

(Translation)

Minutes of the 12th Meeting of
Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (5/2025-26)

Date: 10 December 2025

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Mr KOT Siu-yuen, MH (Chairman)

Mr TSANG Tai (Vice Chairman)

Mr KOO Yeung-pong, MH

Mr NG Chun-yu

Ms LAM Yuen-pun

Mr CHOW Sum-ming

Mr YAU Kam-ping, BBS, MH

Dr CHEUNG Man-ka, MH

Mr CHAN Chun-chung

Mr CHAN Sung-ip, BBS, MH

Mr MOK Yuen-kwan

Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum

Ms WAH Mei-ling

Mr WONG Wai-kit, MH

Mr WONG Kai-chun

Mr LAU Chung-kong

Mr CHENG Chit-pun

Ms HA Wing-ka

Government Representatives

Mr CHEUNG Chak-ho, Alex Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen
Wan District Office

Mr CHAN Tsz-choi Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)1
(Acting), Food and Environmental Hygiene
Department

Miss KWONG Suet-yi Senior Health Inspector (Hawker) Tsuen Wan,
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr CHAN Yip-wai, Edward Senior Environmental Protection Officer

(Regional West)2, Environmental Protection
Department

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat Representatives

Mr LIM Kuen	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Tsuen Wan District Office
Miss CHENG Nga-wai, Alice (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)1, Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr LI Hongfeng, Ken	Assistant Executive Manager (District Council)2, Tsuen Wan District Office

In Attendance:

For discussion of item 3

Mr CHENG Ka-fai	Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 9, Housing Department
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I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the 12th meeting of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee.

2. The Chairman stated that according to the requirements stipulated in the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders, if a District Council (DC) Member found that he/she had any direct personal or pecuniary interests in a discussion item or relevant matters when attending a meeting of the Council or dealing with matters related to the Council, the DC Member should declare the interests. The Secretariat had not received any declaration of interests prior to this meeting. The Chairman enquired whether any Members had to make declarations of interests immediately. No Member made a declaration of interests immediately.

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 11th Meeting held on 22.10.2025

3. The Chairman stated that the Secretariat had not received any proposed amendment prior to this meeting. The Chairman enquired whether Members had to put forth proposed amendments immediately. No Member put forth a proposed amendment immediately. Members unanimously endorsed the minutes.

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

4. The Chairman stated that there were no matters arising from the minutes of the

previous meeting.

5. The Chairman said that as the paper of the next agenda item was submitted by him and the Vice Chairman among other Members, the Chairman of the TWDC had appointed Mr YAU Kam-ping to stand in as the Acting Chairman. He therefore would pass the chair to the Acting Chairman to preside over the meeting.

IV Item 3: Concern about the Problem of Online Shopping Parcels Being Piled Up Haphazardly in Tsuen Wan District

(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 26/25-26)

6. The Acting Chairman stated that the paper was submitted by Mr MOK Yuen-kwan, Mr WONG Wai-kit, Mr KOO Yeung-pong, Mr WONG Kai-chun, Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum, Mr KOT Siu-yuen, Ms WAH Mei-ling, Mr CHENG Chit-pun, Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Mr TSANG Tai, Mr CHOW Sum-ming, Mr CHAN Chun-chung and Mr LAU Chung-kong. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr CHAN Tsz-choi, Chief Health Inspector (Tsuen Wan)¹ (Acting) (CHI(TW)¹ (Atg.)), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD);
- (2) Mr CHENG Ka-fai, Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yin & Tsuen Wan 9 (HM/WTT9), Housing Department (HD); and
- (3) Mr CHEUNG Chak-ho, Alex, Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (ADO(TW)), Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO).

7. Mr MOK Yuen-kwan, Mr KOT Siu-yuen, Mr CHOW Sum-ming, Ms LAM Yuen-pun and Mr CHAN Chun-chung introduced the paper.

8. CHI(TW)¹ (Atg.) of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) when maintaining environmental hygiene and controlling hawking activities in streets, the FEHD would accord priority to addressing any conduct causing obstruction to street cleaning and the problem of shop front extension involving illegal hawking. Regarding the situation of online shopping parcels being piled up haphazardly in public places, it was difficult to directly instigate prosecution under the prevailing legislation against illegal hawking or indiscriminate disposal of waste because on the one hand, the parcels in question were private properties and on the other, the aim of stacking such parcels was neither to extend the business area of shop premises nor to engage in illegal hawking;
- (2) under the existing legal framework, the FEHD had adopted a targeted law

enforcement strategy that prioritised the tools and equipment utilised by logistics companies for the handling and stacking of parcels. If miscellaneous articles such as handcarts and pallets were found to have caused obstruction in public places and hindered the street cleansing operations carried out by the FEHD, the FEHD would issue a “Notice to Remove Obstruction” in accordance with relevant regulations to require the owner to remove the articles concerned within a specified period. Over the past three months, the FEHD had removed a total of eight handcarts and two pallets; and

