

(Translation)

Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (6/2025-26)

Date: 11 February 2026

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

Ms CHAN Shun-shun

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)<sup>1</sup>  
(Acting), Food and Environmental Hygiene  
Department

Mr CHAN Yip-wai, Edward

Senior Environmental Protection Officer  
(Regional West)<sup>2</sup>, 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 2

Mr CHENG Ka-fai	Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 9, Housing Department
-----------------	---

#### For discussion of item 3

Ms KU Shuk-ye	Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 7, Housing Department
---------------	---

#### For discussion of item 4

Mr WONG Chak-man	Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 1, Drainage Services Department
------------------	--

## I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee.

2. The Chairman stated that no Member had applied for absence from this meeting.
3. 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 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 10.12.2025

4. 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.

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 Tsuen Wan District Council 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.

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

### Paragraphs 6 to 18 of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10.12.2025: Concern about the Problem of Online Shopping Parcels Being Piled Up Haphazardly in Tsuen Wan District

6. The Acting Chairman stated that 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 Yi & 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. CHI(TW)1 (Atg.) of the FEHD said that since the last meeting, no updated instructions had been received from the FEHD Headquarters regarding the handling of online shopping parcels piled up in a haphazard fashion in public places. As the online shopping parcels in question were private properties, it was difficult to directly take law enforcement actions in accordance with the prevailing prosecution procedures against illegal extension of the business area of shop premises or indiscriminate disposal of waste. The FEHD was therefore exploring suitable solutions to tackle the problem. In the meantime, the FEHD would continue to carry out patrols and strengthen cleansing services in the district at different periods, as well as conduct publicity and education programmes for shop operators. From September 2025 to January 2026, the FEHD had removed a total of 14 handcarts and 9 plywood carts for causing obstruction to street cleaning work as a deterrent.

8. HM/WTT9 of the HD responded that no new complaints had been received regarding obstruction caused to public space within the area of the relevant public rental housing (PRH) estates by parcels since the last meeting. If any miscellaneous articles were found placed haphazardly, the HD would take follow-up actions according to relevant guidelines and procedures.

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

- (1) a Member was concerned that unauthorised placement of parcels was frequent at pick-up/drop-off points of minibuses and had caused serious street obstruction. The Member pointed out that when removal companies placed furniture, which were likewise private properties, on the street and caused obstruction, enforcement actions would be taken against them. The Member therefore enquired why the FEHD was unable to invoke the relevant legislation to take enforcement actions against or remove concerned online shopping parcels piled up in public places for a prolonged period;
- (2) a Member said that some logistics companies were exploiting loopholes by piling up parcels in public areas near PRH estates (such as Fuk Loi Lane), and such practice might increase the risk of personal data leakage. The Member also enquired about the locations where the FEHD had previously removed handcarts and plywood carts, and suggested that the Police should pay attention to whether the parcels involved any dangerous goods;
- (3) a Member reflected that the situation of haphazard stacking of parcels at the entrance of some private housing estates (such as Lung Tang Court and Sea Crest Villa) had been deteriorating. Although the property management companies (PMCs) concerned had attempted to negotiate with the logistics companies in question, the effectiveness had been limited. The Member enquired whether PMCs could report such cases to the Police;
- (4) a Member queried the reason of handling cases differently. If goods of market stalls were placed in public areas, such practice might be regarded as illegal shop front extension for hawking and was subject to regulation. However, if large quantities of parcels were piled up in public areas by logistics companies, which was similar in nature as the abovementioned practice, such act could not be regulated under the provisions of the same ordinances. The Member opined that the problem of parcels piled up haphazardly at different locations involved varying degrees of non-compliance and urged the FEHD not to refuse to follow up on grounds that individual cases differ in nature or that there was a lack of relevant legislation;

- (5) a Member said that, at many housing estates (such as Rivera Gardens, Waterside Plaza and Pavilia Bay), the number of parcels piled up had been increasing and the area of stacking up such parcels was expanding. The Member worried that this kind of operating model without the need to rent a warehouse would lead to the elimination of law-abiding service operators and encourage imitation. Besides, the Member pointed out that the FEHD had to clear the parcels left in public places by logistics companies, it was tantamount to using public funds to bear the consequences of commercial activities; and
- (6) a Member considered that the FEHD's current practice of clearing away pallets and refuse left by logistics companies was like "finishing up" the work for them, which would in fact encourage others to follow. The Member recommended that the FEHD consider imposing fines on offenders instead of merely clearing the affected locations to strengthen the deterrent effect.

