

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)1292/18-19
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/BC/2/18/2

**Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste)
(Amendment) Bill 2018**

**Minutes of the sixth meeting
held on Tuesday, 30 April 2019, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon SHIU Ka-fai
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP

Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon AU Nok-hin
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Member absent : Hon Tanya CHAN

Public Officers attending : **For item II**

Mr TSE Chin-wan, BBS, JP
Under Secretary for the Environment

Mr Donald NG, JP
Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (Special Duties)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Kenneth CHAN
Assistant Director (Charging Preparation)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Ken WONG
Assistant Director (Environmental Compliance)
Environmental Protection Department

Dr Samuel CHUI
Assistant Director (Waste Infrastructure Planning)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr FONG Kin-wa
Assistant Director (Waste Reduction and Recycling)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Gilbert MO
Deputy Law Draftsman
Department of Justice

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

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

Staff in attendance : Mr Cliff IP
Assistant Legal Adviser 8

Mr Jason KONG
Senior Council Secretary (1)1

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes

(LC Paper No. CB(1)939/18-19 — Minutes of the meeting held on
26 March 2019)

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019 were confirmed.

II. Meeting with the Administration

Matters arising from previous meetings

(LC Paper No. CB(1)757/18-19(01) — Letter dated 21 March 2019
from Hon CHU Hoi-dick
(Chinese version only)

LC Paper No. CB(1)875/18-19(02) — Administration's response to
Hon CHU Hoi-dick's letter
dated 21 March 2019

LC Paper No. CB(1)737/18-19(02) — Administration's response to the
views and concerns expressed
by deputations and individuals
at the meeting on
7 January 2019 and/or in the
relevant written submissions

LC Paper No. CB(1)875/18-19(04) — List of follow-up actions arising
from the meeting on
26 March 2019

LC Paper No. CB(1)956/18-19(01) — Administration's response to the
list of follow-up actions arising
from the meeting on
26 March 2019

Action

- LC Paper No. CB(1)956/18-19(02) — List of follow-up actions arising from the meeting on 15 April 2019
- LC Paper No. CB(1)968/18-19(01) — Paper on "List of references to the Administration's papers related to charging mechanism of the proposed municipal solid waste charging scheme" prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
- LC Paper No. CB(1)968/18-19(02) — Paper on "List of references to the Administration's papers related to measures to support waste recycling" prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat)

Relevant papers

- (LC Paper No. CB(3)97/18-19) — Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 ("the Bill")
- File Ref: EP CR/9/65/3 — Legislative Council Brief
- LC Paper No. LS13/18-19 — Legal Service Division Report
- LC Paper No. CB(1)205/18-19(01) — Marked-up copy of the Bill prepared by the Legal Service Division (Restricted to Members)
- LC Paper No. CB(1)205/18-19(03) — Background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
- LC Paper No. CB(1)205/18-19(02) — Assistant Legal Adviser ("ALA")'s letter dated 4 December 2018 to the Administration

Action

LC Paper No. CB(1)396/18-19(01) — Administration's reply to ALA's letter dated 4 December 2018

LC Paper No. CB(1)875/18-19(03) ALA's letter dated 25 March 2019 to the Administration)

Discussion

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

Follow-up actions to be taken by the Administration

- Admin 3. The Administration was requested to provide the following information:
- (a) whether the Administration would consider introducing an amendment to the Bill to the effect that people who took part in voluntary waste removal activities (such as voluntary clean-up activities following a natural disaster) would be granted an exemption from using the proposed designated bags/labels for depositing the relevant municipal solid waste ("MSW") or delivering it to the relevant parties;
 - (b) the estimated maximum number of staff required for carrying out enforcement duties related to the proposed charging scheme for the disposal of MSW ("the proposed charging scheme") under the worst-case scenario;
 - (c) the types of waste separation bins that the Government provided without any charge or subsidized the cost of setting them up in residential premises (including housing estates, individual buildings and villages) to facilitate waste separation at source and resource recovery;
 - (d) the number of meeting(s) conducted by the Administration with private waste collectors and recyclers in March and April 2019 to discuss the implementation arrangements of the proposed charging scheme; and
 - (e) details of the pilot scheme(s), if any, conducted in housing estates owned/managed by the Hong Kong Housing Authority on the implementation arrangements of the proposed charging scheme.

