

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1218/20-21  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PS/1/20

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Improvement of  
Environmental Hygiene and Cityscape**

**Minutes of meeting  
held on Tuesday, 23 March 2021, at 2:30 pm  
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS  
Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP  
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH  
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP  
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS, JP

**Member absent** : Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

**Public Officers attending** : Item I

Miss Diane WONG Shuk-han, JP  
Deputy Director (Environmental Hygiene)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr Gilford LAW Sun-on  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 2

Mr Edward CHAN Yiu-keung  
Assistant Director (Operations) 2  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr TSE Yu-cheung  
Assistant Director (Operations) 3 (Acting)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr FORK Ping-lam  
Coordinator (Waste Collection Facilities)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr SUM Siu-hin  
District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sham Shui Po)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr TSE Ki-cheong  
Senior Superintendent (Cleansing and Pest Control) 1  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr LEE Ming-wai  
Pest Control Officer-in-charge  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr Vincent KWAN Wing-hong  
Chief Highway Engineer/Kowloon  
Highways Department

Mr Edmund NG Kok-hung  
Principal Land Executive/Task Force 1  
Lands Department

Item II

Miss Diane WONG Shuk-han, JP  
Deputy Director (Environmental Hygiene)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr Gilford LAW Sun-on  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 2

Mr TSE Yu-cheung  
Assistant Director (Operations) 3 (Acting)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr FORK Ping-lam  
Coordinator (Waste Collection Facilities)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr TSE Ki-cheong  
Senior Superintendent (Cleansing and Pest Control) 1  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr LEE Ming-wai  
Pest Control Officer-in-charge  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr Ken WONG Yiu-kwong  
Assistant Director (Environmental Compliance)  
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Vincent KWAN Wing-hong  
Chief Highway Engineer/Kowloon  
Highways Department

Miss LEE Sin-man  
Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island and Islands)  
Housing Department

Ms Josephine WONG Suk-fun  
Senior Housing Manager/Management Control 2 (Acting)  
Housing Department

Mr Edmund NG Kok-hung  
Principal Land Executive/Task Force 1  
Lands Department

Item III

Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP  
Under Secretary for Food and Health

Mr Gilford LAW Sun-on  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 2

Miss Diane WONG Shuk-han, JP  
Deputy Director (Environmental Hygiene)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr TSE Yu-cheung  
Assistant Director (Operations) 3 (Acting)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr FORK Ping-lam  
Coordinator (Waste Collection Facilities)  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr LEE Ming-wai  
Pest Control Officer-in-charge  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Miss LEE Sin-man  
Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island and Islands)  
Housing Department

Ms Josephine WONG Suk-fun  
Senior Housing Manager/Management Control 2 (Acting)  
Housing Department

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Josephine SO  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 2

**Staff in attendance** : Mr Clement HAU  
Council Secretary (2) 2

Ms Cally LAI  
Legislative Assistant (2) 2

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Action

**I. Efforts to improve environmental hygiene and cityscape**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)746/20-21(01) & (02) and CB(2)849/20-21(01) & (02))

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings at **Annex A**).

2. The Administration briefed members, with the aid of power-point presentation, on the joint operations conducted between February and March 2021 by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") and the Police in the vicinity of Pei Ho Street Market and Cooked Food Centre in Sham Shui Po. The operations were intended to tackle unlicensed hawking activities and street obstruction problems in the area.

*(Post-meeting note: The softcopy of the power-point presentation materials was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)910/20-21(01) on 23 March 2021.)*

Action

Follow-up actions arising from the discussion

- Admin 3. The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the issues raised by members as set out in **Annex B**.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response (LC Paper No. CB(2)1085/20-21(01)) was issued to members on 14 May 2021.)*

**II. Measures to improve refuse collection and street cleanliness**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)746/20-21(03) and (04))

4. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings at **Annex A**).

*(The Chairman left the meeting at 3:41 pm after which the meeting was chaired by the Deputy Chairman.)*

Follow-up actions arising from the discussion

- Admin 5. The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the issues raised by members as set out in **Annex B**.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response (LC Paper No. CB(2)1085/20-21(01)) was issued to members on 14 May 2021.)*

**III. Enhancement of rodent control work**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)892/20-21(01) and (02))

6. The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings at **Annex A**).

7. The Administration briefed members, with the aid of power-point presentation, on the enhanced rodent control work undertaken by relevant government departments, as set out in its paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)892/20-21(01)).

