Panel on Environmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Air, Noise and Light Pollution

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 25 February 2013

At the meeting on 25 February 2013, the Administration was requested to provide the following information for members' reference –

- (a) an explanation of the circumstances under which the testing of toxic air pollutants ("TAP") not established under the Air Pollution Ordinance (Cap. 311) ("APCO") will/will not be required during the environmental impact assessment process (paragraph 1.1(d) of Annex 4 of the "Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process" refers);
- (b) an elaboration of the interaction between the Transport Department and the Environment Protection Department in the conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") studies on road projects;
- (c) the factors that have been taken into consideration in deciding to demolish the Yau Ma Tei Multi-storey Carpark Building and the environmental impact of the demolition; and
- (d) whether the Administration would make available on the internet the EIA reports that were found not suitable for inspection by the public and the Advisory Council on the Environment as well as the EIA reports that were rejected, so as to further enhance the transparency of the EIA process.
- 2. The Administration was also requested to arrange a suitable forum to explain to members the PATH model and the assumptions used.
- 3. In respect of the APCO Amendment Bill, the Administration was requested –

- (a) to provide a list of the designated projects to which the new Air Quality Objectives will not apply given the transitional period, and the number of EIA study briefs that are being processed, so as to enable members to understand the implications of providing a transitional period of 36 months; and
- (b) in respect of the proposed new section 7A of APCO, to consider providing some clear ground rules on "public interest" as the term is rather vague and lacks clarity and to consider enhancing the role of the Advisory Council on the Environment in the EIA process.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
9 April 2013