

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

List of outstanding items for discussion (position as at 12 October 2020)

Subject	Proposed timing for discussion
<p>1. Construction of a joint-user building for reprovisioning a refuse collection point and setting up a community recycling centre at the junction between Hung Yuen Road and Hung Ping Road, Yuen Long (3189GK)</p> <p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p> <p>The Administration plans to consult members on the above public works project.</p>	<p>November 2020</p>
<p>2. Implementation of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B)</p> <p>Item proposed by the Administration.</p> <p>The Administration plans to brief members on the implementation of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Trading and Breeding) Regulations (Cap. 139B).</p>	<p>November 2020</p>
<p>3. Public consultation on the proposed amendments to the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations (Cap. 132AF)</p> <p>At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Administration should be requested to update members on the progress/outcome of the review of the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations.</p> <p>At the meeting between the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and the Secretary for Food and Health to discuss the work plan of the Panel ("work plan meeting") for the 2019-2020 session held on</p>	<p>4th quarter of 2020</p>

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Subject

4 November 2019, the Administration advised that it was working on proposals to update the regulatory regime of harmful substances in food (including industrially-produced trans fats and mycotoxins). The Administration plans to conduct a public consultation and brief the Panel on the proposals in the fourth quarter of 2020.

4. Progress of the initiatives under the New Agriculture Policy

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 8 January 2019, the Administration consulted members on the proposed construction of Phase 1 of the Agricultural Park ("Agri-Park") in Kwu Tung South. Noting that the Agri-Park is planned to be implemented in two phases, members, after taking into account its proposed scale, considered it necessary for the Administration to regularly report to the Panel on the progress of this works project.

To facilitate members' better understanding of the scope and nature of the project, the Panel conducted a visit on 28 February 2019 to the proposed site for establishing the Agri-Park.

At the work plan meeting for the 2019-2020 session on 4 November 2019, it was agreed that the Administration should report to the Panel on the latest implementation progress of various initiatives under the New Agriculture Policy (including the establishment of the Agri-Park) in the third quarter of 2020.

5. Measures to facilitate the establishment of co-operative societies

To be confirmed

In his letter dated 12 December 2016 (LC Paper No. CB(2)413/16-17(01)), Hon CHU Hoi-dick expressed concern on the need for the Administration to review the Co-operative Societies Ordinance (Cap. 33) and

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Subject

to draw up measures for promoting local community economy by facilitating the establishment of co-operative societies. He suggested that the Panel should discuss the subject matter at a future meeting. The Administration's response to issues raised in the letter from Hon CHU was set out in LC Paper No. CB(2)514/16-17(01) issued on 3 January 2017.

At the work plan meeting for the 2019-2020 session on 4 November 2019, it was agreed that this issue be subsumed under the discussion of the item "Progress of the initiatives under the New Agriculture Policy" (Please also see item 4 above).

6. Wholesale market consultancy study

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 10 June 2014, members noted that the Administration had commissioned a consultancy study on the present-day functions and purpose of the wholesale business in the sale of fresh food produce, and analyse the geographical spread of the five existing wholesale markets from the perspectives of land use and food safety.

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, members considered it necessary for the Administration to brief members on the outcome of the consultancy study (including the timetable, proposed sites and detailed plan for relocating Cheung Sha Wan Temporary Poultry Market and Yau Ma Tei Wholesale Fruit Market).

At the work plan meeting for the 2019-2020 session on 4 November 2019, the Administration advised that the study was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2020. It was agreed that the item be tentatively scheduled for discussion in the third quarter of 2020.

7. Regulatory control of genetically modified food

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 12 March 2013, the Panel was briefed on the Administration's proposal on regulating genetically modified ("GM") food by introducing a

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for discussion**

Subject

mandatory pre-market safety assessment scheme ("PMSAS") in Hong Kong. At the meeting on 11 July 2017, the Administration advised that it would launch a public consultation on PMSAS in due course, taking into account the international development on regulation of GM food.

At the work plan meeting for the 2019-2020 session on 4 November 2019, the Administration was requested to step up efforts to encourage the trade to voluntarily adopt GM food labelling and to review the trade's receptiveness to those recommendations set out in the "Guidelines on Voluntary Labelling of Genetically Modified Food" issued by the Centre for Food Safety in 2006.

8. Government Laboratory's work in respect of food safety and other services

To be confirmed

Item proposed by the Administration.

The Administration plans to brief members on the re-development of the Food Safety Laboratory of the Government Laboratory when ready.

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

To be confirmed

At previous meetings of the Panel, concern was expressed about the over-expansion of oyster culture in Shenzhen Bay and the need of introducing in Hong Kong a licensing mechanism for regulating the activities of oyster culture. There was a suggestion that the issue of regulating and monitoring the activities of oyster culture in Hong Kong should be discussed by the Panel.

- | Subject | Proposed timing
for discussion |
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| 10. Ancillary facilities for storage and distribution of chilled meat and poultry | To be confirmed |
| At the meeting on 15 October 2015, concern was raised about the lack of ancillary facilities for wholesaling of chilled meat and poultry. Noting that the trade had made repeated requests to the Government for the setting up of an approved distribution and storage centre for chilled meat and poultry with a view to reducing food safety risks, members requested that the subject matter be discussed at a future meeting. | |
| 11. Issues relating to the relocation of Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar to Tung Chau Street Market | To be confirmed |
| At the meeting on 12 October 2017, Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested that the Panel should follow up and discuss issues relating to the relocation of Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar to Tung Chau Street Market, including how the Administration would address the needs and concerns of street sleepers in the vicinity of Tung Chau Street Market arising from the Administration's plan to improve the surroundings of Tung Chau Street Market. | |