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19 May 2017 by email

Clerk to LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex, 1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong (Attn: Ms Angel SHEK)

Dear Ms SHEK,

LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs Receiving public views on the measures to combat illegal land filling and fly-tipping of construction and demolition waste

Thank you for your email of 9 March 2017. We would like to provide supplementary information below in response to Members' questions raised at the meeting of 3 March 2017.

(a) the work progress of the Joint Working Group on Management of Roadside Skips about measures in enhancing management of roadside cargo compartments;

The Joint Working Group (JWG) led by the Environment Bureau and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has put in place two short-term measures to strengthen the management of the roadside cargo compartments (also named as roadside skips). Firstly, the Government has provided a site next to the Tseung Kwan O Area 137 Fill Bank in Sai Kung through a short-term tenancy (STT), which has been commissioned since end January 2017, for use by the skips trade for storing idling skips, and identified another STT site at Siu Lang Shui in Tuen Mun, which is expected to be ready for use in the third quarter of 2017. In addition, the Government has engaged a dedicated service contractor for removal of skips since February 2017 to assist enforcement departments in speeding up the removal of skips that are found to be posing serious obstruction to traffic and/or imminent danger to the public, so as to further enhance the enforcement efficiency and the deterrent effect.



co-ordination by the Sai Kung District Office, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Lands Department and the EPD have stepped up joint enforcement operations in Tseung Kwan O since end February 2017, and such operations will continue in order to deter irregularities of indiscriminate placement of skips on roadside. For further follow-up work, the JWG has facilitated the skips operator trade to explore ways to enhance the standards of skips operation, including standardising the specifications for skips, promoting good operational practices, and exploring the feasibility of a voluntary registration system for skips operators so as to enhance the management of roadside skips and facilitate skips operations. The JWG will report on new developments to EA Panel members in due course.

(b) the progress of reviewing the trial scheme of setting up surveillance cameras for detecting illegal dumping of construction and demolition waste; and

EPD completed an overall review of the trial scheme on using surveillance camera system and concluded that the installation of surveillance cameras at the black spots would generally help gather information for identification of the offenders on dumping from vehicles and to enhance the deterrent effect at the black spots. We had liaised with relevant Government departments and organizations to review the technical specification of surveillance camera system and the suggested enhancements for capturing better images under various light conditions and angles, as well as optimizing the enforcement strategies, evidence collection and prosecution procedures.

Based on the experience and results of the trial scheme, EPD is working on the installation of surveillance camera systems in phases at suitable black spots to deter illegal dumping from waste collection vehicles. Since mid-2016, EPD has already installed surveillance camera systems at three black spots in Sai Kung, Sham Shui Po and Yuen Long districts, and is arranging the installation of surveillance cameras progressively at another five additional black spots before July 2017 with a view to enhance monitoring for combating against illegal waste disposal.

(c) whether the Administration would establish a database of baseline environmental conditions and land boundaries for public access in order to facilitate monitoring of and enforcement against illegal land filling, and the reasons if the Administration would not consider this suggestion.

The Survey and Mapping Office (SMO) of LandsD operates a Land Information System for



maintaining the territory-wide digital map and land information databases to facilitate various land administration functions. At present, Members of the public may search for the approximate locations and boundaries of individual private lots through the GeoInfo Map on the Internet. SMO also maintains a repository on aerial photos covering the whole territory of Hong Kong. An archive of more than 310,000 numbers of aerial photos taken from 1924 to the present is maintained showing the change of ground features in Hong Kong throughout the years. Members of the public may purchase these aerial photos from the map sales counter or through the Hong Kong Map Service Website. Subject to the availability of resources, SMO may also provide photogrammetric survey services to relevant bureaux and departments to facilitate their monitoring of and enforcement against suspected or confirmed cases of illegal land filling under their respective purview.

Yours faithfully,

(David WONG)

for Director of Environmental Protection

c.c. (Internal)

CEO(CBD)/EPD

Chief Land Surveyor (Survey and Mapping Office/Headquarters)/LandsD

