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Panel on Environmental Affairs

Setting up of the Subcommittee on Combating Fly-tipping

Purpose

This paper seeks the views of the Panel on Environmental Affairs (the Panel) on the setting up of the Subcommittee on Combating Fly-tipping (the Subcommittee) as suggested by Hon LEE Wing-tat at the Panel meeting on 23 February 2009.

Background

2. The problem of fly-tipping has all along been a public concern, as evidenced by the increasing number of complaints against depositing of inert construction and demolition (C&D) materials on private land. Given the inadequacy of the existing regulatory regime in controlling fly-tipping, particularly under the disguise of land filling activities, many parts of the New Territories have become dumping grounds, causing unacceptable impacts on the surrounding.

3. To enable more focused discussion on Government's efforts in tackling fly-tipping, Hon LEE Wing-tat suggested setting up a Subcommittee on Combating Fly-tipping under the Panel.

Proposed Terms of Reference of the Subcommittee

4. "To review the existing policies on enforcement against fly-tipping and suggest improvement measures as and when necessary."

Proposed work plan

5. The Subcommittee will focus its work on the following major areas –
- (a) To examine and review the existing legislation against fly-tipping and other destructive activities, particularly felling of trees, with a view to altering the land use of sites, such as nature conservation zones and green zones, with high ecological value; and

- (b) To review the jurisdictions of and administrative measures adopted by individual Government departments in combating fly-tipping and destructive activities referred to in (a).

Proposed time frame for completion of work

6. The Subcommittee is expected to complete its work within the current legislative session. A report on the work of the Subcommittee will be submitted to the Panel before the end of the session.

Advice sought

7. Members are invited to decide on the setting up the Subcommittee and if so, the proposed Terms of Reference and work plan of the Subcommittee.

8. Subject to members' endorsement, the Secretariat will make arrangements for the first meeting and invite Panel members to signify membership for the Subcommittee.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
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