moreover, some rural areas were overgrown with weeds. It was hoped that the departments concerned would pay attention to and carry out the grass-cutting work, so that the relevant problems would not be getting worse;
- (5) fogging and anti-mosquito work were conducted annually in collaboration with the FEHD. However, Tsuen Wan West was closer to the rural area. Even in the densely populated areas such as Belvedere Garden, the existing anti-mosquito initiatives were still insufficient due to the influence of the rain season, etc. It was hoped that the FEHD would strengthen the anti-mosquito work;
- (6) the FEHD said that space spraying and fogging would be carried out for more than once every week to deal with the mosquito problem. It was enquired whether several mosquito black spots in the vicinity from Allway Gardens to Tsing Lung Tau were covered. It was opined that fogging had not been carried out twice a week in the vicinity of Belvedere Garden. For example, the mosquito problem was persistent in the middle of two carriageways at Belvedere Garden. Moreover, Belvedere Garden and Sham Tseng were both rural and residential areas with many children and elderly residents. It was hoped that the FEHD would take a more proactive approach on anti-mosquito to improve and prevent the problem;
- (7) the first phase of the Anti-mosquito Campaign had already been conducted during 15 February 2016 and 18 March 2016. But the above period was not a peak time of mosquito breeding in summer;
- (8) enquiry was raised on the ingredients used in fogging; and whether these ingredients would be harmful to children who accidentally touched or consumed the pesticide on the vegetation along the roadside. Also, it was enquired whether the FEHD had put up notices to inform the public when the large-scale anti-mosquito operation was in progress. It was also suggested that when anti-mosquito work was conducted at hillside, the FEHD should pay attention whether the catchwater would be affected. In addition, it was concerned whether such pesticide would cause other problems. It was enquired if there were some other better mosquito

control methods, such as weeding, in order to protect the human lives and natural environment;

- (9) such problems in the rural area of Tsuen Wan were also the matters of concern. In addition to the mosquito problem, the members of the public waiting in line at the bus and minibus stops near hillside and vegetation were also affected by biting midges in summer. Enquiry was raised on whether the FEHD would take preventive measures against biting midges together with the anti-mosquito work. It was opined that winter was the best time to implement mosquito and pest control. It was suggested that the FEHD should deal with the biting midge problem altogether, so that the members of the public would not be troubled by such problems in summer;
- (10) the anti-mosquito strategy of the FEHD had always been preventive and the anti-mosquito work would be carried out long before the larvae grew into adults. It aimed to carry out the preventive measures at mosquito black spots in advance of the rain season. Regarding the squatter areas in the vicinity of Belvedere Garden such as Hon Man Village which were always the mosquito black spots, it was hoped that the FEHD would conduct preventive work, including the on-going frequent patrol, enhanced reclamation of the low-lying areas to eliminate stagnant water and alerting the public not to carry out planting work;
- (11) regarding the placement of ovitraps in Tsuen Wan district, the FEHD staff had mentioned that the locations should be kept confidential and were inaccessible by the public. However, it was found that certain ovitraps on the trees at the main streets in Tsuen Wan district were used as ashtrays by the general public. Enquiry was raised on whether the FEHD had taken note of the situation; and whether adjustment had to be made in orders to prevent the ovitraps from tampering;
- (12) the existing anti-mosquito measures were a vicious cycle. From the ecological point of view, it was opined that it would be difficult for the FEHD to deal with the mosquito problem alone. The FEHD should cooperate with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to adopt the biological control methods to tackle the problem. The concept of the biological control method was to eliminate mosquitoes by leveraging the mutual influence among organisms. As the local frog species were declining in recent years, it was suggested that the departments concerned should re-engineer the equilibrium of local ecosystems in rural area so as to solve the mosquito problem. It was also hoped that the FEHD and AFCD would adopt the biological control methods as a permanent remedy to prevent making the problem more difficult to be solved in future;
- (13) the period from May to August was the peak time of mosquito problem. In addition to the regular anti-mosquito work, it was hoped that the FEHD would enhance the control measures and liaise with other departments to carry out the anti-mosquito work for the best outcome; and
- (14) regarding the ovitraps, the FEHD responded that Sham Tseng and Ma Wan were rural areas which were not suitable for the placement of ovitraps.

However, ovitraps were placed in Ma Wan because local dengue fever cases were reported. Enquiry was raised on whether it was compulsory for the FEHD to follow the relevant guidelines; and whether the FEHD would consider placing the ovitraps at the locations suggested by Members.

44. Pest Control Offr(Mosquito Risk Assessment & Advisory)² of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) regarding the person-to-person transmission, human was infected by Zika virus mainly through the bite of an infected *Aedes* species mosquito. However, the infections caused by other transmission modes, such as blood transfusion and sexual contact, were relatively fewer. Hence, the foremost preventive measure against Zika virus infection was to avoid mosquito bites and to eliminate mosquito and pest breeding. According to the information from the Centre for Health Protection, safe sex was one of the preventive measures for person-to-person transmission;
- (2) the ovitraps were mainly used for investigation of the extensiveness of the distribution of *Aedes albopictus*. The FEHD was also conducting a distribution investigation on other mosquito species such as *Culex tritaeniorhynchus* and *Anopheles*. The FEHD would also timely notify the staff of the FEHD district offices for follow-up work;
- (3) regarding the space spraying, the FEHD staff would put up notice nearby after completion of the spraying work according to the guidelines. The notice would be served to inform the public of the information including the type of pesticide solution, time of application and staff in charge, etc. In addition, the FEHD applied the pesticide solution of a relatively low poisonous level according to the recommendations of the World Health Organisation. As the solution was a kind of pesticide, it would cause problems to other life forms if not properly used. Hence, the FEHD promoted to adopt an integrated pest control method. In addition to chemical control measures, the FEHD would attach great importance to promote environment improvement and public education. To yield an effective outcome, it would depend on the assistance provided by Members on monitoring the situations in the district and the cooperation with other departments;
- (4) the major way for biting midge control was to keep the moisture content of soil low. If it was a sizeable slope, the fallen leaves and refuse on the soil surface should be cleared first. To keep the slope dry, soil loosening from time to time and trimming of densely grown vegetation on a regular basis should be conducted. Immediate control measures included spraying of knockdown insecticide, etc.;
- (5) regarding the ovitrap investigation, the FEHD would collect the ovitraps after placement for one week. In calculating the Ovitrap Index of the area concerned, the FEHD would eliminate all ovitraps that had been tampered with. If it was found that certain ovitraps were tampered persistently and

thus affecting the related data, the FEHD would change the locations of the ovitraps;

- (6) the FEHD could not make known the exact locations of the ovitraps at the moment. It was hoped to minimise the tampering of ovitraps and enhance the reliability of investigation;
- (7) the FEHD's objectives on handling the mosquito and pest control did not only rely on application of pesticide, but also adopting the macroscopic and integrated measures including biological control, chemical control and environmental improvement methods. From the environmental point of view, the FEHD considered that elimination of breeding ground was the only long-lasting mosquito control method. For chemical control, pesticides were used. Moreover, one of the biological control methods adopted by the FEHD was the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (B.t.i.). The FEHD would also use protozoa to tackle the problem in more sensitive areas. For example, after obtaining the information about fish during the consultation with the AFCD, the FEHD would arrange to release the mosquito larva-eating fish to other stagnant water sites where mosquito breeding was found. In addition, the FEHD had been discussing with the AFCD on how to implement biological control methods in the natural environment; and
- (8) as Sham Tseng was a rural area with natural breeding grounds, the FEHD would attach importance to target and allocate resources to mosquito prevention and control instead of investigating the extensiveness of the distribution of the mosquitoes. In addition, the FEHD would review the scope of investigation of ovitraps at the end of each year. Members could give their views, if any, to the FEHD.

