Subcommittee on Sewage Services (Trade Effluent Surcharge) (Amendment) Regulation 2008

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 12 June 2008

- (1) To ensure fairness in applying the existing and new Trade Effluent Surcharge (TES) rates to the TES accounts during the transitional period before and after 1 August 2008, the Administration is requested to consider using one of the following ways in calculating TES:
 - (a) The volume of water consumption as shown in the water meters of the TES accounts as at 31 July 2008 and afterwards will be recorded so that the existing and new TES rates could be applied respectively for computing TES.
 - (b) The volume of water consumption during the billing period will be apportioned into two parts on a pro-rata basis using 31 July 2008 as the cut-off date so that the existing and new TES rates could be applied to the first part ending 31 July 2008 and the second part after that date respectively.
 - (c) The rate of TES to be applied will be made according to the date when the water bill is issued, i.e. the existing TES rates will apply to water bills issued on or before 31 July whereas the new TES rates will apply to water bills issued on or after 1 August 2008.

The same principle should apply to the reassessed TES rates made during the transitional period. The Administration is requested to advise on the way it will use and to amend clauses 3 and 4 of the Amendment Regulation as appropriate.

(2) The Administration is requested to advise whether it has consulted the relevant trades and informed them their new TES rates will be higher than the existing rates, and to provide information on the number of samples collected from the relevant trades during the effluent survey.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
12 June 2008