

(Translation)

Minutes of the 6th Meeting of
Environment, Health and Climate Change Committee (4/20-21)

Date: 22 October 2020 (Thursday)

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Members

Mr TAM Hoi-pong (Chairman)

Mr LAU Jackson (Vice Chairman)

Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH

Mr LI Hung-por

Mr SHUM Lester

Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus

Mr LAM Sek-tim

Ms CHAN Kim-kam

Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio

Mr WONG Ka-wa

Mr KOT Siu-yuen, MH

Mr CHIU Yan-loy

Mr LAU Chi-hung

Mr LAU Cheuk-yu

Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy

Mr LAI Man-fai

Mr TSE Man-chak

Government Representatives

Mr LAI Yik-wing, Wesley

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

Miss LEUNG Mee-sze

Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1,
Food and Environmental Hygiene
Department

Mr YUEN Chiu-kit

Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing &
Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, Food and
Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms FONG Wei-king, Luna	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, Environmental Protection Department
Ms LO Sze-yang	Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, Drainage Services Department
Mr LI Pui-sang	Contract Project Coordinator/2 (W), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr KAN King-ming, Victor	Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 8, Housing Department
Mr CHEN Wai-kuen	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr CHAN Sai-hung	Senior Inspector of Works, Tsuen Wan District Office
Miss LEUNG Ming-sze, Ashley	Executive Officer (Development), Tsuen Wan District Office

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat Representatives

Miss LAM Siu-yung, Daisy	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr SIU Chung-sing, Johnson (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)1, Tsuen Wan District Office
Miss WONG Hoi-kiu, Hosanna	Executive Officer (District Council)2, Tsuen Wan District Office

In attendance:

Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly	Chairman, Tsuen Wan District Council
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Attendance by Invitation:

For discussion of item 2A

Mr TSUI Ka-kim, Kim	Senior Building Surveyor/D5, Buildings Department
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For discussion of item 2D

Mr NG Ki-yiu	Senior Engineer/NTW (Special Duties), Water Supplies Department
Mr KAN Ka-man	Engineer/NTW (Headworks 3), Water Supplies Department
Mr LEE Siu-fung, Michael	Country Parks Officer (W), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Mr CHENG Ho-yin, Henry	Senior Estate Surveyor/Tsuen Wan (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing)
Mr CHUNG Ching-to	Senior Officer, Hong Kong Gun Club

For discussion of item 4

Mr YAU Wai-yip	Senior Property Services Manager/ Sham Shui Po & Tsuen Kwai, Architectural Services Department
Mr CHU Kwok-keung	Property Services Officer/Tsuen Wan/2, Architectural Services Department
Mr LEE Huen-yiu	District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Highways Department

For discussion of item 8

Mr CHOW King-cheung, Jason	Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1, Transport Department
Mr LEE Huen-yiu	District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Highways Department

For discussion of item 10

Mr NG Ki-yiu	Senior Engineer/NTW (Special Duties), Water Supplies Department
Mr KAN Ka-man	Engineer/NTW (Headworks 3), Water Supplies Department
Ms CHEUK Li	Assistant Engineer/Planning 8, Water Supplies Department

Absent:

Mr NG Hin-lung, Norris

The Meeting

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed the Members to the 6th meeting of the Environment, Health and Climate Change Committee (EHCCC) and informed the meeting that Mr LAI Yik-wing, Wesley had replaced Mr CHOW Chun-hun, Gary to assume the post of Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO), and that Miss LEUNG Ming-sze, Ashley had replaced Miss TAI Tsz-yan, Angie to assume the post of Executive Officer (Development), TWDO.

2. The Chairman stated that according to section 28 of the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders (the “Standing Orders”) and in response to the evolving epidemic situation, unless otherwise agreed by the Chairman, Members could have up to 2 minutes to introduce the paper, and each Member who submitted a paper might make supplementary remarks once. Such a Member could choose to speak after the responses from the representative(s) of government departments or make concluding remarks before the end of discussion of the agenda item for up to 2 minutes each time. For each agenda item, except the Member(s) who submitted the paper, Members could only speak once at the meeting. The Chairman would confirm the number of speakers before the discussion of each agenda item. Each Member might speak up to 2 minutes if five or fewer Members spoke on the agenda item and up to 1.5 minutes if more than five Members spoke on the agenda item. Representatives from the government departments concerned might speak up to 2 times twice.

3. The Chairman proposed bringing forward EHCCC Paper No. 75/20-21 and discussing it after the conclusion of Item 3. Members agreed to the arrangement.

(Note: Mr MAN Yu-ming joined the meeting at 2:35 p.m.)

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 5th Meeting held on 3.9.2020

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

(Note: Mr SHUM Lester joined the meeting at 2:42 p.m.)

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

(A) Paragraphs 8 to 15 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 September 2020: Request for Addressing the Odour Problem of Tsuen Wan Harbourfront Exeditiously

5. The Chairman stated that Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio submitted the paper.

The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Ms LO Sze-yan, Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, Drainage Services Department (DSD);
- (2) Mr TSUI Ka-kim, Kim, Senior Building Surveyor/D5, Buildings Department (BD);
- (3) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, Environmental Protection Department (EPD);
- (4) Miss LEUNG Mee-sze, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD); and
- (5) Mr YUEN Chiu-kit, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, FEHD.

6. Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded as follows:

- (1) the DSD was continuing with the placement of a substantial amount of odour control hydrogel in the roadside gullies near Princess Alexandra Community Centre and the pedestrian crossing at Vision City on Tai Ho Road and the mounting of temporary deodourising PVC screens. Moreover, deodourising metal gates had been installed at the three roadside gullies at the pedestrian crossings at Vision City since mid-October 2020. Based on the DSD's observations, the above measures could help alleviate the odour problem to a certain extent;
- (2) the DSD continued placing odour control hydrogel at the outlets of the box culverts near the waterfront; and
- (3) at present, the DSD was using robots to clear sludge in the box culvert on Tai Ho Road for drainage improvement, and was observing whether the arrangement was conducive to odour elimination.

7. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that the EPD conducted more than 250 inspections of the source of pollution between 1 January and 30 September 2020, during which two cases of misconnection of foul water pipes in buildings and seven cases of misconnection between public sewers and stormwater drains were identified. These cases had been referred to the departments concerned for follow-up. The EPD would continue to conduct inspections so as to identify other cases of foul water pipe misconnection promptly.

8. Senior Building Surveyor/D5 of the BD responded that the BD was still following up the list of buildings involving foul water pipe misconnection submitted

at the previous meeting. The BD had issued orders requiring rectification of foul water pipe misconnection in 20 out of the 30 cases referred by the EPD. Among these 20 cases, persons concerned in 4 cases had complied with the orders and made rectification. As regards the remaining 16 cases with respect to which the orders had yet to be executed, the BD would take further law enforcement action in due course. Besides, 7 cases involving foul water pipe misconnection were recently identified. The BD would issue orders to the owners concerned to urge them to complete rectification work within four months upon the issuance of such orders. Separately, 3 cases were found not to involve any foul water pipe misconnection after BD's verification.

9. Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)¹ of the FEHD responded that the FEHD would continue to provide regular gully cleansing service at various locations in Tsuen Wan district, and would refer cases of drain blockage, if identified, to the Highways Department (HyD) for follow-up.

10. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he enquired whether an inter-departmental task force with a directorate grade officer of the EPD as the convenor had been formed. Besides, he thought that there was a lack of deterrence in BD's efforts in tackling the problem of foul water pipe misconnection in buildings, and that the BD was too lenient with the persons involved, who were given four months for rectification. Incidentally, as the relevant penalties were unclear, the problem had remained unsolved for a long time. In his opinion, the departments concerned should expedite the handling of foul water pipe misconnection if they considered it one of the main causes of the odour problem (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);
- (2) he hoped that the EPD would provide information about the subject officers of various departments involving in the inter-departmental task force so that Members could immediately communicate with the officers when following up relevant issues. He also hoped that the departments concerned would provide the work timetable of the inter-departmental task force so as to give Members a clearer picture of the work progress of the task force. Regarding the DSD's use of robots for the desludging work at the box culvert on Tai Ho Road, he enquired whether the DSD would also carry out similar work at the box culverts on Tai Chung Road and Ma Tau Pa Road, and whether the technology could be applied to the clearance of blockages in the drainage pipes of the urban area. Besides, he hoped that the

- departments concerned would provide the data on the sludge or water quality of the box culverts in question (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus);
- (3) she pointed out that odour was also identified around Fuk Loi Estate and Moon Lok Dai Ha, and enquired how the departments concerned would follow up and rectify the problem of foul water pipe misconnection in buildings. She also enquired how the relevant departments would handle cases where rectification was not made in the buildings in question and whether they would adopt measures with stronger deterrent effects in such cases. In addition, she asked whether the departments had worked out a timetable specifying the time limit for rectification of foul water pipe misconnection in such buildings. She hoped that the BD would report on the progress of handling the problem of foul water pipe misconnection in buildings in tabular form, and that the relevant departments could identify the “three-nil” buildings in the district which were in need of assistance in handling foul water pipe misconnection (Ms CHAN Kim-kam);
 - (4) he enquired of the FEHD about the details of the law enforcement taken against the disposal of pollutants into the drainage pipes by staff of some shops in the old areas of Tsuen Wan during cleaning. Besides, he enquired about the progress of the inter-departmental task force coordinated by the EPD, whether a directorate grade officer would assume the role of the convenor of the task force, and when the last meeting of the task force was held. He also hoped that the BD would provide the list of buildings involving foul water pipe misconnection in tabular form at the next meeting for Members’ reference (the Chairman); and
 - (5) he enquired whether the inter-departmental task force mentioned by the EPD was set up exclusively for Tsuen Wan district (Mr WONG Ka-wa).

11. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the inter-departmental task force in question had been established earlier for tackling the odour problem of Tsuen Wan harbourfront;
- (2) the said task force, of which the convenor was the EPD, comprised directorate grade officers from the DSD, BD, FEHD, HyD, Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD), Marine Department (MD) and TWDO; and

- (3) Members of the task force would report on the work progress by circulation of paper every three months. Meetings would be arranged when necessary.

12. Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the DSD had used robots for the desludging work at the box culvert on Tai Chung Road at the beginning of this year, and was currently carrying out the same type of clearance work at the box culvert on Tai Ho Road. As regards the box culvert on Ma Tau Pa Road, since the CEDD was conducting works near its outlet, the DSD had to hold a discussion with the CEDD on a coordinated effort to fine-tune the location of the works so as to facilitate the clearance work at the box culvert on Ma Tau Pa Road.

13. Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2 of the FEHD responded that regarding the problem of sewage disposal in stormwater drains by shops, the FEHD had been deploying dedicated plainclothes enforcement teams since 2018 for law enforcement and prosecution in the district at different times. The teams would regularly review the locations where illegal activities were frequent in the district, and accordingly take more focused enforcement actions.

14. Senior Building Surveyor/D5 of the BD responded as follows:

- (1) the BD would provide the list of buildings involving foul water pipe misconnection at the next meeting;
- (2) regarding the time limit of the statutory order, it was necessary for the BD to give the owners of the buildings concerned reasonable time to arrange for rectification lest they raised unreasonable time limit as a defence when being prosecuted in the future;
- (3) the BD would institute prosecution if the owners of the buildings concerned failed to rectify the foul water pipe misconnection within the prescribed period. If such owners still failed to rectify the misconnection after being prosecuted, the BD would consider carrying out rectification works for the buildings concerned and, upon completion of the works, recover the related costs; and
- (4) the BD hoped that the TWDO would render assistance to owners, especially those of the “three-nil” buildings in the district, to enable them to map out and arrange for the required works.

15. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that the TWDO, despite not being a law enforcement agency, had all along been maintaining contact with some of the households residing in the “three-nil” buildings in the district.

If the BD was able to provide a list of buildings to which orders for rectification had been issued, the TWDO would render assistance in contacting them.

16. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:
- (1) he enquired of the EPD about the rank of the officers who were tasked with the work of the inter-departmental task force by various departments concerned. He was discontented with the way of reporting the work progress by Members of the inter-departmental task force, which was done by circulation of paper only. Besides, he thought that the captioned item should continue to be included under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the EHCCC (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);
 - (2) he held that the departments concerned should pay due attention to the problem of sewage disposal in stormwater drains by food premises, and hoped that the FEHD and DSD could convene an inter-departmental meeting for discussion on the solutions in this regard and report on the details of the discussion at the next EHCCC meeting. Besides, he enquired whether the existing inter-departmental task force was the most appropriate channel for addressing the odour problem of Tsuen Wan harbourfront (the Chairman);
 - (3) he enquired why the departments did not mention that a similar task force had been established earlier when Members moved a motion on forming the task force in question (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus);
 - (4) he enquired whether the EPD had decided to use the existing task force or to form a new one. Besides, he considered that it was unreasonable for the existing task force to not convene any meetings for handling problems under its scope area in the past few years (Mr SHUM Lester);
 - (5) he hoped that the Chairman or Members could attend the meetings of the inter-departmental task force (Mr WONG Ka-wa); and
 - (6) the captioned matter had been repeatedly discussed under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. He suggested that discussion on the captioned matter should be continued in the Working Group on Environmental Protection and Improvement, and, after substantial progress had been achieved, such progress should be reported at the EHCCC meetings. Besides, he believed that it was difficult to solve the odour problem of Tsuen Wan harbourfront within a short time. He hoped that the departments would submit written reports on the relevant progress or achievement to shorten the discussion (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu).

17. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that the EPD had mentioned the task force in its papers tabled at previous meetings.

18. The Chairman said that he did not object to the Working Group holding meetings about the captioned matter, but held that the captioned item should continue to be discussed at the committee level. He suggested that the EPD should continue to use the existing task force, and hoped that the task force would convene an inter-departmental meeting prior to the next EHCCC meeting and submit the relevant progress report to the EHCCC for consideration. The EHCCC would write to all the members of the task force to convey Members' requests, and would, subject to the results of the discussion to be conducted at the next meeting, decide whether it was necessary to send its representatives to attend the meetings in the future. Besides, he noted Members' views about replacing discussions at the meetings with the departments' written reports.

(Note: Mr KOT Siu-yuen joined the meeting at 3:01 p.m.)

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat conveyed Members' views to the EPD, DSD, BD, FEHD, HyD, CEDD, MD and TWDO in writing on 16 November 2020.)

(B) Paragraphs 16 to 22 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 September 2020: Environmental Nuisances in the Old Areas of Tsuen Wan

19. The Chairman stated that Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Miss LEUNG Mee-sze, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1, FEHD;
- (2) Mr YUEN Chiu-kit, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, FEHD; and
- (3) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, EPD.

Besides, the written reply of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) was tabled at the meeting.

20. Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1 of the FEHD responded that the FEHD had liaised with the TWDO and District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (DLO) to conduct joint operations on an irregular basis from June to November 2020 to crack down on shops involving in shop front extension in the district. As at 20

October 2020, the FEHD instituted 455 prosecutions against offending shops, instituted prosecutions and confiscated the illegal goods in 23 cases, and issued a total of 131 fixed penalty notices (FPNs) against persons who committed littering and spitting in public places.

21. Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD had recently launched a pilot scheme on provision of household refuse collection service for residents using mobile solar-powered compacting refuse bins. The contractor would place a mobile solar-powered compacting refuse bin for residents' use at the section of Chung On Street between Yi Pei Square and Sam Pei Square from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. every day during the period from 16 October 2020 to 15 February 2021;
- (2) this arrangement provided more convenient household refuse collection service primarily for the "three-nil" buildings around Chung On Street, Ho Pui Street, Yi Pei Square and Sam Pei Square; and
- (3) the FEHD hoped that the service could reduce the illegal disposal of refuse around the above locations.

22. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that the EPD was mainly responsible for dealing with the noise nuisance caused by loudspeakers used in shops for promotional purpose. The EPD would continue to deploy officers for inspections in the district, remind shop operators to pay attention to the noise level of the loudspeakers, and explain the relevant statutory requirements to the new shops. The EPD would institute prosecution against shops which were found to have emitted noise exceeding the limit stipulated in the Noise Control Ordinance (Cap. 400).

23. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he opined that the shops could easily identify the inspection pattern of the FEHD and HKPF as a vast majority of their joint operations were conducted in the morning. He also opined that the departments' efforts in law enforcement were inadequate, and consequently the offending shops would revert to old ways soon after the enforcement operations had ended. Besides, the staff of some shops had a poor attitude. He once witnessed a law enforcement action taken against the offenders by 10 FEHD's enforcement officers, who seemed powerless without the company of police officers. He opined that if

the HKPF was willing to tackle the problem with determination, the FEHD and EPD could then take enforcement action in a more proactive manner. Otherwise, the illegal activities would only become increasingly serious and spread to other areas (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);

- (2) he was surprised that the HKPF did not send its representatives to attend the meeting. He was concerned about the problems of noise nuisance and shop front extensions in areas around Ho Pui Street, Chuen Lung Street and San Tsuen Street. He understood that staff of the FEHD encountered difficulties during law enforcement due to the lack of effective support from other departments. He hoped that the HKPF would redouble its efforts to tie in with the FEHD's operations so that the FEHD could solve the above nuisance problems more easily (Mr LAM Sek-tim);
- (3) he hoped that the representatives of the FEHD could provide Members with the photos of and information on the solar-powered refuse compactor after the meeting (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
- (4) she enquired whether the refuse collection service using solar-powered compacting refuse bins would be extended to other locations in Tsuen Wan district with a substantial amount of household refuse if the effectiveness of such a service was satisfactory. She also enquired about the capacity of a compacting refuse bin, whether the workload of the frontline workers would be affected, and about the party responsible for the management of the compacting refuse bin. She opined that the FEHD had a responsibility to monitor the outsourced contractors to ensure that they had provided the frontline workers with adequate training and detailed guidelines on the use of the equipment. Besides, she opined that despite its good intention, the service should be in line with the recycling policy in the district. The public should be discouraged from disposing of all of their household refuse in the refuse bin (Ms CHAN Kim-kam);
- (5) he was concerned about the impact of the solar-powered compacting refuse bin on the mode of refuse treatment in the old areas. At present, households of the buildings in the old areas would engage cleaners to collect refuse in the buildings. If the FEHD provided refuse collection service using compacting refuse bins, households of the buildings might cease to engage cleaners and dispose of their refuse therein directly. In other words, public funds were used for clearing the refuse of such households. He opined that the "user pays"

- principle should be adopted, i.e. people who generated waste should bear the cost of waste treatment on their own (Mr LAU Jackson); and
- (6) during his communication with the FEHD, tentative arrangements were made for FEHD staff to brief Members on the refuse collection service using solar-powered compacting refuse bins and conduct a site visit on the afternoon of 4 November 2020. Besides, he agreed that the HKPF and FEHD should enhance law enforcement and deterrence. He also opined that the threshold for law enforcement stipulated in the Noise Control Ordinance, as adopted by the EPD, was too high, rendering the effort in curbing the noise nuisance caused to residents futile. He hoped that staff of various departments would step up inspection (Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly).

24. The Chairman stated that the EHCCC would welcome the attendance of representatives from the HKPF at the meeting to discuss the captioned item, and would condemn the HKPF in writing for its failure to send its representatives to attend the EHCCC meeting. Members agreed to the arrangement.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat conveyed Members' views to the HKPF in writing on 14 December 2020.

25. Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the mobile solar-powered compacting refuse bin had a capacity of 4 tonnes and was mainly used for collecting household refuse from the "three-nil" buildings in the district. Despite its relatively enormous size, household refuse was lighter in weight. Thus, the amount of refuse collected was still considerably huge after compression. It was expected that the capacity of a compacting refuse bin could cope with the volume of refuse collected after four hours of operation;
- (2) senior foremen of the FEHD would be deployed to control the compacting refuse bin in collaboration with the outsourced foremen and staff;
- (3) drivers of refuse collection vehicles equipped with a compactor would provide assistance at scene. They could provide immediate assistance in handling the situation in case of an emergency;
- (4) the FEHD would work in tandem with the EPD on the implementation of the relevant recycling programme; and

- (5) refuse collection service using solar-powered compacting refuse bins was primarily provided for buildings which did not engage any private refuse collectors. Residents of such buildings would be allowed to dispose of their household refuse in the bins.

26. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the EPD would learn about the shops which had caused noise nuisance recently from relevant Members after the meeting for follow-up;
- (2) the EPD clarified that when taking law enforcement targeting noise nuisance caused by the use of loudspeakers by shops for promotional purpose, the EPD would, instead of measuring the noise level, conduct noise assessment to determine whether the noise generated had constituted a noise nuisance. Therefore, if any households lodged relevant complaints, the EPD was willing to conduct assessment at their residence. Staff of the EPD had taken many successful prosecutions against offending shop operators with respect to this kind of nuisance; and
- (3) Members were welcome to refer relevant cases to the EPD to facilitate its arrangements for noise assessment at the residential premises of the complainants.

27. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he suggested that the item should not be discussed further under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (the Chairman);
- (2) he pointed out that as this item had been repeatedly discussed under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting, the departments should have a thorough understanding of it, and the HKPF had also stepped up its action. He opined that the odour problem of Tsuen Wan harbourfront was more worthy of discussion than this item under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting, and this item could be handled through other channels, such as conducting site inspections and pressing the HKPF and FEHD (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio); and
- (3) he agreed that this item could be handled through other channels, so he had no comment on whether or not this item should be discussed further under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. He hoped that government departments could seriously

assist in tackling the problems after the discussion of this item at the meetings of the TWDC or its Committees. He held that the crux lay in whether the departments could show the residents their determination to solve the problems (Mr LAM Sek-tim).

28. The Chairman stated that the captioned item would not be discussed further by the EHCCC under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. He asked Members to consider if they would join the site inspection of the solar-powered compacting refuse bin.

(C) Paragraphs 23 to 33 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 September 2020: Enquiry about and Request for the Determination of Purview and the Environmental Hygiene Problems of the Waterfront Area of Tsuen Wan

29. The Chairman stated that Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Mr LAI Yik-wing, Wesley, Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), TWDO;
- (2) Miss LEUNG Mee-sze, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)¹, FEHD;
- (3) Mr YUEN Chiu-kit, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, FEHD;
- (4) Mr CHEN Wai-kuen, Administrative Assistant/Lands, DLO; and
- (5) Mr LI Pui-sang, Contract Project Coordinator/2 (W), CEDD.

Besides, the written reply of the Transport Department (TD) was tabled at the meeting.

30. The Chairman said that he was discontented with the TD's failure to send its representatives to attend the meeting despite the invitation from the EHCCC. However, considering that staff of the TD had participated in the site visit in relation to the captioned item, he decided not to reprimand the TD.

31. Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)¹ of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) Hawkers Section of the FEHD had conducted inspections at the pier in the mornings and evenings from 14 to 19 October 2020, and no hawkers were spotted. The FEHD would continue to keep in view the situation;
- (2) the FEHD had placed rodent bait at the non-gazetted rocky beaches where rodents were seen, and would continue to follow up the rodent issue; and

- (3) the FEHD had placed litter containers at K1 Pier to facilitate the public's disposal of refuse.

32. Administrative Assistant/Lands of the DLO responded that according to the DLO's records, the land off Ocean Pride was a piece of government land. The sitting-out facilities thereon were constructed by the developer of Ocean Pride under the land grant provisions, and were handed over to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) for management and maintenance upon the completion of works in 2018. As regards the seawalls, they were installed before the development of Ocean Pride, so they were outside the management and maintenance area of Ocean Pride.

33. Contract Project Coordinator/2 (W) of the CEDD responded that the CEDD's Port Works Division was responsible for the structural maintenance of relevant public piers and seawalls, including Tsuen Wan Ferry Pier (West Rail), Tsuen Wan Public Landing Steps (West Rail) and some seawalls situating at Bayview Garden, Belvedere Garden, Harbourfront Promenade (Tsuen Wan West) and Tsuen Wan Park. As regards the handling of the wild plants at the seawalls and the management and control of angling at the seawalls, they were regarded as the management work of the venue facilities, which was outside the CEDD's purview.

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

- (1) he opined that the replies of various departments were indifferent to those given during the site inspection conducted previously. He was also discontented with various departments as they failed to clarify which department was responsible for the environmental hygiene problems at the waterfront area, rendering it impossible for the members of the public to lodge complaints when witnessing illegal acts. He did not wish that intervention from the Police or law enforcement agencies specialising in criminal prosecution was required in the handling of every relatively minor illegal activity. In his opinion, these trivial matters should not be discussed at the meeting. He hoped that various departments would clarify the responsibility for managing the waterfront area promptly (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus);
- (2) some residents photographed people fishing with fishing nets and selling their fish catch to the public at the waterfront area. She enquired whether such an act would affect the marine ecosystem, whether the fish caught complied with the food safety standard, how to determine whether the act of angling was illegal, and whether the

FEHD could treat those who sold their fish catch as hawkers. She hoped that representatives of various departments would set out their respective areas of management, maintenance and law enforcement in tabular form at the next meeting (Ms CHAN Kim-kam); and

- (3) he enquired whether the FEHD would place rodent bait at the seawalls and which department was responsible for the cleaning of the seawalls (the Chairman).

35. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that each department had its respective purview, and the TWDO was aware of the grey areas in the purview of the waterfront area. The TWDO hoped to coordinate the inter-departmental meetings and cooperate with various departments in identifying methods for tackling the nuisance or illegal activities at the waterfront area.

36. Contract Project Coordinator/2 (W) of the CEDD responded that as the CEDD was not a law enforcement agency, it had no authority to take enforcement actions against the activities at the seawalls, regardless of whether they were illegal.

37. Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)¹ of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD was responsible for the cleansing of the piers and refuse collection from its refuse containers;
- (2) the FEHD would continue to place rodent bait at non-gazetted rocky beaches and deploy staff for clearance on a bi-weekly basis; and
- (3) if any persons were found selling fish catch and there was ample evidence to prove that financial transactions were involved, the FEHD would treat the persons involved as hawkers.

38. Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus pointed out that the FEHD still had not made it clear whether it could take law enforcement action against people selling fish catch at the seawalls. He thought that it was necessary for the departments to follow up on the issue of grey areas in the enforcement powers over the seawalls. He hoped the TD would study the feasibility of closing the public pier outside the service hours of the ferries serving Park Island so as to force the public to carry out their activities within the area under the LCSD. He also consulted the Chairman in this regard. Besides, if the FEHD was willing to assist in clearing the wild plants at the seawalls, he enquired of the FEHD whether there were tools suitable for carrying out the clearance work. Moreover, he hoped that the departments concerned would clarify the powers and responsibilities concerning the management of the railings at the waterfront area.

39. The Chairman said that he considered the proposed closure of the public pier unfeasible. Besides, he hoped that the departments concerned would report on the division of powers and responsibilities among various departments to the EHCCC in writing after the inter-departmental meeting. If Members were satisfied with the result, he would consider deleting the captioned item from the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. Otherwise, discussion on the captioned item would be continued at the next meeting.

40. The Chairman stated that since the next agenda item was raised by him, he asked the Vice Chairman to take over the chair.

(D) Paragraphs 69 to 89 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 September 2020: About the Discovery of Shooting Activity Scraps near Shing Mun Reservoir

41. The Acting Chairman stated that Mr TAM Hoi-pong submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Mr NG Ki-yiu, Senior Engineer/NTW (Special Duties), Water Supplies Department (WSD);
- (2) Mr KAN Ka-man, Engineer/NTW (Headworks 3), WSD;
- (3) Mr LEE Siu-fung, Michael, Country Parks Officer (W), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD);
- (4) Mr CHEN Wai-kuen, Administrative Assistant/Lands, DLO;
- (5) Mr CHENG Ho-yin, Henry, Senior Estate Surveyor/Tsuen Wan, DLO;
and
- (6) Mr CHUNG Ching-to, Senior Officer, Hong Kong Gun Club (HKGC).

Besides, the written reply of the HKPF was tabled at the meeting.

42. Senior Engineer/NTW (Special Duties) of the WSD responded that staff of the WSD had been continuing with the inspections at relevant locations since the last meeting, and had conducted large clearance operations on the slopes in the vicinity. The WSD would continue to conduct inspection and clearance work as well as evidence collection concerning the illegal acts committed by the HKGC.

43. Country Parks Officer (W) of the AFCD responded as follows:

- (1) the AFCD had handed over the inspection records from 2018 to 2020 to the DLO for reference to facilitate the DLO's follow-up on the issue of lease enforcement actions;
- (2) the AFCD was waiting for the HKGC to report on its work progress of installing mesh barriers, changing the firing direction and enhancing the frequency of cleaning and inspections; and

- (3) the AFCD had conducted another site inspection a few days ago. It was found that some staff had been cleaning up the area within the HKGC, but shooting activity scraps were still seen at the overlapping area of the country park and the area of the HKGC as stipulated in the land lease.

44. Senior Estate Surveyor/Tsuen Wan of the DLO responded as follows:

- (1) as the lease conditions in question involved the purview of other departments, the DLO had to rely on the departments concerned to collect evidence and make professional judgment. The DLO was consulting the departments concerned and seeking internal legal advice. If the HKGC was confirmed to have breached the lease conditions, the DLO would take lease enforcement actions as appropriate; and
- (2) as stated in the HKGC's written reply to the DLO, shooting activities within the area of the HKGC had been suspended and the clearance work had commenced. The HKGC had also started erecting additional screen barriers to prevent shooting activity scraps from flowing out of the area.

45. Senior Officer of the HKGC responded that the HKGC had commenced various work including the installation of screen barriers, clearance operations and installation of mesh barriers to alleviate the problem of shooting activity scraps and prevent intrusion of outsiders. However, he believed that it would take some time to complete the above works.

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

- (1) he thanked the WSD for continuing to step up its efforts in inspection and cleaning, and was glad to learn about the improvement measures proposed by the HKGC. He hoped that the HKGC would promptly implement relevant measures, and was concerned about when the departments concerned would institute prosecution. He thought that it was necessary to enhance deterrence (Mr LAI Man-fai);
- (2) he understood that it took time to clear shooting activity scraps, so he hoped that the HKGC would provide a timetable giving the anticipated completion date of the clearance work. He pointed out that shooting activity scraps had caused a certain level of pollution to the environment around the said location. In his opinion, it was necessary to compare the situation before and after the clearance work in order to prove the effectiveness of the HKGC's clearance work. He also

- enquired which department should be responsible for assessing the effectiveness. Additionally, he enquired of the HKGC whether it would formulate a long-term waste treatment plan to prevent a recurrence of the same type of pollution (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy);
- (3) he held that the AFCD had an undeniable responsibility to protect the countryside, and enquired why the HKGC's shooting activity scraps, which had been accumulated for a long time, were not identified until only recently. He also considered that the HKGC should bear the legal liability for causing the problem of shooting activity scraps. He enquired why the HKGC defended the action the WSD brought against it. In addition, he enquired how the HKGC could ensure that the same problem would not recur, and about the progress of the clearance work (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu);
 - (4) he enquired of the HKGC when the clearance work could be completed, how many shooting activity scraps had been cleared so far, how the scraps of ammunition regulated by the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance (Cap. 238) would be handled, and about the results after the discussion on the change in the firing direction at its general meeting. Moreover, he enquired of the departments concerned about the quantity of scraps cleared so far, the anticipated time required for completing the clearance work, and whether the additional mesh barriers to be erected by the HKGC would occupy the site of the country park. Furthermore, some green groups had previously pointed out the presence of excessive levels of heavy metal in soil around the said location. For this reason, he enquired whether the DLO would carry out testing of the soil thereat (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);
 - (5) he appreciated the AFCD's conservation of the country park. Some members of the public voiced their wish for the coexistence of the HKGC and the country park. In his opinion, the HKGC should shoulder its responsibility in management and clearance which had all along been overlooked, and should install shields to prevent ammunition from scattering over the area outside the HKGC instead of erecting mesh barriers to prevent outsiders from entering the HKGC area. He was concerned that the public would violate the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance if they took away scraps outside the HKGC area. Besides, he enquired of the HKGC how long the clearance work would take, when it would commence, and about its anticipated completion date (Mr WONG Ka-wa); and
 - (6) he enquired of the HKGC about the progress of studying the change of

the firing direction. He pointed out the excessive levels of heavy metals in the soil at the said location as detected by some green groups, and enquired of the EPD whether any follow-up action would be taken. In view of the previous prosecutions taken by the EPD against persons disposing of electronic waste at the brownfield sites in the New Territories in accordance with the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354), he enquired whether this Ordinance was also applicable to the prosecution against the HKGC. Moreover, he enquired whether the HKGC would simply collect and hand over the scraps to the FEHD for handling, or would first arrange chemical treatment of the collected scraps before handing them to the FEHD when clearing up shooting activity scraps containing heavy metals (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).

47. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that the illegal disposal of electronic waste involved regulated chemical waste. Therefore, the EPD would institute prosecution in accordance with the Waste Disposal Ordinance. Bullets of shotguns and their use were regulated by the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance. The EPD could provide technical advice on sampling and testing if other departments deemed necessary.

48. Senior Officer of the HKGC responded that its clearance work commenced on 9 October 2020. He believed that it would take two to three months. The HKGC would complete the installation of screen barriers as soon as possible to prevent the scraps from flowing out of the HKGC area.

49. Country Parks Officer (W) of the AFCD responded that the AFCD had repeatedly identified shooting activity scraps over the ground of the overlapping area of the country park and the HKGC area as stipulated in the land lease as well as its vicinity during the inspections conducted thereat. The Lands Department (LandsD) had all along been informed of the situation, and at the same time, the AFCD had made repeated requests for waste treatment proposals to the HKGC directly or via the LandsD. The AFCD was glad to learn that the HKGC was currently carrying out the clearance work and preventive measures. The AFCD wished to gain a deeper insight into the progress of the HKGC's study on changing the firing direction. The AFCD would continue to ask the HKGC to provide information on the cleansing proposal through the LandsD, and hoped that the HKGC would submit the records of each clearance operation to enable relevant government departments to have a better understanding of the actual actions taken by the HKGC.

50. Engineer/NTW (Headworks 3) of the WSD responded that the WSD would, in the light of the experience of the previous prosecution, consult the Department of Justice and HKPF once again and collect evidence in a more careful manner. The WSD would take legal action if there was sufficient evidence to prove that relevant persons had violated the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102).

51. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) since it would take two to three months for the HKGC to carry out the clearance work, he suggested that the captioned item should be discussed further under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting at the next meeting. Besides, he enquired whether the HKGC could provide photos related to the clearance work and installation of screen barriers (the Acting Chairman); and
- (2) he pointed out that there was heavy metal pollution in the land around the said location, but the EPD stated in its reply that the problem was outside its purview. Thus, he enquired if it should be regulated by the HKPF (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu).

52. Senior Officer of the HKGC responded that he would consult the Director of the HKGC on the request for photos of the clearance work.

53. Senior Estate Surveyor/Tsuen Wan of the DLO responded that as shooting activity scraps were indeed regulated by the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance, the DLO was consulting the HKPF and EPD and seeking internal legal advice so as to determine whether lease enforcement action could be taken.

54. The Acting Chairman stated that as there were about two months left before the next meeting, government departments might communicate with the HKGC during such a period.

55. The Chairman resumed the chair.

56. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu proposed setting out the progress of the follow-up work of various items in tabular form for enhanced efficiency.

57. The Chairman stated that the captioned item would not be discussed further by the EHCCC under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting if the departments managed to submit a satisfactory progress report after their discussion on the purview of the Tsuen Wan waterfront at the inter-departmental

meeting. He therefore hoped that Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO could coordinate the work related to the meeting.

IV Item 3: Maintenance Projects of Minor Environmental Improvement Programme in 2020/21

(EHCCC Paper No. 58/20-21)

58. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO introduced the maintenance project of the Minor Environmental Improvement Programme in 2020/21.

59. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he enquired whether there was only one maintenance project under the Minor Environmental Improvement Programme in this financial year (the Chairman);
- (2) he welcomed the refurbishment works because the facilities in question were in dilapidation and poor hygiene condition. He enquired whether there was any dereliction of duty and negligence in cleaning up the facilities, as fallen leaves had been piling up continuously thereat. He hoped for an enhancement to the cleansing of the facilities (Mr LAI Man-fai);
- (3) he enquired whether the specific number of facilities could be provided so as to assess whether the proposed project should be endorsed. He thought that a detailed works plan should be provided for Members' reference, otherwise he would not agree to the endorsement of the funding application (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu);
- (4) he pointed out that the facilities had indeed suffered from a certain degree of damage after the passage of typhoon Mangkhut. In the light of the relatively high utilisation rate of the facilities, he welcomed the refurbishment works and hoped that the efforts in cleansing the planters and maintaining the facilities could be enhanced. Besides, he enquired why the floor tiles at the facilities were often damaged, and pointed out that damaged floor tiles might lead to rodent infestation. As there were many food premises around the facilities, he hoped that the Administration would attach importance to the environmental hygiene problems (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);
- (5) he welcomed the project. As many people would use the facilities at the vacant site of Lo Tak Court during weekdays and holidays, cleaning work was very important. He opined that the dilapidation of facilities might be caused by environmental hygiene problems. Moreover, the large number of food premises in the vicinity rendered the vacant site a

popular place to visit for many young people. Therefore, he suggested that the arbours should be painted in various colours during repair to echo the Operation Building Bright conducted earlier in the vicinity and bring vitality to the facilities (Mr KOT Siu-yuen);

- (6) he welcomed the project, but thought that the construction fee of \$200,000 under application to the EHCCC seemed to be too low that it might render the refurbishment works not comprehensive enough. He suggested making an application to the District Planning, Development and Facilities Management Committee for an increased amount of funding so as to facilitate the implementation of more comprehensive refurbishment works (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
- (7) she enquired about the construction period and whether the works would affect the everyday movement of the residents or staff of the shops nearby. She hoped that the TWDO would provide specific details of the works, such as the number of planters and arbours involved and the proposed area for cleansing. Besides, she enquired why the vacant site at Lo Tak Court rather than other decaying sitting-out areas in the district was selected for maintenance works, whether the works would be implemented by government departments or outsourced contractors, and how the tender exercise would be conducted (Ms CHAN Kim-kam); and
- (8) further maintenance was required at an arbour in the maintenance project after the passage of typhoon Mangkhut. He enquired about the reason for the blistering pace of decay, and whether consideration would be given to making an application for a larger amount of funding from other channels so that more durable materials could be used for replacement of the arbour to prevent repeated damage within a short period. He thought that relevant facilities were frequently used by residents, so he welcomed the proposed project. Moreover, he enquired of the TWDO about the date of the previous maintenance works carried out at the location, and whether the rendering upon the completion of works could be provided for reference. He also proposed that the TWDO should provide Members with information and photos for preview in advance before the briefing (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus).

60. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO responded as follows:

- (1) there was only one maintenance project under the Minor Environmental Improvement Programme in this financial year;

- (2) the TWDO would handle the daily cleansing issue through engaging services on fixed term contracts. It could establish long-term cleansing projects if Members deemed necessary;
- (3) there were altogether 3 groups of arbours, 12 benches and 33 planters at the location;
- (4) the TWDO was responsible for the maintenance and repair of the arbours, planters and benches at the location, but the issue of damaged floor tiles was beyond the TWDO's purview;
- (5) the TWDO could discuss with Members the colours to be used for the arbours during repair;
- (6) the TWDO held that a funding amount of \$200,000 would be sufficient for the project needs, and therefore decided to apply for funding from the EHCCC;
- (7) the TWDO did not have relevant information on the maintenance works carried out at the location after the passage of typhoon Mangkhut for the time being, and would learn about it after the meeting;
- (8) the TWDO could study the proposal on the use of more durable materials during the maintenance of the arbours. Generally speaking, the TWDO would only replace the parts of the arbour to fix the problem of water leakage, and would not replace the entire arbour; and
- (9) the TWDO would further look for information about the works previously carried out at the location through the TWDC.

61. The Chairman agreed that the TWDO should provide a more detailed works proposal to Members for reference. He, however, thought that the amount of funding allocated in the following year might be reduced if there was any surplus funding. He asked Members if they wanted to first propose the conditions for endorsing the funding application or vote directly. Members unanimously agreed to vote directly.

62. The Chairman asked Members to vote on the maintenance project under the Minor Environmental Improvement Programme in 2020/21. After voting, the EHCCC endorsed the application for a total amount of \$200,000 for the project in question with a vote of 13 in favour, 0 against and 2 abstention.

63. The Chairman hoped that the TWDO would provide Members with a more detailed project plan explaining the details of the works before initiating the tender exercise of the works or when reporting on the works progress at the next meeting.

He also hoped that Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO would assist in following up the above project.

64. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO responded that the TWDO would prepare relevant documents.

(Note: Mr MAN Yu-ming and Mr KOT Siu-yuen left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.)

V Item 4: Persistent Problem of Water Seepage on the Ground around the Piers of Tsuen Wan Road Flyover during Heavy Rain
(EHCCC Paper No. 59/20-21)

65. The Chairman stated that Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Ms FONG Wei-king, Luna, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2, LCSD;
- (2) Ms LO Sze-yan, Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, DSD;
- (3) Mr LEE Huen-yiu, District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, HyD;
- (4) Mr YAU Wai-yip, Senior Property Services Manager/Sham Shui Po & Tsuen Kwai, Architectural Services Department (ArchSD); and
- (5) Mr CHU Kwok-keung, Property Services Officer/Tsuen Wan/2, ArchSD.

66. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio introduced the paper.

67. Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD responded as follows:

- (1) upon identification of stagnant water, the LCSD had contacted the DSD, HyD and ArchSD to find a solution to the problem and the cause of stagnant water. The LCSD found that the problem of stagnant water was caused by the damaged underground drains used for collecting stormwater on Tsuen Wan Road flyover; and
- (2) the HyD had been notified for early commencement of the maintenance works. As far as the LCSD knew, the HyD was requesting relevant plans from the ArchSD to facilitate the coordination of the maintenance works.

68. District Engineer/Tsuen Wan of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) the site of Tsuen Wan Park was allocated to the department concerned by way of government land allocation in 1996 for the construction of

Tsuen Wan Park and facilities within the area. According to the lease conditions of the site, the department concerned was required to construct an appropriate drainage system or modify the existing drainage system on its own;

- (2) the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau Technical Circular No. 14/2004 (ETWB TCW No. 14/2004) clearly stated that the responsibility for the maintenance of the stormwater drainage systems within government lands should rest with the respective management departments of such lands; and
- (3) according to the HyD's records and the LandsD's information, the HyD were not tasked with approving or taking over the drainage system within the park site.

69. Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the DSD identified the cause of the flooding problem, which was a damaged pipeline connecting the manhole beside the piers of the flyover and the manhole suspected to be concealed in the planters. Since the pipeline was used for collecting stormwater on Tsuen Wan Road flyover under the HyD, and the manhole at the planters was situated within the area of a LCSD's park, the DSD proposed that the HyD and LCSD should coordinate and carry out the rehabilitation work of the damaged pipeline. The DSD was willing to provide technical advice in this regard.

70. Senior Property Services Manager/Sham Shui Po & Tsuen Kwai of the ArchSD responded that the ArchSD was responsible for the maintenance of the drainage system of the LCSD's leisure facilities inside Tsuen Wan Park. The system was neither damaged nor connected to the drainage system of the flyover. The ArchSD was willing to assist the HyD and DSD in repairing the damaged drainage channels.

71. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he thought that the replies from various departments only explained their shifting of responsibilities for the problem of stagnant water. He was thus discontented and hoped that the TWDO could coordinate the efforts among various departments to solve the problem (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu);
- (2) in his opinion, just writing to government departments was often not a direct solution to a problem, as this would ultimately bring many issues otherwise not supposed to be discussed at Council meetings to the Council for discussion. He was discontented with government

departments' passing their responsibilities to one another and spending most of the time discussing whether a particular problem was within their purview, as this would only render it impossible to eradicate the problem. He hoped that the departments would tackle the aforesaid problem of water seepage as soon as possible (Mr LAM Sek-tim);

- (3) the problem had persisted for more than one year, and a similar one was occurring at the piers of the flyover near Hoi Shing Garden. He remarked on the unclear division of labour between the departments. Despite the substantial amount of time spent on discussing which department should be responsible, they still could not manage to solve the problem so far. He enquired of the departments concerned when the problem could be solved, and requested all parties to promptly clarify the department(s) responsible for handling the problem of water seepage (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus);
- (4) he enquired which government department was responsible for the problem of water seepage at the piers of the flyover. He pointed out that Tsuen Wan Road comprised two separate flyovers, and covers were provided at some of the spaces between the two flyovers. He enquired whether the departments concerned could explore the provision of covers at the road sections where the problem of water seepage was identified as mentioned by Members so as to block stormwater and prevent water seepage (Mr SHUM Lester); and
- (5) he pointed out that due to inadequate information at present, he could not determine which department should be responsible. As stormwater came from the HyD's flyover, he enquired whether the HyD would take up the responsibility. He stated that in case the responsible department could not be clarified, the only option would be to conduct a site inspection and determine the responsible department according to the inspection findings (the Chairman).

72. District Engineer/Tsuen Wan of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) according to ETWB TCW No. 14/2004, the HyD was responsible for the maintenance of some of the road drainage systems situated in unleased or unallocated government lands. As regards the drainage systems within allocated government lands, the respective departments managing the sites would be responsible;
- (2) according to the lease conditions of the site, the department concerned was responsible for the construction, management and maintenance of the drainage systems at and within the park site. The underground

drainage system of Tsuen Wan Road flyovers within the park site had not been handed over to the HyD for consideration or takeover after the alterations made by the relevant department. Therefore, the HyD was not responsible for the maintenance and repair of the facilities used for stormwater collection within the park; and

- (3) the department concerned had earlier notified the HyD of its wish to hand over the maintenance and repair of some of the drainage facilities within the park to the HyD. The HyD was following up the issue with the department concerned, and had requested it to provide relevant information. After obtaining the information, the HyD would be ready to discuss the details with the department concerned.

73. Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD responded as follows:

- (1) the LCSD was a management department and was not a works department. The LCSD had requested the HyD and ArchSD to tackle the problem of water seepage so as to prevent the inflow of rainwater into the park area and hence flooding;
- (2) as the management department, the LCSD could only set up sand bags at relevant areas for enclosure before it rained and arrange for cleaners to remove stagnant water after raining to reduce the impact on the public; and
- (3) the LCSD hoped that relevant works departments could promptly assist in repairing the damaged drainage channels.

74. Senior Property Services Manager/Sham Shui Po & Tsuen Kwai of the ArchSD responded that the independent drainage system of the park was rather simple, and was not connected with the HyD's drainage system. The drainage pipes under the ArchSD maintenance were neither damaged nor connected to the drainage system of the flyover; instead, they were directly connected to the DSD's stormwater drains only.

75. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he agreed that it was not necessary for the TWDO to play the coordinating role for all the issues. Nevertheless, under the principle that there should be a lead department responsible for the coordinating role in solving the problem of water seepage, he thought that the TWDO should coordinate the inter-departmental meetings for the discussion of solutions to the problem, as the departments concerned

had been shifting responsibilities onto one another. He opined that the departments should respect the DC's comments, assist in allaying the public's concerns, and be determined to address the problem affecting the environmental hygiene under this item (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);

- (2) he suggested that various departments should first clarify their respective responsibility according to the contracts and terms prior to the site inspection (Mr SHUM Lester); and
- (3) as various departments had submitted papers among themselves to handle the issue of management right at the above location, he hoped that the departments would give an account of the result (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus).

76. The Chairman suggested that staff of the LCSD, HyD, ArchSD and TWDO should conduct a site inspection with Members to tackle the problem jointly. He hoped that all the departments concerned would distribute relevant plans and documents to Members for reference by email at least two working days prior to the site inspection. He also hoped that various departments would discuss the proposed solutions prior to the site inspection lest unclear delineation of powers and responsibilities should arise again during inspection.

VI Item 5: Request for Discussion on Improving Water Quality of Beaches in Tsuen Wan District

(EHCCC Paper No. 60/20-21)

77. The Acting Chairman stated that Ms CHAN Kim-kam submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Ms FONG Wei-king, Luna, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2, LCSD; and
- (2) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, EPD.

Besides, the written replies of the Food and Health Bureau and EPD were tabled at the meeting.

78. Ms CHAN Kim-kam introduced the paper.

79. Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD responded that testing of seawater, investigation into the cause of poor water quality and improvement of water quality were not the duties of the LCSD. Nevertheless, there were on-site cleaners on duty at all LCSD's beaches to ensure the environmental

hygiene of the beaches.

80. The response made by Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD was summarised as follows:

- (1) the EPD would deploy staff to conduct water quality tests at beaches every week during swimming season. According to the EPD's record, the several incidents of deterioration in water quality recorded recently were related to heavy rain, as rainwater would wash pollutants from land to sea. There were villages at the rear part or upper reaches of the beaches in the district, and a small number of village houses were still using the septic tank system for sewage treatment. During heavy rain, groundwater, together with the discharges from the septic tank system, could flow to rivers and stormwater drains nearby through soil percolation, hence into the sea in the end; and
- (2) according to the information shown on the EPD's website, the water quality of the beaches in Tsuen Wan district had resumed normal at present.

81. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he pointed out that the beaches in Tsuen Wan used to be famous spots for swimming. However, owing to the poor planning of urbanisation, the water quality had once deteriorated and the beaches had to be closed consequently. As the source of pollution was known, the EPD should devise methods to block such a source to prevent the recurrence of deterioration of water quality (Mr LAI Man-fai);
- (2) he enquired whether there were more aggressive plans to improve the water quality of the beaches in the district. He hoped that the EPD would provide further information on the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS), and enquired if the scheme would possibly be implemented again. He opined that given their scarcity, beaches in the New Territories should be treasured (Mr LAU Chi-hung);
- (3) the issue of the water quality of beaches had all along been a concern to the residents. In view of the gradual completion of the sewerage systems of Sham Tseng Sewage Treatment Works and the hinterland of various beaches, he enquired about the progress of sewer connection of the households of the villages around the said location and the anticipated completion time of all the connection works. He also enquired about the progress of the plan to relocate Sham Tseng Sewage Treatment Works to caverns, and whether the water quality in the

coastal area of Sham Tseng would improve after the relocation (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);

- (4) in view of the lack of a systematic way to monitor the water quality at present, he suggested that the EPD should monitor the water quality of the beaches in Tsuen Wan district on a regular basis so that Members could refer to relevant records when the water quality deteriorated. He enquired whether the EPD could provide the data of the same period in the past for Members' reference (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus); and
- (5) she enquired of the EPD about the operational details of the regular inspections at the beaches in Tsuen Wan and their upper reaches, including the frequency of inspections, locations of inspection, any black spots of illegal sewage disposal identified, and whether natural watercourses and open nullahs were included in the locations for inspection. She also enquired of the FEHD and LCSD about the details of the work in tackling the sources of pollution. In addition, she hoped that the EPD would provide the monitoring reports on the water quality of the natural watercourses and open nullahs in the district. She also enquired about the level of compliance with the water quality standards, and whether there were concrete measures for preventing pollutants at the upper and middle reaches from contaminating the waters (Ms CHAN Kim-kam).

82. The response made by Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD was summarised as follows:

- (1) HATS was an integrated project on collecting, treating and discharging sewage on both sides of Victoria Harbour. The sewage treatment works on Stonecutters Island was in operation at present;
- (2) regarding the progress of sewer connection of the households in the villages, the EPD had been contacting the households concerned actively, and would complete the connection works promptly when technically feasible. Thanks to the efforts made in recent years, the connection rate had reached 98%. The EPD would continue to follow up with the new and existing households whose sewers had not yet been connected to the public sewers; and
- (3) the monitoring data on the water quality of the rivers and beaches in Hong Kong had all along been uploaded onto the EPD's website for public access.

83. Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD responded that regarding the work of dealing with pollution, there were on-site cleaners on duty at all LCSD's beaches to ensure the environmental hygiene at the beaches.

84. The Chairman held that the departments concerned should follow up the captioned item in a persistent manner, especially the issue of water quality during rainy season. Members could access the information on water quality on the EPD's website on their own.

VII Item 6: Request for Prompt Alleviation of the Odour Problem of Tsuen Wan Harbourfront and Introduction of the Electronic Odour Detection Device as a New Method of Targeting the Problem Precisely
(EHCCC Paper No. 61/20-21)

85. The Chairman stated that Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, EPD; and
- (2) Ms LO Sze-yan, Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, DSD.

Besides, the written replies of the BD and EPD were tabled at the meeting.

86. Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus introduced the paper.

87. Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2 of the DSD responded that the DSD had been installing deodourising PVC screens at some of the outfalls. As regards the proposed provision of covers at the outfalls, the DSD had to reconsider its feasibility. Regarding the issue of the electronic odour detection device, the DSD had nothing to add for the time being.

88. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that odour was the sensory response of human sensory organs to various chemical substances of very low concentration. Such being the case, the method currently adopted by the EPD for odour assessment was broadly similar to that adopted by relevant authorities of other regions and cities in the globe. In both scenarios, designated staff relied on their sense of smell to carry out odour assessment having regard to the actual environment. When handling this type of cases, the EPD would deploy different enforcement teams to conduct independent assessments separately so as to obtain objective, professional and impartial results.

89. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) strong odour from unidentified sources had also been detected in Sham Tseng area last autumn. He opined that the odour problem at the waterfront area had to be addressed, and that it would be more effective if the electronic odour detection device and the existing method of monitoring were used in a complementary manner. Noting that a technology start-up in Hong Kong had successfully developed an electronic odour detection device, he thought that such a locally developed technology should be applied in the territory (Mr LAU Chi-hung);
- (2) in his opinion, the number of odour assessments, whether performed using the human nose or the electronic odour detection device, should be large enough in order to render the data representative. He thought that given the EPD's lack of manpower and resources, development of an electronic odour detection device should be considered to make up for the shortfall. Furthermore, he opined that the departments should carry out assessments in more objective ways. Citing the EPD as an example, he pointed out that staff of the EPD had once used their bare eyes to assess cases related to the emission of oily fumes in food premises. As the assessment officers subjectively considered the problem not serious and handled the cases hastily, the problem could not be solved effectively as a result (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);
- (3) there was a discrepancy between the method of odour assessment and the actual situation at present. As the EPD's data failed to reflect the feelings of the residents at the waterfront area, and odour was detected at irregular times, he supported the installation of an electronic odour detection device operating on a round-the-clock basis to close the loopholes in the current assessment method. He pointed out that even if the data recorded by the electronic odour detection device were inaccurate, calibration would not be a very difficult task (Mr SHUM Lester);
- (4) he opined that the Environment Bureau should further explore the application of innovative technologies (Mr LAU Jackson);
- (5) he thought that there were very substantial differences between the EPD's data and the actual feelings of the residents. In his opinion, odour assessment using the human nose was unscientific, and odour detection by electronic means should enable effective identification of the pattern of odour occurrence, thereby facilitating the investigation of the simultaneity of odour and other environmental pollutants. This

could not only help the EPD to identify the source of odour, but could also enhance the reliability of relevant data (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus);

- (6) he used such methods of detecting water seepage in buildings as colour water tests and microwave tomography as examples to illustrate the need for government departments to carry out assessments in a more advanced and objective way and facilitate the public's understanding of the problems and solutions in a more scientific approach. He also opined that the EPD should draw reference from its methods of monitoring the water quality and analyse the odour problem based on the objective data collected (Mr TSE Man-chak);
- (7) he enquired of the EPD about the number of members in the teams responsible for conducting odour assessments, and how the date and time of the odour assessments were determined (the Chairman); and
- (8) everyone's definition of odour was bound to be subjective. He proposed that the EPD should liaise with Members to conduct an odour assessment jointly to identify the reasons why the assessment findings were different from the residents' feelings and solve the problem (Mr CHIU Yan-loy).

90. The response made by Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD was summarised as follows:

- (1) each team responsible for odour assessment of the EPD would comprise at least two persons. Staff of the EPD would take turns conducting the assessments; and
- (2) the EPD would conduct odour assessments every week at present. The dates and times of the assessments would be determined randomly depending on the actual work arrangements of the staff of the EPD.

91. The Chairman hoped that the EPD would make attempts to arrange for its staff to conduct an assessment with Members jointly.

VIII Item 7: Food Waste Recycling Issues

(EHCCC Paper No. 62/20-21)

92. The Chairman stated that Mr LAU Cheuk-yu submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, EPD;
- (2) Miss LEUNG Mee-sze, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1, FEHD;

- (3) Mr YUEN Chiu-kit, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, FEHD; and
- (4) Mr KAN King-ming, Victor, Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 8, Housing Department (HD).

Besides, the written reply of the EPD was tabled at the meeting.

93. The Chairman stated that the Waste Management Policy Division of the EPD had been asked to send its representatives to join the discussion on the captioned item prior to this meeting, but no relevant staff attended the meeting as invited. He proposed sending letters to request the EPD to send officers whose duties were closely related to the item to attend the EHCCC meetings in the future. Members agreed to the arrangement.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat conveyed Members' views to the EPD in writing on 27 November 2020.)

94. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu introduced the paper.

95. The response made by Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD was summarised as follows:

- (1) the EPD's Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 (O•PARK1) at Siu Ho Wan was in full operation in July 2018, with a daily treatment capacity of 200 tonnes of food waste. O•PARK2, located at Sha Ling in North District, was also under construction. It was anticipated that 300 tonnes of food waste could be treated thereat daily upon completion of construction; and
- (2) the EPD was collaborating with the DSD in implementing the Food Waste/Sewage Sludge Anaerobic Co-digestion Trial Scheme with a view to examining the feasibility and technical requirements of food waste/sewage sludge anaerobic co-digestion. Since May 2019, the EPD had been conducting related tests at Tai Po Sewage Treatment Works, where about 15 to 20 tonnes of food waste could be treated every day. The same type of trial scheme was currently planned for implementation at Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works.

96. Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)¹ of the FEHD responded that Heung Che Street Market (including the cooked food market), Tsuen Wan Market, Yeung Uk Road Market and Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market under the FEHD had all participated in the EPD's Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Collection. The FEHD's

service contractors would collect the food waste, which would then be transported by the EPD's delivery contractors to the recovery centres for treatment every day.

97. Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 8 of the HD responded as follows:

- (1) the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) had all along been supportive of the Government's environmental protection policies and programmes. It had implemented a food waste recycling trial scheme in 14 public housing estates from 2012 to 2014 so as to encourage the tenants to develop a habit of food waste separation and recycling;
- (2) to further encourage the residents to embrace the food wise culture and develop a habit of reducing waste, the HA promoted environmental protection work and waste reduction at source in all public housing estates through various activities and programmes related to waste reduction at source and recycling of waste;
- (3) since July 2018, the HA had implemented a food waste recycling trial scheme at nine shopping centres and markets (including the shopping centre and market of Lei Muk Shue Estate in Tsuen Wan district) with a view to enhancing the shop operators' awareness of environmental protection through food waste recycling activities; and
- (4) the HA would continue to maintain close liaison with the EPD and actively participate in the EPD's food waste recycling pilot scheme.

98. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he opined that the proper handling of food waste could alleviate the pressure on landfills. He had assisted the Government Property Agency to implement a trial scheme on food waste composters at government quarters, in which satisfactory results had been achieved. He was disappointed that only 14 housing estates had participated in the food waste recycling trial scheme. In his opinion, tenants of public housing estates were the most in need of food waste recycling services. Thus, he hoped that the HD would actively engage in the issue (Mr LAI Man-fai);
- (2) he thanked the EPD for carrying out a trial scheme on food waste recycling at Allway Gardens. He opined that the challenge of the trial scheme lay in how the EPD could collect food waste effectively while avoiding environmental pollution and hygiene problems. He had made an application to the Hong Kong Productivity Council for additional food waste containers to prevent accumulation of food waste

in the housing estates, and hoped that the department concerned would implement the scheme properly. He also pointed out that the salary for Education Ambassador under the scheme was unattractive, making it difficult to recruit staff (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);

- (3) food waste could be transformed into useful products such as fish feed after recycling. He welcomed the HD's previous implementation of a food waste recycling trial scheme at Lei Muk Shue Estate, but felt frustrated at its period of implementation, which was half a year only. He opined that the Administration should allocate additional resources to continue with the implementation of relevant recycling schemes in the district. Besides, he hoped that a site visit to O·PARK1 at Siu Ho Wan would be arranged (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
- (4) he thought that there was also a demand for food waste recycling service around Tsuen Wan town centre. He pointed out that some food premises around the town centre would often dispose of food waste next to the refuse containers, causing environmental hygiene problems. He hoped that the departments concerned would explore the provision of food waste collection points around the town centre for collecting food waste from food premises and residents in the vicinity so as to tackle the environmental hygiene problems in the district (Mr LAM Sek-tim);
- (5) he pointed out that the management companies of many private housing estates had indicated their interest in participating in the Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates, but only 36 private housing estates had participated in the scheme so far. In his opinion, as the implementation of the scheme might give rise to management and cleaning problems or even disputes, many management companies had eventually refrained from participating in it. He enquired whether the EPD had reviewed the scheme and whether incentives could be added to attract more private housing estates to participate (Mr SHUM Lester);
- (6) citing Luk Yeung Sun Chuen as an example, he pointed out that it was relatively difficult for the management companies of private housing estates to meet the challenges with respect to management and environmental hygiene presented by the recycling of food waste from thousands of households alone. He enquired of the EPD whether there were any measures that could motivate the management companies to participate in the scheme (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy); and

- (7) he proposed visiting Allway Gardens to inspect the effectiveness of the food waste recycling trial scheme, and hoped that the HD would implement the relevant food waste recycling scheme at the public housing estates of the district in a more active manner (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu).

99. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the EPD would follow up the issue of distribution of food waste containers;
- (2) regarding the Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates mentioned by Members, the EPD had carried out a trial scheme from 2011 to 2019, and applications were now closed; and
- (3) separately, the EPD had implemented the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Collection. In the first phase, food waste from the establishments of public sectors would be collected and delivered to O·PARK1 for recycling. The second phase was under planning and would be larger in scale. All private and public housing estates with previous experience in separation of food waste at source would be invited for participation first. Commercial and industrial establishments were also encouraged to participate in the above scheme.

100. Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1 of the FEHD responded that refuse from food premises was commercial waste and should be collected by private refuse collectors. The FEHD would take immediate prosecution action against offending food premises once they were found disposing of refuse indiscriminately.

101. Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 8 of the HD responded that the HD would actively participate in the food waste recycling schemes implemented by the EPD.

102. The Chairman said that Members were welcome to conduct an inspection of the food waste composter at Park Island. He also agreed to the proposed site inspection at O·PARK1 in Siu Ho Wan, and hoped that the EPD would make arrangements.

103. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that the EPD noted Members' suggestion and would arrange for a site visit as appropriate according to the development of the epidemic.

IX Item 8: Cleansing of the Footbridge Network in Tsuen Wan
(EHCCC Paper No. 63/20-21)

104. The Chairman stated that Mr LAU Jackson submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Miss LEUNG Mee-sze, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1, FEHD;
- (2) Mr YUEN Chiu-kit, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, FEHD;
- (3) Mr CHOW King-cheung, Jason, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1, TD;
- (4) Mr LEE Huen-yiu, District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, HyD; and
- (5) Mr LAI Yik-wing, Wesley, Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), TWDO.

Besides, the written reply of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department was tabled at the meeting.

105. Mr LAU Jackson introduced the paper.

106. Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD would provide cleansing and sweeping services for the footbridges and their ancillary lifts and escalators under the Government, and would provide and manage the refuse collection facilities, such as refuse containers and cigarette butt containers;
- (2) if there were contaminants, such as excretal matter and vomit, which required urgent clearance, the FEHD would take immediate action; and
- (3) in case partial cleansing of a footbridge had to be arranged due to environmental hygiene problems, the FEHD would notify the HyD of the need to take appropriate action. If the footbridge was managed by other government departments or organisations, the cleansing work would be passed on to the responsible departments or organisations.

107. Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1 of the TD responded that the TD was responsible for the management of the footbridge off Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, which would be cleansed by the contractor once every three to four months.

108. District Engineer/Tsuen Wan of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) according to the current division of work, the FEHD was responsible for the routine cleansing of public footbridges and their ancillary lifts and escalators, including the clearance of refuse, vomit, excretal matter and phlegm, to ensure that the environmental hygiene of the facilities

was in normal condition every day;

- (2) the HyD was responsible for the structural maintenance of the footbridges, and would deploy staff to cleanse the structure of the footbridges (including the walls and surfaces) at least once every quarter to ensure that the structure was in good condition. As regards the lifts at the footbridges, they would be cleansed once every day; and
- (3) the HyD would monitor the work of the contractors to ensure that their performance could meet the requirements.

109. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that the TWDO was responsible for the management of the two red arbour structures at the footbridge beside Fou Wah Centre, and would hire contractors through service contracts to carry out cleansing, maintenance and management work.

110. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he was concerned about the management and cleansing problems of the footbridge at the multi-storey car park on Sai Lau Kok Road, and hoped that the TD would disclose its unit which was responsible for the maintenance of the facility to facilitate the EHCCC's follow-up. Although the TD would clean the footbridge at the multi-storey car park on Sai Lau Kok Road once every three to four months, he considered the frequency too low. He pointed out that the refuse on the footbridge had been accumulated for a long time. As the management department, the TD should address the problem squarely and arrange for cleansing work at least once a month. He enquired whether the FEHD could render assistance in this regard (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy);
- (2) he thought that it was unreasonable for the TD to clean the footbridge at the multi-storey car park on Sai Lau Kok Road only once every three to four months, and was discontented with the TD's reply. He also considered the cleansing work of the footbridge at Discovery Park carried out by the HyD ineffective (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu);
- (3) he once witnessed the cleansing of the footbridge between MTR Tsuen Wan Station and Vision City, during which high pressure jets were used. However, the HyD's contractor, unlike those engaged by the FEHD, did not place screen barriers for separation, and pedestrians' trousers would easily be splashed with water as a result. He thus hoped that the HyD would improve the arrangement. He opined that it was unreasonable for the TD to cleanse a footbridge once only in every

three to four months, and that the frequency of cleansing should be increased. Besides, it was rumoured that the FEHD would only remove dog faeces, and dog's urine was to be washed away by the HyD. He hoped that the FEHD and HyD would clarify in this regard (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);

- (4) she was concerned about the problems of secondhand smoke and indiscriminate disposal of cigarette butts at the footbridge network of Tsuen Wan district. She pointed out the particularly serious environmental hygiene problems caused by smokers outside Exit A of MTR Tsuen Wan Station, in the area around Discovery Park, and on the footbridge between Clague Garden Estate and Tsuen Wan Plaza. She thought that the problems were caused by the unclear division of management responsibilities. Thus, she suggested that the departments concerned should give an account of the management responsibility of each of the footbridges in the footbridge network of Tsuen Wan district in tabular form. Besides, she enquired about the tobacco control policies applicable to the footbridge network (Ms CHAN Kim-kam);
- (5) as refuse containers for the public's disposal of cigarette butts were provided on the footbridges in the district, he enquired if the Administration allowed smoking at the footbridge network of Tsuen Wan district. Besides, some members of the public complained about the problem of water leakage at the footbridge near Panda Hotel in the rain. However, the point of water leakage could not be located after the rain, and he found this frustrating (Mr LAM Sek-tim);
- (6) video footage about the negligence of duty of some cleaners on a footbridge near Lo Tak Court had been circulated online. He enquired how the department concerned would deal with the case. Moreover, in view of the serious problem of water leakage at the footbridges in the district during heavy rain, he enquired how the departments would tackle the problem, and hoped that they would provide a schedule for tackling such a problem (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus); and
- (7) as many footbridges in the district were constructed between buildings, refuse thrown from these buildings had substantially accumulated on the roofs of the footbridges. In addition, he enquired of the HyD about the frequency of the regular clearance of fallen leaves and refuse on the footbridge roofs, and considered that the HyD's monthly cleansing of the inner and outer walls and the ceilings of the footbridges was ineffective (Mr LAU Jackson).

111. Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) if staff of the FEHD found any excretal matter of dogs on the footbridges, they would remove it immediately whenever circumstance permitted. Nevertheless, as the cleansing of footbridges was not the FEHD's duty, the FEHD might not be able to use high pressure jets or detergent for cleansing;
- (2) according to the law, it was an offence to dispose of cigarette butts or refuse in public places indiscriminately. The FEHD could institute prosecution if such an offence was identified;
- (3) as regards whether the Administration allowed members of the public to smoke at the footbridge network of Tsuen Wan district, the FEHD did not have relevant information for the time being; and
- (4) regarding the case about the negligence of duty of some cleaners on the footbridge near Lo Tak Court, the FEHD believed that they were outsourced cleaners engaged by the HyD.

112. Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1 of the TD responded that the TD would, subject to the actual situation, arrange for cleansing of the wall surfaces of the footbridges and step up cleansing as necessary. The TD noted Members' views.

113. District Engineer/Tsuen Wan of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) regarding the views that pedestrians were splashed with water during the HyD's structural cleansing, the HyD would communicate with the contractor to avoid similar incidents;
- (2) if Members identified any accumulation of miscellaneous objects on the roofs of the footbridges, they could report it to the HyD at any time. The HyD would deploy staff for clearance; and
- (3) the HyD would deploy staff to strengthen the monitoring of the cleansing work performed by the contractors. In case there were irregularities, the HyD would impose corresponding penalties according to the established mechanism stipulated in the contracts.

114. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that staff of the Works Section of the TWDO was responsible for supervising the TWDO's hygiene management to ensure the effectiveness of its work. Regarding the table showing the division of management powers and responsibilities of the footbridges in the district, the TWDO held that the department which was managing more

footbridges could take the lead in drawing up the table to facilitate other departments' follow-ups.

115. The Chairman stated that cleanliness and hygiene problems were found at many footbridges in the district. To tie in with the discussion on the maintenance of the footbridges in the district to be conducted by another Committee, he hoped that the present item could be further discussed under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting at the next meeting. He also requested various departments to highlight on the maps their respective areas of provision of daily cleaning and regular cleansing services so that he could consolidate the information prior to the next meeting. Given the wide coverage of the footbridge network of Tsuen Wan district, he proposed concentrating the efforts on the footbridges connecting Citistore, Nan Fung Centre and Discovery Park near MTR Tsuen Wan Station first and dealing with the remaining ones next year.

X Item 9: Request for Alleviation of the Problem of Indiscriminate Disposal of Refuse on the Tsuen Wan District

(EHCCC Paper No. 64/20-21)

116. The Chairman stated that Mr LAM Sek-tim submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Miss LEUNG Mee-sze, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1, FEHD;
- (2) Mr YUEN Chiu-kit, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, FEHD;
- (3) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, EPD; and
- (4) Mr LAI Yik-wing, Wesley, Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), TWDO.

Besides, the written reply of the EPD was tabled at the meeting.

117. Mr LAM Sek-tim introduced the paper.

118. Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the FEHD had set up a total of three refuse collection points (RCPs) in Tsuen Wan town centre, namely Luen Yan Street RCP, Tsuen Wan Market Street RCP and Heung Che Street RCP, for members of the public to dispose of household refuse. Among them, Tsuen Wan Market Street RCP and Heung Che Street RCP provided round-the-clock service;

- (2) the FEHD would arrange a dedicated plainclothes enforcement team to strengthen law enforcement at the black spots of public cleansing offences at different times (including daytime, nighttime or late night). The dedicated team issued a total of 347 FPNs and 31 Notices to appear before a Magistrate to offenders of littering this year; and
- (3) the FEHD had recently launched a trial scheme on household refuse collection service using mobile solar-powered compacting refuse bins for residents. The contractor would place a solar-powered compacting refuse bin at the section of Chung On Street between Yi Pei Square and Sam Pei Square from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. every day between 16 October 2020 and 15 February 2021 for residents' use, with a view to reducing fly-tipping in the vicinity.

119. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that in response to Members' previous enquiries about the arrangement of removing construction waste, the EPD had requested the HyD to assist in removing the construction waste involved in the case mentioned by Members. The EPD would also arrange for ambush operations to facilitate prosecution.

120. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that the TWDO had all along been collaborating with the FEHD, and had made its utmost efforts to notify the households of relevant buildings and brief them on the FEHD's plan through Liaison Officers or various meeting platforms. The TWDO would also coordinate with the FEHD in order to arrange staff of the FEHD to brief Members on the related refuse collection programmes.

121. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he opined that the opening of the FEHD's refuse container was too small, and hoped that it could be changed to a more reasonable size so that residents could dispose of refuse in the refuse container conveniently. He pointed out that the opening of the refuse container outside Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions Workers' Medical Clinics (Tsuen Wan Branch) was also too small, and this could be the reason why meal boxes had been dumped next to the refuse container causing environmental hygiene hazards for the footbridges and bus stops nearby. He wished that the FEHD would pay more attention to the situation (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy);

- (2) many residents in the community were not aware that it was an offence to dispose of household refuse in the FEHD's orange refuse containers. Therefore, he thought that the FEHD should enhance its publicity efforts. In addition, he enquired of the Steering Group on the Modification of Recycling and Refuse Collection Facilities in Public Places (the Steering Group) whether the design of the new generation of refuse container was confirmed so as to facilitate the residents' use and prevent them from disposing of household refuse randomly (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);
- (3) illegal disposal of refuse near refuse containers was also seen in Wang Lung Street and Fui Yiu Kok Street in Tsuen Wan Industrial Area. In addition to household refuse, abandoned furniture was also found thereon. He pointed out that some residents were not aware of the statutory requirements in respect of the disposal of household refuse. Therefore, apart from law enforcement, enhanced publicity and education were of equal importance. He suggested that consideration could be given to organising relevant promotional activities if resources of the FEHD permitted or if some non-governmental organisations were willing to organise them. He thought that a three-pronged approach comprising publicity, education and law enforcement should be adopted to solve the problem of fly-tipping (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio);
- (4) in the old areas such as Moon Lok Dai Ha and Heung Che Street, disposed face masks could be found everywhere from time to time. Some face masks were also found inside the orange refuse containers. She suggested that the department concerned should provide refuse containers with lids for collecting discarded face masks to prevent the spread of the epidemic. Besides, she considered that the current design of the refuse container was not user-friendly, and cleaners could not collect refuse conveniently. She hoped that the department concerned would improve the design of the refuse container (Ms CHAN Kim-kam);
- (5) he thanked the FEHD for removing waste rapidly upon receipt of recent complaints from residents about illegal disposal of domestic waste on the roadside. As regards the problem of fly-tipping by residents in the old areas, he proposed that the departments concerned should strengthen liaison with the management companies of various buildings to remind the decoration workers to pay attention to the proper ways of waste disposal. He also proposed stepping up

education so as to instill the proper way of waste disposal in the public, and hoped that the FEHD would step up inspection (Mr LI Hung-por); and

- (6) he suggested that the TWDO should advise the owners' corporations (OCs) which had not engaged a cleansing company to engage one for assistance in refuse clearance. He opined that the responsibility for the clearance of refuse in buildings rested with the OCs. Therefore, instead of shirking the responsibility to the FEHD's cleaners, the OCs should handle the waste with the principle of "user pays" (Mr LAU Jackson).

122. Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2 of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the current opening of the FEHD's refuse container was designed to be relatively small because the refuse container was originally intended for the disposal of small pieces of refuse by the public rather than the disposal of relatively large household refuse;
- (2) the FEHD would request the dedicated enforcement teams to pay extra attention to the situation of fly-tipping outside Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions Workers' Medical Clinics (Tsuen Wan Branch);
- (3) the FEHD did not have information on the design of the new refuse container proposed by the Steering Group for the time being. It would provide Members with information about the design of the new refuse container when available in the future; and
- (4) as regards the education and publicity efforts in facilitating the public's understanding of the proper ways of disposing of household refuse, the FEHD had affixed warning notices to the refuse containers during production, and would display banners for publicity when necessary.

123. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that the EPD had nothing to add.

124. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that he understood Members' concern over the captioned item on refuse in buildings. It was difficult for the TWDO to bear the removal costs of all the buildings with refuse disposal problems because this practice did not comply with the principle of proper use of public funds. The TWDO considered that it was indeed very important to educate the residents about proper disposal of household refuse. In this connection, the TWDO had all along been maintaining close liaison with the households

concerned, and believed that the FEHD and Members could work hand in hand with the TWDO for enhanced communication with the households concerned.

125. Mr LAM Sek-tim believed that the FEHD had tried its best to tackle the environmental problems in the district. Yet, the publicity effort was still inadequate, and some residents had even torn up the promotional posters without permission. He suggested that the TWDO should assist in putting up posters at the buildings in the old areas and include warnings on the posters to prevent residents from tearing them up. He also enquired whether police officers on duty would take enforcement action against residents who were found to have committed fly-tipping next to the refuse containers.

126. The Chairman stated that the Chairman of the TWDC would invite all Members to participate in the inspection of the solar-powered refuse composter arranged by the FEHD.

127. The Chairman stated that since the next agenda item was raised by him, he asked the Vice Chairman to take over the chair.

XI Item 10: Flush and Fresh Water Supply in Tsuen Wan District, Water Source of Water Treatment Works and Decreasing Reliance on Dongjiang Water
(EHCCC Paper No. 65/20-21)

128. The Acting Chairman stated that Mr TAM Hoi-pong submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Mr NG Ki-yiu, Senior Engineer/NTW (Special Duties), WSD;
- (2) Mr KAN Ka-man, Engineer/NTW (Headworks 3), WSD;
- (3) Ms CHEUK Li, Assistant Engineer/Planning 8, WSD; and
- (4) Mr CHEN Wai-kuen, Administrative Assistant/Lands, DLO.

129. Mr TAM Hoi-pong introduced the paper.

130. Senior Engineer/NTW (Special Duties) of the WSD responded as follows:

- (1) there were three water treatment works in Tsuen Wan district, namely Tsuen Wan Water Treatment Works, Yau Kom Tau Water Treatment Works and Sham Tseng Water Treatment Works. To maintain a stable water supply, various water treatment works would adjust the water supply zones from time to time according to the operational and maintenance needs;

- (2) currently, the annual net yield of Hong Kong could only account for 20% to 30% of the local total water consumption, with the remaining 70% to 80% of water consumption dependent on the supply of Dongjiang water; and
- (3) regarding the request for provision of seawater for toilet flushing around Ma Wan, Sham Tseng and Tsing Lung Tau, the WSD had reported on the review of the cost-effectiveness of extending the seawater supply network to Tsing Lung Tau and Sham Tseng at the meeting of the Coastal Affairs Committee (CAC) on 6 July 2018. The proposed extension works were not taken forward at that time because they were not cost-effectiveness. Nevertheless, the WSD would conduct another review where appropriate.

131. Administrative Assistant/Lands of the DLO responded that the DLO did not have information on the housing estates in Tsing Lung Tau, Sham Tseng and Ting Kau which had installed seawater pumping facilities on their own initiative.

132. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he opined that Tsuen Wan district should reduce its reliance on Dongjiang water and increase the self-sufficiency ratio in salt and fresh water supply. He enquired about the ratio of the housing estates using salt water for flushing to those using fresh water for flushing in the district. He opined that an increase in the ratio of using seawater for flushing could render the fresh water supply in the district more stable (Mr TSE Man-chak);
- (2) in his opinion, given the relatively long coastline of Tsuen Wan, the provision of additional water pumping facilities thereat could substantially increase the ratio of using seawater for flushing. Moreover, in the light of the contamination of Dongjiang water, residents had enquired of him about the ratio of Dongjiang water in the fresh water supply. He opined that a reduction in the reliance on Dongjiang water could increase the bargaining power of Hong Kong during the contract renewal for the purchase of Dongjiang water (Mr LAI Man-fai);
- (3) he considered that using fresh water for flushing was profligate and would constitute wastage of the precious water resources. He opined that the department concerned should enable seawater flushing for households around Tsing Lung Tau, Sham Tseng and Ting Kau through planning. Incidentally, he opined that it was necessary to

reduce the reliance on Dongjiang water and increase the self-sufficiency ratio in fresh water in Tsuen Wan district (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy);

- (4) he understood that households around Tsing Lung Tau, Sham Tseng and Ma Wan were still using fresh water for flushing, possibly because the construction cost of a salt water pumping station would be higher than its efficiency. During the construction of Hong Kong Garden in early years, the developer was required by relevant conditions to construct a pumping station so as to provide salt water supply for use in Hong Kong Garden. However, such a requirement remained unfulfilled in the end. He also enquired whether there was any technology for making forecasts about the water consumption, so that the department concerned could purchase Dongjiang water subject to the demand and thus reduce wastage. He further enquired of the WSD about the feasibility of accessing other sources of fresh water. Such sources might include the desalination technology or the purchase of fresh water from Malaysia (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);
- (5) it might evoke strong reactions from residents in Sham Tseng and Tsing Lung Tau if they came to know that fresh water was currently being used for flushing in the housing estates around these areas. Therefore, he hoped that all housing estates in the coastal areas could make good use of the seawater supply for flushing. He proposed designating the coastal beaches along Sham Tseng as the trial sites for the installation of small-scale seawater desalination facilities (Mr LAU Chi-hung); and
- (6) he opined that the WSD had adopted an excessively high standard for cost-effectiveness in the report given at the CAC meeting held in 2018. He considered the installation of salt water pumping facilities at the housing estates in the coastal areas of Sham Tseng and Tsing Lung Tau a simple task, and hoped that the WSD would conduct further studies. He enquired whether priority could be given to Tsuen Wan in the supply of water in reservoirs so as to reduce the reliance on Dongjiang water supply in Tsuen Wan district. He also enquired whether there were water pipes connecting the Dongjiang water mains and Yau Kom Tau Water Treatment Works. He hoped that the WSD would provide a diagram outlining the distribution of water supply in Tsuen Wan district after the meeting (Mr TAM Hoi-pong).

133. Administrative Assistant/Lands of the DLO noted Members' concern over the change from the previous use of salt water to the subsequent use of fresh water for flushing in Hong Kong Garden. The DLO would learn about the situation after the meeting, and would provide Members with relevant information, if any, for reference.

134. Engineer/NTW (Headworks 3) of the WSD responded as follows:

- (1) Dongjiang water was the primary source of raw water supply at Yau Kom Tau Water Treatment Works. Additionally, the water treatment works would receive raw water from Plover Cove Reservoir. The raw water at Tsuen Wan Water Treatment Works came from Tai Lam Chung Reservoir and Shing Mun Reservoir, whereas that at Sham Tseng Water Treatment Works came from Tai Lam Chung Reservoir only;
- (2) the WSD would adjust the volume of Dongjiang water to be imported according to the Hong Kong Observatory's rainfall forecast and storage position of the reservoirs when necessary. The import volume of Dongjiang water in wet season would generally be less than that in dry season;
- (3) the WSD would review the seawater supply network of the housing estates around the coastal areas of Sham Tseng and Tsing Lung Tau in a timely manner and extend the seawater supply to relevant locations wherever it was cost-effective and technically feasible to do so;
- (4) the supply zones of the water treatment works were generally divided by Texaco Road. The water supply for the east of Texaco Road, including Lei Muk Shue East, Lei Muk Shue West, Shek Wai Kok and Cheung Shek, was supported by Tsuen Wan Water Treatment Works in general, whereas the water supply for the area between the west of Texaco Road and Yau Kom Tau was mainly supported by Yau Kom Tau Water Treatment Works. To maintain a stable water supply, the WSD would adjust the water supply zones from time to time according to the operational and maintenance needs of the water supply system; and
- (5) the WSD would provide Members with the relevant diagrams and information after the meeting.

135. The Acting Chairman asked the WSD to provide relevant diagrams and information.

136. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(Note: Mr LI Hung-por left the meeting at 7:09 p.m.)

XII Item 11: Request for an In-depth Investigation into the Impact of the Residential Developments around Belvedere Garden on the Surrounding Environment

(EHCCC Paper No. 66/20-21)

137. The Chairman stated that Mr TSE Man-chak submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving response were:

- (1) Ms TSANG Ka-man, Carmen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2, EPD;
- (2) Mr CHEN Wai-kuen, Administrative Assistant/Lands, DLO;
- (3) Ms FONG Wei-king, Luna, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2, LCSD;
- (4) Miss LEUNG Mee-sze, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1, FEHD;
and
- (5) Mr YUEN Chiu-kit, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tsuen Wan 2, FEHD.

Besides, the written replies of the Development Bureau, Planning Department (PlanD), ArchSD, TD and EPD were tabled at the meeting.

138. Mr TSE Man-chak introduced the paper.

139. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that when proposing the amendments, the PlanD had already conducted the tree survey and related technical studies on landscape and air ventilation. It was confirmed that the proposed development would not pose a negative impact on the surrounding environment. As the future residential developments at the above lots were not designated projects listed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, the statutory environmental impact assessment (EIA) study under the above Ordinance was not required. Nevertheless, the developers were still required to comply with the environmental protection requirements stated in the lease conditions and other environmental protection ordinances to ensure that no unacceptable impact would be posed on the surrounding environment whilst the residential developments were underway.

140. Administrative Assistant/Lands of the DLO responded that the DLO was aware that the PlanD had been authorised to make a written reply. Thus, the DLO had nothing further to add.

141. Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) 2 of the LCSD responded that the LCSD did not have specific comments since the two sites did not involve any greening facilities or trees under its management.

142. Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1 of the FEHD responded that the FEHD did not participate in the above land rezoning work.

143. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he objected to the project, and considered that the EIA submitted by the department concerned was not detailed enough. As regards the studies and assessment reports mentioned in the PlanD's written reply, he hoped that Members could review them at the EHCCC meetings first before they were made available for public access so as to determine whether they were valid and supported by sufficient evidences. He opined that the PlanD should explain in detail why land rezoning would not pose a negative impact on the trees, landscape and air ventilation of the surrounding environment and the underlying justification (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy);
- (2) he objected to the project. He considered it necessary to conduct an EIA and inform the existing residents around the sites of the impacts on the environment after land rezoning. The impacts included the noise problems that would arise during the construction of residential buildings, impact on air ventilation upon completion of the residential buildings, and environmental impact brought about by an influx of thousands of residents. Considering the above various impacts, the importance of an EIA should not be overlooked (Mr LAU Chi-hung);
- (3) he enquired about the criteria for determining whether an EIA was required in a development project. Pointing out that the existing green belt was situated on a relatively steep slope, he had concern as to whether the implementation of residential developments at the sites would affect the slope structure. He was also concerned that the developers would impose a surcharge for the high cost of slope maintenance on the owners in the future. Additionally, he proposed constructing noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road near the residential developments to avoid causing noise nuisance to the residents therein (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);
- (4) while the EPD stated in its written reply that it was not necessary to conduct an EIA for the above projects, the PlanD had conducted technical studies on landscape and air ventilation. He was thus

confused. Moreover, residents in the vicinity of the sites considered the PlanD's assessment findings implausible. Considering the favourable geographical position and thorough community planning of Belvedere Garden, he enquired of the PlanD how it arrived at the conclusion that land rezoning would not have a negative impact on the surrounding environment. Furthermore, he enquired whether a property valuation had been made (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus); and

- (5) he objected to such a decision on land rezoning, and expressed regret over the PlanD's failure to send the representatives to attend the meeting. Incidentally, the details of the assessments stated in the PlanD's written reply were unavailable. He was concerned about the number of trees on the slopes at the sites in question, and hoped that the DLO would provide the preliminary assessment of the study report for Members' reference (the Chairman).

144. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that a project which was considered a designated project listed in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance was required to comply with the statutory EIA procedures. Details of the said Schedule could be found on the EPD's website.