45. Health Insp(Pest Control) of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD would follow up on the enhancement of mosquito and rodent control. During the process of anti-mosquito work, the FEHD would conduct space spraying and fogging in places where vegetation was overgrown as well as applying physical methods including stagnant water and refuse clearance. In addition, the FEHD would enhance the anti-rodent work by placing cage traps and poisonous baits at potential breeding sites;
- (2) since the pesticide used in space spraying and fogging would pose risk to public health, the FEHD was required to handle the work with care. Also, space spraying could not be conducted in densely populated residential areas. The FEHD would generally conduct space spraying and fogging in derelict lands such as abandoned fields with overgrown vegetation. In addition, public notices would be put up prior to the application of space spraying and fogging. The pesticide residue would affect the areas concerned for three hours;
- (3) the pesticide used in space spraying and fogging was consisted of three chemical compositions. The pesticide would be diluted with water before

being used in space spraying and fogging to tackle the mosquito problem. The droplets generated by the Ultra Low Volume (ULV) sprayers would remain in the air. Adult mosquitoes passing in flight would come into contact with the droplets and die. The FEHD also adopted physical control methods. For the sites where stagnant water was difficult to remove or larvae had already become adults, the ULV spraying and fogging would be applied against mosquito problem so as to reduce the number of adult mosquitoes;

- (4) the FEHD had prepared a pamphlet on biting midges in both Chinese and English, introducing the preventive measures against biting midges. In general, any wet soil surface would be a potential breeding ground for biting midges. The way biting midges bit human was similar to that of mosquitoes. However, biting midges would not transmit disease and were not considered as a major vector for disease. To prevent biting midges, one major method was to keep home and living environment clean and well maintained. The soil of indoor plants should also be kept dry. The public should avoid playing on wet soil surfaces. For example, the biting midges would breed in the flowering shrubs that lacked regular soil ripping or on soil surface with fallen leaves in the park. Hence, it was hoped that the parks under the LCSD could tie in with the work of the FEHD by conducting reviews on the wet soil conditions of flowering shrubs and taking follow-up actions on the breeding of biting midges in advance of protecting the external environment;
- (5) regarding the agricultural land in Hon Man Village, the FEHD would carry out space spraying and fogging at the relevant black spots against mosquito problem so as to reduce the number of adult mosquitoes. The agricultural land with severe mosquito problem would be referred to the District Lands Office (DLO) for follow-up work;
- (6) during the rain season during April and October, the anti-mosquito work, including the clearance of stagnant water and refuse as well as removal of fallen leaves blocking the drains by adoption of physical and chemical control methods, would be strengthened; and
- (7) regarding the liaison with other departments for collaboration of anti-mosquito actions, the FEHD had invited various departments including the DLO, LCSD and DSD to send representatives to attend the meeting of the “Inter-departmental Task Force on Anti-mosquito Work” on 8 March 2016, aiming to act in concert with each other and enhance the Anti-mosquito Campaign during the rain season.

46. The Chairman said that the EHAC was particularly concerned about the mosquito control status of Tsuen Wan district in general. If Members expected the FEHD to tackle mosquito problem in certain areas, they could contact the FEHD individually after the meeting.

47. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Ms LAM, Lam Nixie and Mr WONG Ka-wa were summarised as follows:

- (1) enquiry was raised on whether more proactive measures could be taken to enhance the anti-mosquito work in Belvedere Garden area after the beginning of the current DC term; and
- (2) whether other departments such as the Department of Health (DH) would respond to the matters concerning Zika virus, in addition to the FEHD.

48. The Chairman said that the DH was not in the invitation list of this agenda item. As the DH was responsible for making policies while the FEHD was in charge of taking preventive measures at district level, it would be better for the representatives from the FEHD to respond to this agenda item directly. In addition, as there were many items on the agenda of this meeting, there would not be enough time for the representatives from the DH under invitation to respond at the meeting.

49. Health Insp(Pest Control) of the FEHD said that after the meeting, the FEHD would arrange and follow up the suggestions made by Members on increasing the number of anti-mosquito operations at Belvedere Garden.

50. The Chairman said that if Members expected the FEHD to enhance the anti-mosquito work at district level, they could contact the FEHD individually after the meeting. It was believed that the FEHD would meet the requests made by Members as far as possible.

VIII Item 7: 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
(EHAC Paper No. 8/2016)

51. The Chairman welcomed the following government representatives to the meeting:

- (1) Mr HUI Wing-chun, Senior Marine Officer/Cargo Handling(Special Duties) (Sr Marine Officer/Cargo Handling) of the Marine Department (MD);
- (2) Mr NG Chi-hong, Caddy, Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2) (Sr Asst Shipping Master/Cargo Handling (2)) of the MD; and
- (3) Miss MOK Yee-ting, Flora, Environmental Protection Officer(Regional West)44 (Env Protection Offr(Regional W)44) of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).

52. Ms CHOW Chin-tung introduced the paper.

53. The Chairman said that the MD had submitted a written reply prior to the meeting. The representatives from the MD were invited to give supplementary comments and responses.

(Note: Mr LI Hung-por, Mr CHAN Sung-ip and Mr WONG Ka-wa left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.)

54. Sr Marine Officer/Cargo Handling of the MD responded as follows:
- (1) the MD had always been concerned about the captioned matter. Since several months ago, targeted routine measures had already been taken to reduce the noise nuisance;
 - (2) when conducting patrol, the staff of the MD were already equipped with portable noise metres for immediate application. The noise level was measured and recorded daily for not less than four times. If slightly higher decibel measurements were recorded, the staff of the Public Cargo Working Area (PCWA) would immediately inform the relevant operators and derrick boom operators to slow down the lifting speed as far as possible in order to reduce the noise produced;
 - (3) the staff of the MD would have meetings with the relevant contractors from time to time for discussions on practicable measures to improve the noise problem. Also, the contractors were advised and requested not to drop cargoes at a height or collide the cargoes and place thick wood planks on the ground in order to reduce the noise produced during loading and discharging;
 - (4) the staff of the MD always distributed the Cargo Handling Manuals printed by the EPD and Ship Operation Guidelines on Noise Prevention printed by the MD to operators and cargo loading and discharging operators;
 - (5) since mid-2015, the staff of the Rambler Channel PCWA had hung up several huge banners that read “Lifting Cargoes Carefully and Gently to Avoid Noise Nuisance” at conspicuous spots of the berth operation area in the vicinity of Riviera Gardens. It was aimed to remind the operators in the area concerned to minimise the noise produced during operation as far as possible;
 - (6) the above measures were becoming effective after implementation. According to the MD’s records, the number of relevant complaints received over the past six months had significantly reduced. No relevant complaint had been received since January 2016; and
 - (7) the MD would continue to monitor the relevant situations and urge the duty staff of the PCWA to carry out the management work properly.

(Note: Ms LUI Dik-ming left the meeting at 4:32 p.m.)

55. Env Protection Offr(Regional W)44 of the EPD responded as follows:
- (1) the EPD had been closely monitoring the PCWA concerned to see whether excessive noise was made. Since 2009 till present, a total of 72 noise measurements were conducted at the residential premises, rooftop and platform of Riviera Gardens to evaluate whether the noise produced at the PCWA during operation was within the noise standards under the Noise Control Ordinance (the Ordinance). The last two noise measurements

were taken on 25 February 2016 and 2 March 2016 respectively. The results showed that the noise produced at the PCWA had not exceeded the relevant noise standards under the Ordinance;

- (2) the EPD would currently conduct a regular inspection and noise measurement at Riviera Gardens on a monthly basis to monitor whether the PCWA produced excessive noise during operation;
- (3) whilst conducting inspection or receiving complaint, the EPD would also remind the relevant operators to properly maintain and repair their machines. They should also operate the machines carefully in order to avoid noise production, thus minimising the nuisance caused to the residents nearby;
- (4) the EPD would also liaise and inform the MD about the complaints and inspection results of the PCWA concerned, so that the MD could take actions as appropriate; and
- (5) the EPD would continue to monitor whether the PCWA produced excessive noise during operation.

