

## Panel on Environmental Affairs

### List of outstanding items for discussion (position as at 19 January 2016)

#### Proposed timing for discussion

#### 1. Update on the protection of endangered species and biodiversity in Hong Kong

February 2016

The Administration will brief members on the following –

- (a) the Government's efforts on the protection of endangered species;
- (b) the latest initiatives on ivory control as announced in the Policy Address; and
- (c) the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan public consultation.

*[Note: At the request of the Administration, the item on "Nature conservation policy" is renamed as "Update on the protection of endangered species and biodiversity in Hong Kong" to better reflect the scope of the item.]*

The subject was raised by Dr Kenneth CHAN at the meetings on 16 October 2012, 21 July 2015 and 15 October 2015, in response to concerns from conservation groups on illegal ivory trade and calls from various groups on stepping up of measures to conserve/protect endangered fauna and flora species in Hong Kong, e.g. protection of incense trees and smuggling of totoba fish bladders.

Referral arising from the meeting between Duty Roster Members and "大澳環境及發展關注協會、'救救土沉香，瀕危滅絕中' 網上群組、活力南丫島、環保及生態保育協會、一群新界區關注土沉香的居民、一群大嶼山關注土沉香的居民及一群南丫島關注土沉香的居民" on 19 May 2014 regarding the protection of Incense Trees in Hong Kong (LC Paper No. CB(1)176/14-15(01) issued on 6 November 2014).

Letter dated 4 March 2015 from Ms Claudia MO requesting the Panel to discuss issues related to the illegal trading of endangered species in Hong Kong (LC Paper No. CB(1)616/14-15(01) issued on 6 March 2015).

Letter dated 3 November 2014 from Dr Elizabeth QUAT requesting the Panel to discuss issues related to illegal ivory trade in Hong Kong (LC Paper No. CB(1)190/14-15(01) issued on 6 November 2014).

**Proposed timing for  
discussion**

At the meeting on 23 March 2015, Mr Albert CHAN requested the Administration to provide information on the sale of ivory by licensed hawkers in its discussion paper.

At the meeting on 2 June 2015, Ms Cyd HO requested the Panel to discuss issues related to the smuggling of totoaba fish bladders (Submission from Greenpeace East Asia on the subject was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(1)965/14-15(01) on 8 June 2015).

At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Mr Steven HO requested to be briefed on how the authorities would combat the problem of illegal felling of incense trees.

Referral arising from the meeting between Duty Roster Members and "土沉香生態及文化保育協會、大澳環境及發展關注協會、'救救土沉香，瀕危滅絕中'網上群組及民間各界關注聯盟" on 14 July 2015 regarding legislating against the sale of and strengthening protection of wild incense trees (LC Paper No. CB(1)39/15-16(01) issued on 23 October 2015). Joint submission from 大澳環境及發展關注協會、土沉香生態及文化保育協會、"救救土沉香，瀕危滅絕中"網上群組、一群新界區關注土沉香的居民、一群大嶼山關注土沉香的居民、一群南丫島關注土沉香的居民、一群西貢關注土沉香的居民 and 一群元朗關注土沉香的居民 regarding the same issues (LC Paper No. CB(1)433/15-16(01) issued on 13 January 2016).

- 2. PWP Item No. 814TH – Retrofitting of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section)** February 2016

The Administration will seek the Panel's support for the proposal to upgrade the noise barrier retrofitting project to Category A.

- 3. Briefing on environmental initiatives in connection with the Budget Speech 2016** March 2016  
(tentative)
- 4. Review on the Air Quality Objectives ("AQOs")** March 2016  
(tentative)

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of formulating the approach and methodology for conducting the review on AQOs.

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discussion**

At the meeting on 2 June 2015, Ms Cyd HO requested the Administration to provide information on the effectiveness of different air quality improvement measures in attaining the prevailing AQOs by 2020 in its discussion paper.

At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Ms Cyd HO requested the Administration to provide details on the schedule, preparation work, approach and methodology for the next review on AQOs.