10. CHI(TW)1 (Atg.) of the FEHD responded that although no updated instructions had been received from the FEHD Headquarters regarding the handling of online shopping parcels piled up haphazardly in public places, the FEHD would continue to follow up relevant complaints flexibly in accordance with the existing legislation. The FEHD acknowledged that the problem had not been reduced since December 2025. Owing to the lack of regulations specifically addressing the problem of stacking parcels, the FEHD staff could only follow the procedures used for handling large furniture illegally deposited and take enforcement actions under the provisions regarding "obstruction to scavenging operations". The FEHD aimed to achieve a deterrent effect by removing the equipment used by logistics companies. Regarding the litter left behind after parcels were opened, the FEHD would deploy additional staff to conduct patrols and step up enforcement to prevent members of the public from casually discarding rubbish in public places for the sake of convenience, which would adversely affect environmental hygiene.

11. HM/WTT9 of the HD responded that PRH estates building supervisors and security personnel would conduct regular patrols to public places in PRH estates, tackling the problem of unauthorised placement of miscellaneous articles at source. The HD would continue to handle miscellaneous articles illegally deposited in public places according to the existing guidelines. It would also strengthen education and publicity efforts among residents through display of notices, publication of the Estate Newsletter, electronic media and so on, to call on cooperation from residents to avoid causing obstruction to public spaces.

12. ADO(TW) of the TWDO responded that the TWDO had discussed improvement measures with the enforcement departments concerned after the last meeting. However, the effectiveness of law enforcement under the existing legislation was limited due to the constraints imposed by the remits of various departments. The TWDO would continue to closely monitor the situation and explore feasible solutions with law enforcement departments. Regarding the concern about dangerous goods as mentioned by Members, the TWDO suggested that members of the public should immediately contact the Police for assistance if they encountered any suspicious situations. Members' views would also be conveyed to the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) for further follow-up action.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had conveyed Members' views to the HKPF by email on 10 March 2026.)

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

- (1) a Member suggested that flexible interim measures could be implemented in the meantime to alleviate the problem when discussion on solutions by the departments concerned was underway. For example, messages could be displayed at black spots of unauthorised placement of parcels, stating that unauthorised placement of parcels was prohibited and subject to a fine, so as to demonstrate the Government's commitment and its proactive stance in addressing the issue;
- (2) a Member agreed to strengthen education and publicity efforts, indicating that, in addition to solving the problem of causing obstruction to public streets, the public should also be reminded that leakage of personal data printed on parcels might increase the risk of frauds. The Member cited Allway Gardens as an example, stating that the problem of parcels piled up haphazardly had reduced following publicity efforts in the housing estate. Members believed that if the FEHD could incorporate the operations of removing handcarts with publicity campaigns, it might encourage logistics companies to take the initiative to collaborate with PMCs to ameliorate the problem; and
- (3) a Member said that with the rainy season approaching, a large quantity of paper parcels placed haphazardly in open areas might be damaged during heavy rain. The Member therefore suggested that the HD should make effective use of vacant shops in the shopping centres of PRH estates, leasing them to consolidator companies on short-term tenancies as self-pickup stores

for online shopping parcels.

14. CHI(TW)1 (Atg.) of the FEHD said that the FEHD would actively consider Members' suggestions, including posting messages at black spots of unauthorised placement of parcels and reminding residents to avoid causing environmental nuisance when collecting their parcels. Regarding the case of Allway Gardens as mentioned by Members, the FEHD would closely monitor the situation to prevent couriers from indiscriminately piling up parcels in housing estates, and hoped to extend this successful experience to other locations.

15. HM/WTT9 of the HD responded that some shops in Lei Muk Shue Estate were currently used as self-pickup points for online shopping parcels. As for the proposal of leasing vacant shops to consolidator companies, the HD needed to conduct a careful assessment to see whether such an arrangement would create vicious competition for existing tenants. The HD would actively study the proposal of setting up self-pickup stores in other PRH estates with a view to tackling the problem of parcels piled up haphazardly at source.