Action

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's written response was circulated to members on 11 July 2019 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1250/18-19(01).)

III. Any other business

Date of next meeting

4. The Chairman advised that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 7 May 2019 at 8:30 am.
5. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:30 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
29 July 2019

Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018

**Proceedings of the sixth meeting
on Tuesday, 30 April 2019, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
<i>Agenda Item I – Confirmation of minutes</i>			
000546 – 000613	Chairman	Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2019.	
<i>Agenda Item II – Meeting with the Administration</i>			
000614 – 001054	Chairman Administration	The Chairman's opening remarks and the Administration's briefing on its written response to the list of follow-up actions arising from the meeting on 26 March 2019 (LC Paper No. CB(1)956/18-19(01)).	
001055 – 001639	Chairman Mr Gary FAN Administration	<p>Discussion on (a) the estimated gross revenue to be generated from the proposed charging scheme for the disposal of municipal solid waste ("MSW") ("the proposed charging scheme"); and (b) the major waste reduction and recycling initiatives to be supported by additional recurrent resources, which would be commensurate with the above gross revenue to achieve the effect of "dedicated fund for dedicated use".</p> <p>The Administration advised that around 80% of the daily MSW disposed of at landfills would be subject to charging by designated bags ("DBs") and designated labels ("DLs"), and around 20% of the daily MSW disposed of at landfills would be subject to gate fees (if the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 ("the Bill") was passed). Proceeds from the sale of DLs were expected to be relatively insignificant. While the actual annual gross revenue to be generated from the proposed charging scheme would depend on the compliance rates, the Administration estimated at this stage that it would be in the range of \$800 million to \$1 billion in the first year of implementation of the proposed charging scheme.</p>	
001640 – 002137	Chairman Mr Wilson OR Administration	Discussion on the work plan and work progress of the outreaching teams that were providing pilot outreaching services in Eastern, Kwun Tong and Sha Tin districts.	
002138 – 002610	Chairman Mr YIU Si-wing Administration	<p>Mr YIU suggested that the Administration should take the lead in setting up reward schemes to encourage public participation in resource recovery.</p> <p>The Administration responded that at present, people who brought certain quantities of recyclables to some collection</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p>points in the Community Recycling Network and Community Green Stations would receive rewards such as daily commodities. The Administration would study whether there were better ways to incentivize resource recovery. For example, there were plans to install reverse vending machines under a pilot scheme to facilitate the recovery of plastic beverage containers through the provision of rebates.</p>	
002611 – 003031	<p>Chairman Dr Elizabeth QUAT Administration</p>	<p>Dr QUAT asked how the Administration would tackle the following problems in relation to waste separation and recovery: (a) insufficient public knowledge in distinguishing recyclables from other waste; and (b) insufficient space for waste separation in common households.</p> <p>The Administration advised that it planned to strengthen support for household waste separation and recovery through outreaching services. For example, the outreaching teams would discuss with stakeholders, such as owners' corporations and property management companies ("PMCs"), to understand their recycling needs and existing practices, and would offer recommendations for enhancement. If there was not sufficient space in a residential building/housing estate to place resource recovery facilities, the outreaching teams would provide information on nearby facilities to the residents.</p>	
003032 – 004057	<p>Chairman Dr CHENG Chung-tai Administration Mr Gary FAN</p>	<p>Dr CHENG and Mr FAN expressed the following concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) if, after the implementation of the proposed charging scheme, non-compliant waste ("NCW") deposited by individual households in a residential building/housing estate would be eventually wrapped into DBs by the PMC concerned during its routine waste collection/removal service, then the property management fee might be increased in future to cover the additional costs borne by the PMC. This would be unfair to compliant households, which would have to indirectly subsidize the proposed MSW charge arising from non-compliant households; (b) the free-riding problem described above might become prevalent in buildings with refuse chutes, as it would be difficult for a PMC to identify the source of NCW if it was directly passed down a refuse chute to a large refuse bin by a waste producer; and (c) it would be generally difficult for PMCs to monitor compliance situation and rectify the problems of NCW disposal within residential premises. Moreover, PMCs might not be willing to report offences to the 	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p>authorities due to their aversion to potential conflicts with residents.