

Panel on Environmental Affairs

**List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 12 December 2019)**

- | | Proposed timing
for discussion |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Further measures to improve air quality (part 2)</p> <p>The Administration plans to brief the Panel on the proposed further measures to improve air quality, which cover a number of relevant initiatives in the Chief Executive's 2018 and 2019 Policy Addresses, in two parts. Following the briefing on the first part of the proposed measures scheduled for December 2019, the Administration will brief the Panel on the remaining measures in January 2020.</p> | 22 January 2020 |
| <p>2. Creation of a permanent directorate post (Chief Building Services Engineer) to oversee district cooling system ("DCS") projects</p> <p>As announced in the Chief Executive's 2018 Policy Address, the Government is committed to low-carbon development, and will explore the feasibility of providing DCSs in New Development Areas such as Kai Tak, Tung Chung and Kwu Tung North. DCSs are also planned for Hung Shui Kiu and Tung Chung New Town.</p> <p>Given the number and scale of these developments, a directorate officer at D1 rank is needed to oversee the DCS projects and ensure their effective management and timely delivery.</p> <p>The Administration plans to submit the proposal to the Establishment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee in February and March 2020 respectively.</p> | 22 January 2020 |
| <p>3. Food waste collection and delivery arrangements</p> <p>The Administration commenced a study in 2017 to examine and explore the collection and delivery of food waste from households, commercial and industrial premises, and academic and government institutions, with a view to drawing up practical and effective modes of food waste collection and delivery for Hong Kong. The Administration will brief members on the findings of the study and the way forward on food waste collection and delivery arrangements.</p> | 1 st quarter of 2020 |

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. Provision of sewerage network in Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun

1st quarter of 2020

The Administration will seek the Panel's views on the proposed upgrading of the following sewerage projects to Category A:

- (a) 4362DS – Sewerage for Ma Yau Tong Village, Tseung Kwan O, whose aim is to construct sewerage network for village areas in Tseung Kwan O; and
- (b) 4346DS – Upgrading of Tuen Mun sewerage, phase 1, whose aim is to construct sewerage network for village areas in Tuen Mun.

The Administration plans to submit the proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee in the second quarter of 2020.

5. Management of yard waste

1st quarter of 2020

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr CHU Hoi-dick and Dr Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Panel discuss the overall management of yard waste and measures to promote reuse/recycling of such waste, including the contingency arrangements for fallen trees and branches caused by natural disasters.

6. Excessive external lighting and noise pollution

1st quarter of 2020

As suggested by Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr SHIU Ka-fai at the meeting on 30 October 2017, members agreed to discuss the Administration's initiatives to regulate excessive external lighting and noise pollution.

On 12 April 2018 and 6 August 2019, the Panel received two referrals (LC Paper Nos. CB(1)802/17-18(01) and CB(1)1373/18-19(01)) arising from the meetings between Legislative Council Members and Wan Chai District Council members on 26 January 2018 and 28 June 2019 regarding the regulation of external lighting installations.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

7. Control of invasive alien species

2nd quarter of 2020

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr CHAN Han-pan proposed discussion on the measures to cope with the threats of invasive alien species to local habitats, with particular focus on *Mikania micrantha* and *Leucaena leucocephala*.

8. Enhancement of recreational and educational potential of country parks

2nd quarter of 2020

The Administration will brief the Panel on the plan to enhance the recreational and educational potential of country parks for enjoyment of the general public.

At the work plan meeting of the Panel on 4 November 2019, the Chairman suggested that the Administration should brief members on its position on improving the country parks' infrastructure with a view to increasing their accessibility and promoting green tourism. The Deputy Chairman considered that the issue of fire prevention in country parks should be covered under this item.

9. Combating climate change

2nd quarter of 2020

The Administration will update the Panel on the work related to the public engagement on Long-term Decarbonisation Strategy conducted by the Council for Sustainable Development.

As suggested by Mr CHU Hoi-dick at the meeting on 12 October 2017, members agreed that the topic of climate change should be brought up for discussion by the Panel every year. At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr CHU further proposed that the Administration should review its targets and strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions with reference to the findings in the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in October 2018; and Dr Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should brief members on the use of new technologies to combat climate change, thereby contributing to the development of a "smart environment". On 28 March 2019, Dr QUAT wrote to the Chairman (LC Paper No. CB(1)929/18-19(01)) appealing for early discussion of the topic.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

2nd quarter of 2020

10. Waste management

The Administration will brief the Panel on:

- (a) the pilot scheme on collection of waste plastics from non-commercial and non-industrial sources;
- (b) the proposed producer responsibility scheme on plastic beverage containers;
- (c) the outcome of the review of the operation of the Plastic Shopping Bag Charging Scheme; and
- (d) the strategy for involving the community in waste management through Community Green Stations, Community Recycling Centres and outreaching teams.

Regarding the management of waste paper, as suggested by Mr Kenneth LEUNG at the meeting on 12 October 2017, members requested the Administration to step up efforts to reduce paper towel consumption in public toilets. Moreover, Mr HUI Chi-fung wrote to the Chairman on 27 February 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)663/17-18(01)) proposing discussion on the recycling of waste paper, including the Administration's policy on supporting the local recycling of waste paper.