16. a Member enquired about the standards of and difficulties in taking enforcement actions against the problem of unauthorised placement of parcels under the provisions of relevant ordinances regarding "illegal extension of business by shops". The Member questioned why shops in the vicinity of a wet market were subject to regulation of such ordinances which, however, could not be applied to regulate the practice of placing parcels on the streets by logistics companies. From the perspective of the general public, the practice of piling up parcels in public places by logistics companies was no different from illegal extension of business by shops. If the problem of unauthorised placement of parcels was not addressed at an early stage, it might encourage other sectors (such as the retail industry) or even business operators without physical shops to follow suit by placing their goods on the streets, thereby aggravating the problem of obstruction to public places.

17. CHI(TW)1 (Atg.) of the FEHD responded that the key to law enforcement in accordance with the provisions of relevant ordinances against "illegal extension of business by shops" lied in whether a direct connection between the goods and the shop in question could be proved. However, as the recipient's name would often be printed on an online shopping parcel, it might not be possible to prove that there was a direct connection between the parcel and the logistics company concerned. For this reason, there would be certain difficulties in taking law enforcement actions.

18. A Member queried the FEHD's statement, opining that the FEHD should not disregard other clues that could assist in tracing the connection between the parcel and the logistics company concerned merely because the recipient's name was printed on the parcel. The Member pointed out that a parcel would also bear the name of the logistics company in addition to that of the recipient. Theoretically, this should be sufficient to prove that there was a kind of connection between the goods and the company, which could then be served as a basis to pursue legal responsibility.

19. The Acting Chairman advised the FEHD provide a written reply to the questions raised by Members and decided to include the agenda item under Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting for discussion at the next meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The FEHD provided supplementary information after the meeting, stating that online shopping was an emerging economic activity, but the problems it caused currently fell outside the scope of the statutory regulation of the FEHD. The FEHD was primarily responsible for addressing environmental hygiene issues such as illegal hawking or littering. As parcels were private properties belonging to the third parties, there were at present no specific regulatory measures in place. Nevertheless, the FEHD would take enforcement actions against offenders in accordance with the law if it had detected unlawful behaviours, such as unauthorised placement of handcarts by courier companies when delivering goods or casual disposal of packaging in streets by members of the public after collecting and unpacking their parcels.)

20. The Chairman resumed the chair.

#### IV Item 3: Concern about the Problem of Illegal Feeding of Feral Pigeons in Tsuen Wan District and the Consequential Nuisance Caused to Residents

(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 30/25-26)

21. The Chairman stated that the paper was submitted by Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum and Ms CHAN Shun-shun. The representative from the department responsible for giving response was Ms KU Shuk-ye, Housing Manager/Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi & Tsuen Wan 7 (HM/WTT7), HD. Besides, the written replies of the HD and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) were tabled at the meeting.

22. Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum and Ms CHAN Shun-shun introduced the paper.

23. The Chairman said that although the HD's Special Squads (SSs) had carried out a

total of 124 proactive patrols in PRH estates in the district, but still failed to detect any illegal feeding activities. On the contrary, some Members were able to capture such incidents within a short period of time, indicating that there were inadequacies regarding the timing and methods of the patrols conducted by the HD. The Chairman recommended the HD review and adjust the schedule, staff deployment and enforcement approach of such patrols, and make effective use of penalties and the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement in Public Housing Estates (the “Marking Scheme”) to enhance the deterrent effect.

24. HM/WTT7 of the HD responded as follows:

- (1) with effect from 1 August 2024, the prohibition on feeding of wild animals had been expanded to cover feral pigeons. Authorised officers from the HD would take immediate enforcement actions within PRH estates. They could directly issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs), with a fine of HK\$5,000, to offenders without giving any prior verbal warnings. If the offender was a tenant of a PRH estate, seven points would be allotted to such offender as a penalty under the Marking Scheme. Tenants who accumulated 16 points within two years would have their tenancy terminated;
- (2) the HD had received a total of six complaints regarding feral pigeons over the past year. Among them, five were lodged from Lei Muk Shue Estate and one from Fuk Loi Estate. The SSs had conducted 124 patrols in PRH estates in the district, targeting three kinds of offences including illegal smoking, indiscriminate disposal of domestic refuse and illegal feeding of wild animals. The past enforcement record of the HD showed that, while no enforcement actions had yet been taken against illegal feeding of wild animals, multiple infractions had been recorded in respect of the other two kinds of offences;
- (3) regarding illegal feeding activities taken place in areas around Lok Shue House and Chung Shue House in Lei Muk Shue Estate, the estate office concerned had, since January 2026, deployed additional security staff to conduct patrols and surveillance at fixed locations during periods of suspected illegal feeding activities, and would make adjustment to the route of patrolling as appropriate. It had also displayed banners at prominent locations inside the PRH estate, as well as strengthened publicity and education in this regard;
- (4) the estate office had arranged for the procurement of “bird repellent” according to the recommendation of the AFCD and planned to put it into use within the coming year. In the meantime, it would step up disinfection of

