

Panel on Environmental Affairs

**List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 27 March 2025)**

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. The District Cooling System (“DCS”)

28 April 2025

The Administration plans to report to the Panel the review outcome of the way forward of developing district cooling systems in new development areas, and consult the Panel on the proposed amendments to the District Cooling Services Ordinance (Cap. 624).

Mr CHAN Hak-kan suggested at the meeting on 16 January 2024 that the Administration should review the operation and cost-effectiveness of existing DCSs and report the details to the Panel, including the DCSs’ operating and maintenance costs, rates of return on investment, etc., with a view to examining whether there would be a good business case for constructing new DCSs in new development areas/projects. At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Panel Chairman, suggested that the Administration report the operation and cost-effectiveness of DCSs to the Panel as soon as possible.

2. Review of the Ninth Technical Memorandum for Allocation of Emission Allowances for Power Plants

28 April 2025

The Administration has been setting emission allowances for power plants by issuing Technical Memorandums (“TMs”) in accordance with the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311). The Administration re-examined the emission caps for the power industry in early 2025, reviewed the Ninth Technical Memorandum for the Allocation of Emission Allowances for Power Plants, and proposed to issue the Tenth TM within this year to further tighten the emission allowances for power sector for 2030 onwards.

3. Progress of the implementation of the Strategy of Hydrogen Development in Hong Kong (“the Strategy”)

2nd quarter of 2025

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Mr Dominic LEE proposed discussion on the implementation situation of the Strategy and development of related technologies.

At the work plan meeting on 18 February 2025, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Panel Chairman, suggested that apart from the progress in hydrogen trial projects, the Administration should also report the specific progress made in other areas under the Strategy.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. Implementation progress and review of the Hong Kong Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

2nd quarter of 2025

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department attended the second part of the 15th meeting of Conference of the Parties (“COP 15”) to the UN Biodiversity Convention, which was held from 7 to 19 December 2022. The Administration will brief the Panel on the developments in relation to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and relevant decisions adopted at COP 15; new emerging issues and priorities at local, regional and national levels; and preparation for the next biodiversity strategy and action plan.

5. Review on the effectiveness of the feeding ban requirements under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170)

June/July 2025

On 19 November 2024, the Panel received a referral (LC Paper No. CB(1)1551/2024(01)) arising from the meeting between Legislative Council Members and Sai Kung District Council members on 25 October 2024 for follow-up on issues relating to enforcement and public education for the prohibition of feeding of feral pigeons. The Panel was requested to review the effectiveness of the latest feeding ban requirements introduced under the Wild Animals Protection (Amendment) Ordinance 2024 after its commencement on 1 August 2024.

6. Hong Kong’s Climate Action Plan 2050

June/July 2025

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Ms Carmen KAN proposed discussion on the progress of various measures in the Hong Kong’s Climate Action Plan 2050.

Green and low-carbon development

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Ms Judy CHAN, Panel Deputy Chairman, suggested holding a joint meeting with other relevant Panel(s) to discuss how to expedite the development of green economy and green finance. Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Panel Chairman, suggested that the Panel follow up on issues relating to green and low-carbon transformation and carbon trading standards.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

7. 5189DR–Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 2 (“I·PARK2”) 3rd quarter of 2025

The Administration briefed the Panel on 24 June 2024 regarding the overall strategy for the development of modern waste-to-energy incinerators (“I·PARKs”) for treating municipal solid waste, and received positive feedback in general for the development of I·PARK2.

The Administration plans to consult the Panel in the third quarter of 2025, aiming to seek members’ support for the funding application for I·PARK2 before submission to the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee in the second half of 2025, so as to secure funding before the prorogation of the Seventh Legislative Council.

8. The way forward for municipal solid waste (“MSW”) charging and other waste reduction and management measures 2nd or 3rd quarter of 2025
(items (a) to (c))

(a) Review of the MSW charging scheme

At the joint meeting with the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene on 27 May 2024, the Administration announced that a review of the MSW charging scheme would be conducted and its outcome would be reported to the Panel(s) in mid-2025 to consult members on the way forward.

(b) Regulation on the proper collection and handling of recyclables in residential buildings

It was announced in the Chief Executive’s 2023 Policy Address that the Government would introduce a bill in early 2024 to regulate the proper handling of recyclables in residential buildings. The Administration launched the Waste Reduction and Recycling Charter in June 2024 to encourage property management companies, owners’ corporations and residents’ organizations of private residential premises to pledge to set up waste separation and recycling facilities accessible to residents and pass the collected recyclables to recyclers for proper processing to improve the management of recyclables.