- (3) the FEHD would step up inspections at black spots of parcels being piled up at different time slots with a view to ensuring public environmental hygiene. It would also actively implement promotional and educational campaigns targeted at the public and, where necessary, jointly conduct enforcement operations with other departments concerned.

9. HM/WTT9 of the HD responded that the HD had received complaints about stacking of parcels within the areas of Lei Muk Shue (II) Estate, Cheung Shan Estate and Shek Wai Kok Estate. The HD would handle such cases according to established procedures, whereby security personnel or staff of respective estate offices would post notices on parcels piled up in a haphazard fashion, requiring the owners to remove the articles concerned within a reasonable time. If the owners concerned failed to take follow-up actions within the specified period, the HD would move the parcels to storage rooms and issue warnings to such owners when they came to claim their parcels.

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

- (1) a Member pointed out that a large number of express parcels had been piled up on the pavement outside Lung Tang Court in Tsing Lung Tau last month, causing serious obstruction to the pedestrian walkway and making it difficult for residents to pass through. Some residents had even casually discarded the packaging from their goods onto the ground after unpacking, creating a vicious cycle of “more parcels generating more waste”. This not only increased the burden on cleaning workers but also adversely affected the cityscape;
- (2) a Member enquired about the specific duration of the HD’s “reasonable time” for handling unauthorised parcels placed in public places. Citing the recent situation at Lei Muk Shue Estate as an example, the Member pointed out that many express parcels had been piled up at the open space near Lei Muk Shue Estate Block 3 and Lei Muk Shue Catholic Primary School. As the open

space was also used as a car park, the quantity of parcels piled up at the location had already caused obstruction to parking of vehicles. The Member suggested that the HD should instruct security personnel to immediately handle the issue according to the relevant procedures when they identified similar situations during patrols;

- (3) a Member considered that the current handling approaches adopted by various departments were merely stopgap measures that failed to iron out the problem completely. With online shopping becoming increasingly popular in Hong Kong, the problems concerned would only persist or even worsen. Therefore, the Member urged the departments concerned to formulate long-term plans as quickly as possible to tackle the problems;
- (4) a Member said that online shopping had become an irreversible consumer trend. The photos attached to the Annex only reflected the stacking of parcels on ordinary days. During peak shopping seasons such as Christmas and Lunar New Year, the number of parcels would increase inevitably and sharply, and it was anticipated that the situation would become more serious then. Therefore, it was necessary to formulate relevant policies and management measures at an early stage to cope with peak periods of online shopping in the future; and
- (5) a Member pointed out that the problem of parcels being piled up outside private housing estates was particularly serious, possibly because recipients had not established a routine of making proper arrangements for collecting their parcels. The Member proposed to guide residents in adjusting their habits to proactively make proper arrangements for parcel collection through public education alongside specific measures, such as increasing the cost and difficulty associated with claiming parcels for recipients by moving parcels not collected in time to more distant designated public facilities for storage, thereby reducing the situation of parcels being piled up haphazardly.

11. CHI(TW)1 (Atg.) of the FEHD responded that the online shopping parcels being piled up haphazardly were private properties containing personal particulars. If these parcels were removed and temporarily stored in accordance with standard procedures, the owners might face prosecution when they reclaimed their parcels in the future, given that their items had previously caused obstruction in public places. Consequently, unexpected disputes might arise. In the meantime, the FEHD agreed that it was necessary to jointly explore ways to optimise the relevant policies with other departments so as to regulate logistics companies and prevent unauthorised placement of parcels in public areas.

12. HM/WTT9 of the HD responded that the HD would not handle unauthorised placement of parcels within the area of public rental housing (PRH) estates within 48 hours after the posting of a notice. If owners failed to remove such items within the deadline, the HD would move the items concerned to a storage room and issue warnings to owners when they came to reclaim them, requiring them not to place their items in an improper manner again. Moreover, when couriers visited a block for delivering items to flats therein, the HD had all along been requiring all visitors (including couriers) to register at the ground floor lobby when they entered the building. It also required security companies to strictly enforce this registration procedure to ensure the safety of residents.