</p> <p>The Administration responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) while PMCs would be encouraged to report cases of non-compliance to the authorities to facilitate enforcement actions to be taken under a risk-based approach, they would not be required by the Bill to take punitive actions themselves against non-compliant households; (b) if the Bill was passed, enforcement officers could take enforcement actions (such as ambush operations) at a "common area of any premises that is used for depositing waste pending removal from the premises for disposal" ("common area for waste") against the depositing of NCW; and (c) regarding buildings with refuse chutes, currently, the refuse chutes were locked and only accessible by cleaning workers employed by the respective PMCs in about 80% to 90% of the buildings. The Administration would recommend buildings with refuse chutes to adopt the same practice, so that individual households would not be able to deposit NCW into the refuse chutes inconspicuously. 	
004058 – 004455	Chairman Dr Elizabeth QUAT Administration	<p>Dr QUAT asked how the outreaching teams would establish effective communication channels with residents in villages and buildings without owners' corporations, so as to promote waste reduction and recycling in those places.</p> <p>The Administration advised that the pilot outreaching teams were experimenting with various approaches to establishing effective communication channels with residents in buildings without owners' corporations, such as visiting their homes, distributing pamphlets through mailboxes, and getting in touch with them through other parties (e.g. the relevant waste collection/removal service providers and community groups that had frequent contact with them).</p>	
004456 – 004924	Chairman Mr AU Nok-hin Administration	<p>Discussion on the administrative arrangements for government bureaux and departments ("B/Ds") to pay the proposed MSW charge (if the Bill was passed), with reference to the Administration's reply to Assistant Legal Adviser's letter dated 4 December 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)396/18-19(01)).</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
004925 – 005350	Chairman Mr WU Chi-wai Administration	<p>Mr WU enquired whether a residential building/housing estate might choose to adopt the gate-fee charging mode, so as to avoid the administrative burdens associated with charging by DBs.</p> <p>The Administration clarified that the charging mode applicable to a waste producer would depend on the waste collection service he/she used. Charging by DBs would apply if MSW was collected by a refuse collection vehicle with a rear compactor ("RCV") (i.e. a public waste vehicle or a private waste vehicle as defined in the Bill), while charging by gate fee would apply if MSW was collected by a vehicle without a rear compactor.</p>	
005351 – 005802	Chairman Deputy Chairman Administration	Discussion on the expected effectiveness of the proposed charging scheme in bringing about behavioural and cultural changes in waste disposal, on the premise that the Administration would not reward members of the public for reporting cases of non-compliance to the authorities.	
005803 – 011207	Chairman Dr CHENG Chung-tai Administration Mr Wilson OR Mr HUI Chi-fung Mr Vincent CHENG	<p>Dr CHENG, Mr OR, Mr HUI and Mr CHENG expressed concerns about the potential difficulties in taking enforcement actions against depositing of NCW in various types of buildings (such as buildings with mixed uses), and preventing aggravation of fly-tipping after the implementation of the proposed charging scheme (if the Bill was passed). They also asked about the enforcement manpower required.</p> <p>Mr HUI sought clarification on whether, after the passage of the Bill, officers of the Environmental Protection Department ("EPD") would be empowered to enter a common area for waste to take enforcement actions against depositing of NCW even if the owners' corporation of the premises raised objection to the officers' entry. The Administration replied in the affirmative.</p> <p>Mr HUI requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the estimated maximum number of staff required for carrying out enforcement duties related to the proposed charging scheme under the worst-case scenario.</p> <p>For comparison purpose, Mr CHENG considered that the Administration should also provide information on the number of staff currently responsible for carrying out enforcement duties related to illegal disposal of construction and demolition ("C&D") waste.</p> <p>The Administration responded that since 2017, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") had set up</p>	Admin (paragraph 3(b) of the minutes refers)