The Administration will review the progress of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Charter, and consult stakeholders and the Legislative Council in mid-2025, including the way forward, operation and timetable of the proposed legislation.

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Mr Dominic LEE expressed concern about the inadequacy of local recycling facilities, and suggested that the Panel discuss issues relating to the enhancement of community recycling support facilities.

(c) Public education

At the meeting on 16 January 2024, Mr CHU Kwok-keung suggested that the Administration should enhance public education on environmental protection (such as waste reduction and recycling), and interdepartmental cooperation should be strengthened for the purpose.

(d) Regulation of product packaging

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Panel Chairman, and Ir CHAN Siu-hung proposed discussion on the regulation of excessive packaging.

(e) Regional collaboration

Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested at the meeting on 16 January 2024 that the Administration explore the sharing of waste treatment capacities between Hong Kong and other cities in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Ir CHAN Siu-hung suggested that the Administration expedite arrangement for discussion on regional collaboration in waste treatment to cope with the ultimate waste disposal needs of the territory.

9. Development of the green industry

To be confirmed

The Subcommittee to Study Policy Issues Relating to Municipal Solid Waste Charging, Recovery and Recycling referred the following issues to the Panel for follow-up: promoting local reuse of recyclables and green procurement; planning and support for the development of the green industry and related manpower training; and regional collaboration and strategy for waste management.

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Ir CHAN Siu-hung suggested that the Administration expedite arrangement for discussion on the development of the green industry and related manpower training to enhance promotion of waste reduction and recycling, and to promote the healthy development of the recycling industry.

At the work plan meeting on 18 February 2025, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Panel Chairman, suggested that the Administration report within the 2025 session the progress of its work in the development of the green industry, including related land use planning, recycling operations in the EcoPark, etc.

10. Promoting the popularization of electric vehicles

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Mr Dominic LEE suggested that the Panel follow up on the measures to promote the wider use of electric vehicles, including the progress of expansion of the network of charging facilities, as well as conversion of petrol filling stations into quick charging stations or petrol-cum-charging stations.

11. Issues relating to electricity supply

To be confirmed

(a) Future development of Hong Kong's electricity market and effectiveness of 2023 Interim Review on Scheme of Control Agreements ("SCAs")

At the meeting on 16 January 2024, Ms Carmen KAN, Dr Hoey Simon LEE and Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested discussing:

- (i) structure of and regulatory framework for the local electricity market after the expiry of the existing SCAs;
- (ii) progress of increasing the share of green energy in the fuel mix for electricity generation, capital investments involved and tariff impact; and
- (iii) effectiveness of the modifications to SCAs following the 2023 Interim Review.

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Ms Carmen KAN suggested that the Panel follow up arrangement of discussion on the above issues.

(b) Electricity supply policy and import of zero-carbon energy

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Dr Hoey Simon LEE, Mr Tony TSE and Ms Elizabeth QUAT respectively proposed discussion on Hong Kong's long-term electricity supply policy, the share of electricity imported from the Mainland and the progress of import of zero-carbon energy.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

(c) Development of renewable energy

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Mr Tony TSE proposed discussion on the development of renewable energy (such as solar energy and wind power generation), including the timetable for taking forward the relevant projects. Dr Junius HO proposed discussion on appropriate relaxation for installation of solar photovoltaic systems in low-density private buildings.

12. Balance between development and environmental protection

To be confirmed

At the work plan meeting on 18 February 2025, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Panel Chairman, suggested refining the scope of this item to focus on the development of wetland conservation parks system, in particular the Sam Po Shue Wetland Conservation Park, under the Northern Metropolis Development Strategy. At the meeting on 25 January 2022, Prof LAU Chi-pang urged the Administration to ensure proper environment protection during the development of the Northern Metropolis.

13. Proposed amendments to Noise Control Ordinance (Cap. 400) and its subsidiary legislation

To be confirmed

The Administration will brief Panel members on the outcome of the public/trade consultation and seek their views on several proposals to tighten noise control.

14. Enhancement of facilities in country parks

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 14 January 2025, Dr Hoey Simon LEE proposed discussion on the progress of the enhancement of facilities in country parks.

15. Village sewerage programme

To be confirmed

Mr Michael TIEN wrote to the Panel Chairman on 12 March 2025 suggesting the Panel to discuss the provision of public sewerage system for village areas in Yuen Long. Mr KWOK Wai-keung and Mr LUK Chung-hung suggested in their joint letter dated 18 March 2025 to the Panel Chairman that the Panel discuss the implementation timetable and progress of the village sewerage programme.