(Note: Mr MAN Yu-ming joined the meeting at 4:38 p.m.)

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

- (1) the MD mentioned that inspection and management measures had been carried out. It was opined that the effectiveness of hanging huge banners was questionable even though the cost was low;
- (2) he noted that the contractors should comply with the relevant conditions and were subject to supervision during operation. He opined that the staff of the MD should be held solely responsible for monitoring the operators to avoid producing excessive noise during operation. The banners, serving as a means to give advice, could not stop the contractors from causing noise nuisance;
- (3) the operators always failed to put thick wood planks on the ground to eliminate the noise produced during cargo loading and discharging. Such loud noise was causing nuisance to the residents living at the harbourfront area. Moreover, he had been receiving a lot of information, including the videos recorded on-site. As shown in these information, it was found that sudden loud noises would be produced during cargo loading and discharging;
- (4) it was understood that the production of sudden loud noise was not being regulated under the existing Noise Control Ordinance. Hence, the EPD was not expected to provide assistance. However, the MD should carry out effective monitoring measures;
- (5) as the PCWA was in operation from Monday to Sunday and the MD failed to monitor the operators effectively, the affected residents at the harbourfront area considered that a buffer time should be set up. Hence, the MD was requested to consider closing the PCWA on Sundays, especially

the berths near Riviera Gardens, so that the residents would have their rest time;

- (6) according to the information paper submitted by the MD, the tendering of the PCWA would be processed once for every five years. The current tenancy would expire in July this year. If the new arrangements, if any, were made, it was suggested that the MD could specify the operating hours and improvement measures in the tendering documents;
- (7) regarding the reason for establishing a PCWA processing iron materials in close proximity to residential area, the department concerned had explained that it was due to the deep-water zone. However, as far as he could see, the berth area for loading and discharging of scrap iron was relocated to the existing location only a dozen years ago. During the initial stage of operation, the PCWA concerned processed the “new iron”, which were valuable iron materials. The contractors or cargo owners would request implementing good protective measures such as laying thick wood planks on the ground. Therefore, it did not cause much noise nuisance or trigger residents’ complaints at that time. In recent years, however, the PCWA processed the scrap iron only. The contractors did not take the said protective measures during operation, thus triggering many complaints about noise;
- (8) he did not believe that the MD had never received any complaint on noise nuisance at the PCWA concerned for the past six months. Although the relevant situation could not be reflected because the District Council (DC) Election of the new term was in progress and the relevant committee was yet to be set up during the six months recently, it was opined that the MD was still held responsible for monitoring the work of the contractors;
- (9) the rust on scrap iron would fall off and there would be even more rust coming off if the scrap iron was dropped at a height. It would pose more risks to the human health and surroundings. Hence, he opined that the MD should not only adopt protective measures for the staff of the MD, workers of the PCWA and residents living in the vicinity, but also closely monitor the loading and discharging procedures;
- (10) as the site concerned was located at the border of Kwai Tsing district, the views from Tsuen Wan district had not been sought for a number of policies, including tendering of the PCWA, before their implementation in Kwai Tsing. Residents of Tsuen Wan district urgently expected that the Legislative Council (LegCo) Members of New Territories West would help solve this problem. Since the LegCo Members of New Territories West did not attend this meeting, it was hoped that the committee members who had a friendly relationship with them would convey the relevant views for the committee;
- (11) as more than 30 000 residents living in the vicinity of the PCWA concerned suffered from the noise nuisance, the MD was expected to attach great importance to it and seek TWDC’s advice if a next round of tendering was required for the PCWA concerned; and

(12) he hoped that the PCWA concerned would be relocated as the long-term measures. He opined that according to the paper submitted by the MD, however, the number of PCWAs would only on the rise but the site concerned would not be relocated. Hence, he hoped that the MD would truly make improvement on the matter.

57. Sr Marine Officer/Cargo Handling of the MD responded as follows:

- (1) the MD had noted and would endeavour to consider Members' views;
- (2) currently, the review on the PCWA concerned was in the final stage. The existing tenancy would expire in mid-2016 and the new tenancy would be effective from August 2016. The review on the PCWA was in the consultation phase. The MD would consult the TWDC if necessary; and
- (3) the daily operating hours of the PCWA were restricted by laws. If the request on closing the site on Sundays was acceded to, the MD would have to conduct reviews on relevant policies, consultations with stakeholders and make amendments to the legislations, etc. Also, the MD would have to conduct studies and strike a balance among all the relevant aspects related to the request.

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

- (1) enquiry was raised on whether the MD could submit papers and conduct consultation in two months;
- (2) the DC, as an official organisation representing public opinion, expected that the MD would treat the matters seriously. According to the information paper submitted by the MD, the tendering for the PCWA concerned would be commenced in April 2016. And the next EHAC meeting would be held in May 2016. It was enquired whether the consultation period would have ended by then and what the relevant procedures were. The MD was expected to consult the TWDC during the consultation period; and
- (3) regarding the noise problem, the MD said that the noise level would be measured four times a day. Enquiry was raised on whether the MD would agree that loud noises produced from cargo loading and discharging had already exceeded the standards under the Noise Control Ordinance.

59. Sr Marine Officer/Cargo Handling of the MD responded as follows:

- (1) the MD would submit documents and conduct consultation if it was necessary to conduct a consultation on the review report on all PCWAs in Hong Kong;
- (2) he was mainly responsible for responding to the noise problem caused by cargo operations under this agenda item. The review of PCWAs was undertaken by another team of the MD. He would inform the staff concerned after the meeting; and

- (3) according to the regulations stipulated by the EPD, when the noise level exceeded 70 dB under measurement, the MD would immediately discuss the matters with the contractors. The contractors would be requested to slow down the cargo handling speed or to lay thick wood planks under the cargoes. The MD had adopted various measures over the past few months and would continue to enhance the regulation work.

60. The Chairman said that according to the responses from the MD, the MD took the view that the measures were effectively enforced and no relevant complaint was received. He would convey the relevant views to the residents after the meeting. If any complaint about noise was received subsequently, he would invite the MD to send representatives to attend and give response in the coming EHAC meeting. Moreover, he hoped that the representatives from the MD would convey the relevant views to the staff concerned after the meeting. Also, the MD should consider consulting the TWDC on when to start the tendering for the PCWA or matters concerning the expiry of the contract.

(Post-meeting note: The representatives from the MD said that after checking the records, the MD had already submitted the consultation document on Review on Public Cargo Working Areas to the TWDC on 23 February 2016. In addition, the Cargo Handling Section of the MD and the relevant contractors from the Gin Drinkers Bay PCWA had attended a meeting at Mr CHOW Ping-tim's councilor office on 8 April 2016 for coordination of a series of noise abatement measures. Also, the MD undertook that the monitoring work would be enhanced and communication would be maintained.)