**5. Trial of hybrid buses by franchised bus companies – interim report**

March 2016  
(tentative)

The Panel will be briefed on the interim assessment of the performance of hybrid buses of the franchised bus companies under full subsidy of the Government on trial in Hong Kong.

**6. Application of the "Pollutants in the Atmosphere and their Transport over Hong Kong" ("PATH") modelling system**

Q1 2016  
(tentative)

The Administration will brief the Panel on the progress of launching the new PATH modelling system for air quality assessment.

At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Kenneth CHAN requested the Administration to brief Panel members on the progress of launching the new PATH modelling system for air quality assessments under the environmental impact assessment mechanism.

Mr Dennis KWOK wrote to the Chairman on 20 October 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(1)43/15-16(01) issued on 23 October 2015) requesting the Panel to discuss the subject.

**7. Marine conservation**

Q2 2016  
(tentative)

The Administration will report on the latest efforts on marine conservation, progress on fishing ban in marine parks, and update of various marine works projects in Hong Kong's western waters and the impact on marine ecology since the last report to the Panel in June 2014.

Referral on banning of fishing in Geopark arising from the meeting between Legislative Council Members and Tai Po

**Proposed timing for  
discussion**

District Council members on 3 June 2010 (LC Paper No. CB(1)2817/09-10). Submission from the Friends of Hoi Ha on the subject (LC Paper No. CB(1)799/12-13(01) issued on 3 April 2013).

Pursuant to the discussion at the Panel meeting on 25 June 2014 on the subject of "Impact of construction works on important species, marine ecology and the fisheries industry", members wish to follow up the cumulative impacts of the planned marine works projects in the western waters of Hong Kong (as mentioned in LC Paper No. CB(1)2004/13-14(01)) on marine ecology as well as the progress of respective mitigation measures and restoration works.

Dr Kenneth CHAN wrote to the Panel Chairman on 10 February 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(1)540/14-15(01)) proposing discussion on the impacts of large-scale infrastructure projects and sea transport on marine ecology.

As it was reported by the media that a contractor of the construction works of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge ("HKZMB") project had illegally discharged polluting effluent directly into the sea, causing adverse impacts on the habitat of Chinese white dolphins, at the meeting of 15 October 2015, Mr Albert CHAN requested the Administration to give a full account of the incident and update Panel members on the impacts of the marine works projects, including the HKZMB project and the Three-Runway System project at the Hong Kong International Airport, on marine ecology.

**8. PWP Item No. 5173DR – Development of Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 2**

Q2 2016  
(tentative)

The Administration will seek the Panel's support for the proposal to upgrade the development project to Category B+ before commencement of tendering.

**9. Handling of imported recyclables**

Q2 2016  
(tentative)

Members will be briefed on measures/initiatives on import/export controls on recyclables since the last report to the Panel in July 2013 and March 2014.

Dr Elizabeth QUAT wrote to the Panel Chairman on 5 January 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(1)473/14-15(01) issued on

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discussion**

- 23 January 2015) proposing discussion on the captioned subject.
- 10. Regulation of roadside cargo compartments (commonly known as "skips")** To be confirmed
- Members will be briefed on the progress of the Joint Working Group of the Environment Bureau/Development Bureau/Transport and Housing Bureau set up in connection with management of roadside skips.
- At the meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr CHAN Han-pan expressed concerns about indiscriminate placement of skips on roadsides that had caused obstruction to traffic and posed hazards to road safety.
- 11. Management of marine fill and marine disposal of dredged/excavated sediment** To be confirmed
- The Administration will brief the Panel on the management of marine fill and disposal of dredged/excavated sediments by the project owners.
- The subject was raised by Mr Steven HO at the meeting on 15 December 2014.
- 12. Review of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499)** To be confirmed
- Mr Kenneth LEUNG wrote to the Panel Chairman on 24 November 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(1)202/15-16(01) issued on 26 November 2015) proposing discussion on the captioned subject.