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p>21 dedicated enforcement teams ("DETs") for tackling illegal waste disposal at black spots. From the end of June 2017 to March 2019, over 10 000 fixed penalty notices were issued by DETs. There had been significant improvement in the environmental hygiene conditions of 273 black spots. FEHD would set up more DETs in 2019 and continue to step up enforcement actions.</p>	
011208 – 011606	<p>Chairman Dr Elizabeth QUAT Administration</p>	<p>Dr QUAT asked about the existing arrangements for the provision of free waste separation bins to residential buildings/housing estates and villages, and how the Administration would promote resource recovery in villages.</p> <p>The Administration responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) under the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste and Programme on Source Separation of Commercial and Industrial Waste, and with funding support by the Environmental Campaign Committee, some 8 000 sets of waste separation bins had been provided for free to residential, commercial and industrial premises (including villages) as at the end of 2018; and (b) the Administration planned to provide outreaching services for all villages across the territory. The outreaching teams responsible for the pilot outreaching service in Sha Tin district had already been in touch with the representatives of some villages for the purpose. <p>Dr QUAT sought elaboration on the types of waste separation bins that the Government provided without any charge or subsidized the cost of setting them up in residential premises to facilitate waste separation at source and resource recovery. The Administration advised that it would provide the information after the meeting.</p>	<p>Admin (paragraph 3(c) of the minutes refers)</p>
011607 – 012106	<p>Chairman Mr AU Nok-hin Administration</p>	<p>Regarding the administrative arrangements for B/Ds to pay the proposed MSW charge (if the Bill was passed), Mr AU suggested that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) each B/D should report the amount of MSW charge it paid annually for public scrutiny; and (b) to demonstrate the Administration's commitment to reducing its waste generation, it should set an annual limit on the MSW charge incurred by each B/D. 	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p>The Administration advised that it would consider the above suggestions.</p> <p>The Administration was requested to provide supplementary information on whether it would consider introducing an amendment to the Bill to the effect that people who took part in voluntary waste removal activities (such as voluntary clean-up activities following a natural disaster) would be granted an exemption from using the proposed DBs/DLs for depositing the relevant MSW or delivering it to the relevant parties.</p>	<p>Admin (paragraph 3(a) of the minutes refers)</p>
012107 – 012512	Chairman Deputy Chairman Administration	<p>In response to the Deputy Chairman's concerns about fly-tipping problems and the effectiveness of the proposed charging scheme in reducing waste, the Administration advised that it would continuously monitor the implementation progress of the proposed charging scheme and compliance rates (if the Bill was passed), and adjust the allocation of resources or seek additional resources to strengthen work on various fronts as necessary.</p> <p>The Deputy Chairman enquired about the number of meeting(s) conducted by the Administration with private waste collectors and recyclers in March and April 2019 to discuss the implementation arrangements of the proposed charging scheme. The Administration responded that it would provide the information after the meeting.</p>	<p>Admin (paragraph 3(d) of the minutes refers)</p>
012513 – 012914	Chairman Mr WU Chi-wai Administration	<p>While cleaning workers employed by PMCs would be prohibited from depositing NCW onto RCVs (if the Bill was passed), Mr WU expressed concerns that it might be difficult for cleaning workers to check whether all waste mixed in large refuse bins was wrapped in DBs and take out NCW before the waste was loaded onto RCVs. He therefore asked whether the routine waste collection/removal services would need to be adjusted in order for PMCs and/or the cleaning workers they employed to comply with the new requirements under the Bill.