

**Bills Committee on
Waste Disposal (Amendment)(No. 2) Bill 2003**

**List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion
at the meeting on 21 May 2004**

- (1) To ensure effective implementation of the Waste Disposal Charging Scheme and to avoid shifting of responsibility to sub-contractors, consideration should be given to requiring all renovation contractors to open billing accounts as in the case of the similar registration requirement for minor works under the Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2003.
- (2) To re-consider lowering the threshold for which penalty will be imposed on failure to open a billing account from \$1 million to \$0.5 million. Separate provisions however should be made for projects valued under \$1 million such that the principal contractors concerned are not required to open separate billing account for each project but to inform the Environmental Protection Department the account which disposal fees arising from additional projects should be charged from.
- (3) To advise the basis of the 14-day period within which a principal contractor should open a billing account is arrived at. To also consult the trade whether the 14-day period is adequate and whether it should commence upon the awarding or signing of a contract.
- (4) To step up education and publicity on the responsibility of renovation contractor to open billing accounts for disposal charges.
- (5) To liaise with relevant bureaux/departments on the need to strengthen enforcement against falling objects from open topped vehicles.
- (6) To review the definition of "principal contractor" under the draft Waste Disposal (Charges for Waste Disposal) Regulation to make it clear that any person who enters into a contract with an owner or occupier of any land shall be regarded as a principal contractor, and that there can be more than one principal contractor for a project.