areas where feral pigeons frequently gathered by using diluted bleach to improve the situation. The estate office had also instructed the cleansing contractor to strengthen the cleaning work at relevant locations; and

- (5) the estate office had arranged for the installation of closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras in early March 2026 to more accurately identify the peak periods of illegal feeding activities and facilitate the law enforcement actions to be taken by the SSs. The HD expected that the impact of illegal feeding activities on residents would gradually reduce through the adoption of multi-pronged measures.

(Post-meeting note: The HD had completed the installation of the relevant CCTV cameras on 25 February 2026 for surveillance of the area between Lok Shue House and Chung Shue House.)

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

- (1) a Member questioned why the SSs failed to secure any prosecutions against offenders of illegal feeding activities despite a total of 124 patrols had already been conducted in PRH estates in the district. The Member opined that the current approach of patrols might be too conspicuous, making them easy for offenders to identify and evade enforcement officers. As a result, enforcement effectiveness was undermined. The Member suggested adopting an enforcement approach similar to that of the FEHD, such as plainclothes patrols;
- (2) a Member pointed out the fact that some Members were able to easily capture illegal feeding activities within a short period, indicating that there might be inadequacies with the current schedule and arrangement of patrols. The Member suggested the HD adjust the patrolling strategy of the SSs; and
- (3) a Member opined that since the SSs were required to handle three kinds of offences at the same time during each patrol, including illegal smoking, indiscriminate disposal of domestic refuse and illegal feeding of wild animals, it would be difficult for them to give equal and adequate attention to all of the offences. The Member suggested that the HD should consider separating patrol tasks and conduct targeted patrols at black spots of illegal feeding of feral pigeons as reported by residents. Besides, the Member enquired whether video footage of illegal feeding activities captured by residents could be used as evidence for future prosecutions. Cases concerning the offence “throwing objects from height” were cited as an example by the Member, stating that relevant videos could be used as

evidence for retrospective enforcement. The Member therefore considered that the submission of such evidence should also be allowed in cases concerning illegal feeding activities. Otherwise, CCTV cameras would serve only as a deterrent and would not assist in bringing prosecutions.

26. HM/WTT7 of the HD responded as follows:

- (1) the SSs were required to address three kinds of offence at the same time during each patrol, including illegal smoking, indiscriminate disposal of domestic refuse and illegal feeding of wild animals. Among the 124 patrols carried out in the past, although no cases of illegal feeding of feral pigeons had been identified, the enforcement records indicated that several prosecutions had been instigated for the other two kinds of offence. If necessary, the HD might provide supplementary information for further clarification;
- (2) regarding Members' suggestion on adjusting the schedule and locations of patrols, the HD had already adjusted the patrol schedule of the SSs twice, having regard to the fact that offenders of illegal feeding might engage in such activities irregularly. The HD was currently arranging for patrols at fixed locations; and
- (3) regarding the enquiry about whether video footage captured by residents could be used as evidence for prosecution, the HD explained that sufficient evidence was required for taking enforcement actions. It was necessary for enforcement officers to be eyewitnesses of illegal feeding activities in which an offender had scattered food for wild animals before they could issue a FPN. The purpose of installing CCTV cameras was to identify the time of illegal feeding activities by offenders, thereby assisting the SSs in planning enforcement operations.

27. The Chairman stated that Members had clearly reported the problem of illegal feeding of feral pigeons in the district and considered that the enforcement actions currently taken in areas around Lok Shue House and Chung Shue House in Lei Muk Shue Estate were not achieving satisfactory results. It was necessary for the HD to seriously review and make adjustment to the time (particularly in the afternoon) and locations of its patrols in order to enhance the enforcement effectiveness.