</p> <p>The Administration responded that when bagged refuse collected in a large refuse bin was being loaded onto an RCV, it would be generally possible to spot individual bags of NCW, if any. As far as the waste removal service provided by FEHD or its contractors was concerned, the Administration's initial idea was that by and large all MSW in a large refuse bin would still be loaded onto an RCV if there was only a very small amount of NCW (say one or two bags), so that the routine waste removal service would not be affected by such minor cases of non-compliance. However, if there were many bags of NCW in the large refuse bin, the cleaning worker employed by FEHD or its</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p>contractor might reject loading the waste in the bin onto the RCV.</p> <p>Mr WU asked about the details of the pilot scheme(s), if any, conducted in housing estates owned/managed by the Hong Kong Housing Authority on the implementation arrangements of the proposed charging scheme. The Administration responded that it would provide the information after the meeting.</p>	Admin (paragraph 3(e) of the minutes refers)
012915 – 013233	Chairman Mr Vincent CHENG Administration	<p>In response to Mr CHENG's enquiry concerning the enforcement manpower for tackling illegal disposal of C&D waste, the Administration advised that a Special Operation Unit was set up under EPD in 2018 to handle relevant tasks, including arranging for the installation of surveillance camera systems and taking enforcement actions at black spots, among other things.</p> <p>Mr CHENG asked whether members of the public could report non-compliance cases related to the proposed charging scheme (if the Bill was passed) and fly-tipping through the "1823 Citizen's Easy Link". The Administration replied in the affirmative and advised that such complaints would be suitably referred to the relevant departments for follow-up.</p>	
013234 – 013420	Chairman Dr Elizabeth QUAT Administration	<p>Dr QUAT suggested that the Administration should consider providing portable equipment (such as hanging bags that could be hung on a wall or door) to the public for free to facilitate separation and recovery of household waste with reference to South Korea's practice.</p> <p>The Administration responded that it would explore the feasibility of the suggestion and/or collaborating with other organizations on the initiative.</p>	
013421 – 013813	Chairman Administration Dr Elizabeth QUAT Deputy Chairman	<p>The Chairman directed that the Bills Committee would now focus its discussion on the first theme under the theme-based approach adopted at the meetings on 26 March and 15 April 2019, i.e. the charging mechanism of the proposed charging scheme. He referred members to the paper on "list of references to the Administration's papers related to charging mechanism of the proposed MSW charging scheme" prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (LC Paper No. CB(1)968/18-19(01)).</p> <p>At the suggestion of the Deputy Chairman, the Administration briefed members on the two proposed charging modes, i.e. charging by pre-paid DB/DL and charging by gate fee, and the proposed charging level.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
013814 – 014655	Chairman Dr Elizabeth QUAT Administration Deputy Chairman	<p>Dr QUAT pointed out that some light-weight household articles, such as a mop with a long handle, could not be wrapped into any DB that would be available for sale to the general public (if the Bill was passed), and there might not be any recycling outlet for such articles. Under the proposed charging mechanism, all oversized waste would be subject to a uniform charging rate of \$11 per article through the use of pre-paid DLs. She expressed concern that some members of the public might consider the proposed charging rate out of proportion for those light-weight household articles that were to be discarded, and hence be unwilling to comply with the requirement of using DLs. The Deputy Chairman shared Dr QUAT's concern.</p> <p>The Administration responded that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) common households would dispose of oversized waste only occasionally, and hence the cost implications arising from the use of DLs would be relatively insignificant. To reduce the amount of MSW charge to be paid, a household might consider breaking a large article into smaller pieces, which could then be wrapped into a DB; (b) a uniform charging rate for oversized waste had the merit of being simple and easy to understand and administer. In contrast, if the MSW charge to be imposed on oversized waste varied according to the size or weight of the article, the arrangement might give rise to unnecessary compliance burden and confusion; and (c) some other places that had implemented quantity-based waste charging had similar mechanisms where oversized waste was charged through pre-paid labels. <p>The Deputy Chairman asked about the distribution network for DBs and DLs, and suggested that the Administration should consider enabling the online purchase of DBs and DLs. The Administration undertook to consider the suggestion.</p>	
