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Mr. Wong Kam Sing  
Secretary for Environment  
Clerk to Bills Committee  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Ref: Bills Committee Formed on 16 October 2020 to Study the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018

17 February 2021

Dear Mr. Wong Kam Sing

As you know, Food Made Good Hong Kong brings together chefs and restaurateurs from the hospitality industry, we operate as a consultancy and have a Membership programme to support our Members for the long term with an online platform where best practice is easily shared and discussed. We work towards solutions to the waste crisis. We are committed to sharing knowledge to build capacity for a sustainable food system in the wider community, in support of Hong Kong's sustainable development.

Views expressed in this submission are those of the Food Made Good Hong Kong community, in line with our mission and vision as well as policy position on relevant issues, but may not necessarily be the same as the views of each individual member.

## **Background**

Reducing waste, increasing resource recovery, and ultimately achieving a circular economy, is essential for Hong Kong's sustainable development.

Since the issuance of the Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources report in May 2013, the Government has launched a number of policy initiatives and businesses have established a number of voluntary programmes. However, the total and per capita amounts of waste generated have continued to rise, and systems for reuse and recycling are not keeping pace with increasing demand.

Given these negative and unsustainable trends, it is clear that Hong Kong needs further policy measures to drive waste reduction and to incentivise recycling. This letter outlines our recommendations for your honourable attention and action.

### **1. MSW Charging**

Food Made Good Hong Kong strongly supports the MSW charging scheme, which is premised on the "polluter pays" principle, and we urge support from the honourable members of the Bills Committee and all members of LegCo and society for the passage of the Bill and early implementation of the Scheme.

We maintain that MSW charging is an integral part of an effective waste management strategy in Hong Kong and a vital step in moving Hong Kong towards a sustainable food system. Without a regulatory framework for behavioural change, there is no level playing field. What ends up happening is the only truly active (a small minority) green businesses will have to pay out of pocket for solutions, therefore limiting the potential for mainstreaming this much needed change towards a green economy. We urge the Government to enable the normalisation of recycling - leading to waste reductions both with individuals and businesses by making recycling financially viable.

### **2. Investment in waste management infrastructure**

In addition to the MSW charging scheme, Food Made Good Hong Kong urges the Government to use the collected funds and other resources to invest heavily in the waste management infrastructure and associated systems. Priorities for investment include:

- Establishing financially viable collection and redistribution systems, including appropriate

transportation

- Building efficient and clean waste sorting and processing facilities
- Increasing the capacity of existing waste sorting and processing facilities, and upgrading them to meet the highest standards of sustainability.
- Providing enabling environments for waste separation at food outlet sites

### **3. Transparent waste reporting**

In support of the above and in the interests of developing a sustainable food system for Hong Kong, we further urge the Government to develop measurable targets and transparent performance reporting for waste reduction and reuse. We at Food Made Good have experience on Food Waste measuring and actionable steps using proven methodologies that will motivate sectors to shift behaviour.

### **Conclusion**

Food Made Good Hong Kong supports MSW charging as proposed in the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018, and we hope you will support the passing of the bill as a priority when it is put up for a vote in the new LegCo term. We view MSW charging to be a critical step towards effectively reducing waste, increasing recycling and ultimately moving Hong Kong towards a more efficient circular economy and sustainable food system.

Thank you for your attention in response to these recommendations. For queries related to this submission, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



Heidi Yu Spurrell, on behalf of

Food Made Good HK LTD