V Item 4: Concern about the Environmental Hygiene Problems Caused by the Long-term Blockage of the Drains at the Side Lane next to 133 Chuen Lung Street, Tsuen Wan

(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 31/25-26)

28. The Chairman stated that the paper was submitted by Ms HA Wing-ka. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr WONG Chak-man, Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 1 (E/TK1), Drainage Services Department (DSD); and
- (2) Mr CHAN Tsz-choi, CHI(TW)1 (Atg.), FEHD.

Besides, the written replies of the DSD and FEHD were tabled at the meeting.

29. Ms HA Wing-ka introduced the paper.

30. A Member was concerned about the situation of slow drainage of a drain near 133 Chuen Lung Street. The Member also indicated that stagnant water was observed at some drains near the former Lung Wah Theatre and the construction site for drainage works under the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS), and each of these water puddles ranged from about five to ten square centimetres in area. As it would still take a few months to complete the abovementioned works, the Member enquired whether the drainage function of the drains surrounding the works site would be affected during the construction period and whether the problem of stagnant water would thus be aggravated.

31. E/TK1 of the DSD responded as follows:

- (1) upon receipt of the report, the DSD had conducted inspection to the location concerned at once, detecting that there was sewer blockage in the rear lane of 133 Chuen Lung Street and immediately carrying out the clearance work. The sewer in question had since resumed normal drainage;
- (2) regarding the problem of water accumulation on the road surface, the drain at the location concerned belonged to a stormwater drainage system at ground level, which was independent from the treated sewage system. The presence of sewage in stormwater drains might be a consequence of misconnection of foul water pipes to stormwater drains carried out by subdivided unit (SDU) occupants illegally. For such cases, the Buildings Department (BD) and Water Supplies Department would be required to take follow-up actions; and
- (3) as regards the works carried out under the HATS near the former Lung Wah

Theatre, the works primarily involved treatment and optimisation of foul water drains and should not affect the drainage function of stormwater drains on roads under normal circumstances.

32. The views and enquiries of Members were further summarised as follows:
- (1) a Member said that the drainage rectification works in the rear lane of 133 Chuen Lung Street had been completed earlier, and the BD had also required the owners' corporation of the building concerned to reconnect the foul water drains to the proper system. However, sewage and grease were again observed at the location recently. The Member opined that the problem might involve other illegal foul water drain misconnections and requested the departments concerned to investigate the reason of causing the recurrence of sewage accumulation so as to prevent the odour problem at Tsuen Wan harbourfront from recurring;
  - (2) a Member was concerned about the division of labour among various government departments in addressing blockage of drains in rear lanes, pointing out that similar situations were occurring in multiple rear lanes in the district. The Member enquired which department members of the public should contact and request for clearance if a blocked drain was identified, hoping that the division of responsibilities among concerned departments could be clarified;
  - (3) a Member was concerned about whether there were any instances of foul water pipe misconnection in the building at 133 Chuen Lung Street. Indicating that exposed pipes on the building had implied discharge of effluent by some SDU units, the Member proposed stepping up enforcement to reduce the problem. The Member also pointed out that the problem of stagnant water accumulation currently occurring at the location had adversely affected the environmental hygiene of the refuse collection point nearby and therefore, requested the departments concerned to take follow-up actions expeditiously; and
  - (4) a Member pointed out that blockage of stormwater drains had reoccurred less than six months after the completion of the drainage rectification works at the location concerned, the DSD should review the works in question and ascertain whether the blockage was caused by newly accumulated refuse or was related to inadequate drainage capacity of the drains.
33. E/TK1 of the DSD responded as follows:
- (1) regarding Members' concern about the recurrence of the sewage after the

completion of the drainage rectification works carried out in the rear lane of 133 Chuen Lung Street, the DSD explained that drainage systems were interconnected. Therefore, even if the drainage rectification works at the upstream section had been completed, drain blockage occurring at the downstream section or other locations might still cause backflow and rising water level, resulting in the accumulation of sewage again;

- (2) regarding the presence of sewage in stormwater drains, it was necessary for the DSD to carry out further investigation to ascertain whether there was any misconnections between stormwater pipe system and sewage pipe system. Under normal circumstances, stormwater pipe system would be located upstream. Water would only flow from there to sewage pipe system, while backflow of sewage into stormwater pipe system should not take place normally. Therefore, the abovementioned problem might be related to blockages in sewage pipe system. The DSD had strengthened the clearance work at the location concerned, including allocation of major pumps and enhanced clearance of drainage channels to ameliorate the problem; and
- (3) regarding the division of responsibilities among departments for dealing with blocked drains, the DSD explained that the Highways Department (HyD) was responsible for the management and maintenance of drainage systems on road surface (such as grating and drainage sumps along roadsides), while the DSD was responsible for the management of underground drainage channels and pipes. In the case of blockage occurring in rear lanes or on private premises, such cases would be referred to concerned departments for follow-up, depending on the actual circumstances.