IX Item 8: Strongly Request the District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing to Specify the Requirement of Provision of Professional Consultancy Report on Environmental and Traffic Assessment by the Successful Tenderer in the Tender for the Grant of the Temporary Allocated Area in the Proposal in question, with a view to Ensuring that the Living of Residents of the Housing Estates Nearby would not be Adversely Affected due to the Grant of the Site, and Request the Departments to Review the District Consultation Mechanism of Grant of Sites, under which Communication and Cooperation with District Council and Members should be an Integral Part in future
(EHAC Paper No. 21/2016)

61. The Chairman particularly welcomed the following government representatives to the meeting:

- (1) Ms WONG Lai-chu, Phoebe, Estate Surveyor/West1 (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (Estate Surveyor/W1) of the DLO;
- (2) Mr WONG Hung-lok, Steven, Senior Environmental Protection Officer(Waste Reduction & Recycling)² (Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Reduction & Recycling)²) of the EPD; and

- (3) Mr YU Wing-lun, Alan, Environmental Protection Officer(Waste Reduction & Recycling)23 (Env Protection Offr(Waste Reduction & Recycling)23) of the EPD.
62. The Chairman said that as this agenda item was raised by him, the Vice Chairman would take over the chair temporarily.
63. Mr CHOW Ping-tim introduced the paper.
64. Estate Surveyor/W1 of the DLO responded as follows:
- (1) the Wing Shun Street site in Kwai Chung was located within Kwai Tsing district. As the site was in close proximity to Tsuen Wan district, the DLO would also conduct local consultation through the TWDO for consideration;
 - (2) the site with an area of 2 820 square metres was vacant for the time being. The site had been formerly granted to the Highways Department (HyD) through the Temporary Government Land Allocation and was surrendered to the DLO in late September 2015. Meanwhile, the DLO received the advice from the EPD that the site could be let by tender for recycling use and the DLO began to put the advice on the relevant Short Term Tenancy (STT) into practice;
 - (3) according to the Kwai Chung Outline Zoning Plan, the site's long-term planning intention was for "Government, Institution or Community" use with a height limit of not exceeding one storey;
 - (4) upon receiving the request from the EPD, the DLO circulated the proposal concerning the STT and conducted local consultation through the Kwai Tsing District Office (K&TDO) in July 2015. During the circulation of the proposal, some government departments indicated that as the site was in close proximity to Tsuen Wan district, the DLO was advised to conduct local consultation in Tsuen Wan district through the TWDO as well; and
 - (5) the proposal concerning the STT was still in the stage of circulation of documents and consultation. After collecting views from all the relevant departments, and if the site was considered suitable for recycling purpose, the DLO would vet and approve the proposal in an inter-departmental meeting.
65. Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Reduction & Recycling)2 of the EPD responded as follows:
- (1) the Government had all along been supporting the recycling industry and was concerned about the shortage of land for recycling processes in the industry. Since 1998, the Government had carried out the measures on land use under STT, in which temporary allocated sites identified by the DLO were leased to the recyclers for recycling purpose. Currently, there were 31 dedicated sites for recycling purpose where the processing of recyclables such as waste paper, plastic and iron scrap was carried out in general;

- (2) as the site was proposed for recycling purpose, the EPD would include the environmentally friendly terms, such as control of noise and discharge of wastewater in the lease. Moreover, the recyclers were required to take measures to avoid environmental pollution;
- (3) the EPD would send staff to the site concerned for inspection regularly. As the environmentally friendly terms would be included in the tenancy, the recyclers were required to operate in accordance with the terms of tenancy so as to prevent pollution. The majority of the 31 sites for recycling purpose had been operating well in the past;
- (4) a relatively large proportion of local recyclables was exported overseas for the time being. The on-going procedures at the sites for recycling purpose mainly included the relatively simple processes, such as sorting, storage, compacting, baling and containerisation, etc. No nuisance would be caused if the recyclers exercised good practice on management. Moreover, the staff of the EPD would conduct inspection regularly and request the recyclers to rectify any environmental problem, if found; and
- (5) after considering that the site was in close proximity to Riviera Gardens, the EPD did not propose carrying out the procedures such as handling the scrap iron that would produce relatively loud noise at the site when putting forward the project concerned. It was hoped that the pollution and possibility of nuisance caused to the residents could be minimised as far as possible by stipulation of the terms of tenancy.

66. Mr CHUNG Wai-ping stated that the residents of Tsuen Wan district would probably be affected by the project, despite the fact that the site was located in Kwai Tsing district. He also enquired about the recyclable categories as proposed in the application and whether any noise would be generated.

(Note: Mr KOT Siu-yuen left the meeting at 5:05 p.m.)

67. Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Reduction & Recycling)² of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the proposed recycling purpose of the site was specified in the DLO's consultation paper and the recyclable categories included paper, plastic, tyre, waste electrical and electronic equipment and glass, etc. for the time being;
- (2) the EPD understood that removal of recyclable materials such as scrap iron would make much noise. Hence, it was not proposed to operate the relevant recyclable categories in the hope to reduce the noise produced;
- (3) generally speaking, recyclers would operate one kind of recyclable material, say, a recycler of waste paper would mainly recover waste paper. Although other recyclable materials such as plastic and glass might be recovered during operation, the recycler would still focus on one kind of material only; and

- (4) the recyclers would mainly carry out simple processes at the sites. Such processes included storage, simple sorting, cleaning and baling, etc. As the majority of the local recyclable materials were mainly for export, these recyclable materials would be delivered for export right away after baling.

68. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Mr CHOW Ping-tim were summarised as follows:

- (1) the EPD proposed that the site should be designated for the recycling trade and mentioned that 31 land sites of the same use had been operating well. However, there was no information showing how these sites operated;
- (2) concern was expressed on the traffic burden and noise nuisance caused by the application in question; and whether other forms of disturbance would be emanated during operation;
- (3) Members were not clear about the treatment processes of the recyclables specified in the paper, such as tyre, organic waste, waste electrical and electronic equipment, and the nuisance thus caused. For example, enquiry was raised on whether furnace would be used to melt down scrap tyres and the nuisance thus caused; whether the processing of waste electrical and electronic equipment would release poisonous pollutants or produce odour nuisance; and what the organic wastes were and if the recyclable materials would affect the living environment nearby, etc. He considered that the site might not cause much problem if it was used for recycling old furniture, textiles, used clothes, scrap wood and waste paper, etc. The contractors might operate all the recyclable categories specified in the paper. He was worried that there would be a lot of unknown potential nuisance;
- (4) it was enquired whether the tender was prepared by the EPD or the DLO;
- (5) according to the regulations stipulated by the EPD, prosecution could only be initiated for the noise nuisance that had been exceeding the upper limit for a certain period of time. Hence, the EPD was not expected to provide assistance after the lease was granted. Also, it was suggested that agreement should be drawn up prior to the occurrence of noise nuisance as a preventative measures;
- (6) it was opined that there were also many vacant land next to the PCWA in Kwai Tsing district. Enquiry was raised on the reason for choosing the site in question for recycling purpose instead of the area closer to the PCWA; and
- (7) he suggested that the EHAC should write to the K&TDO to express dissatisfaction on its failure to consider the living condition of the residents in the surrounding areas of Tsuen Wan district and distribution of nuisance facilities in the surrounding areas time and again. Also, the K&TDO was requested to take into consideration the views from Tsuen Wan district.

69. Sr Env Protection Offr(Waste Reduction & Recycling)2 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) although the handling of recyclable materials might involve a number of different processes, the local recyclable materials were mainly exported overseas for the time being;
- (2) in general, the existing 31 STT sites were used for simple processes such as baling, collection, cleaning, containerisation and conveyance, etc. More complicated processes were not carried out at the sites. Regardless of the recycling processes undertaken, the contractors should comply with the clauses on discharge, odour and noise, etc. under the environmental protection ordinance; and
- (3) the EPD would discuss with the DLO on the proposal of including the environmentally friendly terms in the STT. If the recycler failed to comply with the relevant terms of tenancy, the EPD would discuss with the DLO to take follow-up actions such as termination of the tenancy.