*(Post-meeting note: The softcopy of the power-point presentation materials was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)910/20-21(02) on 23 March 2021.)*

Action

Follow-up actions arising from the discussion

Admin

8. The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the issues raised by members as set out in **Annex B**.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response (LC Paper No. CB(2)1085/20-21(01)) was issued to members on 14 May 2021.)*

**IV. Any other business**

(LC Paper No. CB(2)789/20-21(01))

Letter from Mr Tony TSE

9. Mr Tony TSE elaborated his views as set out in his letter dated 10 February 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(2)789/20-21(01)), and suggested that the Subcommittee should follow up those issues he raised.

10. Members noted from (a) the terms of reference and work plan of the Subcommittee (Appendix II to LC Paper No. CB(2)632/20-21(01)) and (b) the finalized items and timing proposed for discussion (LC Paper No. CB(2)680/20-21(01)) that the issues raised in Mr TSE's letter were outside the Subcommittee's purview and fell within the terms of reference of some other Panels. Members agreed that Mr TSE's letter be referred to relevant Panels for consideration and follow-up, as and where necessary.

*(Post-meeting note: Mr Tony TSE's letter was referred to the Panel on Development, the Panel on Environmental Affairs, the Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Transport on 24 March 2021.)*

Proposed visit to refuse collection and rodent surveillance facilities

Clerk and  
Admin

11. Members agreed that a visit should be conducted for members to better understand specific refuse collection and rodent surveillance facilities of FEHD. The Clerk was instructed to liaise with the Administration on the necessary arrangements.

*(Post-meeting note: The visit was subsequently held in the morning of 26 April 2021.)*

Action

Date of next meeting

12. Members agreed that the next meeting be held on 27 April 2021 at 2:30 pm to discuss "Improvement of environmental hygiene of public markets and public toilets" and "Enhancement of control work of mosquito and biting midge infestation".

13. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:47 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
23 June 2021

**Proceedings of the meeting of the Subcommittee on  
Issues Relating to the Improvement of Environmental Hygiene and Cityscape  
on Tuesday, 23 March 2021, at 2:30 pm  
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
000516 - 000925	Chairman Mr Tony TSE	<p>The Chairman handled (a) the letter from Mr Tony TSE dated 10 February 2021 (LC Paper No. CB(2)789/20-21(01)) and (b) the proposed visit to understand the refuse collection and rodent surveillance facilities, before proceeding to substantive discussion on agenda items I, II and III.</p> <p>Mr Tony TSE's elaboration of his views as set out in his letter, and members' agreement on how to deal with the issues raised by Mr TSE.</p>	
000926 - 001035	Chairman Deputy Chairman Admin	Chairman's proposal and members' agreement on arranging a site visit to refuse collection and rodent surveillance facilities of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD").	
<i>Agenda item I - Efforts to improve environmental hygiene and cityscape</i>			
001036 - 001508	Chairman Admin	Briefing by the Administration on the joint operations conducted between February and March 2021 by FEHD and the Police in the vicinity of Pei Ho Street Market and Cooked Food Centre in Sham Shui Po.	
001509 - 002217	Chairman Mr Vincent CHENG Admin	<p>Mr Vincent CHENG expressed concern about the difficulties faced by FEHD's frontline officers in taking enforcement actions against shops committing illegal shop front extensions ("SFEs"), as staff of many such shops very often ignored FEHD officers' warnings and advices or even behaved in a hostile manner. He wondered whether FEHD's frontline staff could take enforcement actions against SFEs independently, without the assistance of other departments (such as the Police).</p> <p>Mr CHENG was also concerned about unlicensed hawking activities (involving the selling of fresh vegetables and meats, in particular) taken place in the vicinity of public markets. His views that FEHD should take stringent actions against such activities.</p>	



Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) in tackling SFE-related offences, law enforcement officers could issue fixed penalty notices ("FPNs") of \$1,500 to offenders causing obstruction as a result of the illegal extension of business by shops, in accordance with the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570). Where the case was more serious or complicated (e.g. involving repeated offenders), consideration would be given to issuing summons and/or taking arrest action under section 4A of Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228);</li> <li>(b) under section 83B(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), no person should hawk in any street except in accordance with a licence issued under relevant regulations;</li> <li>(c) enforcement figures concerning cases of unauthorized hawking and illegal extension of business by shops causing street obstruction were set out in LC Paper No. CB(2)849/20-21(02);</li> <li>(d) apart from participating in inter-departmental joint operations against illegal SFEs, FEHD officers also took enforcement actions against illegal SFEs independently. They would issue FPNs and institute prosecutions, where needed; and</li> <li>(e) FEHD was exploring with relevant departments further solutions to tackle illegal SFEs, hoping to devise a trial scheme for the purpose. The Administration would revert to the Subcommittee when details of the trial scheme were available.</li> </ul>	
002218 - 003048	Chairman Mr Wilson OR Admin	<p>Mr Wilson OR's concerns about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) whether the enforcement tools under the existing legal framework could effectively tackle the problem of SFE, especially against repeated offenders and chain shops; and</li> <li>(b) as there were cases where the identity of complainants was leaked to the shops</li> </ul>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>committing illegal SFEs, the mechanism to ensure the confidentiality of the complainants.</p> <p>The Administration's responses:</p> <p>(a) FEHD had all along been taking strict enforcement actions to combat illegal acts related to SFEs to minimize the nuisance caused to members of the public. The Home Affairs Department ("HAD") was aware of members' suggestions of reviewing the current policies/legislation concerning SFE-related offences. HAD considered that the existing penalty level for the offence could achieve the intended deterrent effect;</p> <p>(b) FEHD would explore further solutions to tackle illegal SFEs, through the introduction of a trial scheme; and</p> <p>(c) FEHD had provided guidelines for its frontline staff to handle complaints against illegal SFEs. As complaint cases involved personal data, all particulars should be kept in confidence.</p> <p>With reference to the enforcement actions and inter-departmental joint operations conducted between February and March 2021 against SFEs in Sham Shui Po District, the Administration was requested to revert on whether it had any plans to conduct similar operations in the future in the other 17 Districts; and if yes, the details of the Administration's work plan and timetable in this regard.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b> (item (a) of Annex B refers)</p>
003049 - 003855	Chairman Admin	<p>The Chairman's concerns and enquiries on:</p> <p>(a) whether the enforcement tools under the existing legal framework could tackle the problem of SFEs;</p> <p>(b) whether relevant departments had a clear demarcation of responsibilities in tackling the problem of illegal extension of business by shops causing street obstruction, especially in the specific situation where goods were placed on carriageways; and</p> <p>(c) whether it was the Government's plan to</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>reduce the number of litter containers placed in various districts over the territory.</p> <p>The Administration's responses:</p> <p>(a) since 24 September 2016, relevant enforcement departments, including FEHD, had tackled illegal SFEs by issuing FPNs. The number of FPNs issued by FEHD in 2018, 2019 and 2020 were 7 586, 7 626 and 10 734 respectively;</p> <p>(b) illegal SFE was a street management problem which fell within the purview of a number of government departments. Depending on circumstances, enforcement against street obstruction was generally taken by various departments (including FEHD, the Police, the Lands Department ("LandsD") and the Buildings Department). For example, FEHD was responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of streets, while Highways Department ("HyD") and LandsD would tackle illegal disposal of construction waste in areas under their respective purview/management. The Police would tackle goods and miscellaneous items causing traffic obstruction on carriageways; and</p> <p>(c) the number of litter containers placed on streets was reduced from over 21 000 in 2014 to around 12 000 by 2019, and had remained largely the same hitherto. To complement the waste reduction policies of the Environment Bureau, FEHD had strengthened its public education and publicity efforts on proper disposal of refuse.</p>	
003856 - 004622	Chairman Mr Steven HO Admin	<p>Mr Steven HO's concerns:</p> <p>(a) regarding the joint operations conducted between February and March 2021 against SFEs in Sham Shui Po District, the number of enforcement actions appeared to be on the low side as the situation of illegal SFEs in the area, according to his understanding, was very serious; and</p> <p>(b) the need to ensure reasonableness, fairness and consistency in taking enforcement actions against SFEs offenders.</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) the joint operations conducted between February and March 2021 by FEHD and the Police were effective in combating illegal SFEs in the area; and</p> <p>(b) FEHD had provided its frontline staff with clear enforcement guidelines to ensure that enforcement actions were taken against all SFE offenders fairly.</p>	