014656 – 015103	Chairman Dr Fernando CHEUNG Administration	<p>Dr CHEUNG urged the Administration to offer assistance to the needy to mitigate the financial impact of the proposed charging scheme. While the Administration had proposed increasing the standard rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme by \$10 per person per month for the purpose, he questioned the effectiveness of this measure, given that the proposed extra payment might not be used directly on the purchase of DBs and DLs. He suggested the following measures instead:</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p>(a) granting exemption to recipients of various financial assistance schemes, such as the CSSA Scheme, Old Age Living Allowance and schemes administered by the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency, who had already undergone relevant financial tests; or</p> <p>(b) providing free DBs and DLs to the above people free of charge.</p> <p>The Administration responded that the primary purpose of the proposed charging scheme was to create financial incentives to drive behavioural changes in waste generation and hence reduce overall waste disposal. The Council for Sustainable Development ("SDC"), upon completion of public engagement exercise, recommended implementing MSW charging in all sectors in one go on fairness grounds. The Administration considered that providing exemption to specific groups of people would undermine the purpose and give rise to administrative/enforcement difficulties (as it would be difficult to verify the identity of a person who did not use DB/DL for MSW disposal), and might create a negative labelling effect on those people. The actual MSW charge payable by a CSSA recipient each month might be less than the proposed extra payment of \$10 if he/she would take steps to reduce waste disposal.</p>	
015104 – 015506	Chairman Mr Vincent CHENG Administration	<p>Mr CHENG echoed Dr Elizabeth QUAT's concern about the potential fly-tipping problems arising from the proposed uniform charging rate for oversized waste. He added that it might be impracticable for common households to break certain articles into smaller pieces for putting them into DBs.</p> <p>The Administration responded that the proposed arrangement had already struck a balance between various considerations, including the purpose of the proposed charging scheme and the need to make the charging mode easy to understand and administer, etc.</p>	
015507 – 020347	Chairman Mr POON Siu- ping Administration Mr HUI Chi-fung	<p>Mr POON's enquiry and Administration's clarification on the capacities of DBs to be sold under the proposed charging scheme.</p> <p>Mr HUI considered that the proposed charging level at \$0.11 per litre of MSW was generally appropriate. He asked how the proposed charging level was drawn up.</p> <p>The Administration responded that SDC had conducted a public engagement exercise on MSW charging to gauge public views on, among other things, options for the</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject	Action required
		<p>charging level. The charging level proposed in the Bill was consistent with SDC's recommendation, and similar to the initial waste charging levels of other places that had implemented quantity-based waste charging.</p> <p>Mr POON and Mr HUI asked about the mechanism for the review and adjustment of the charging level, factors to be considered during the review, and whether a downward adjustment to the charging level was possible.</p> <p>The Administration responded that the factors to be considered in the review would include inflation rate, public affordability, effectiveness of the prevailing charging level in driving behavioural change, etc. While a downward adjustment to the charging level was not precluded, the Administration did not consider it probable during the early years of implementation of the proposed charging scheme. If after the completion of the review the Administration considered that the charging level should be adjusted, it would seek to introduce amendments to the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) and relevant regulations, and consult the Legislative Council on the relevant proposals accordingly.</p>	
<i>Agenda Item III – Any other business</i>			
020348 – 020426	Chairman	Date of next meeting	