

Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

List of follow-up actions
(position as at 6 March 2019)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Post-typhoon follow-up efforts under the purview of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD")	13 November 2018	The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel on the outcome of the review coordinated by the Security Bureau on the handling of super typhoons (once available), highlighting the parts relevant to FEHD including measures to be adopted to ensure that FEHD's outsourced service contractors would have sufficient resources and manpower to handle the cleansing work after the passage of super typhoons.	Response from the Administration awaited.
2. Certification system for organic food	11 December 2018	The Administration was requested to provide the following information: (a) the number of inspections (including regular and spot checks) conducted by the Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre ("HKORC") on the 140 food production units that had been certified under HKORC's certification system, and the follow-up actions taken by the Administration or HKORC in case of any non-compliance with HKORC's certification standards and requirements was found;	Response from the Administration awaited.

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		<p>(b) the number of operations carried out by the Customs and Excise Department ("C&ED") against the sale of counterfeit organic food/false claim of organic produce over the past few years, and the number of prosecutions instituted against contraventions of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362);</p> <p>(c) whether the Administration would consider tasking the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department or the Centre for Food Safety, instead of HKORC and C&ED, to conduct inspections on certified production units and retailers of organic food products for ensuring compliance with relevant certification standards and labelling requirements in relation to the production and sale of organic food; and</p> <p>(d) whether the Administration would consider putting in place a mechanism for monitoring and reporting cases of selling fake organic food or labelling of certification marks on unauthenticated food.</p>	

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3. Survey results and control strategy against biting midges	8 January 2019	<p>The Administration was requested to provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) a copy of (i) the technical guidelines formulated by FEHD on the prevention and control of biting midges for relevant departments' reference and (ii) the survey report on the territory-wide study on biting midges conducted by FEHD between July 2017 and July 2018;(b) the follow-up actions to be taken by FEHD and relevant departments against the infestation of biting midges, particularly at locations where biting midges were prevalent according to the survey results;(c) whether consideration would be given to placing light traps for catching biting midges at parks and rural areas where the presence of biting midges was higher and if yes, details of the plan;(d) whether FEHD would consider issuing guidelines on the safety use of insect repellent (e.g. DEET-containing insect repellent) for public reference; and	<p>The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)808/18-19 on 15 February 2019.</p>

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		(e) the strategies and measures (including the allocation of manpower and resources) for preventing proliferation of biting midges as recommended by the Pest Control Steering Committee.	
4. Establishment of an Agricultural Park ("Agri-Park") (Phase 1) in Kwu Tung South	8 January 2019	<p>The Administration was requested to provide, the Panel and in its paper to be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee, more detailed information on the following:</p> <p>(a) the reasons for not adopting the road alignment proposal as originally stated in the consultancy brief for establishment of the Agri-Park; and</p> <p>(b) the justifications for and necessity of the proposed construction of a 7.3 metres wide single two-lane carriageway, as gazetted on 3 and 10 November 2017, connecting the Agri-Park with Tsiu Keng Road and Fan Kam Road; the considerations taken into account by the Administration in proposing the road works; and the estimated impact of the construction works on existing farmers, farmland and environment.</p>	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)915/18-19 on 4 March 2019.

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5. Issues relating to the proposed arrangements for re-allocation of vacant hawker pitches	28 January 2019	Members noted that the Administration would brief and consult the seven District Councils with fixed pitches to be re-allocated and relevant stakeholders on the proposed arrangements for re-allocation of suitable/vacant hawker pitches before finalizing the allocation mechanism with an aim to taking forward the re-allocation in the third quarter of 2019. The Administration was requested to revert to the Panel before the end of the 2018-2019 legislative session the outcome of the consultation and the finalized arrangements for re-allocating the vacant pitches.	Response from the Administration awaited.
6. Application of new technologies in enhancing environmental hygiene and pest control	12 February 2019	<p>The Administration was requested to provide the following information:</p> <p>(a) among the 93 prosecutions instituted against owners of vehicles used for illegal dumping of refuse based on the footage captured by the Internet Protocol Cameras, the penalties imposed by the court on the convicted cases;</p> <p>(b) the total expenditure incurred for conducting a trial use of 24 solar-powered compacting refuse bins</p>	The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)922/18-19 on 5 March 2019.

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		<p>("compacting bins") for household waste collection (including the trial use of an enhanced version of compacting bins equipped with indicators and a transparent front panel starting from June 2018) and the estimated expenditure for putting on trial between April and June 2019 a new design of compacting bins with a more effective waste compacting system and an enhanced inlet design; and</p> <p>(c) a copy of the report to be submitted by the expert from the World Health Organization who would visit Hong Kong in February 2019 and offer advice/recommendations on the Government's pest control strategies and technologies, once the report was available.</p>	
<p>7. Proposal to tighten the management of licensed fish rafts and to review the licence conditions for renewal of existing marine fish culture licences ("MFCLs")</p>	<p>12 February 2019</p>	<p>The Administration was requested to provide the Panel with the following information timely before the special meeting scheduled for receiving views from deputations on the Administration's proposal:</p> <p>(a) the proposed conditions (i.e. mariculture standards), with details, for renewal of</p>	<p>Response from the Administration awaited.</p>

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		<p>existing MFCLs which had been put forward for consultation with the mariculture sector and relevant stakeholders; and</p> <p>(b) the rationale for reviewing and tightening the mariculture standards as well as the considerations behind the proposed licence conditions.</p>	

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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