004623 - 005919	Chairman Mr Tony TSE Admin	<p>Mr Tony TSE expressed concern about the environmental hygiene situation and cleansing work of public roads, subways, footbridges and highways.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) cleansing and sweeping of public roads and expressways were under the purview of FEHD and HyD respectively. Currently, FEHD had 30 Central Divider Teams and 10 Mechanical Street Sweeping Teams responsible for sweeping carriageways, flyovers and road dividers, as well as clearing the refuse at central dividers and roadside of the public roads under its purview. Generally, the frequency of cleansing ranged from once daily to once bi-monthly, and might be adjusted in the light of the ground situation;</p> <p>(b) HyD was responsible for managing the cleansing work of 1 000 footbridges and 500 pedestrian subways. The cleansing frequency was adjusted based on their usage. HyD would also beautify and repair its footbridges and subways, where necessary; and</p> <p>(c) for expressways under HyD's ambit, they were inspected at least once a day to ensure that the expressways were free from junk and refuse which would affect traffic safety. HyD would also handle complaints relating to cleanliness of expressways.</p> <p>Mr TSE shared the view that the Administration should review the existing policies/legislation concerning SFE-related offences, and come up</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		with more effective measures for tackling at root the problem of illegal SFEs.	
005920 - 010955	Chairman Mr Wilson OR Admin	<p>Mr Wilson OR's enquiries on:</p> <p>(a) whether the Administration would consider revamping the service contract awarding system so as not to award cleansing service contracts merely on account of tender price; and</p> <p>(b) which department(s) was responsible for the cleansing work of footbridge lifts and escalators, and what further measures could be adopted for improving the hygiene conditions of such facilities.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) in considering tenders submitted, the Administration would have regard not only to price score but also technical score (e.g. the ability of the contractors in meeting the requirements set out in cleansing service contracts). FEHD had taken into account (i) recommendations laid down in The Ombudsman's direct investigation report on "Monitoring of Outsourced Street Cleansing Services by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department" issued in October 2020, (ii) the procurement policy and procedures from the Treasury Branch of the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau as well as (iii) improvement measures for non-skilled employees engaged by government service contractors implemented with effect from 1 April 2019 when granting service contracts, with a view to improving quality of cleansing services; and</p> <p>(b) regarding footbridge lifts and escalators, the sweeping of the lift floor was maintained by cleansing service contractors of FEHD; while the lift wall, ceiling and buttons were cleaned as well as the washing of such facilities (with floor inclusive) was undertaken by service contractors engaged by HyD.</p> <p>Mr Wilson OR considered it inefficient and not cost effective to have different parts of a lift being cleaned by different teams of service</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		contractors. The Administration should review and improve the cleansing services arranged for footbridge lifts and escalators.	
<i>Agenda item II - Measures to improve refuse collection and street cleanliness</i>			
010956 - 011940	Chairman Admin Deputy Chairman	<p>The Chairman's concerns and enquiries:</p> <p>(a) refuse collection facilities in rural areas were insufficient to cater for the additional demand arising from the increase in population. How FEHD would enhance the refuse collection service in rural areas; and</p> <p>(b) whether there was a clear demarcation of responsibilities among relevant departments in clearing waste in public places and on Government lands.</p> <p>The Administration's response that:</p> <p>(a) new technologies had been introduced to enhance the refuse collection service in rural areas. For example, solar-powered aluminium refuse collection points ("RCPs") were put on trial by FEHD at 31 rural sites. Solar-powered mobile refuse compactors and compacting refuse bins had also been put on trial in RCPs of rural areas;</p> <p>(b) waste found on Government lands already allocated to individual departments would be handled by the respective departments; while waste found on unallocated and unleased Government lands, would be cleared by LandsD; and</p> <p>(c) waste found in public places was handled by relevant departments depending on the type and location of waste. For example, FEHD was responsible for handling domestic waste disposed in public places such as streets and pavements; and HyD was responsible for clearing construction and demolition materials placed on the public roads under its management.</p> <p><i>[The Chairman left the meeting at 3:41 pm and the Deputy Chairman took over the chair.]</i></p>	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subject(s)/Discussion</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
011941 - 012629	Deputy Chairman Mr Wilson OR Admin	<p>Mr Wilson OR's enquiries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) how FEHD would monitor the performance of its outsourced cleansing service contractors;</li> <li>(b) whether the Administration would review the tender evaluation requirements for provision of street cleansing services, with a view to enhancing the quality of such services; and</li> <li>(c) whether the existing cleansing service contracts allowed flexibility for FEHD to request contractors to hire additional manpower to perform cleansing work in order to meet specific service needs.</li> </ul> <p>The Administration's responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) to ensure that the service performance of its outsourced contractors met the contract requirements, FEHD monitored the performance of contractors by conducting regular spot checks and surprise inspections using the risk-based management approach;</li> <li>(b) as announced in the Chief Executive's 2018 Policy Address, the Administration had completed a review of the employment terms and conditions of government service contracts, and come up with improvement measures applicable to, among other service contracts, cleansing service contracts. Under the improvement measures that took effect from 1 April 2019, the technical weighting in tender evaluation for the above-mentioned service contracts could be increased to the range of 50% to 70%. This would allow for selection of cleansing service contractors delivering services of a higher quality; and</li> <li>(c) specific service needs (including those for anti-epidemic efforts against the Coronavirus Disease 2019) were fulfilled by requiring service contractors to employ additional staff. Over the past year, an additional 13 street washing teams, 30 mobile cleansing teams for cleaning litter containers and 68 mobile cleansing teams for cleaning RCPs and public toilets had been employed by service</li> </ul>	

