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Ms. Alice CHEUNG  
Establishment Subcommittee Secretariat  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong  
(Email: [shcheung@legco.gov.hk](mailto:shcheung@legco.gov.hk))

15 February 2018

Dear Ms. CHEUNG,

**Establishment Subcommittee  
Follow-up Action to the Meeting on 10 January 2018**

I refer to the Legislative Council Establishment Subcommittee's letter dated 10 January 2018 in relation to the above matter. The supplementary information regarding the discussion paper No. EC(2017-18)11 of the Establishment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee is provided below:-

**(1) The international trading standards of recyclables and the recovery prices of various types of recyclables in the international trading market**

The Government maintains close liaison with the local recycling trade and monitors the situation of the local recycling market. As the Government does not compile official statistics on the international trading standards or market prices of recyclables, the relevant information is not available. On the other hand, the Government keeps statistics of the quantities and values of exported recyclable materials recovered from municipal solid waste. For details, please refer to the "Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong – Waste Statistics for 2016"<sup>1</sup> published by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).

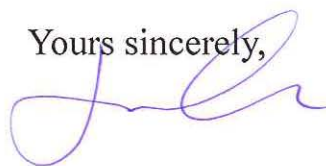
<sup>1</sup> <http://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/sites/default/files/msw2016.pdf>

**(2) Reasons why recyclers in Hong Kong are not proactive in recovering recyclables with recycling value in the international market**

Demand for recyclables in the international market fluctuates from time to time, but the local market for recyclables remains stable. Recyclables exported from Hong Kong during 2012 to 2016 amounted to about 2 million tonnes per year persistently, and the total value of recyclables exported from Hong Kong in 2016 reached about HK\$4 billion. For details, please refer to the “Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong – Waste Statistics for 2016”<sup>2</sup> published by the EPD.

The values of recyclables are susceptible to various factors, including supply and demand in the international market, the level of separation and cleanliness of recyclables, collection and transportation cost, downstream outlets, regulations of importing regions, etc., all of which have impact on the operation of the local industry. To enhance the value of local recyclables and to enlarge the market continuously, the Government will enhance the local recycling chain through a multi-pronged approach, including strengthening the promotion of separation at source and clean recycling to enhance the quality and quantities of recyclables, enhancing the operational standard of the recycling industry through the Recycling Fund, developing the EcoPark in Tuen Mun to provide land and infrastructural support to the recycling industry, etc. We are also examining how to leverage on the EcoPark to incubate a local manufacturing industry using recycled materials. For details, please refer to the discussion paper No. CB(1)233/17-18(04) of the Panel on Environmental Affairs submitted by the EPD for the panel meeting held on 27 November 2017<sup>3</sup>.

Yours sincerely,



(James CHAN)

for Director of Environmental Protection

**c.c.** The Treasury Branch, the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/sites/default/files/msw2016.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr17-18/english/panels/ea/papers/ea20171127cb1-233-4-e.pdf>