Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

List of outstanding items for discussion

(position as at 6 October 2014)

Subject

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Reprovisioning of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's Sai Yee Street Environmental Hygiene Offices-cum-Vehicle Depot to Yen Ming Road, West Kowloon reclamation area

November 2014

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration will brief the Panel on its proposal to reprovision the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's Sai Yee Street Vehicle Depot to Yen Ming Road, West Kowloon Reclamation Area. Upon completion of the new vehicle depot, the existing Sai Yee Street Vehicle Depot will be demolished and the site returned to the Lands Department.

2. Food and Environmental Hygiene Department Refuse Collection Point within a Residential Development at Fuk Wa Street/Fuk Wing Street/Camp Street Site, Shamshuipo, Kowloon November 2014

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration will brief the Panel on its proposal regarding the in-situ reprovisioning of a permanent Refuse Collection Point ("RCP") at Fuk Wa Street/Fuk Wing Street/Camp Street site, as the existing temporary RCP site and the adjacent Fuk Wa Street/Fuk Wing Street site will be combined to form a larger site for housing development.

3. Promoting safe and proper use of pesticides

November 2014

The following issues are referred by the Subcommittee on Pesticides Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 1) Notice 2014 to this Panel for follow-up -

Proposed timing for discussion

- (a) provision of the trade's Codes of Practice on the safe and proper use of pesticides by the Food and Health Bureau to the Education Bureau as well as the Labour and Welfare Bureau for their onward distribution to schools and elderly care homes with a view to promoting safe and proper use of pesticides in these places; and
- (b) progress of the follow-up actions to further promote the safe and proper use of pesticides undertaken by the Administration during the scrutiny of the Pesticides (Amendment) Bill 2013 (see details in paragraphs 12 to 18 of the report of the Subcommittee to the House Committee (LC Paper No. CB(2)1504/13-14)).

The Administration proposes to update the Panel in November 2014.

4. Management of stray cattle

December 2014

At the meeting on 8 April 2014, members noted that the Administration had provided a written response to Hon Claudia MO's letter dated 17 March 2014 on the programme launched by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to relocate stray cattle on Lantau Island and in Sai Kung. Hon MO considered that the subject of management of stray cattle including the aforementioned programme should be followed up by the Panel at a future meeting. She also expressed the hope that deputations would be invited to give views.

The Administration proposes to brief the Panel in December 2014 on the strategy adopted by the Government in tackling the issue of stray cattle.

Proposed timing for discussion

5. Development of sustainable agriculture

January to March 2015

At the special meeting on 21 January 2013, members expressed concern about the lack of a policy on the development of agriculture and dissatisfaction with the Administration's assistance available to the operators of organic farms. The Panel also received a letter dated 26 July 2013 from Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG, a non-Panel member, raising his concerns about the Government's policy on the development of agriculture in Hong Kong (LC Paper No. CB(2)1695/12-13(01)). The Administration's response to Dr Hon CHEUNG's letter was circulated to members on 9 August 2013 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1695/12-13(02)).

At the meeting on 10 October 2013, the Deputy Chairman and Hon WU Chi-wai requested that the subject of the Government's agricultural policy be discussed at a Panel meeting.

The Administration proposes to brief the Panel on this item in January to March 2015.

6. Further discussion on regulatory control on outside seating accommodation of and unauthorized extension of business area by restaurants

April to June 2015

At the meeting on 10 June 2014, members agreed that the Panel would invite deputations to give views on the subject when it was discussed in future meetings.

7. Improvement of the operating environment of public markets - progress update

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 8 January 2013, the Panel passed a motion moved by Hon WONG Kwok-hing to set up a subcommittee under the Panel to follow up the issue of installation of air-conditioning systems in public markets. On 5 February 2013, members agreed to set

Proposed timing for discussion

up the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets ("the Subcommittee") under the Panel to study and review issues relating to the policy and business environment of public markets, assess the demand for public markets according to the district-based principle, examine the Administration's proposals for the rental adjustment mechanism and air-conditioning charging arrangement for public market stalls and make timely recommendations.

The Subcommittee had held three meetings to meet with the Administration and the consultant appointed by the Administration to develop proposals for improving the operating environment of public markets. The Administration would arrange the consultant to brief the Subcommittee on major findings and recommendations of the consultancy report, tentatively in December 2014.

(Note: As the item will be followed up by the Subcommittee, it will be removed from the list of outstanding items for discussion.)

8. Consultation results of the proposed introduction of the pre-market safety assessment on genetically-modified food

To be confirmed

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the item when ready.

9. Issuance of new Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licence

To be confirmed

Members noted a submission from a member of the public expressing concern about the progress of the issuance of Itinerant (Frozen Confectionery) Hawker Licence tabled at the meeting on 11 March 2014. At

Proposed timing for discussion

the suggestion of Hon WONG Kwok-hing, members agreed that the Panel to follow up on the subject at a future Panel meeting.

10. Public consultation on the proposed regulatory framework governing veterinary drug residues in food and food animals

To be confirmed

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration is considering measures to strengthen control over veterinary drug residues in food and food animals in order to enhance food safety. It plans to launch a public consultation on the proposed regulatory framework in due course.

11. Proposed permanent food safety laboratory

To be confirmed

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration plans to brief the Panel on a proposal to establish a permanent food safety laboratory under the Government Laboratory to further enhance the testing capacity on food safety related analysis.

12. Liquor licensing system in Hong Kong and regulation of upstairs bars

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 10 October 2013, Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG expressed concern about problems caused by upstairs bars and the Liquor Licensing Board's considerations in assessing liquor licence applications from them. She suggested the Panel to continue to follow up the subject.

At the meeting on 8 April 2014, members noted the research report on "Liquor licensing system in selected

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places" prepared by Research Office, Information Services Division of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Secretariat. Hon Tommy CHEUNG suggested the Panel to discuss the subject of liquor licensing system in Hong Kong and to invite deputations from the trade concerned to give views at a future meeting.

13. Safety of food for pet animals

To be confirmed

Item proposed by Hon CHAN Chi-chuen.

At the meeting on 10 October 2013, Hon CHAN Chi-chuen suggested that the subject of the safety of food for pet animals be discussed at a future Panel meeting. Hon CHAN had written a letter to the Panel Chairman in late April 2014 expressing concern about the presence of harmful substances in pet food (LC Paper No. CB(2)1429/13-14(01)). The Administration's response to the issues of concern raised in Hon CHAN's letter was issued to members on 5 May 2014 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1429/13-14(02)).

14. Regulation of cooked meat

To be confirmed

At the special meeting on 3 September 2014, members expressed concern about inadequate regulation over cooked meat and considered that the subject should be followed up by the Panel. The Administration advised that it would review the relevant legislation and seek the views of LegCo Members and the trade. Hon WONG Kwok-hing requested the Administration to provide the Panel with a policy paper on the subject in the 2014-2015 session.

15. Regulating and monitoring the activities of oyster culture in Hong Kong

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 9 February 2010, in the light of the

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concerns raised by Hon WONG Yung-kan, the Chairman suggested that the issue of regulating and monitoring the activities of oyster culture within Hong Kong waters should be discussed by the Panel at a future meeting.

During the discussion of the implementation of the Food Safety Ordinance (Cap. 612) at the meeting on 11 July 2012, Hon WONG Yung-kan expressed worry about the over-expansion of oyster culture in Shenzhen Bay. He urged the Administration to step up the regulatory measures for oyster culture, including the introduction of a licensing mechanism.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
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