

(Translation)

Motion on
“Improving environmental hygiene in the community”
moved by Hon IP Kwok-him
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 10 June 2009

Motion as amended by Hon Fred LI Wah-ming and Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan

That, with the implementation of clean-up campaigns in Hong Kong since the 1970s, the cityscape of Hong Kong has improved a lot; however, the environmental hygiene conditions of some communities in Hong Kong are still poor and hygiene blackspots are everywhere, which have aroused public concern, coupled with the threat of a new strain of influenza, this Council urges the Government to focus on the problem and take effective measures to ensure a clean community environment and enhance public awareness of hygiene, including:

- (a) formulating community environmental hygiene indices for the 18 districts to enable members of the public to understand the environmental hygiene conditions in various districts;
- (b) studying the provision of funds to District Councils to assist buildings without owners' corporations in carrying out work to eliminate hidden hygiene hazards in the communal areas of such buildings;
- (c) recruiting additional staff and enhancing the training for frontline personnel responsible for cleansing and epidemic prevention work, so as to ensure that the personal protection of frontline personnel is safeguarded and that public health and epidemic prevention work is effectively carried out;
- (d) organizing on a yearly and regular basis territory-wide clean housing estate competitions, and encouraging tenants of public housing as well as owners and management companies of private buildings to pay attention to environmental hygiene in housing estates;
- (e) continuing to organize territory-wide clean-up campaigns, and setting up internet and telephone complaint hotlines for members of the public to report hygiene blackspots in the territory;
- (f) by making reference to the arrangement of rest days for market cleansing, specifying a monthly cleansing day for households and communities across the territory, and through such activities, educating

the public on the awareness of keeping their homes and the community clean;

- (g) setting up volunteer work teams in various districts to pay regular visits to the elderly who live alone to carry out cleansing work in their homes;
- (h) stepping up hygiene education for the public, especially focusing on secondary and primary school students, so as to enable them to develop good hygiene habits from a young age;
- (i) devolving to District Councils some of the decision-making powers on environmental hygiene affairs, including street cleansing, refuse disposal and recycling, etc, so as to effectively improve environmental hygiene in the community; and
- (j) reconsidering the resumption of the management right of private streets, so as to improve the standard of environmental hygiene in those areas; and
- (k) ensuring, through lasting measures, that improvement to the hygiene conditions of these blackspots is sustained, so as to prevent the resurgence of hygiene problems.