

Urgent by Fax (2543 9197)

本署檔號 Our Ref. : TD SS/152/02-1
來函檔號 Your Ref. : CB4/PAC/R72

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14 November 2019

Mr Anthony Chu
Clerk to Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Chu,

Public Accounts Committee

Consideration of Chapter 1 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 72

Planning, provision and management of public parking spaces

I refer to your letter of 21 October 2019, seeking further information to facilitate the Public Account Committee's consideration of Chapter 1 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 72.

The requested information in English and Chinese is now enclosed for your reference, please.

Yours sincerely,



(LAU Hon-wai, Simon)
for Commissioner for Transport

c.c. Transport and Housing Bureau [Attn: PAS(T)2] Fax No. 3904 1774

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Public Accounts Committee

Consideration of Chapter 1 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 72

Planning, Provision and Management of Public Parking Spaces

Enquiries from Clerk of the Public Accounts Committee dated 21 October 2019

The Administration was requested to provide the following information:

- (a) **According to paragraph 4.28(c) of the Audit Report, Audit considered that cases of non-metered parking spaces occupied by abandoned vehicles or other objects could be detected during the regular surveys to assess the need to install meters so that timely referral could be made to the relevant government departments for follow-up actions. In this regard, please advise whether the Transport Department (“TD”) has taken any measures to deal with such cases. If yes, does TD consider whether such measures are effective as there are still cases of unlawful occupation of parking spaces; if not, why not; and**

Reply

- (a) In response to recommendation in paragraph 4.30(a)(i) of the Audit Report, TD will conduct regular surveys to identify any unlawful occupation of non-metered parking spaces by abandoned vehicles or other objects. The surveys, to be conducted on a half-yearly basis, will commence in December 2019. Should any unlawful occupation of non-metered parking spaces be identified, TD will refer the cases to the relevant government departments promptly for follow-up actions as appropriate. TD will evaluate the effectiveness of the first survey with a view to enhancing the subsequent surveys, which will take place in mid-2020.

- (b) with reference to the reply dated 9 October 2019 from the Commissioner for Transport concerning Item No. 4, please explain the significant increase in the number of cases reported by the contractor to relevant government departments:
- (i) from 2016 to 2017 on:
- obstruction at a metered parking space;
 - a metered parking space occupied by a vehicle which appears to be abandoned or a vehicle with extensive defective bodywork; and
 - occupation of metered parking space by any object other than a vehicle; and
- (ii) from 2016 to 2018 on parking space with rubbish identified.

Reply

- (b) TD's contractor for the management, operation and maintenance of parking meters has all along provided reports on cases involving obstruction / occupation of metered parking spaces by abandoned vehicles / other objects to relevant government departments in accordance with the contract requirements.

In mid-2016, TD conducted a review with the contractor on the monitoring of metered parking spaces. Following the review, the contractor further stepped up its monitoring efforts. More cases were identified and reported to the relevant government departments for necessary action. The number of cases reported to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") was further increased in 2018 due to the significant number of fallen trees/tree branches caused by Typhoon Mangkhut in September that year. In September 2018, a total of 233 cases were reported to FEHD, compared with 16 and 40 cases in the same month of 2016 and 2017 respectively.

***Note by Clerk, PAC:** *See Appendix 13 of this Report for the reply from Commissioner for Transport dated 9 October 2019.*