13. The views of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) a Member proposed imposing penalties, such as fines and suspension of licence, on logistics companies for non-compliance. These companies were facing a surging demand for delivery services because some e-commerce platforms had offered “free shipping” for promotion. Concurrently, these companies had not received adequate subsidies from shippers and were fraught with the problem of manpower shortage. As a result, they had resorted to unauthorised occupation of public places to store the parcels for extended periods. Logistics companies should negotiate with shippers for seeking reasonable resources, while the government departments tasked with the issuance of licences (such as those responsible for business registration, freight forwarding and storage) should strengthen the supervision; and
- (2) a Member pointed out that if the problem of parcels being piled up haphazardly in public places could not be tackled promptly, the situation might escalate and even result in circumstances akin to those observed on the pavement at Lo Tak Court, which had been persistently occupied by parcels on Sundays. Understanding that the FEHD and HD encountered difficulties in law enforcement with the existing authority empowered but still spared no effort to address the issue, the Member therefore proposed inclusion of the problem in the TWDO’s “District-led Actions Scheme” (DAS) to explore more effective long-term solutions through inter-departmental collaboration.

14. The Acting Chairman pointed out that regarding the problem of unauthorised placement of parcels within the area of PRH estates managed by the HD, the HD might exercise greater flexibility in handling such cases at its discretion depending on the circumstances. Nevertheless, in areas which were not under the management of

government departments (such as public streets), the FEHD should exercise greater caution in law enforcement to avoid conflict with parcel owners concerning ownership of property or disputes over loss of property due to removal of parcels which were private properties.

15. ADO(TW) of the TWDO responded that the existing DAS was implemented to primarily address district issues such as illegally parked bicycles, abandoned vehicles and shop front extensions, etc. It had not yet extended to cover street obstruction caused by online shopping parcels that were piled up haphazardly in public places. The TWDO noted Members' concern and would explore with other departments concerned the feasibility of including this agenda item in the DAS.

16. The views of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) a Member agreed that enforcement efforts should focus on logistics companies or transporters rather than recipients of parcels, stating that the prevailing legislation enforced by the FEHD was insufficient to address the situation. Given that the problem might worsen further during the holiday season, the Member suggested that this agenda item should be included in the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting so that Members could continuously follow up on the progress of improvement;
- (2) a Member suggested drawing on the experience in the Mainland to install fee-based designated parcel collection racks or smart lockers at suitable locations (such as exits/entrances of housing estates) for rental by logistics companies. This arrangement could bring additional income to the housing estates concerned, facilitate parcel collection by residents and effectively tackle the problem of parcels being piled up haphazardly in public places. The Member suggested that the FEHD and TWDO should take the initiative to coordinate with major logistics service operators and owners' corporations to implement this commercial solution; and
- (3) a Member pointed out that, based on the experience of district work, although installation of smart lockers (such as self-service lockers of SF Express installed at Lei Muk Shue Shopping Centre) was a feasible solution, these smart lockers were often unable to meet the substantial logistics demand due to their volume constraint and could not thoroughly solve the problem. Therefore, the root cause of the problem lied in the relentless reduction of upstream delivery fees (for example, there had been a significant reduction of delivery fee from about \$8 per parcel in the past to \$2-3 at present), resulting in a sharp decline in the earnings of frontline couriers and

aggravating the manpower shortage. The Member proposed addressing the problem at the source of the industry chain by negotiating with distribution and logistics service operators for provision of reasonable operating conditions. The Member also suggested that the departments concerned (such as the HD and FEHD) should enhance collaboration to jointly plan and install an adequate number of smart lockers and self-service points at the community level.

17. The Acting Chairman advised the FEHD and HD to consider the various views and suggestions put forward by Members regarding the problem of online shopping parcels being piled up and explore the feasibility of referring this matter to the District Management Committees for follow-up. He also stated that the discussion on this agenda item would continue under the Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting at the next meeting.

18. The Chairman resumed the chair.

V Item 4: Lunar New Year Fair at Sha Tsui Road Playground in Tsuen Wan
(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 27/25-26)

19. The Chairman stated that the paper was submitted by the FEHD. The representative from the department attending the meeting was Miss KWONG Suet-yi, Senior Health Inspector (Hawker) Tsuen Wan (SHI(H)TW), FEHD.

