

**Subcommittee on
Sewage Services (Sewage Charge) (Amendment) Regulation 2007,
Sewage Services (Trade Effluent Surcharge) (Amendment) Regulation 2007 and
Technical Memorandum on Procedures and Methods for Sampling and Analysis
of Trade Effluents**

First meeting on 19 April 2007

List of follow-up actions to be taken by the Administration

1. To facilitate members' consideration of the proposed increase of the cost recovery rate for sewage services from about 54% to about 80% in 10 years' time, the Administration is requested to provide the following information:
 - (a) The cost recovery rates in fee-charging of other government services which operate under the user-pays principle;
 - (b) A detailed breakdown on comparison of the operating costs for sewage services under the existing sewage treatment facilities and upon implementation of Stage 2A and Stage 2B of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS);
 - (c) A breakdown of the amount of operating costs to be recovered under the proposed increase in Sewage Charge rates in the coming 10-year period by various sewage treatment schemes, including the amount of operating costs for Stage 2A to be recovered over the 10-year period;
 - (d) The effect of sewage treatment and improvements in reducing the pollutant levels of sewage discharge i.e. the level of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (in particular, the level of *E.coli* which is an indicator of disease-causing organisms and the level of other bacteria) achieved by the present facilities and those to be provided under HATS Stage 2A and Stage 2B; and
 - (e) The need for and the effects of chlorination/dechlorination when the Administration proceeds with HATS Stage 2B.
2. To address members' concern about the Administration's commitment to implementing HATS Stage 2B, the Administration is requested to provide information on the following:
 - (a) The rationale for reviewing the timing for implementation of HATS Stage 2B in 2010-11;
 - (b) The objective and parameters of the review as well as factors for consideration in the review;

- (c) The proposed thresholds, if any, on population changes, which the Administration will have regard to in considering the timing to take forward HATS Stage 2B; and
- (d) Preparatory work for Stage 2B to be undertaken from now till the conduct of the review in 2010-11, including the latest projection of the capital costs and operating costs for Stage 2B and the earliest possible date for resolving the land issues relating to the site at Stonecutters Island earmarked for the biological treatment plant under HATS Stage 2B.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
23 April 2007