

**For discussion on  
19 May 2003**

**LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**TEAM CLEAN**

**PURPOSE**

In the wake of the SARS outbreak, Team Clean was set up on the instruction of the Chief Executive to develop and take forward proposals to improve the state of environmental hygiene in Hong Kong. This paper informs Members of the mission, terms of reference, work plan and the strategy of Team Clean.

**MISSION**

2. Team Clean's mission is to establish and promote a sustainable, cross-sectoral approach to improve environmental hygiene in Hong Kong.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

3. The terms of reference of Team Clean are as follows -
- (a) To develop a coherent system and strategy for integrating and augmenting environmental hygiene improvement initiatives across all concerned bureaux and departments in Government. The system and strategy should be capable of sustaining a high level of cleanliness throughout the territory.
  - (b) To determine the relative priorities of areas targeted for improvement action, marshalling as much as possible wider community support, particularly that of the District Councils and NGOs to help tackle these areas.

- (c) To draw up within a period of three weeks a work plan of short-term measures to be taken and to steer and direct the implementation of these measures.
- (d) To establish within a period of three months a sustainable system and a timeframe for implementing the medium- and long-term initiatives.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

4. The membership of Team Clean comprises the following -

Chairman: Chief Secretary for Administration

Full-time members: Head (Team Clean)  
Deputy Head (Team Clean)  
Secretary (Team Clean)  
Assistant Secretary 1 (Team Clean)  
Assistant Secretary 2 (Team Clean)  
Chief Information Officer (Team Clean)

Part-time members: Secretary for Justice  
Permanent Secretary for Education & Manpower  
Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs  
Permanent Secretary for Housing  
Director of Food & Environmental Hygiene  
Director of Health  
Director of Home Affairs  
Director of Information Services  
Director of Buildings  
Director of Drainage Services  
Director of Highways  
Director of Lands  
Director of Planning

Co-opted members: Commissioner of Police  
Commissioner for Transport  
Director of Environmental Protection  
Director of Fire Services  
Director of Electrical & Mechanical Services  
Director of Water Supplies  
Land Registrar

## WORK PLAN

5. The overall work plan of Team Clean is set out below -

May (1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> week)	Drawing up of short-term measures
May (4 <sup>th</sup> week)	Announcement of short-term measures
June-July	Implementation of short-term measures
June-July (3 <sup>rd</sup> week)	Drawing up of long-term measures
July (4 <sup>th</sup> week)	Complete implementation of short-term measures
August (1 <sup>st</sup> week)	Announcement of long-term measures

## STRATEGY

6. The following is the strategy adopted by Team Clean in approaching the task of cleaning up Hong Kong -

- (a) Sustainability: Team Clean fully recognizes that improvement initiatives recommended must be sustainable. One-off campaigns can achieve some success but the achievements are limited and the effects not lasting. To clean up Hong Kong for good, the improvements must be both thorough and sustainable.
- (b) Early results: Team Clean considers that the attainment of early results is necessary for meeting community expectation, inspiring public confidence in Government's determination and ability to improve public hygiene and sustaining the new-found momentum in the community for determined Government action to clean up the city.

- (c) New approach: we are aware of the long-standing environmental problems in rear lanes, private streets and old tenement buildings. The solutions to these problems require a novel approach. We believe strongly that to resolve these perennial problems, the Administration must be prepared to break new policy grounds and abandon traditional demarcation of responsibilities in Government.
- (d) Establishing a model: through the implementation of pilot schemes in the short term plan, Team Clean will repeat the successful modus operandi in tackling similar problems in the longer term.
- (e) Community involvement: the hygiene and cleanliness of a city can only be maintained with the support of its people. Any undertaking relying on Government efforts alone is doomed to failure. To ensure that our success is lasting, the Administration will encourage community participation in taking forward the various improvement measures.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

7. Members are invited to comment on the contents of this paper and give their views on improvement measures to be taken, in particular suggestions for promoting community participation.

Team Clean Secretariat  
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office  
15 May 2003