For discussion on 11 December 2018

Legislative Council Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene Improving Public Toilet Facilities and Cleansing Services at Major Tourist Spots

Purpose

This paper introduces the Government's plan to improve the public toilet (PT) facilities and related cleansing services at major tourist spots.

Background

2. To implement the initiative of improving facilities and cleansing services of PTs at major tourist spots as announced in this year's Policy Agenda, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) has consulted the Tourism Commission and come up with a list of 23 PTs that require improvements as set out in <u>Annex 1</u>.

Hardware Improvements

3. Among the 23 PTs, we would conduct refurbishment work for four PTs¹. The work include adopting new layouts, beautifying facades and enhancing toilet features. For the remaining 19 PTs, FEHD will carry out some minor works² and replace aged facilities. The works would commence between 2018 Q3 to 2019 Q3 and are estimated to be completed within 4 months.

Software Improvements

Deep Cleansing

4. FEHD has two targets in maintaining the cleanliness of the PTs. Firstly, the Department would conduct deep cleansing operations for the 23 PTs. Such operations

¹ The 4 PTs are Repulse Bay Public Toilet (near Life Saving Association), Peak Tower Public Toilet, Southorn Centre Public Toilet and Stanley Municipal Services Building Public Toilet.

² Minor works include : (a) lime washing of ceiling; (b) repainting of grouting between floor tiles with limewash; (c) repainting of piping, conduits and plumbing; and (d) replacement of existing stained floor tiles by large non-slippery ones if the stains are too extensive and unremovable.

have been completed and brought about immediate noticeable improvements to the general hygiene conditions of the PTs. Secondly, routine deep cleansing operations would be arranged to sustain the impact of the cleansing work. FEHD has procured additional deep cleansing services as from Q1 2019.

Enhanced Management

5. To ensure service contractors provide up to standard services, FEHD has stepped up inspection (at least once in every work shift), with focus on the following four performance indicators:

- (a) dry floor;
- (b) floor, wall and facilities free from stains and dirt;
- (c) no foul smell; and
- (d) proper performance of toilet facilities.

6. In particular, toilet facilities running out of order as identified during the enhanced inspection would be immediately reported to the departments concerned for timely repair.

Long-term Improvements

7. In consultation with Architectural Services Department and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, FEHD is also taking forward long-term improvement initiatives, which include the followings:

- (a) Provision of air-conditioning systems and dehumidifiers, if feasible, to ameliorate the wet floor and odour problems as well as to keep temperature in PTs at an optimal level;
- (b) One stop provision of wash hand basin, soap dispenser and hand drier in the form of a Cabinet Wash Hand Basin System (an example in <u>Annex 2</u>) to alleviate the problem of wet floor caused by wet hands of toilet users; and
- (c) Provision of drinking water dispensers outside PTs (an example in <u>Annex</u>
 <u>3</u>), if feasible, for the convenience of the tourists and toilet users as well as

promoting reduction of plastic bottles.

Other Initiative

8. To remind the public of being mindful and considerate while using PTs, FEHD is stepping up publicity at prominent locations of some PTs by setting up health education promotional booths (examples in <u>Annex 4</u>) for disseminating messages on the importance of toilet hygiene as well as the proper use of toilet facilities³.

Conclusion

9. We will keep in view of the progress and effectiveness of the above measures and formulate enhancement strategies for other PTs in the future.

10. Members are invited to provide comments to the above measures.

Food and Health Bureau Food and Environmental Hygiene Department December 2018

³ A trial scheme has been launched by FEHD since November 2018.

Annex 1

Public toilets requiring improvements at the vicinity of major tourist spots

District	Name of public toilet	Areas of concern
Kowloon City	San Ma Tau Street Public Toilet	Cleanliness
Central and Western	Peak Tower Public Toilet	Cleanliness and facilities
	Man Yiu Street Public Toilet	Capacity, cleanliness and facilities
	Old Peak Road Public Toilet	Cleanliness
Yuen Long	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (North) Public Toilet	Cleanliness
	Lok Ma Chau Control Point (South) Public Toilet	Cleanliness
	Lok Ma Chau Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Cleanliness
North	Lai Chi Wo Public Toilet	Drain blockage, capacity and cleanliness
	Ap Chau (I) Public Toilet	Capacity and cleanliness
Sai Kung	Yim Tin Tsai Public Toilet	Capacity and cleanliness
Yau Tsim	Tsim Sha Tsui Ferry Concourse Public Toilet	Capacity and cleanliness
	Tsim Sha Tsui East Public Transport Interchange Public Toilet	Cleanliness
Southern	Repulse Bay Public Toilet (near Life Saving Association)	Cleanliness
	Stanley Municipal Services Building Public Toilet	Cleanliness
	Repulse Bay Beach Road Public Toilet	Cleanliness and facilities
	Stanley Waterfront Public Toilet	Capacity and facilities
	Repulse Bay Bus Terminus Public Toilet	Cleanliness
	Repulse Bay Public Toilet (near No.16 Repulse Bay Beach Road)	Cleanliness
	Stanley Main Street Public Toilet	Cleanliness
Sham Shui Po	Apliu Street Public Toilet	Cleanliness and facilities
Islands	Shek Tsai Po Street Public Toilet	Cleanliness

District	Name of public toilet	Areas of concern
Wan Chai	Southorn Centre Public Toilet	Cleanliness and facilities
	Expo Drive East Public Toilet	Cleanliness

Annex 2

Example of one stop provision Cabinet Wash Hand Basin System (at the toilet on 3/F, Citygate, Tung Chung)





Example of drinking water dispensers outside public toilet (at the Lantau Link Viewing Platform Public Toilet)





Annex 4

Examples of health education promotional booths

(at female toilet on G/F of Apliu Street Public Toilet)



(at male toilet on 1/F of Apliu Street Public Toilet)

