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Cc: Paul Zimmerman, Joanne Pong  
Date: 28/09/2021 10:59  
Subject: Briefing by the Secretary for the Environment on the Chief Executive's 2021 Policy Address

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Dear Panel of Environmental Affairs,

*Drink Without Waste* prepared a response to the Ombudsman highlighting the issues the recycling industry is facing and wish members of the panel can get a copy of our submission. This submission can be viewed by the public. We made the following recommendations:

- (1) Shopfront extensions onto public space by recycling shops can be treated as Tolerated Areas whereby enforcement priority is lowered;
- (2) A system similar to hawker licenses can be offered for mobile recyclers using trucks or pop-ups; and
- (3) Re-allocating Short-Term Tenancy sites to the recycling industry for the trading, collection, sorting and stockpiling of recyclables.

Our full submission to the Ombudsman: <https://drinkwithoutwaste.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/DWW-Submission-to-Ombudsman-on-Illegal-Occupation-and-Obstruction-of-Streets-Sep-21-v1.3.pdf>

The illegal use of public space is negatively perceived by the public; however, recyclers contribute greatly to Hong Kong's recycling while offering better protections for the environment.


In our Neighbourhood Scheme (funded by Recycling Fund), we subsidized recycling shops/trucks/pop-ups five cents per plastic bottle.

Working closely with recyclers, we learned to understand the vital needs for space for trading, collection, sorting and stockpiling of recyclables.

Instead of fighting the unauthorized use of space by recyclers, government is urged to regulate it to balance public interests.

Thanks and regards,

Cindy Li  
Project Manager | Designing Hong Kong Ltd.

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