Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019

List of follow-up actions required of the Administration arising from the discussion at the meeting on 18 March 2019

The Administration was requested to:

- (a) in respect of the scientific evidence to support its legislative proposal to prohibit the import, manufacture or sale, or use in certain places, of prescribed alternative smoking products; and to restrict the giving, possession, advertising or promotion of the products, provide:
 - (i) a list of the international studies on health effects of such products, in particular electronic cigarettes, heat-not-burn ("HNB") products and herbal cigarettes, which the Administration had made reference to in formulating the proposal; and
 - (ii) the detailed results of the tests conducted by the Government Laboratory on these products (including the test of nicotine and tar yields of seven samples of HNB products conducted in 2017);
- (b) compare the pros and cons of its former proposal to regulate electronic cigarettes and other new smoking products in a way similar to conventional smoking products as proposed in June 2018 versus the current legislative proposal which was announced by the Chief Executive in October 2018, and explain the reasons for the above sudden change in the legislative direction for these products;
- (c) provide a response to a suggestion that the sale of HNB products to adults should be permitted with a statutory limit be set on the maximum nicotine content and tar yield of these products, so as not to deprive adult smokers of the right to switch from conventional cigarettes to those HNB products which had a lower level of harmful constituents in their aerosol; and
- (d) advise its views on some members' query on the admissibility of a proposed amendment to the long title (and other provisions) of the Bill to prohibit the import, manufacture or sale, or use in certain places, of prescribed smoking products; and to restrict the giving, possession, advertising or promotion of the products.