

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)1014/16-17
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/PS/1/16

Panel on Environmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Refuse Collection and Resource Recovery

**Minutes of the fourth meeting
held on Tuesday, 11 April 2017, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 2B of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon Tanya CHAN (Chairman)
Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim (Deputy Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung
- Members absent** : Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
- Public Officers attending** : **For item II and III**
Mr WONG Hon-meng
Assistant Director (Waste Reduction and Recycling)
Environmental Protection Department

Mrs Alison LAU
Assistant Director (Special Duties)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr FORK Ping-lam
Assistant Director (Operations) 3
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr TSANG Wing-lok, Gabriel
Senior Superintendent (Municipal Solid Waste
Charging)
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr TSOI Wai-tong, Martin
Assistant Director (Estate Management) 1
Housing Department

Miss AU Mei-lin, Rebecca
Senior Housing Manager (Kowloon West and Sai
Kung 2)
Housing Department

Clerk in attendance : Ms Angel SHEK
Chief Council Secretary (1)1

Staff in attendance : Mr Joey LO
Senior Council Secretary (1)8

Miss Mandy POON
Legislative Assistant (1)1

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes

(LC Paper No. CB(1)558/16-17 — Minutes of the meeting held on
16 January 2017)

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017 were confirmed.

Action

II. Matters arising from previous meetings

(LC Paper No. CB(1)713/16-17(01) — List of follow-up actions arising from the meeting on 13 December 2016)

LC Paper No. CB(1)713/16-17(02) — List of follow-up actions arising from the meeting on 16 January 2017

LC Paper No. CB(1)787/16-17(01) — Administration's paper on "Refuse collection system in Hong Kong")

III. Refuse collection system in Hong Kong

(LC Paper No. CB(1)787/16-17(01) — Administration's paper on "Refuse collection system in Hong Kong"

IN08/16-17 — Information note on "Separation and collection of household waste in selected places" prepared by the Research Office of the Legislative Council Secretariat)

2. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at the **Annex**).

IV. Date of next meeting and item(s) for discussion

(LC Paper No. CB(1)787/16-17(02) — List of outstanding items for discussion)

3. Referring to the Subcommittee's list of outstanding items for discussion (LC Paper No. CB(1) 787/16-17(02)), the Chairman suggested the Subcommittee discuss "Comparison of refuse collection and resource recovery systems of advanced cities overseas" at the next meeting. Members raised no objection. Mr HUI Chi-fung suggested and members agreed that the Administration should also be invited to brief the Subcommittee on the

Action

development of technologies for waste separation and resource recovery in Hong Kong. Mr CHU Hoi-dick said that he would consider proposing after the meeting certain item(s) for discussion at the next meeting.

(Post-meeting note: After the meeting, Mr CHU proposed to also discuss (a) the work of the Steering Group on the Modification of Recycling and Refuse Collection Facilities in Public Places; and (b) management of construction waste and yard waste. The Chairman directed that these items (except management of construction waste) be included in the agenda of the fifth meeting to be held on 5 June 2017.)

V. Any other business

4. Mr CHU Hoi-dick proposed and members agreed to conduct a visit to the Chinese University of Hong Kong to obtain first-hand information on its waste management system. Members also agreed to invite all other Legislative Council Members and representatives from the Administration to the visit.

(Post-meeting note: With the concurrence of the Chairman, the visit was subsequently held from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm on 15 May 2017.)

5. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:30 pm.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
26 May 2017

Panel on Environmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Refuse Collection and Resource Recovery

**Proceedings of the fourth meeting
on Tuesday, 11 April 2017, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 2B of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda Item I — Confirmation of minutes</i>			
000500 - 000535	Chairman	The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1) 558/16-17) were confirmed.	
<i>Agenda Item II — Matters arising from previous meetings</i>			
000536 - 000820	Chairman	Opening remarks by the Chairman The Administration's written response to some of the issues raised at the meetings of the Subcommittee held on 13 December 2016 and 16 January 2017 (LC Paper No. LC Paper No. CB(1)787/16-17(01)).	
<i>Agenda Item III — Refuse collection system in Hong Kong</i>			
000821 - 002316	Chairman Administration	Briefing by the Administration on "Refuse collection system in Hong Kong" (LC Paper No. CB(1)787/16-17(01))	
002317 - 002853	Chairman Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Administration	Discussion on: (a) management of domestic food waste in Hong Kong; (b) monitoring of waste collection contractors by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") in refuse collection at public housing estates ("PRHs"); and (c) handling of non-compliances by PRH tenants with the requirement to use designated garbage bags to dispose of municipal solid waste ("MSW") under the prospective MSW charging scheme. The Administration advised that: (a) Phase 1 of the Organic Waste	

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		<p>Treatment Facilities ("OWTF1") at Siu Ho Wan would be completed in the latter half of 2017, which would treat food waste generated from commercial and industrial ("C&I") establishments. The Environmental Protection Department ("EPD") would explore with FEHD and the Housing Department ("HD") ways to collect and deliver to OWTF1 the food waste generated from C&I establishments including markets managed by FEHD or HD; and</p> <p>(b) as the requisite infrastructure to support treatment of domestic food waste on a territory-side scale had yet to be developed, the current focus was to enhance public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong through the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, and encourage the entire community to avoid and reduce food waste generation.</p>	
002854 - 003538	Chairman Mr CHAN Chi-chuen Administration	<p>Discussion on reduction of the number of litter containers ("LCs") in public places by 40% proposed by the Steering Group on the Modification of Recycling and Refuse Collection Facilities in Public Places ("the Steering Group").</p> <p>The Administration pointed out the findings of relevant public engagement and the Council for Sustainable Development both supported that the number of Recycling Bins ("RBs") should be increased whereas that of LCs should be reduced in preparation for the implementation of MSW charging. The change in RB to LC ratio would be implemented in phases and complemented by public education.</p>	
003539 - 004125	Chairman Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok Administration	Discussion on the collection of waste glass containers, and Ir Dr LO's suggestion to provide four-colour waste separation bins in place of the existing three-colour bins to include separate compartments for collecting waste glass containers.	