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		contractors for enhancing street cleansing and environmental hygiene services.	
012630 - 013307	Deputy Chairman Mr Steven HO Admin	<p>Mr Steven HO's view that the Administration should formulate long-term plans to cope with the anticipated demand for refuse collection service in new development areas. He suggested that the Administration should consider introducing automatic refuse collection systems for waste collection.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) FEHD maintained close collaboration with relevant departments in enhancing refuse collection facilities. For example, representatives from FEHD had joined the meetings of the Steering Group on the Modification of Recycling and Refuse Collection Facilities in Public Places set up under the Environment Bureau to review the provision and design of recycling and refuse collection facilities in public places. FEHD also gave views to the Development Bureau on the provision of refuse collection facilities for new development areas; and</p> <p>(b) the Administration had explored the possibility of introducing in Hong Kong automatic refuse collection systems. There were technical constraints in applying those systems locally, due to the difficulties in implementation and maintenance. FEHD would further explore feasible solutions to enhance its refuse collection services.</p>	
013308 - 015514	Deputy Chairman Admin Mr Steven HO	<p>The Deputy Chairman asked whether any improvement measures had been introduced in recent years in public rental housing ("PRH") estates for refuse collection. He expressed grave concern about street obstruction problem caused by shops' illegal extension of business, with commodities being placed on pavements and goods/miscellaneous items on carriageways. He urged the relevant departments to step up their enforcement efforts against SFEs.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) new refuse handling systems had been used in PRH estates to ensure efficient refuse</p>	



