

Panel on Environmental Affairs

**List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 19 March 2019)**

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Mid-term review of the Recycling Fund

29 April 2019

The Administration will brief the Panel on the findings and recommendations of the mid-term review of the Recycling Fund.

Mr CHAN Hak-kan proposed in his letter to the Chairman dated 8 June 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1105/17-18(01)) that the Panel discuss the review of the operation and effectiveness of the Recycling Fund, in particular the administrative cost of the Fund and measures to streamline the procedure for application for subsidies.

2. Construction of San Shek Wan sewage treatment works at South Lantau; provision of sewerage networks in South Lantau and Tolo Harbour; and rehabilitation of underground sewers in Kowloon

29 April 2019

The Administration will seek the Panel's views on the proposed upgrading of the following sewerage projects to Category A:

- (a) part upgrade of PWP Item No. 4331DS – Outlying Islands sewerage stage 2 – South Lantau sewerage works: to construct a secondary sewage treatment works and associated submarine outfall at San Shek Wan, and sewerage network in Pui O area;
- (b) part upgrade of PWP Item No. 4125DS – Tolo Harbour sewerage of unsewered areas, stage 2 – phase 2: to construct sewerage network for four village areas in Sha Tin and Tai Po; and
- (c) part upgrade of PWP Item No. 4414DS – Rehabilitation of underground sewers: to rehabilitate about 6 km of sewers in six districts in Kowloon (Kowloon City, Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong, Wong Tai Sin, Kwai Tsing and Tsuen Wan) with high risks of structural failure.

The Administration plans to submit the proposals to the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee in May and June 2018 respectively.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

May 2019

3. Yuen Long effluent polishing plant and village sewerage for North District, Tuen Mun, Tseung Kwan O, South Lantau and Lamma Island

The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposed upgrading of the following sewerage projects to Category A:

- (a) part upgrade of PWP Item No. 4408DS – Yuen Long effluent polishing plant – stage 1: for upgrading the existing Yuen Long sewage treatment works to increase its treatment capacity from 70 000 cu m per day to 100 000 cu m per day and enhance the sewage treatment level to tertiary;
- (b) part upgrade of PWP Item No. 4339DS – Village sewerage in Fanling Wai, So Kwun Po and Leng Pei Tsuen, Fanling: for the provision of sewerage system for unsewered village areas in Fanling;
- (c) part upgrade of PWP Item No. 4346DS – Upgrading of Tuen Mun sewerage, phase 1, part 2: for the provision of sewerage system for unsewered village areas in Tuen Mun;
- (d) PWP Item No. 4353DS-1 – Village sewerage for Luk Tei Tong and Ma Po Tsuen: for the provision of sewerage system for unsewered village areas in Mui Wo;
- (e) part upgrade of PWP Item No. 4362DS – Sewerage for Ma Yau Tong village, Tseung Kwan O: for the provision of sewerage system to Ma Yau Tong village in Tseung Kwan O; and
- (f) PWP Item No. 4355DS – Outlying Islands sewerage stage 2 – Lamma village sewerage phase 2, package 2: for the provision of sewerage system for unsewered village areas in Yung Shue Wan of Lamma Island.

4. Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury ("the Convention") in Hong Kong

2nd quarter of 2019

The Administration will brief the Panel on the background and the requirements of the Convention, and the scope and approach of the proposed legislation enabling Hong Kong to effectively discharge its obligations under the Convention.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

5. Management of waste paper and waste plastics

2nd quarter of 2019

Management of waste paper

As suggested by Mr Kenneth LEUNG at the meeting on 12 October 2017, members requested the Administration to step up efforts to reduce use of paper towels in public toilets.

Mr HUI Chi-fung wrote to the Chairman on 27 February 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)663/17-18(01)) proposing discussion on the recycling of waste paper, including the Administration's policy on supporting the local recycling of waste paper.

Management of waste plastics

In his letter to the Chairman dated 24 November 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)281/17-18(01)), Mr KWOK Wai-keung proposed discussion on the regulation of the manufacturing and sale of products containing microplastics in Hong Kong. The Administration's written response was circulated to members on 15 December 2017 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)360/17-18(01).

Mr HUI Chi-fung wrote to the Chairman on 6 June 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1084/17-18(01)) proposing discussion on the regulation of single-use plastic products.