20. SHI(H)TW of the FEHD introduced the paper.

21. The Chairman recognised the FEHD's continuous efforts in enhancing the Lunar New Year Fair (LNYF) held at Sha Tsui Road Playground in Tsuen Wan over the years. He pointed out that the aforesaid LNYF had been the lunar new year event with the second most patronage across the territory, only surpassed by the one in Victoria Park. The FEHD had continuously carried out promotional and improvement work for years, such as installation of large LED display screens, enhanced refuse clearance and implementation of crowd control measures, which had effectively improved the environmental hygiene of the venue and ensured the operation of the activity in an orderly manner. The FEHD had also assisted in combating illegal hawking in surrounding areas (such as Lo Tak Court). The Chairman looked forward to the forthcoming LNYF and encouraged Members to assist in promoting the event at the site to attract greater public participation.

VI Item 5: Information Paper

Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District (1 October 2025 to 20 November 2025)

(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 28/25-26)

22. Members noted the content of the captioned paper.

VII Item 6: Information Paper

Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District

(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 29/25-26)

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

- (1) a Member pointed out that the number of rodents caught recently had doubled when compared with that in the same period last year, and that residents in areas around Heung Wo Street had lodged numerous complaints about the aggravated rodent problem. The Member asked whether the increase in the number of rodents caught was due to the FEHD's enhanced anti-rodent technologies and effectiveness or the actual increase in the number of rodents in the district; and
- (2) in response to the infected cases of chikungunya fever (CF) recently recorded in Tsing Yi, a Member urged the FEHD to strengthen the anti-mosquito work in the district and at other locations with severe mosquito infestation.

24. CHI(TW)1 (Atg.) of the FEHD responded that the increase in the number of rodents caught was mainly due to the FEHD's provision of additional manpower and resources to the overnight rodent control roving teams, which had significantly boosted the operational effectiveness. Regarding the problem of mosquito infestation in the district, despite the onset of the winter season, the FEHD would continue to closely monitor specific locations with severe mosquito infestation and ensure the adequacy of the anti-mosquito measures, with a view to addressing the risk of infectious diseases such as CF.

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

- (1) regarding the local infection cases of CF which were recorded recently, those patients had all visited the Tsing Yi Nature Trails. A Member pointed out that although the Area Gravidtrap Index for *Aedes albopictus* (AGI) in Tsing Yi had not shown high figures previously, there had already been an accumulation of six local cases of CF recorded in Tsing Yi. On the contrary, no related cases had been recorded in Ma Wan where the AGI had been relatively high for a long time, showing that the AGI might not fully predict

or reflect the actual transmission risk of CF;

- (2) a Member commended the FEHD for its proactive efforts in anti-mosquito work even in winter. The Member also observed that the effectiveness of mosquito control had been improved after the FEHD had applied pesticides in areas around Tsuen King Circuit Playground. The Member therefore suggested that the FEHD extend its anti-mosquito work to private housing estates, such as the slopes near Phase 2 of Allway Gardens and the vicinity of the 5-a-side soccer pitch in Tsuen King Circuit Playground, and continue to strengthen the anti-mosquito measures, such as applying pesticides, to control the mosquito infestation; and
- (3) a Member enquired whether the data on “the number of adult mosquitoes” as reflected in the AGI included a detailed breakdown differentiating the number of *Aedes albopictus* from that of other species of mosquitoes.

26. CHI(TW)1 (Atg.) of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the AGI served as a key reference indicator for assessing the density of *Aedes albopictus* and the transmission risk of related diseases. The FEHD would closely monitor the AGI of all survey areas in Tsuen Wan (including the town centre and Ma Wan). If the AGI of any survey area was found to be relatively high (for example, the AGI recorded in Ma Wan in mid-2025 had reached the alert level), the FEHD would immediately step up the anti-mosquito work as well as the public education and publicity on mosquito control at the location concerned;
- (2) a multi-pronged strategy was required for mosquito prevention and control. In addition to the routine anti-mosquito work carried out by the FEHD throughout the year, the public should also actively cooperate by clearing stagnant water at home to curb mosquito breeding at source. Simultaneously, the FEHD would proactively liaise with property management companies of private housing estates and provide advice on mosquito prevention and control in response to complaints or referrals received. The FEHD would also step up anti-mosquito work at public areas around housing estates having regard to the circumstances to further enhance the effectiveness of mosquito control; and
- (3) the FEHD stated that the AGI only tracked the number of *Aedes albopictus*.

VIII Adjournment of Meeting

27. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled for 11 February 2026 (Wednesday) and the deadline for submission of papers was 27 January

2026 (Tuesday).

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

18 December 2025