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		<p>The Administration responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) currently there were some 800 RBs designated for the collection of glass containers in the territory, and a number of non-profit organizations were engaged to drive glass container recycling in the community; (b) Community Recycling Centres and Community Green Stations ("CGSs") collected low-value recyclables including waste glass containers for recycling; and (c) a mandatory producer responsibility scheme ("PRS") for glass beverage containers would be implemented, for which contractors would be appointed to provide glass management services in the territory. 	
004126 - 004837	Chairman Mr WU Chi-wai Administration	<p>Discussion on the measures to complement implementation of MSW charging, including improvements to refuse collection points ("RCPs") and RBs in public places, and to facilitate waste recovery and recycling.</p> <p>The Administration advised that according to the planning parameters proposed by the consultant commissioned by the Steering Group, the provision of RBs should be increased and the distance between RBs was recommended to be reduced from the current 350 metres ("m") to 250 m, whilst the provision of LCs should be reduced and the distance between LCs should be increased from the current 90 m to 150 m. The actual distance on the ground could be further adjusted taking into account different circumstances (e.g. more LCs and RBs in places with higher pedestrian flow).</p>	
004838 - 005819	Chairman Mr CHU Hoi-dick Administration	<p>Mr CHU expressed the following concerns/suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) legislative amendments to the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisance Regulation 	

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		<p>(Cap. 132BK), Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) and Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) should be considered in order to facilitate resource recovery or tackle illegal landfilling;</p> <p>(b) increasing manpower support at RCPs would facilitate RCPs to also play a resource recovery function;</p> <p>(c) existing contractual requirements on FEHD's waste collection contractors, which forbade the waste collection workers from undertaking waste separation and recycling activities while performing their duties, were counter-productive to achieving waste reduction and recovery; and</p> <p>(d) the Administration should provide price subsidies in respect of recyclables to enhance their market value and outlets.</p> <p>The Administration responded that:</p> <p>(a) consideration would be given to increasing manpower support at RCPs as appropriate to complement the implementation of MSW charging;</p> <p>(b) section 11 of Cap. 132BK was necessary for deterring people from raking and scattering refuse in public places; and</p> <p>(c) operational and management problems would arise if waste collection workers were allowed to separate waste and recover resources while performing their duties at RCPs or in the streets.</p>	
005820 - 010408	Chairman Mr HUI Chi-fung Administration	Discussion on the role of CGSs and use of revenue generated from MSW charging.	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
010409 - 010930	Chairman Administration	<p>Discussion on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Chairman's suggestion to grant exemptions such that resource recovery activities could be carried out at RCPs without violating Cap. 132BK; and (b) statistics on visits paid to, and recyclables received by, Sha Tin CGS and Eastern CGS. <p>The Administration pointed out that if a person or designated organization was approved by FEHD to carry out waste separation and resource recovery at RCPs, such activities would not contravene Cap. 132BK.</p>	
010931 - 011730	Chairman Mr CHU Hoi-dick Administration	<p>Discussion on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the need to review/repeal section 11 of Cap. 132BK to facilitate the conduct of waste separation and resource recovery activities at RCPs; and (b) members' suggestion to launch a pilot programme on waste separation and recovery in the Lunar New Year fairs of 2018 with a view to gathering experiences for implementation of waste separation and resource recovery activities at RCPs. <p>The Administration responded that there was genuine operational need to keep section 11 of Cap. 132BK intact so that FEHD staff could be empowered to take enforcement action against people who impaired the environmental hygiene condition in the course of raking over the waste in public places.</p>	
011731 - 012325	Chairman Mr HUI Chi-fung Administration	Further discussion on the roles and targets of CGSs and other community recycling initiatives.	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
012326 - 013134	Chairman Administration	<p>Discussion on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) enforcement against disposal of waste not properly wrapped in designated garbage bag in PRHs after MSW charging was introduced; (b) monitoring of FEHD's waste collection contractors in the collection of waste from PRHs; and (c) collection points for recovery of Christmas poinsettias. 	
013135 - 014212	Chairman Mr CHU Hoi-dick Administration	<p>Discussion on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) driving conceptual and behavioural change in the public to treat "waste" as "resources" with a view to reducing waste; and (b) centralized separation of MSW in Shenzhen and Thailand. <p>The Administration responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the strategies and measures laid down in the "Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022" were meant to tackle the waste problem in Hong Kong from a resource re-circulation perspective; (b) by mobilizing the public to participate in resource recovery and clean recycling, waste separation at source instead of centralized separation could reap higher efficiency and better results in achieving waste reduction in the long run; and (c) the Administration would explore the feasibility of providing mixed RBs in public places and conduct relevant trials. 	

<i>Agenda Item IV — Date of next meeting and item(s) for discussion</i>			
014213 - 014444	Chairman Mr CHU Hoi-dick Mr HUI Chi-fung	Meeting arrangements	Clerk to follow up on meeting arrangements
<i>Agenda Item III — Any other business</i>			
014445 - 014648	Chairman	Proposed visit to the Chinese University of Hong Kong	Clerk to follow up on visit arrangements

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