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		<p>collection. Relevant technologies used in PRH estates included refuse compactor systems, bin lifters and bin cleansing machines in RCPs, de-odorizing systems for RCPs, etc. After the implementation of municipal solid waste charging, the Housing Department ("HD") would review whether it was necessary to introduce further measures to enhance refuse collection in PRH estates; and</p> <p>(b) enforcement actions against illegal SFEs were taken in the light of the ground situation. Enforcement officers of various departments would take the most appropriate actions under their purview depending on the situation at the scene.</p> <p>The Administration was requested to advise how it tackled the problem of shops causing street obstruction in the specific situations that the goods or miscellaneous items (in particular, foam boxes) were placed on pavements and carriageways.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b> (item (c) of Annex B refers)</p>
015515 - 021144	Deputy Chairman Mr Steven HO Admin	<p>Mr Steven HO asked about the channel for members of the public to report cases of illegal SFEs; and the timetable for cleansing service contracts' adoption/deployment of advanced or new technologies/equipment (e.g. mini-mechanical sweepers and mechanical street sweepers) in carrying out street cleansing work.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) the public could report cases of illegal SFEs through the government hotline 1823. Currently, relevant departments were exploring new strategies and measures to tackle the SFE problem more effectively, including the feasibility of adopting a new enforcement model under the existing legislative framework and the ways to handle complaints efficiently. The Administration aimed to launch a trial scheme in two or three districts for tackling illegal SFEs in the second half of 2021; and</p> <p>(b) FEHD had been proactively deploying new technologies for enhancing street cleansing</p>	