70. Estate Surveyor/W1 of the DLO responded as follows:

- (1) the DLO was seeking views from the relevant departments on the tendering document. As regards transportation, the DLO had not received any actual request from the Transport Department (TD) yet. The DLO would continue the follow-up work with the TD. As regards environmental protection, the EPD had already specified a series of requirements. The DLO would set out these requirements in the appendix of the tendering documents. If the successful tenderers failed to meet the requirements as specified by the EPD, i.e. failure to comply with the terms of the tenancy, the DLO could consider terminating the relevant STT; and
- (2) the STT concerned was still in the proposal stage, pending a formal approval.

71. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Mr CHOW Ping-tim were summarised as follows:

- (1) he opined that the five-year tenancy was too long, even though the EPD mentioned that the relevant recycling processes were relatively simple and the nuisance caused would not be significant. He suggested that the term of the STT concerned should be set for three years for the time being, facilitating follow-up work by Members; and
- (2) he requested the EHAC to write to the K&TDO to express concern over the distribution of facilities disturbing the residents in Tsuen Wan district time and again. It was expected that the K&TDO could be considerate to the residents living in the area concerned.

72. The Acting Chairman proposed to write to the K&TDO to express the views from Members for the residents living in the surrounding areas of Tsuen Wan district. The K&TDO was expected to strengthen the communication between the two DCs.

(Post-meeting note: The EHAC had conveyed the relevant views to the K&TDO in writing on 12 April 2016.)

73. Mr LAM Faat-kang said that the DC itself should convey views of the general public to the relevant departments. If it had to write to another DC, special attention should be paid to the use of words so as to avoid creating conflicts between the two districts, which would be difficult for the government departments to deal with.

74. The Chairman resumed the chair.

X Item 9: Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District
(EHAC Paper No. 9/2016)

75. The Chairman particularly welcomed the following government representatives to the meeting:

- (1) Mr KO Po-wai, Senior Health Inspector (Sr Health Insp(Env Hygiene)2) of the Joint Office (JO)/FEHD;
- (2) Mr YEUNG Shing-yam, Professional Officer (Professional Offr 3/Joint Office 2) of the JO/Buildings Department (BD); and
- (3) Miss TONG Sze-yin, Engineer/Customer Services (Inspection) NTW (Engr/NTW (Customer Services) Inspection) of the Water Supplies Department (WSD).

76. The Chairman invited the representatives from the JO to report on the latest situation of handling the water seepage in buildings in the district.

77. Professional Offr 3/Joint Office 2 of the JO/BD reported as follows:

- (1) in 2015, the JO had received a total of 2 146 reports on water seepage in Tsuen Wan district, in which 1 619 cases were processed. Among the processed cases, 654 cases were screened out and 965 cases were concluded. Among the concluded cases, the water seepage ceased during investigation amounted to 333 cases; the source of water seepage was identified for 428 cases; and the source of water seepage could not be identified for 204 cases. The JO had instituted prosecution for three cases;
- (2) as at 31 December 2015, the JO had been investigating 337 water seepage reports and Stage III professional investigation was conducted for 144 cases; and
- (3) if all the parties concerned failed to complement the JO to carry out the inspection, the JO would apply to the court for a “Warrant to Effect Entry into Premises” under the law. In 2015, the JO had issued a total of 38 “Notices of Intention to Apply for Warrant of Entry”, and applied to the Tsuen Wan Magistrates’ Courts for “Warrant to Enter Premises” for four cases among all.

78. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman, Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis and Mr LAM Faat-kang were summarised as follows:

- (1) the JO stated that there were 204 cases for which the source of water seepage unidentified. Enquiry was raised on how these cases would be handled; and whether the water seepage of these cases still existed;
- (2) prosecution was instituted for three cases in 2015 and the number was fewer than that in the past. However, the source of water seepage was unidentified for 204 cases and the number increased comparing to that in the past. Hence, enquiry was raised on the relevant reasons for this; and whether the problem of recruitment of manpower was involved. Moreover, regarding the drop in the number of cases prosecuted comparing to that in the past, it was enquired if the flats of water seepage had co-operated with the JO's investigation and follow-up work, and hence no prosecution was instituted;
- (3) it was opined that the JO's statistics on cases were unsatisfactory and the results were getting worse. It was opined that the JO should conduct a review to find out more ideal solutions to improve the situation. Moreover, the EHAC expected that the JO could conduct investigation and provide assistance seriously, so as to help the general public to get rid of the water seepage problem and improve the water seepage situation in the district; and
- (4) there was an increase in the number of water seepage cases in 2015 comparing to that in the past. Also, there were more cases with the source of water seepage unidentified than that in 2015 proportionally. Recently, the staff of the JO visited the flat in question but they were unable to carry out the inspection because the ceiling of the flat was too high and they lacked some other tools to facilitate the test. It was enquired whether the frontline staff of the JO had reported the said situation; and whether it was necessary for the JO to purchase equipment for carrying out the inspection. Also, it was opined that the number of cases with unidentified source of water seepage would be increased due to the said situation. It was expected that the JO would conduct a review and support the frontline staff, so that the investigation progress would not be affected.

79. Professional Offr 3/Joint Office 2 of the JO/BD reported as follows:

- (1) in general, for cases of source of water seepage unidentified, the moisture content of the water seepage area would be over 35% persistently. If the moisture content of the water seepage area of the case concerned was less than 35%, it was considered that the water seepage problem no longer existed. If the source of water seepage still could not be identified after conducting a colour water test, it would be considered that the source of water seepage of the case in question was unidentified; and
- (2) according to the JO's experience, even though the property owners concerned of some cases adopted measures and the water seepage problem was improved, if the moisture content of the water seepage area was still over 35%, the JO, after carrying out all the tests, would cease the investigation on the cases in compliance with the procedures and notify the

property owners concerned in writing. If the situation changed afterwards, the property owners could inform the JO again to restart the investigation and follow-up work.

80. Sr Health Insp(Env Hygiene)2 of the JO/FEHD responded as follows:
- (1) to identify the source of water seepage, the JO would firstly conduct the water seepage test. After the source of water seepage was identified, a nuisance notice would be issued by the JO. If the flat involved was found in failure to make improvement based on the requirements specified by the JO, the JO would institute prosecution. In general, the JO would institute prosecution based on the facts obtained from the investigation. Regarding the drop in the number of prosecution cases in 2015 comparing to that in the past, the JO would pay close attention to this situation; and
 - (2) in the first phase of the investigation, the staff of the JO would put the equipment on the affected area, so as to measure if the moisture content of the water seepage area was over 35%. If the ceiling of the flat was too high, the JO would generally expect the complainant or the owner of the affected flat to provide a suitable working platform for carrying out the investigation. In addition, the staff of the FEHD and the BD would work closely together, in order to explore the solutions to the problem.
81. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman and Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis were summarised as follows:
- (1) the JO mentioned that the complainant was expected to build a suitable platform for the JO to carry out the work. However, it was opined that such a request was unreasonable. The JO should find out a solution and get the resources required on its own. Moreover, this was not a reason for the JO to give up the investigation and shirk its responsibilities. It was suggested that the JO should borrow equipment from the BD or other departments to complete the investigation; and
 - (2) a ladder was once lent to the staff of the JO to use. However, the staff of the JO still did not make use of the ladder to conduct the measurement on the grounds of safety. Hence, the assistance from volunteers and residents was further sought to carry out the test. Enquiry was raised on whether the JO would consider arranging staff to assist in providing a suitable working platform, so as to continue the investigation work when the said situation arose.
82. Sr Health Insp(Env Hygiene)2 of the JO/FEHD responded that he believed the frontline staff would endeavour to provide assistance. The staff would inform the JO if they were worried about the personal safety on working at height, etc. The JO would handle the matters on a case-by-case basis. The JO would make reconsideration on the purchase of new equipment.