Regarding the management of waste plastics, Mr KWOK Wai-keung wrote to the Chairman on 24 November 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)281/17-18(01)) proposing discussion on the regulation of the manufacturing and sale of products containing microplastics in Hong Kong. The Administration's written response was circulated to members on 15 December 2017 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)360/17-18(01). Mr HUI Chi-fung also wrote to the Chairman on 6 June 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1084/17-18(01)) proposing discussion on the regulation of single-use plastic products.

11. Management of marine fill and marine disposal of dredged/excavated sediment

2nd quarter of 2020

The Administration will brief the Panel on the management of marine fill and disposal of dredged/excavated sediments by the project owners.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

The subject was raised by Mr Steven HO at the meeting on 15 December 2014.

At the meeting on 28 November 2016, Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung suggested the Panel discuss the environmental issues relating to illegal disposal of construction and demolition materials into the sea/river. The Administration advised that these issues could be discussed under this item.

12. Future arrangements for Dedicated Liquefied Petroleum Gas Filling Stations ("DFSs") 2nd quarter of 2020

The Administration will brief the Panel on the future arrangements for DFSs after the expiry of the existing contracts.

13. Enhanced protection of green turtles 4th quarter of 2020

The Administration will seek the Panel's views on the proposed measures to further enhance the protection of green turtles.

At the meeting on 17 October 2019, Mr HUI Chi-fung suggested that the Panel should further discuss the geographical coverage of the Sham Wan Restricted Area, which was designated for the protection of green turtles.

14. Provision of sewerage network in Lantau and Lamma 4th quarter of 2020

The Administration will seek members' views on the proposed upgrading of the following sewerage projects to Category A:

- (a) 4353DS – Outlying Islands sewerage stage 2 – extension of sewerage system to other unsewered villages in Mui Wo, whose aim is to construct sewerage works for village areas in Mui Wo; and
- (b) 4355DS – Outlying Islands sewerage stage 2 – Lamma village sewerage phase 2, package 2, whose aim is to construct sewerage network for village areas in Lamma Island.

The Administration plans to submit the proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee in the second quarter of 2021.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

15. Phase Four of Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme

4th quarter of 2020

The Administration will seek the Panel's views on new appliances to be included in Phase Four of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme.

16. Management of restored landfills

To be confirmed

In his letter to the Chairman dated 25 May 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1023/17-18(01)), Mr Kenneth LEUNG proposed discussion on the captioned subject, including the progress of developing public facilities on the 13 restored landfills, implementation progress of the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme, and issues related to the handling of landfill gas, leachate and uneven ground settlement on the sites concerned.

17. Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury ("the Convention") in Hong Kong

To be confirmed

The Administration will brief the Panel on the strategy for implementing the Convention in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("HKSAR"), including the legislative proposal on regulation of mercury, mercury compounds and mercury-added products for fulfilling HKSAR's obligations effectively.

18. Review of the environmental impact assessment ("EIA") system

To be confirmed

Mr Kenneth LEUNG wrote to the Chairman on 24 November 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(1)202/15-16(01)) proposing discussion on the review of the EIA system, including the arrangements for the conduct of EIAs, public consultation arrangements, and enforcement of the environmental permit conditions. The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)537/15-16(01) on 3 February 2016.

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr Steven HO brought this issue up and suggested that the Administration should improve the transparency of the EIA system and public understanding of EIA reports, in anticipation of public concerns over the

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

environmental impact of future reclamation works. In his letter to the Chairman dated 19 March 2019 (LC Paper No. CB(1)752/18-19(01)), Mr HO further expressed concerns about the ineffectiveness of EIAs in reflecting the cumulative environmental impacts of marine works projects and works related to new development areas on the agriculture and fisheries industries. The Administration's written response to the letter was circulated to members on 8 April 2019 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)859/18-19(01).

19. Existing policies on bicycles and promoting bicycles as a mode of transport as an initiative to improve roadside air quality

To be confirmed

Mr HUI Chi-fung wrote to the Chairman on 23 May 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1009/16-17) proposing to hold a joint meeting with the Panel on Transport to discuss issues relating to the existing policies on bicycles and promoting bicycles as a mode of transport. Mr HUI further wrote to the Chairman on 12 October 2017 proposing to discuss bicycle-friendly policies (LC Paper No. CB(1)86/17-18(01)).

Separately, an item on "Improvement works of cycle track network in new towns and latest situation of automated dockless bicycle rental services" is currently on the list of outstanding items for discussion of the Panel on Transport.

20. Regulation of trade in bear bile products

To be confirmed

This item was raised at the meeting on 11 October 2018 by Dr Elizabeth QUAT who expressed concern about the inhumane practice of extracting bile from live bears. Members would like to be briefed on the statistics on and regulation of trading activities associated with bear bile and its products, and whether the Administration would consider prohibiting the trade in products containing bile extracted from live bears.

21. Environmental impact of the use of tear gas

To be confirmed

This item was raised by Ms Tanya CHAN on behalf of Mr CHAN Chi-chuen at the meeting on 17 October 2019. Ms CHAN suggested that the Administration should brief the Panel on the environmental and health impacts of the frequent

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

use of tear gas in the community in the preceding few months, and how it would tackle the environmental pollution, if any, caused by tear gas residues. The Panel received a submission from The Conservancy Association on the subject (LC Paper No. CB(1)161/19-20(01)).

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
12 December 2019