34. The Chairman stated that regarding the problem of foul water pipe misconnections related to SDUs as mentioned by Members, the TWDO would assist in conveying the issue to the departments concerned. The Chairman also stated that to tackle the odour problem at Tsuen Wan harbourfront, many works projects (including the rectifications of foul water pipe misconnections in buildings and improvements to drainage facilities) had been carried out in the district over the past years, achieving significant results and substantially reducing the odour problem at Tsuen Wan harbourfront. In case of encountering similar problems in the future, Members might directly approach concerned departments such as the DSD, FEHD and HyD for follow-up actions.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had conveyed Members' views to the BD by email on 10 March 2026.)

VI Item 5: Information Paper

Work Report on Environmental Pollution Control in Tsuen Wan District (1 October 2025 to 31 December 2025)

(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 32/25-26)

35. Members noted the content of the information paper.

VII Item 6: Information Paper

Work Report on Environmental Hygiene in Tsuen Wan District

(TWDC FEHC Paper No. 33/25-26)

36. Members noted the content of the information paper.

VIII Item 7: Any Other Business

37. A Member was concerned about the accumulation of styrofoam waste on streets surrounding Yeung Uk Road Market (such as San Tsuen Street and Tai Uk Street) before the Lunar New Year. The Member noted that the clearance operations carried out last year had achieved satisfactory results, and hoped that the FEHD would continue to monitor and step up its follow-up actions on the abovementioned problem this year.

38. The views of the Chairman were summarised as follows:

- (1) shortly after the opening of the Lunar New Year Fair held at Sha Tsui Road Playground in Tsuen Wan, some people had already raised concern over the inadequate medical facilities at the venue. Recently, a visitor fainted on the premises but was unable to locate the medical room or medical personnel for immediate assistance. The Chairman hoped that the departments concerned would improve the relevant arrangements, so as to cope with any unforeseen incidents that might arise when the visitor flow was high; and
- (2) although the FEHD had implemented various rodent control measures, the situation of rodent infestation appeared to be worsened recently. Such problem was particularly serious at the meat stalls in the market near Tung Cheong Street. The Chairman hoped that the FEHD would further enhance rodent control efforts.

39. Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)<sup>2</sup> of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) reported on the nearshore water quality of Victoria Harbour as follows:

- (1) the problems of water quality and odour nuisance along the waterfront in the district were mainly caused by ageing/damaged drains or foul water pipe misconnections. To address the abovementioned issues, the Chief

Executive had set a target in the 2022 Policy Address to halve the amount of sewage discharged at outfalls in Tsuen Wan, Sham Shui Po and Kowloon City by the end of 2024;

- (2) between 2022 and 2025, the EPD had conducted a total of 1 200 investigations into foul water pipe misconnections, inspected 2 200 manholes as well as tested 600 water samples in the district. As of the end of 2025, the EPD had identified 122 pollution cases with an estimated pollution load equivalent to the discharge generated by 250 000 persons. Through inter-departmental collaboration, the total pollution load had been reduced by 95%;
- (3) the EPD had applied innovative technologies to trace the sources of pollution, including the use of Ground Penetrating Radar to inspect underground pipelines, as well as the deployment of Unmanned Sampling Boat equipped with real-time imaging technology to monitor outfalls and collect samples; and
- (4) regarding odour monitoring, the EPD had installed monitoring devices at Tsuen Wan Sports Centre. Data indicated that the average concentration of hydrogen sulphide, the primary pollutant, had substantially decreased from 36 parts per billion (ppb) in April 2022 to 3 ppb in December 2025, representing a reduction of more than 90%.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had forwarded the supplementary information submitted by the EPD, that is, the Victoria Harbour Nearshore Water Quality Report (Tsuen Wan District), to Members for perusal on 13 February 2026.)

#### IX Adjournment of Meeting

40. The Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled for 22 April 2026 (Wednesday) and the deadline for submission of papers was 2 April 2026 (Thursday).

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

27 February 2026