6. Combating climate change

2nd quarter of 2019

The Administration will report the progress of its work on combating climate change.

As suggested by Mr CHU Hoi-dick at the meeting on 12 October 2017, members agreed that the item should be brought up for discussion by the Panel every year. At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr CHU further proposed that the Administration should review its targets and strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions with reference to the findings in the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5oC published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in October 2018; and Dr Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should brief members on the use of new technologies to combat climate change, thereby contributing to the development of a "smart environment".

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

7. Management of marine fill and marine disposal of dredged/excavated sediment

2nd quarter of 2019

The Administration will brief the Panel on the management of marine fill and disposal of dredged/excavated sediments by the project owners.

The subject was raised by Mr Steven HO at the meeting on 15 December 2014.

At the meeting on 28 November 2016, Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung suggested the Panel discuss the environmental issues relating to illegal disposal of construction and demolition materials into the sea/river. The Administration advised that these issues could be discussed under this item.

8. Management of yard waste

2nd or 3rd quarter of 2019

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr CHU Hoi-dick and Dr Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Panel discuss the overall management of yard waste and measures to promote reuse/recycling of such waste, including the contingency arrangements for fallen trees and branches caused by natural disasters.

The Administration would like to brief members on the development in the second or third quarter of 2019.

9. Excessive external lighting and noise pollution

2nd or 3rd quarter of 2019

As suggested by Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr SHIU Ka-fai at the meeting on 30 October 2017, members agreed to discuss the Administration's initiatives to regulate excessive external lighting and noise pollution.

On 12 April 2018, the Panel received a referral (LC Paper No. CB(1)802/17-18(01)) arising from the meeting between Legislative Council Members and Wan Chai District Council members on 26 January 2018 concerning the nuisance caused by excessive external lighting.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

10. Review of the Seventh Technical Memorandum ("TM") for Allocation of Emission allowances for Power Plants

3rd quarter of 2019

The Administration will seek members' views on the legislative proposal to further reduce emission allowances for power plants starting from 1 January 2024 by way of issuing a new TM under section 26G of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311).

11. Management of restored landfills

3rd quarter of 2019

In his letter to the Chairman dated 25 May 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1023/17-18(01)), Mr Kenneth LEUNG proposed discussion on the captioned subject, including the progress of developing public facilities on the 13 restored landfills, implementation progress of the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme, and issues related to the handling of landfill gas, leachate and uneven ground settlement on the sites concerned.

12. Enhanced protection of green turtles

4th quarter of 2019

The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposed measures to further enhance the protection of green turtles.

13. Review of the environmental impact assessment ("EIA") system

To be confirmed

Mr Kenneth LEUNG wrote to the Chairman on 24 November 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(1)202/15-16(01)) proposing discussion on the review of the EIA system, including the arrangements for the conduct of EIAs, public consultation arrangements, and enforcement of the environmental permit conditions. The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)537/15-16(01) on 3 February 2016.

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr Steven HO brought this issue up and suggested that the Administration should improve the transparency of the EIA system and public understanding of EIA reports, in anticipation of public concerns over the environmental impact of future reclamation works.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

14. Existing policies on bicycles and promoting bicycles as a mode of transport as an initiative to improve roadside air quality

To be confirmed

Mr HUI Chi-fung wrote to the Chairman on 23 May 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1009/16-17) proposing to hold a joint meeting with the Panel on Transport to discuss issues relating to the existing policies on bicycles and promoting bicycles as a mode of transport. Mr HUI further wrote to the Chairman on 12 October 2017 proposing to discuss bicycle-friendly policies (LC Paper No. CB(1)86/17-18(01)).

Separately, an item on "Cycling safety and consultancy study on cycling networks and parking facilities in existing new towns" is currently on the list of outstanding items for discussion of the Panel on Transport.

15. Control of invasive alien species

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 11 October 2018, Mr CHAN Han-pan proposed discussion on the measures to cope with the threats of invasive alien species to local habitats, with particular focus on *Mikania micrantha* and *Leucaena leucocephala*.

16. Regulation of trade in bear bile products

To be confirmed

This item was raised at the meeting on 11 October 2018 by Dr Elizabeth QUAT who expressed concern about the inhumane practice of extracting bile from live bears. Members would like to be briefed on the statistics on and regulation of trading activities associated with bear bile and its products, and whether the Administration would consider prohibiting the trade in products containing bile extracted from live bears.