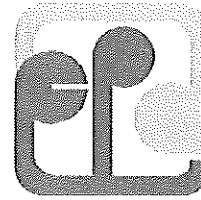


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3 January 2017
by email

Ms Angel Shek
Clerk to Environmental Affairs Panel
Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong
(aykshek@legco.gov.hk)

Dear Ms Shek,

LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs
Implementation of the Recycling Fund

Thank you for your email of 29 November 2016. We would like to provide supplementary information below in response to Members' questions raised at the meeting of 28 November 2016.

(a) A comparison of the latest annual quantity (in terms of tonnes) of waste plastics disposed of at landfills after the implementation of the Recycling Fund ("the Fund") in October 2015, against that of the preceding years from 2012 to 2015.

The quantity of waste plastics disposed of at landfills from 2012 to 2015 were as follows –

| Year | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Plastics (tonnes) | 668 000 | 681 000 | 736 000 | 797 000 |
| Percentage of Municipal Solid Waste | 19.7% | 19.5% | 20.6% | 21.5% |

As at November 2016, the Recycling Fund has approved 48 projects, 26 of which are related to collection and processing of waste plastics. It is worth noting that these projects are still at their initial implementation stages, and that most of them are to be carried out by small recycling shops of limited capacities, which aim to provide their neighbourhoods with some support for waste plastic bottles recycling.

(b) The Government's policies and initiatives, such as green procurement policy, for promoting domestic consumption of locally produced environmentally-friendly products made from recycled materials.

The Government has taken multiple initiatives to facilitate the development and growth of a market of products made from local recyclables. Major initiatives include -

- (a) **Green Procurement** – The Government has been taking the lead to adopt a green procurement policy with a view to boosting the demand for recyclables. Government bureaux/departments are encouraged to adopt the Government Green Procurement List which has been expanded to 150 items with updated green specifications. The Government has also been promoting a wider use of recycled materials and other green products in public works and housing projects. For instance, concrete paving blocks produced locally from glass waste generated from local sources have been used in public road works.
- (b) **Recycling Fund** – The Government has been encouraging recyclers to make use of the Recycling Fund to promote their recycled products made from locally generated waste. For instance, funding has been approved for a tyre recycler to produce retreaded truck tyres for use by local logistics companies and construction companies. Funding has also been approved for a food waste recycler to collect surplus and edible bread for production of animal feed for local farms.
- (c) **EcoPark** – In the EcoPark in Tuen Mun which provides long-term affordable land and associated communal facilities to encourage investment in recycling processes, some tenants have been supplying recycled products made from locally generated waste to the local market, such as fish feed made from food waste, concrete paving blocks made from glass waste, as well as biodiesel refined from waste cooking oils.

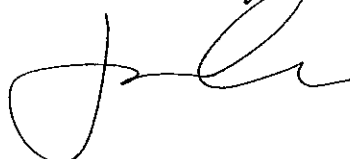
(c) Outlets for the different types of recyclables processed by approved projects under the Enterprise Support Programme (ESP) including the Small-scale Standard Projects (SSPs) set out in Annex D to the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(1)158/16-17(04)).

A successful applicant for ESP including SSP is required to demonstrate how, under its funded project, the additional recyclables or recycled products would be passed on to subsequent parties for proper processing or export instead of being disposed of. The Secretariat of the Recycling Fund will check and monitor the work and deliverables of the applicants through relevant records and on-site inspections. A summary of outlets (as proposed by the applicants) of the recyclables or recycled products under the approved projects are at **Annex**.

(d) The reasons for rejecting applications to the Recycling Fund in the past.

The Advisory Committee on the Recycling Fund (RFAC) considers all applications with reference to a set of published vetting criteria. Some applications were not supported for reasons specific to the individual project e.g. the proposed project failed to demonstrate how it would divert waste from landfills. Some applications were not supported as their proposed projects were outside the scope of and thus could not be funded under the Recycling Fund. In these cases, the applicants were proposed to approach other funding sources. We and the Secretariat of the Recycling Fund have been following up with the unsuccessful applicants to assist them to modify or enhance their proposals for re-submission as appropriate. The RFAC and Environmental Protection Department have also implemented a number of facilitation measures to facilitate applicants to make use of the Recycling Fund to address their needs and to attract more applications worthy of support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'James Chan', written in a cursive style.

(James CHAN)

for Director of Environmental Protection

Encl.

**Outlets of Processed Recyclables or Recycled Products of
Approved Projects under Enterprise Support Programme
(including Small-scale Standard Projects)
of the Recycling Fund**

(as at November 2016)

| Recyclable | Processed recyclable / recycled product | Outlets | No. of approved project |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Plastics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic pellets • Baled plastics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For further processing locally and sale in overseas markets | 26 |
| Food waste | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal feeds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For consumption by local farms | 1 |
| Waste cooking oil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiesel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For further processing locally and sale in overseas markets | 5 |
| Metals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baled metals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For further processing locally and sale in overseas markets | 6 |
| Paper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baled paper | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For sale in overseas markets | 4 |
| Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissembled components including metals and plastics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For further processing locally and sale in overseas markets | 3 |
| Used furniture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbished furniture • Dissembled components including metals and plastics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbished furniture items for sale in local and overseas markets • Dissembled components for further processing locally and sale in overseas markets | 2 |
| Tyres | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retread tyres | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For reuse locally | 1 |
| Expanded polystyrene | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polystyrene | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For sale in overseas markets as raw material | 1 |
| Wood | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodchips | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For use as biofuel in local industrial process | 1 |