

Chairman and Members
Administration

We raise several issues which need to be addressed to reduce waste and increase resource recovery:

1. We need to smarten our strategy. At home we should ask people to separate only into 2: wet waste and clean recyclables. After all kitchens and lift lobbies are small. At estate and district level we need space for sorting and stockpiling recyclables, as the logistics for each type is different.
2. Fixed pitch hawkker licenses are needed for people who scavenge recyclables. Pitch locations need to be identified next to each of the 5,000 RCPs, and elsewhere, so that scavengers can safely receive and stockpile recyclables.
3. Our 5,000 refuse collection points (RCPs) and bin sites need to be turned into resource recovery points. Let me give you one example. Today at every RCP, household waste is collected by FEHD contractor; EPD contractor clears the recycle bins; and any renovation waste dumped next to it is cleared by a contractor from the lands department. Three contractors, three government departments, one RCP.
4. We need to revamp Government. A waste authority must be created combining the waste collection and cleansing of the FEHD including their refuse collection points and vehicles, with the transfer stations, landfills, eco park, and enforcement authority of the EPD. The waste authority should be a trading fund which can receive money from waste charges, penalties and income from resources recovered from recycling.
5. Finally – we need to make haste with a HK\$1 deposit on each plastic bottle; ban polystyrene food packaging and mandate an alternative for the large white polystyrene box used in the vegetable and fish trade.

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