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**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20**

Controlling Officer: Secretary General, Legislative Council Secretariat

Session No. : 3

File Name : LC-2S-e1.docx

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-LC001

(Question Serial No. S009)

Head: (112) Legislative Council Commission
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Council Business Services
Controlling Officer: Secretary General, Legislative Council Secretariat
(Kenneth CHEN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary General, Legislative Council Secretariat

Question:

The amounts of plastic, glass and "other" recyclables collected in the Legislative Council Complex in 2017-18 were well below those collected in the previous years, why was that so? Have the authorities implemented any measures in this regard, e.g. providing enhanced guidelines for cleaners to ensure proper handling of recyclables on each floor? If yes, what are the details?

The amounts of glass and "other" recyclables collected in 2018-19 have remained very small, what do the authorities think are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung

Reply:

There are a total of 29 sets of recycling bins for metals, waste paper, plastics and glass located throughout the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Complex, covering the publicly accessible areas on each of Ground to 3rd floors, as well as Members' and Secretariat offices and activity areas from 4th to 10th floors. It is the responsibility of not only the cleaners, but also all LegCo Complex users to deposit recyclable materials in the said bins. But as the decrease in plastics and glass collected in recycling bins is not matched by any observable increase of the same collected in litter bins, there is no evidence to suggest that LegCo Complex users are recycling less. In any case, the waste audit that will be conducted in the LegCo Complex later this year will provide further insights on whether LegCo Complex users are disposing recyclable wastes responsibly.

2. "Other" recyclables were metals, wires, etc. generated from renovation works and collected from the skip for collecting recyclable construction materials in the LegCo Complex. As the renovation works carried out in 2017-18 and 2018-19 were fewer and smaller than those in previous years, there were less "other" recyclables collected as a result.

3. According to the contract between The LegCo Commission and the cleansing service contractor for the LegCo Complex, the contractor is required to place all separated recyclable wastes in a designated area in the Complex for collection by a registered recycler appointed by the contractor. The contractor has been complying with this requirement.

4. The Secretariat has adopted a series of measures to promote waste reduction. Such measures include providing recycling bins throughout the LegCo Complex, displaying posters in all pantries to promote clean recycling and issuing regular circulars reminding all LegCo Complex users of environmentally responsible habits. Starting this year, a waste audit will be conducted annually to track the effectiveness of the above-mentioned measures for environmental protection.

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