83. The views, enquiries and suggestions of the Chairman and Mr MAN Yu-ming were summarised as follows:

- (1) it was opined that the cases concerned were irrelevant to the equipment and that a law enforcer should find out solutions on his own when the test or construction works was in progress, instead of making refusal to carry out his work due to the not-so-dangerous conditions such as the height constraint, etc.;
- (2) the EHAC had long been discussing the matters concerning the water seepage cases processed by the JO or the successfully prosecuted cases and relaying that certain cases could not be processed due to the ceiling height of the flat or the moisture test, etc. It was opined that the departments concerned should seek solutions to the problem. In addition, it was considered that the number of cases successfully prosecuted was too few at present. It was hoped that the departments concerned would take law enforcement work seriously, including enhancing the scientific performance of the equipment; and
- (3) it was understood and agreed that the staff concerned should pay attention to the safety of working at height. It was opined that the departments concerned should actively seek solutions to the problem.

84. The Chairman stated that he believed the insurance secured by the JO had covered field work. As far as he could see, there was no requirement for the height limit of the test at present. The EHAC was concerned about the water seepage in buildings and put higher requirements on the JO's work. It was hoped that the JO would tie in with the work of the EHAC to handle the water seepage cases seriously and improve the relevant situations, thus reducing the number of water seepage complaints and cases. If the JO failed to be co-operative, the EHAC would have no choice but to express dissatisfaction to the senior staff of the departments concerned in writing.

85. Sr Health Insp(Env Hygiene)² of the FEHD introduced the Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District.

86. The suggestions, views and enquiries of Mr MAN Yu-ming, Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris, Mr LAM Faat-kang, Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones and Mr TAM Hoi-pong were summarised as follows:

- (1) the construction works of Yi Pei Chun Village Public Toilet had commenced in 2015. However, the temporary public toilets were insufficient. Hence, it was hoped that the construction works could commence as soon as possible. Currently, the contractor had some problems on its work. It was hoped that the FEHD would urge the contractor to solve it soon. Also, enquiry was raised on what the FEHD would do if the construction works failed to be completed by the expected completion date;
- (2) gratitude was expressed to the FEHD's assistance in clearing the accumulated fallen leaves outside Wai Tsuen Sports Centre at Wai Tsuen

Road during the election period; and the stubborn dirt on the staircase from Tsuen Fung Footbridge to Castle Peak Road. It was enquired whether the FEHD had referred the cases concerned to the HyD; and whether the HyD had taken follow-up actions. It was enquired how the stubborn dirt such as chewing gum deposits, etc. on the ground of Tsuen Fung Footbridge would be handled among the departments; and whether Members were required to submit papers for this;

- (3) fallen leaves were accumulated at the back of the fire station at Shek Wai Kwok Road of Texco Road North and the area near the ambulance depot on the slope outside Shek To House in Shek Wai Kok Estate. These were security black spots and were erected with chain-link fence and locked. Subsequently, fallen leaves and rainwater were accumulated due to the lack of cleansing work. The sites were prone to the breeding of mosquitoes, causing nuisance to the residents nearby. Gratitude was expressed to the FEHD for carrying out clearance work in 2015. At present, however, no one knew which department was responsible for the cleansing work of the said locations. It was enquired whether the FEHD could co-operate with other departments to tackle the problem, so as to prevent malaria;
- (4) regarding the dog excreta problem in the street, many residents liked taking a walk with their dogs at Tsing Lung Tau of Castle Peak Road, where dog excreta collection bins with covers or pedals were readily available. The residents stated and hoped that additional dog excreta collection bins with pedals would be provided. However, as the dog excreta collection bins with pedals were huge in size, occupying conspicuous spots on the footbridge, it was hoped that the footbridge would not be obstructed when the additional dog excreta collection bins with pedals were installed by the FEHD;
- (5) dogs were used to urinate at the side of a post in the street. There was strong odour in the vicinity of the footbridge and pavement of Castle Peak Road, especially after rain in summer. Currently, the residents would use water to dilute dogs' urine in the street. However, this would only enlarge the contaminated area. It was enquired what the residents should do to handle this situation. It was hoped that the FEHD would strengthen the cleansing work of the pavement and footbridge in summer, in order to reduce the proliferation of bacteria and odour;
- (6) the refuse collection points at Pai Min Kok Tsuen, Sea Crest Villa (Phase IV) and Tsing Lung Tau Tsuen were locked improperly; and were only open during the daytime when the duty staff was present. The interior of the refuse collection points was tidy and clean, fitted with furniture and refrigerator, as if they were the rest rooms of the contractors. The garbage, however, was placed outside the refuse collection points, making its hygienic condition worse than that in the refuse collection points. After reporting the situation to the FEHD earlier, the condition of the Pai Min Kok Tsuen refuse collection point at Ma Wan Pier was improved. The refuse collection point was not locked at night and the garbage was placed

inside the refuse collection point. However, there was no improvement for the refuse collection points at Sea Crest Villa (Phase IV) and Tsing Lung Tau Tsuen, where the same problem was found. It was hoped that the FEHD would follow up on the matters; and

- (7) there were two minor refuse collection points at Man Wan Village. However, as the garbage was not collected frequently, the garbage was always accumulated. It was suggested that the garbage should be collected more frequently or an additional minor refuse collection point should be provided.

87. Sr Health Insp(Env Hygiene)2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) was responsible for the renovation works of Yi Pei Chun Village Public Toilet. After the meeting, he would make enquiry to the ArchSD on the progress of the construction works; and whether it could be completed as scheduled. He hoped that the relevant information would be provided for the committee members concerned after the meeting;
- (2) regarding the chewing gum dirt problem on the staircase of Tsuen Fung Footbridge, the TD, which was responsible for the management of the multi-storey carpark building, should assist in following up the problem. He would check over the relevant records after the meeting and give response to the committee members concerned upon discussion with the relevant departments;
- (3) regarding the accumulation of fallen leaves and whether it should be referred to the HyD for follow-up actions, he would look into the situation and give response to the committee members concerned after the meeting;
- (4) regarding the clearance of fallen leaves behind the ambulance depot on the slope outside Shek To House in Shek Wai Kok Estate, he would check over the records to find out whether the FEHD had contacted other departments after sending staff to clear the fallen leaves in the past; and whether there was any sign on the slope displaying the name of responsible department. He would follow up on the matter and give response to the committee members concerned after the meeting;
- (5) the FEHD had installed dog excreta collection bins of various sizes at places where the dog owners gathered. After the meeting, he would check over the sizes of the dog excreta collection bins to see if there was a smaller one with a pedal. If not, he would relay the situation to the headquarter, so as to seek the way forward on installation of additional dog excreta collection bins of some other design. Given the existing resources, the FEHD would endeavour to install the dog excreta collection bin of a suitable size at the said location. After the meeting, he would contact the committee members concerned for follow-up work;
- (6) regarding the odour nuisance caused by dog urine, the FEHD would carry out street cleansing work regularly. Members could discuss with the FEHD if there was a need to carry out the cleansing work for certain

locations more frequently. However, the regular cleansing work of the footbridge was, in fact, carried out by the HyD. Should there be any unforeseen incidents where vomitus or faeces were found on the footbridge, the FEHD would send staff to assist in the cleansing work;

- (7) it was regarded that certain refuse collection points in the rural areas found locked earlier was unacceptable. These refuse collection points should be open to the general public for use. Currently, the condition of the refuse collection point at Pai Min Kok Tsuen in Ma Wan had been improved. After the meeting, he would follow up on the remaining two refuse collection points and urge the staff concerned to handle the problem; and
- (8) the FEHD had taken note that the garbage was always accumulated at the two minor refuse collection points in Ma Wan and enhanced the inspection and garbage collection work. After the meeting, he would discuss with the committee members concerned on the suggestions of setting up an additional minor refuse collection point or providing the villagers with a new location for disposal of large-sized garbage.