145. Administrative Assistant/Lands of the DLO responded that the DLO had submitted the tree survey assessment conducted for the project to the departments concerned and had nothing further to add for the time being. The DLO did not have information on the number of trees at present.

146. Mr TSE Man-chak considered the DLO's failure to give an account of the related information on the tree survey unreasonable. He proposed arranging for a site inspection to facilitate Members' understanding of the conditions of the trees around the sites. He also hoped that staff of the DLO would give a more detailed explanation during the site inspection. Moreover, he opined that government departments should carry out consultation exercises in a more thorough and clearer manner, such as studying the proposed installation of full enclosure noise barriers on the section of Tuen Mun Road near the project sites.

147. The Chairman proposed sending a letter to reprimand the PlanD for its failure to send representatives to attend the meeting. He also requested the PlanD to disclose the details of all the assessments mentioned in its written reply, including the

feasibility study on the widening of Po Fung Road; landscape, visual impact and air ventilation assessments; and hazard assessment of the chlorine stores at Yau Kom Tau Water Treatment Works. Moreover, the DLO should disclose the details of the tree survey conducted. He agreed that a site inspection should be arranged for the captioned item, and staff of the departments concerned should be invited for participation to brief Members on the methods for conducting a tree survey.

(Note: Mr SHUM Lester left the meeting at 7:24 p.m.)

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat conveyed Members' views to the PlanD in writing on 16 November 2020.)

XIII Item 12: Information Papers

(1) Amount of Marine Floating Refuse collected by Marine Department in Tsuen Wan District (Jan - Dec of 2020)

(EHCCC Paper No. 67/20-21)

148. Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus hoped that the MD would provide information on the amount of marine floating refuse found in the same period last year for reference. He also hoped that the MD would carry out more data collection and provide more specific data for Members, such as the locations with floating refuse identified.

149. The Chairman stated that the Member's views would be relayed to the MD.

(2) Odour Prediction Assessment at the Riviera Gardens and Tsuen Wan Slaughter House (August 2020 to September 2020)

(EHCCC Paper No. 70/20-21)

150. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he hoped that the EPD would provide the reports on the regular odour patrols at the temples in the district for reference (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy);
- (2) in his opinion, the odour problem of the incense smoke from temples was an on-going issue. If the EPD was able to submit reports at the EHCCC meetings regularly, it would be easier for Members to refer to the information in such reports upon receipt of complaints (Mr LAI Man-fai); and
- (3) he opined that it would be more efficient to tackle the problem by contacting the EPD directly. The key to solving the odour problem of the incense smoke in temples lay in whether the EPD could liaise with

the FEHD to conduct inspections and prosecute the temples giving out odours (Mr CHIU Yan-loy).

151. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that Members could directly contact the EPD regarding the odour problem of temples for follow-up.

152. The Chairman opined that Members could first communicate with the EPD for discussion on the solutions to the odour problem of incense smoke from temples.

(3) Work Report on the Problem of Sea Water Pollution of the Rambler Channel, Tsuen Wan (August 2020 to September 2020)
(EHCCC Paper No. 71/20-21)

153. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he reiterated that odour detection with the use of an electronic odour detection device could facilitate the investigation of the cause of odour, i.e. whether it was related to the black sediments or white foam at sea. He hoped that the EPD would implement the use of an electronic odour detection device in odour detection, and that staff of the EPD would pay attention to other signs of environmental pollution found, if any, at the same time when odour was detected (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus); and
- (2) he enquired of the EPD how the water quality objectives set out in the report should be interpreted (Mr TSE Man-chak).

154. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that if staff of the EPD detected odour during odour patrols, they would make attempts to identify the source of the odour. Therefore, the EPD deemed the odour patrols conducted currently more effective. The EPD would provide relevant information about the water quality objectives at the next meeting.

(4) Noise Monitoring Result of MTR Tsuen Wan Depot (August 2020 to September 2020)
(EHCCC Paper No. 72/20-21)

155. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he enquired of the EPD about the assessment standards of the noise monitoring report, and whether the noise level in the vicinity of the depot was acceptable according to the standard (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu);

- (2) she hoped that the EPD would provide the monitoring data of other black spots of noise nuisance, such as the data on the vehicle noise on Tsuen Wan Road (Ms CHAN Kim-kam); and
- (3) he thought that when requesting data and information from the departments, Members should first consider whether such data was supposed to be provided by such departments. For example, noise data concerning speeding should be provided by the HKPF. Besides, he hoped that the EPD would re-examine the method for measuring the noise level. In his opinion, the noise level the households residing on lower and medium floors were experiencing could not be determined by the EPD's approach of measuring the noise level on the roofs of the residential buildings (the Chairman).

156. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded as follows:

- (1) the EPD had all along been measuring the noise level on the roofs of residential buildings because there would not be any buildings standing between the measuring site and the railway;
- (2) the noise monitoring results showed that the noise level at MTR Tsuen Wan Depot was within the acceptable noise levels; and
- (3) the EPD did not measure the noise level of vehicles on a regular basis.

(5) Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District
(EHCCC Paper No. 73/20-21)

157. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he pointed out that banners were seen displaying illegally at many locations on the streets in early October 2020. He hoped that the FEHD would provide the figures of the unauthorised banners being removed (Mr LAM Sek-tim);
- (2) he pointed out that although the DLO and FEHD had conducted joint operations against unauthorised banners, he still found some celebrating the National Day hung on the streets. As such, he enquired of the DLO and FEHD about their follow-up actions. Besides, he had lodged complaints to the FEHD and DLO against the TWDO's display of unauthorised banners, and enquired which party would pay for the penalty (the Chairman);
- (3) the aforementioned unauthorised banners were printed with the words "Tsuen Wan District Office". He enquired why the TWDO was involved in such an irregularity (Mr LAI Man-fai);

- (4) he enquired why Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO, a Member of the Tsuen Wan Committee for Celebration of Reunification of Hong Kong with China, allowed the display of unauthorised banners (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu); and
- (5) he enquired why the authorised locations for display of banners by other people were occupied and used for the display of TWDO's unauthorised banners (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus).

158. Administrative Assistant/Lands of the DLO responded that the DLO had received the complaints about the unauthorised banners, and was currently handling the cases according to the existing guidelines. So far, the DLO did not have any information about the number of removed banners. It would provide supplementary information after the meeting.

159. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that the EHCCC was not an appropriate place for discussing such issues in his view. Speaking of his role in the Tsuen Wan Committee for Celebration of Reunification of Hong Kong with China as mentioned by Members, his membership was a nominal post title. Therefore, it would take some time for him to learn from the Committee concerned about the details of the banners displayed. As regards the unauthorised banners, not all of them were hung by the TWDO. The TWDO had coordinated with the LandsD, and would remove the unauthorised banners.

160. The Chairman held that the issue should be followed up at some more appropriate occasions, and hoped that the FEHD or DLO would highlight in a map the locations in the district where the TWDO was authorised to display banners for Members' reference.

(6) Aircraft Noise Data Collected from Dedicated Monitoring Stations in Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing Districts
(EHCCC Paper No. 74/20-21)

161. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he enquired of the department concerned about the changes in the flight paths above Tsuen Wan district in different seasons. He hoped that the department concerned could adjust the locations of monitoring aircraft noise according to the changes in the flight paths, and would provide relevant aircraft noise data (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
- (2) a few days ago, some residents pointed out the noise nuisance from helicopters. He enquired about the department to which he could

report the cases and the methods for handling them (Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio); and

- (3) he pointed out that there might be errors in the noise data at Yau Kom Tau Water Treatment Works, Tsuen Wan in the paper (Mr TSE Man-chak).

162. The Chairman asked the Secretary to check with the Civil Aviation Department (CAD) whether there were any errors, and if so, request the CAD to provide the revised data. Regarding the noise problem of helicopters, he proposed that Members should look for helicopters which had passed the location concerned during the said period using online aircraft tracking software for follow-up.

163. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 2 of the EPD responded that the CAD should be tasked with handling the problem of aircraft noise. The EPD could convey Members' complaints to the CAD if Members deemed necessary.

(7) Progress Report on Minor Environmental Improvement Programme and Maintenance Projects in 2020/21

(EHCCC Paper No. 75/20-21)

164. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO introduced the paper.

165. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he learnt that the public consultation had commenced, but he still did not receive the consultation papers. In his opinion, a schematic layout plan should be posted next to the consultation notice to enable residents who wished to express views to fully understand the project details. He considered that a more complete consultation exercise could allow Members to have a better understanding of the views of various stakeholders and prevent any impact on the future implementation of works (Mr CHIU Yan-loy);
- (2) he enquired of the TWDO about the planning progress and works schedule of project item 13. He opined that the display of the consultation papers in a plastic bag hung near the works site alone could not achieve the goal of public consultation, and there was room for improvement (Mr LAI Man-fai);
- (3) he enquired of the TWDO about the progress of preparation of project item 6 and the targets of the consultation. Regarding project item 16, he hoped that the TWDO would fully consult the villagers of the

villages set out on the information plate, and enquired about its planning progress (Mr PUN Long-chung, Roy); and

- (4) regarding project items 17 and 18, he pointed out that many Ma Wan residents held different views on the locations of the hiking trail and old village. He hoped that the TWDO would invite Members to work out the contents of the information plate together, and enquired of the TWDO how it would carry out the public consultation exercise (the Chairman).

166. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO responded as follows:

- (1) the TWDO would pass on the site layouts to the DLO. Staff of the DLO would then display the documents at an appropriate location near the works site of the project item for public consultation. The consultation period was 14 days;
- (2) regarding project item 13, as the public consultation exercise was still underway, and the project item was still pending HyD's consent, the TWDO did not have the works schedule for the time being. The TWDO also had to carry out trial pit works for the provision of rain shelters;
- (3) regarding project item 6, the TWDO still had to wait for the results of the public consultation exercise. The tendering exercise would be carried out promptly if no objections were received;
- (4) regarding project item 16, the TWDO was waiting for the HyD's reply; and
- (5) regarding project items 17 and 18, the TWDO was willing to discuss with Members the contents of the information plates prior to the tender exercises.

167. The Chairman said he suggested that the TWDO should submit the schematic layout plans to the Members who were the project proponents for consultation purpose. He hoped that the TWDO would display additional schematic layout plans at the locations of public consultation to enhance the effectiveness of the consultation.

168. Senior Inspector of Works of the TWDO responded that the DLO had posted relevant notices at the works sites for the TWDO. However, as the consultation period was not yet over, the consultation results were not available.

- (8) Financial Statement of Environment, Health and Climate Change Committee Funds as at 7 October 2020
(EHCCC Paper No. 76/20-21)

169. The Chairman stated that as the quotation offered by the mask supplier was lower than expected, there was an unspent amount of funding in the budget amount transferred earlier from the EHCCC to the TWDC for the procurement of face masks. So far, he did not know if the unspent amount would be returned to the EHCCC. If the unspent amount of funding was available, he proposed inviting an environmental protection agency to conduct a tree study at the residential developments around Belvedere Garden.

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

- (9) Publicity and Anti-Marine Littering Operation in Tsuen Wan District (January - September 2020)
(EHCCC Paper No. 68/20-21); and
- (10) Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District (August 2020 to September 2020)
(EHCCC Paper No. 69/20-21).

XIV Item 13: Any Other Business

171. The views and enquiries of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) he thought that the written replies of the departments which had stated that they were unable to send representatives to attend the meeting should not be printed out (Mr LAU Cheuk-yu);
- (2) he thought that written replies of the departments should be printed in the format of two pages per sheet (Mr YICK Shing-chung, Angus);
- (3) in his opinion, the temperature of the air-conditioning system of the Main Conference Room, TWDO was too low (the Chairman); and
- (4) he opined that the DLO adopted double standards in regulating the display of banners (Mr LAI Man-fai).

172. The Chairman stated that it was his duty to invite the departments specified in the respective discussion papers submitted by Members to send their representatives to attend the meetings. In this connection, he hoped that Members would carefully consider whether the departments mentioned in their papers were indeed related to the agenda items before submitting the papers. Otherwise, it would lead to wastage of paper. He noted Members' views.

173. Administrative Assistant/Lands of the DLO responded that the DLO had received the complaints about the unauthorised banners, and would handle the cases according to relevant guidelines.

174. Assistant District Officers (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded that the TWDO would work closely with the DLO and remove the unauthorised banners.

(Note: Ms CHAN Kim-kam left the meeting at 8:01 p.m.)

XV Adjournment of Meeting

175. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled at 2:30 p.m. on 17 December 2020 (Thursday) and the deadline for submission of discussion papers was 2 December 2020 (Wednesday).

(Post-meeting note: In view of the epidemic, the 7th meeting of the EHCCC was rescheduled to 18 February 2021.)

176. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

17 November 2020