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Greenery Garden
2A Mount Davis Road
Pokfulam, Hong Kong

February 18th, 2021

Bills Committee
Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

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

I implore you to make the right, responsible and sustainable decision and pass a credible waste charging scheme for municipal solid waste. This is one significant step towards Hong Kong properly managing its waste. The government has been studying the looming waste crisis for decades with representatives travelling the world to witness how other cities that have effectively implemented not only waste charging but proper waste management systems.

Financial incentives to do the right thing – for Hong Kong’s health, wellbeing, prosperity and development – are essential and proven economic levers to effect change. When managed well, waste management sector provides economic opportunities for the right kind of jobs and economic activity.

I have lived in Hong Kong since 1996 and it is my home; I want nothing more than for Hong Kong to fulfil its stewardship duties and be the modern and progressive city that it should be, setting an example for Asia and the world. I also work in the sustainability field, running my own small business, and I have substantive experience in waste management, including work at local landfills.

There is no reason at all for not passing legislation that will encourage waste reduction and the proper waste management hierarchy. Every city in the world that has implemented waste charging has seen long-term benefits. Any arguments about illegal dumping increasing are short lived and with effective communication, enforcement and implementation mechanisms, this can be properly managed.

We have lost decades already and we have also damaged our environment and health by not implementing proper waste management policies and systems. An incinerator on another unsustainable reclaimed island is being forced on Hong Kong, in a beautiful and environmentally-significant marine area with critically endangered finless porpoises. This is all because the government did not act on waste reduction study after study that outlined a responsible pathway for managing waste.

Please, make the right decision and implement a waste charging scheme. Please, also call on the government to implement a modern comprehensive waste management system that is based on circular economy, producer responsibility and waste reduction and responsible management at the core, and support this with legislation.

Yours sincerely



Anne Copeland