88. The Chairman reminded Members that they could contact the staff of the FEHD directly after the meeting, so as to follow up and handle the district matters. Members could raise the major matters yet to be resolved, if any, at the EHAC meetings.

89. The suggestions, views and enquiries of Mr KOO Yeung-pong and Mr LO Siu-kit were summarised as follows:

- (1) an inspection at the footbridge from Clague Garden Estate to Tsuen Wan Plaza had been conducted with the staff of the FEHD. This footbridge was managed by Clague Garden Estate and the majority of people smoking on the footbridge were tenants of Tsuen Wan Plaza. However, despite the fact that there was only one ashtray installed at Tsuen Wan Plaza, Tsuen Wan Plaza was unwilling to assist in solving the problem of insufficient ashtray. As the said location was a private place, the corporation had made a request to the Tobacco Control Office (TCO) to handle the matter. However, after conducting an on-site inspection, the TCO indicated that it could not be handled in any way and requested the corporation to remove the No Smoking sign. It was enquired what to be done under such a situation;
- (2) although the “systematic hawker” was difficult to deal with, the number of hawker paraphernalia or tools seized by the FEHD recorded a tenfold increase over the same period of 2015. The FEHD was highly commended for this;
- (3) regarding the on-street retractable advertising banners, it was noted that the FEHD had started to conduct the large-scale operations recently, yielding an effective outcome. It was hoped that the good work could be kept up;
- (4) it was found that the commercial banners would be hung up on Friday nights and some banners would be removed on Mondays. It was hoped that the FEHD and DLO would take note of this; and

- (5) the shops in the vicinity of Ho Pui Street and Chuen Lung Street had been using high volume loudspeakers to attract attention for the sale of goods from the shop. Enquiry was raised on whether the departments such as the EPD, FEHD or Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) could provide assistance in tackling the act of attracting attention for the sale of goods from the shop by loud voice.

(Note: Mr MAN Yu-ming, CHAN Chun-chung, Jones and Mr TAM Hoi-pong left the meeting at 5:55 p.m.)

90. The Chairman advised that Members could make enquiries on the noise problem as they had just mentioned to the representative from the EPD under agenda item 10 “Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District”, so as to learn more about the measures to be taken under the existing laws and regulations.

91. Sr Health Insp(Env Hygiene)² of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD had sent staff to inspect the cigarette butt problem of the footbridge. As regards the removal of the No Smoking sign requested by the staff of the TCO after inspection, it fell beyond the FEHD’s scope of work. He believed that the TCO should continue to follow up the matter;
- (2) the FEHD had recently changed the strategies on handling the on-street retractable advertising banners. It was hoped that the good work could be kept up;
- (3) the FEHD would also send staff to conduct inspections on Saturdays and Sundays. Actions would be taken if the illegal erection of commercial banners was found. If the erection of non-commercial banners was found, the FEHD would seek assistance from the DLO to handle the matter; and
- (4) the representative from the EPD was suggested to give response to the noise problem concerned.

92. The Chairman said that regarding the smoking problem mentioned by Members, although the staff of the TCO had conducted inspection at the site concerned, the degree of enclosure of the site in question might not be up to the current legal standards under the existing ordinance. Therefore, the site in question was excluded from the scope of control or prosecution by the TCO. The TCO was also unable to regulate the act of putting up objects in private places. Hence, the property owners should tackle the cigarette butt problem of the footbridge on their own as it was not regulated by the existing laws and regulations. If Members were particularly concerned about the said matter, they could submit papers and invite the representatives from the TCO to attend and give response at the EHAC meetings. However, it would be difficult to handle the situation for the time being. He suggested that the matter should be pursued again after the review on the relevant laws and regulations was completed as well as the additional coverage was built.

XI Item 10: Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District (December 2015 to January 2016)

(EHAC Paper No. 10/2016)

93. Senior Environmental Protection Officer(Regional West)2 (Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2) of the EPD reported the environmental pollution control work carried out by the EPD and added that:

- (1) the ventilation system used by a restaurant at Heung Wo Street, Tsuen Wan generated noise at a level as high as 69 dB, exceeding the daytime noise limit of 65 dB by 4 dB and the nighttime noise limit of 55 dB by 14 dB. The EPD issued a Noise Abatement Notice to the restaurant on 8 December 2015, requiring the restaurant to abate the noise from 8 January to 8 February 2016. During the follow-up action taken by the EPD recently, it was found that the restaurant had basically complied with the requirement specified in the Noise Abatement Notice;
- (2) a food premises at Lo Tak Court emitted excessive oily fumes which caused air pollution. The EPD issued an Air Pollution Abatement Notice to the persons-in-charge of the food premises according to the Air Pollution Control Ordinance on 28 December 2015, requiring the food premises to abate the pollution by 27 January 2016. During the follow-up action taken by the EPD recently, it was found that the food premises failed to comply with the requirement specified in the Air Pollution Abatement Notice. The EPD would take further enforcement action; and
- (3) a food premises at Panda Place, Tsuen Wah Street, Tsuen Wan carried out the installation of furnaces without approval, contravening the Air Pollution Control (Furnaces, Ovens and Chimneys) (Installation and Alteration) Regulations of the EPD. The food premises pleaded guilty in the Fanling Magistrates' Courts on 22 December 2015 and was fined \$7,000.

94. The suggestions, views and enquiries of Mr LAM Faat-kang, Mr WONG Wai-kit and Mr LO Siu-kit were summarised as follows:

- (1) regarding the noise from the MTR Tsuen Wan Depot, the EPD staff were appreciated for taking active follow-up actions after receiving the complaint. The management company had recorded a noise level higher than 70 dB during the nighttime. Also, a very harsh noise generated by the friction between the wheels and the tracks lasted for some tens of seconds each time in an interval of two to three minutes or so intermittently. Residents' sleep was disrupted by the noise although it was not persistent. The situation had been improved after MTR Corporation Limited (MTR) installed a lubrication system on several tracks earlier, but five or six tracks had yet to be installed with the system. It was hoped that the EPD would urge MTR again and provide assistance;
- (2) regarding the odour prediction assessment in the vicinity of the Belvedere Garden, Tsuen Wan and nearby factory buildings, the dyeing factory in question had suspended its operation after the long-term follow-up actions taken by various parties. After discussion, there was no need for the EPD

to report the pollution condition of the above site again. The EPD staff were appreciated for their long-term follow-up actions and efforts; and

- (3) the shops in the vicinity of Ho Pui Street and Chuen Lung Street played the audio recording aloud for sale of their products with speakers throughout the day. Enquiry was raised on whether the EPD had any noise assessment measures for the above sites.

