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

List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion at the meeting on 5 December 2018

The Administration is requested to provide written response to the questions raised by members on the following issues:

Targets of the proposed municipal solid waste charging scheme

(a) the target deliverables of the proposed charging scheme for the disposal of municipal solid waste ("MSW") ("the proposed charging scheme"), and how the Administration would assess the effectiveness of the proposed charging scheme in achieving the relevant targets;

Plastic bags and litter containers in public places

- (b) the estimated number of additional plastic bags to be landfilled each year as a result of the implementation of the proposed charging scheme if the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 ("the Bill") is passed;
- (c) the views of the Competition Commission, if any, in respect of the potential arrangement for sale of "designated bags" ("DBs") under the Bill at retail outlets, in lieu of (i) retailers' distribution of plastic shopping bags which are currently subject to environmental levy, and/or (ii) the sale of non-DBs;
- (d) the policy objectives and effectiveness, with reference to the relevant data, of replacing litter containers ("LCs") in public places with newly-designed LCs with smaller openings; and whether/how this measure may complement the proposed charging scheme;

Enforcement

(e) the work plan for the installation of closed-circuit television systems and/or cameras (including internet-protocol cameras, surveillance cameras with smart technology and other related cameras) to deter fly-tipping and depositing/disposal of "non-compliant waste" under the Bill, including the total number of existing cameras and cameras to be installed, and how the Administration would address privacy issues arising from the use of such cameras for enforcement purpose;

- (f) measures to address members' concerns about the possibility that some members of the public would dispose of their MSW at LCs in public places to evade the use of DBs;
- (g) statistics on the prosecutions against illegal waste disposal in recent years, having regard to members' concerns about the anticipated difficulty in enforcing the proposed charging scheme as they consider the existing enforcement regime ineffective for combating illegal waste disposal;

Manpower resources

- (h) (i) the respective numbers of posts in the relevant government bureaux/departments and their contractors (if any) that are currently involved in the administration of the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme ("CWDCS") and enforcement against illegal depositing/disposal of construction waste; (ii) the proportions of the posts mentioned in (i) that were created after the enactment of the legislation for CWDCS; and (iii) the financial implications of (ii);
- (i) the estimated additional manpower resources (including the number of both permanent and contract staff) required for the implementation of the Bill;

Waste recycling

- (j) details of the pilot scheme on the application of reverse vending machines ("RVMs") for the recycling of plastic beverage containers, including the number of RVMs to be installed, outlets for the collected containers, and the amount of rebate to be provided for each container; and
- (k) the legislative and implementation timetables for taking forward new producer responsibility schemes on various product categories, in particular plastic containers.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
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