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		<p>and refuse collection services. It would assess the feasibility, cost-effectiveness and suitability of such technologies after trial use. Technologies which had been proven cost-effective would be extended to applicable environments in other districts in Hong Kong. The means would be for requirements to adopt those technologies to be stipulated in new/renewed cleansing service contracts.</p> <p>The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the following:</p> <p>(a) details of the aforementioned trial scheme; and</p> <p>(b) whether responsible departments (including FEHD) would introduce performance pledges for clearing up goods or miscellaneous items placed on pavements and carriageways.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b> (items (b) and (c) of Annex B refer)</p>
<i>Agenda item III - Enhancement of rodent control work</i>			
021145 - 022502	Deputy Chairman Admin	Briefing by the Administration on the enhancement of rodent control work (LC Paper No. CB(2)892/20-21(01)).	
022503 - 023517	Deputy Chairman Mr Wilson OR Admin	<p>Mr Wilson OR's concerns and enquiries on:</p> <p>(a) how the Administration would strengthen inter-departmental coordination of various departments in carrying out rodent prevention and control work;</p> <p>(b) judging from the rodent infestation situation in Hong Kong, FEHD's rodent control work did not appear to be cost-effective. How FEHD would make better use of the annual expenditure allocated for rodent control services, with a focus on eliminating rodents in the territory; and</p> <p>(c) how the Administration would enhance public participation in rodent prevention and control work.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) the Pest Control Steering Committee ("PCSC") coordinated and synergized, through providing high-level direction, the</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>pest (including rodent) control efforts of three bureaux and 21 government departments. PCSC regularly reviewed the effectiveness of the pest control measures carried out by various bureaux and departments. It also provided a platform for departments to grasp the latest situation and adopt effective prevention and control measures at the venues under their purview;</p> <p>(b) in addition to eliminating rodents through trapping and placing poisonous baits, FEHD's expenditure on rodent control work covered various aspects, including inspecting locations with rodent activities, provision of health education relating to rodent control, rendering technical advice on rodent prevention and control to various government departments/organizations, conducting joint inspections to provide on-site recommendations, where necessary, to assist relevant bodies in stepping up rodent control work, handling rodent-related complaints, and timely intervention by FEHD and in collaboration with parties concerned having regard to the rodent infestation surveillance data available, etc.; and</p> <p>(c) FEHD had launched a new dedicated website in January 2021 to promote the message of "Keep Hong Kong Clean, We Can Do It!" to the public. Among other information, useful information and recommendations to keep the environment hygienic were also provided to encourage public response and participation. FEHD also appealed to the public to maintain street cleanliness and environmental hygiene through Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak on various social media platforms, including Facebook and Instagram.</p>	
023518 - 030108	Deputy Chairman Ms Elizabeth QUAT Admin	<p>Ms Elizabeth QUAT's views and concerns:</p> <p>(a) rodent infestation remained a serious problem in various districts (especially in public markets and PRH estates); whether FEHD would explore and adopt more effective and efficient rodent control methods/techniques, as well as make use of more effective technologies in rodent control; and</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>(b) whether FEHD would explore using more effective rodent baits.</p> <p>The Administration's responses:</p> <p>(a) FEHD had been making use of the thermal camera monitoring system in trouble spots to detect the locations frequented by rodents, identify their dispersal routes for more targeted control measures, and assess the effectiveness of anti-rodent operations;</p> <p>(b) FEHD was exploring the application of innovative technologies to enhance the effectiveness of anti-rodent work in public markets. Collaborating with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, FEHD was launching a pilot scheme in Yeung Uk Road Market, Tsuen Wan, to deploy wireless motion sensors, rodent traps, bait boxes, etc. through the application of Internet of Things solutions, so as to step up the monitoring of rodent prevention and control work in markets, and carry out focused improvements and follow-up work;</p> <p>(c) to curb rodent infestation in PRH estates, HD and FEHD had set up a Working Group on Rodent Prevention and Control in PRH estates managed by the Housing Authority. The working group was co-chaired by the Deputy Directors of FEHD and HD and worked under PCSC to formulate and implement more effective rodent prevention and control measures and provide relevant facilities in PRH estates. Around 80 priority PRH estates would be selected for implementing more intensive rodent control measures and conducting promotional and education work in 2021; and</p> <p>(d) FEHD had conducted field trials to assess the effectiveness of placing different foods as baits at different areas, so as to enhance the efficacy of trapping rodents and the measure was found to be effective. FEHD would adopt the mixed-bait approach in their daily operation. In collaboration with the City University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong, FEHD was conducting a research on the habitual</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>behaviours of the rodents in Hong Kong, studying their genetic characteristics, virology, rodenticide resistance and food preference, etc. The study would assist FEHD in enhancing the effectiveness of using traps and rodenticides in rodent control.</p> <p>The Administration was requested to provide the actual expenditure involved and manpower resources deployed for FEHD's anti-rodent work for the financial years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and the estimated expenditure and manpower resources to be incurred for the financial year 2021-2022.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b> (item (g) of Annex B refers)</p>
<p>030109 - 030620</p>	<p>Deputy Chairman Mr Steven HO Admin</p>	<p>Mr Steven HO's enquiries on:</p> <p>(a) whether the Administration would consider organizing competitions for soliciting innovative ideas/effective methods on rodent disinfestation (such as rodent trap design competitions); and</p> <p>(b) whether the Administration had any plans and timetables for stepping up rodent control work and implementing technologies in rodent surveillance and control.</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) to enhance the effectiveness of anti-rodent work, FEHD would adopt a series of measures in various aspects, such as strengthened rodent trapping, training and experience sharing. For example, to raise the effectiveness of rodent trapping, FEHD would place different foods as baits in the course of rodent trapping; and to effectively attract rodents and kill them upon consumption, FEHD would introduce suitable rodent traps/bait boxes and deploy them to different settings; and</p> <p>(b) PCSC had formulated indicators and work plans for 2021 for reference by various departments in carrying out rodent control work. The work plans included, among others, (i) carrying out improvement works and enhanced cleaning at back alleys with poor hygiene condition; (ii) increased sharing of rodent infestation surveillance data</p>	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)/Discussion	Action Required
		<p>with various departments through the Government's Geospatial Information Hub platform by mid-2021; and (iii) releasing the Rodent Infestation Rate of 50 survey locations to the public in the second quarter of 2021, so as to enhance transparency and better reflect the rodent infestation situation of particular locations.</p> <p>The Administration was requested to provide the timetable of FEHD's application of new/suitable technologies in its rodent surveillance and control work, and details of the new technologies to be introduced.</p>	<p><b>Admin</b> (item (e) of Annex B refers)</p>
030621 - 031450	Deputy Chairman Admin	<p>The Deputy Chairman asked whether FEHD would organize competitions on designing effective rodent traps, as he found on the Internet that some "do it yourself" ("DIY") rodent traps appeared to be effective in catching rodents. He further asked about the use of T-shaped rodent bait boxes; and whether FEHD had introduced any new rodent traps to replace traditional rodent traps (such as cages).</p> <p>The Administration's responses that:</p> <p>(a) due to behavioral difference, while some DIY rodent traps might be effective in catching certain species of rodent (e.g. mice), the traps were less effective in catching house rats (also known as roof rats) and sewer rats (also known as Norway rats), both of which were commonly found in public places and outdoor areas. The rodent traps currently used by FEHD were effective in catching sewer rats and house rats; and</p> <p>(b) FEHD introduced suitable rodent traps/bait boxes and deployed them to different settings. The T-shaped bait boxes, in comparison with traditional bait boxes, were more attractive to rodents, and a greater amount of poisonous baits could be stored inside for long-term baiting programme. FEHD had also introduced new snap traps which were more sensitive and could trap rodents where the use of poisonous bait and wire cage trap were not feasible.</p>	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subject(s)/Discussion</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
031451 - 033030	Deputy Chairman Ms Elizabeth QUAT Admin	<p>Ms Elizabeth QUAT urged the Administration to strengthen its efforts on pest control in the upcoming summer, when the mosquito and rodent infestation problems would very likely emerge.</p> <p>The Administration advised that in addition to the rodent control measures as mentioned earlier, FEHD would closely monitor the changes in weather conditions and ask various departments to carry out the mosquito control operations prior to the onset of the rainy season. Relevant departments would keep eliminating mosquito breeding places throughout the operations, and promptly carry out targeted mosquito prevention and control work based on the surveillance indices.</p> <p>The Administration was requested to revert on whether it had any plan to further encourage public participation in keeping the city clean.</p>	<b>Admin</b> (item (f) of Annex B refers)
<i>Agenda item IV - Any other business</i>			
033031 - 032136	Deputy Chairman	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The Deputy Chairman's closing remarks</p>	

**Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene**

**Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Improvement of  
Environmental Hygiene and Cityscape**

**List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion  
at the meeting on 23 March 2021**

The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the following issues and concerns raised by members:

Issues relating to agenda item I "Efforts to improve environmental hygiene and cityscape"

- (a) with reference to the enforcement actions and inter-departmental joint operations conducted between February and March 2021 against shop front extensions in Sham Shui Po District, whether the Administration has any plan to conduct similar operations in the future in the other 17 Districts; and if yes, the details of the Administration's work plan and timetable in this regard;
- (b) in respect of the pilot/trial scheme targeting to tackle the problem of shops illegally extending their business areas by placing goods and miscellaneous items on pavements/carriageways causing obstruction to the pedestrians and traffic, details of the pilot/trial scheme including (i) the objectives of the scheme; (ii) the government departments involved; (iii) what specific strategies and measures have been/would be introduced to tackle the problem; and (iv) how the scheme could help expedite the processing of cases of illegal extension of business by shops causing street obstruction;
- (c) to spell out concretely, how the Administration would tackle the problem of shops causing street obstruction (including law enforcement taken by various departments in accordance with their respective powers and responsibilities) in the specific situations that the goods or miscellaneous items (in particular, foam boxes) were placed on (i) pavements and (ii) carriageways; and whether responsible departments (including the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD")) would consider introducing performance pledges for clearing up such goods and miscellaneous items;



Issues relating to agenda item II "Measures to improve refuse collection and street cleanliness"

- (d) since FEHD had been advocating the deployment of new technologies listed in Annexes 1 and 2 to the Administration's paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)746/20-21(03)) for mechanization and automation to (i) enhance the quality and efficiency of street cleansing services as well as (ii) to enhance refuse collection services, whether FEHD would consider imposing certain contract requirements (e.g. the need to adopt and the timetable of adopting new technologies) in the service contracts for compliance by all FEHD's outsourced service contractors;

Issues relating to agenda item III "Enhancement of rodent control work"

- (e) the timetable of FEHD's application of new/suitable technologies in its rodent surveillance and control work, and details of the new technologies to be introduced;
- (f) whether the Administration has any plan to further encourage public participation in keeping the city clean (e.g. launching promotion campaigns to enhance public awareness or organizing competitions for soliciting innovative ideas/effective methods on rodent disinfestation); and
- (g) the actual expenses involved and manpower resources deployed for FEHD's anti-rodent work for the financial years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and the estimated expenses and manpower resources to be incurred for the financial year 2021-2022.