95. Sr Env Protection Offr(Regional W)2 responded as follows:

- (1) regarding the noise of MTR, the average noise level over a 30-minute period was measured under the current noise standard. The EPD understood that the noise was getting particularly harsh in a short time and had all along explained the situation to Members. The EPD had also conducted an inspection with Members at the MTR Tsuen Wan Depot to find out more about the measures taken by MTR such as lubricators and urged MTR to take further measures. The EPD would liaise with the persons-in-charge of MTR and continue to follow up the situation. However, it was observed that, in recent years, the public relations staff of MTR were more respectful to Members, so it was suggested that MTR representatives might be invited to attend the EHAC meetings to give responses directly if necessary. In addition, MTR had installed lubricators near Luk Yeung Sun Chuen and avoided using relatively curved tracks during nighttime as far as possible;
- (2) regarding the odour prediction assessment in the vicinity of the Belvedere Garden, Tsuen Wan and nearby factory buildings, the EPD would submit the last report at the next EHAC meeting if the Chairman agreed. The EPD would submit relevant information paper again as and when necessary or new problems arose in future; and
- (3) the EPD had also found that the shops in the vicinity of Ho Pui Street and Chuen Lung Street played audio recording aloud for sale of their products with speakers and had received relevant complaints, most of which involved the pork stalls at Chuen Lung Street. Officers would be sent to stop this practice immediately if it was found by the EPD. Based on the division of responsibilities between the EPD and the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), the EPD was responsible for dealing with the noise from shops and the HKPF was responsible for dealing with the noise from streets or other public places. Generally speaking, the situation would be improved after advice was given by the EPD officers. The EPD would request the HKPF to take follow-up actions if the situation was not improved and the venue of the case was by the street. For the cases of refusal to cooperation in the past, upon discussion between the EPD and the HKPF, the staff of the EPD and the HKPF would be deployed to the relevant sites to carry out publicity work. Normally, the situation would be brought under control after summonses were issued by the HKPF. Besides, the noise standard of the case was not determined by measurement of the noise levels. Instead, it was determined by whether the noise constituted nuisance in public places,

subject to the level of tolerance varied with various environments of the place. In general, the tolerance level for noise was higher in wet markets, whereas the tolerance level was lower in residential areas. Members could approach him if they found the noise nuisance. He would deploy the staff to carry out investigation and follow-up work.

96. The Chairman said that the EPD was very cooperative and Members could liaise with the EPD to follow up the matters. In addition, according to the views of the Members concerned, the EPD would submit the last report on odour prediction assessment in the vicinity of the Belvedere Garden, Tsuen Wan and nearby factory buildings at the next EHAC meeting.

XII Item 11: Progress Report on Minor Environmental Improvement Programme and Maintenance Projects in 2015/16

(EHAC Paper No. 11/2016)

97. Senior Inspector of Works (SIOW) of the TWDO briefed Members on the progress of the works.

98. The Chairman said that the minor environmental improvement programme and maintenance projects implemented by the EHAC of the last term in 2015/16 was specified in the paper and the said projects would continue to be supported by the funds for the current financial year so that the projects of the last term could be completed. The EHAC had endorsed the proposals and assessment mechanism of the minor environmental improvement programme of the new term under agenda item 3 of this meeting. Members were invited to submit project proposals by the specified deadline.

XIII Item 12: Any Other Business

(A) Information Papers

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

- (1) Membership List of Environmental and Health Affairs Committee 2016-19 (EHAC Paper No. 12/2016);
- (2) Terms of Reference of Environmental and Health Affairs Committee (EHAC Paper No. 13/2016);
- (3) Date of Meetings of Environmental and Health Affairs Committee between May 2016 and March 2017 (EHAC Paper No. 14/2016);
- (4) Financial Statement of the Funds Allocated to Environmental and Health Affairs Committee as at 17 February 2016 (EHAC Paper No. 15/2016);
- (5) Odour Prediction Assessment at the Riviera Gardens and Tsuen Wan Slaughter House (December 2015 to January 2016) (EHAC Paper No. 16/2016, submitted by the EPD);
- (6) Work Report on the Problem of Sea Water Pollution of the Rambler Channel, Tsuen Wan (December 2015 to January 2016)

- (EHAC Paper No. 17/2016, submitted by the EPD);
- (7) Odour Prediction Assessment in the Vicinity of the Belvedere Garden, Tsuen Wan and Nearby Factory Buildings (December 2015 to January 2016)
(EHAC Paper No. 18/2016, submitted by the EPD);
- (8) Noise Monitoring Result of MTR Tsuen Wan Depot (December 2015 to January 2016)
(EHAC Paper No. 19/2016, submitted by the EPD); and
- (9) Review on Public Cargo Working Area
(EHAC Paper No. 20/2016, submitted by the MD).

XIV Adjournment of Meeting

100. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on 5 May 2016 (Thursday) and the deadline for submission of paper was 19 April 2016.

101. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

22 April 2016

Terms of Reference of the Working Groups under
Environmental and Health Affairs Committee in 2016-19

- (I) Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community
- (1) To monitor the government policies in relation to environmental protection and greening as well as matters of public concern. To exchange and express opinions on the above matters;
 - (2) To be responsible for the promotion and publicity of environmental protection and greening. To urge the public to express their concerns on the issues of environmental protection and greening so as to promote a sense of civic responsibility and responsible behaviour of the public in respect of environmental protection and greening;
 - (3) To promote environmental protection and greening education;
 - (4) To mobilise the local community to accept and put forward the measures of environmental protection and greening and draw up the follow-up work; and
 - (5) To report to the EHAC as required by the Monitoring Group.
- (II) Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety
- (1) To monitor the government policies in relation to public health, food safety and agricultural and fisheries as well as matters of public concern. To express opinions and handle follow-up work on the above matters. For example, concern over public cleansing and pest and rodent control, hygienic condition of food premises, prosecution on hygienic condition and licensing and hawker management, food monitoring and infectious diseases incurred by food and public health in Tsuen Wan district, etc.;
 - (2) To promote public health and disseminate the message of food safety to foster members of the public to get a proper understanding for protection of public health;
 - (3) To monitor and follow up the work on handling public health and disease problems incurred by fowls and animals by the government; and
 - (4) To report to the EHAC as required by the Monitoring Group.
- (III) Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement
- (1) To monitor the government policies which affect environmental pollution of the District as well as matters of public concern. To exchange and express opinions on the above matters such as environmental pollution in respect of air, noise, refuse, quality of water and water seepage on ceiling, etc.;
 - (2) To follow up the work arising from the complaints in respect of the above matters by the government departments and reflect opinions to the government for seeking solution to the problem;
 - (3) To monitor the progress of the follow-up work on rehabilitation of problem

buildings by government departments, prevent urban decay and monitor matters of public concern. To exchange and express opinions on the above matters;

- (4) To express opinions and suggestions on town planning, urban redevelopment and land use in Tsuen Wan;
- (5) To publicise the rejuvenation of older urban areas, improve the living environment and make contribution to the local community;
- (6) To express opinions on the dismantling, policies and work of illegal buildings in older urban areas in Tsuen Wan and conduct the follow-up work;
- (7) To conduct research and analysis and compile reports on the above issues and forward opinions to the government; and
- (8) To report to the EHAC as required by the Task Force.

Annex II

Membership lists of the Working Groups under
Environmental and Health Affairs Committee in 2016-19

Monitoring Group on Environmental Protection and Green Community

Convenor : The Hon CHAN Han-pan,
Ben, JP

Vice Convenor : Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis

Members : Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH
(joined after the meeting)
Mr KOO Yeung-pong
Mr WONG Ka-wa
Mr WONG Wai-kit
Mr CHOW Ping-tim
Mr TAM Hoi-pong
Mr LAM Kwok-on
(joined after the meeting)

Monitoring Group on Public Health and Food Safety

Convenor : Mr CHOW Ping-tim

Vice Convenor : Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis

Members : Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH
(joined after the meeting)
Mr KOO Yeung-pong
Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones
Mr KOT Siu-yuen
Mr LAM Fook-chuen
Ms CHOW Chin-tung
Mr LAM Kwok-on
(joined after the meeting)

Task Force on Environmental Pollution and Improvement

Convenor : Mr LO Siu-kit

Vice Convenor : Mr CHENG Chit-pun

Members : 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 CHOW Ping-tim
Mr TAM Hoi-pong
Ms LUI Dik-ming
Mr LAM Fook-chuen
Mr TSE Wing-hong
Mr LAM Kwok-on

(joined after the meeting)

Note: The tenure of the Members who are concurrently the Co-opted Members of the EHAC is from the establishment date of the Working Groups (i.e. 3 March 2016) to 31 December 2017.