Panel on Environmental Affairs

List of outstanding items for discussion (position as at 22 February 2018)

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Enforcement against illegal land-filling and fly-tipping of construction waste

26 March 2018

The Administration will update the Panel on the enforcement actions to combat illegal land-filling and fly-tipping of construction waste and the latest progress in the development of measures to facilitate enforcement.

2. Tightening the emission standards of non-road vehicles under the Air Pollution Control (Non-road Mobile Machinery) (Emission) Regulation

26 March 2018

The Administration will brief the Panel on the proposed implementation timetable of the Euro VI emission standards for non-road vehicles (except light bus) newly supplied to Hong Kong.

The Administration intends to introduce the relevant legislative proposal into the Legislative Council in July 2018.

3. New energy saving and renewable energy arrangements under the next Scheme of Control Agreement

23 April 2018

As suggested by members at the meeting on 12 October 2017, the Panel would like to be briefed on: (a) details of the implementation of the Feed-in Tariff ("FiT") scheme to be introduced in the regulatory period of the Scheme of Control Agreements effective from 2018-2019 (including the setting of FiT rate(s)); (b) measures to encourage the private sector and the community to consider investing in distributed renewable energy; and (c) way forward of implementing floating photovoltaic systems at impounding reservoirs on a larger scale.

Members of the Panel on Economic Development will be invited to join the discussion on this item.

4. Rehabilitation of underground sewers and upgrading of Central & East Kowloon sewerage

23 April 2018

The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposal to upgrade the following sewerage items to Category A:

- (a) part of 4414DS Rehabilitation of underground sewers Stage 1; and
- (b) 4344DS Upgrading of Central & East Kowloon sewerage Phase 3.

5. Shek Wu Hui Effluent Polishing Plant

2nd quarter of 2018

The Administration will invite the Panel's views on the proposal to upgrade part of sewerage item 4388DS – Shek Wu Hui Effluent Polishing Plant – Main Works Stage 1 to Category A.

6. Update on the progress of preparation for implementing Producer Responsibility Scheme on glass beverage containers

2nd quarter of 2018

The Administration will brief the Panel on the legislative proposal in the second quarter of 2018.

7. Management of indoor air quality

2nd quarter of 2018

The item was proposed by Dr Helena WONG at the meeting of 18 October 2016. Members would like to discuss issues relating to the management of indoor air quality, including setting indoor air quality objectives, and establishing standards for hazardous emissions from household furniture.

8. Protection of endangered species of animals and plants and the review of relevant provisions under Cap. 586

2nd quarter of 2018

The item was raised by Mr HUI Chi-fung, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr CHAN Hak-kan at the meeting on 12 October 2017. Members would like to discuss the review of relevant provisions under Cap. 586. Members also agreed to discuss issues relating to conservation of green turtle and possible expansion of Sham Wan Restricted Area (raised by

Mr HUI in his letter dated 12 October 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)86/17-18(01)), conservation of endangered shark species and control of shark fins trading, and conservation of incense tree through legislative control.

9. Management of marine fill and marine disposal of dredged/excavated sediment

2nd quarter of 2018

The Administration will brief the Panel on the management of marine fill and disposal of dredged/excavated sediments by the project owners.

The subject was raised by Mr Steven HO at the meeting on 15 December 2014.

At the meeting on 28 November 2016, Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung suggested the Panel to discuss the environmental issues relating to illegal disposal of construction and demolition materials into the sea/river. The Administration advised that these issues could be discussed under this item.

10. Review of Air Quality Objectives ("AQOs")

3rd or 4th quarter of 2018

The Administration will brief the Panel on the findings of the AQO review.

11. Implementation of Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 2

3rd or 4th quarter of 2018

The Administration will invite the Panel's views on the funding application for submission to the Public Works Subcommittee/Finance Committee for the implementation of Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 2. The Administration will also brief the Panel on the progress of its overall food waste management plan.

As suggested by Mr CHAN Hak-kan at the meeting on 12 October 2017, the Administration was requested to explore other feasible measures to reduce food waste in order to alleviate the pressure on landfills.

12. Combating climate change

 4^{th} quarter of 2018

The Administration will report the progress of its work on combating climate change.

As suggested by Mr CHU Hoi-dick at the meeting on 12 October 2017, members agreed that the item should be brought up for discussion by the Panel every year.

13. Review of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499)

To be confirmed

Mr Kenneth LEUNG wrote to the Panel Chairman on 24 November 2015 (LC Paper No. CB(1)202/15-16(01) issued on 26 November 2015) proposing discussion on the captioned subject. The Administration's response was circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(1)537/15-16(01) issued on 3 February 2016.

14. Implementation of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities ("IWMF")

To be confirmed

The Administration obtained funding approval for IWMF (waste-to-energy facilities) from the Finance Committee in January 2015 and completed the prequalification exercise in the same year. The tender invitation for Design-Build-Operate contract from the pre-qualified tenderers was issued in November 2016. The Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") has considered Report No. 65 of the Director of Audit, a chapter of which is on the Government's efforts in managing municipal solid waste.

PAC issued a referral memorandum dated 16 February 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)586/16-17(01)) recommending the Panel to follow up issues relating to the captioned subject.

To be confirmed

15. Existing policies on bicycles and promoting bicycles as a mode of transport as an initiative to improve roadside air quality

Mr HUI Chi-fung wrote to the Panel Chairman on 23 May 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)1009/16-17 issued on 24 May 2017) proposing to hold a joint meeting with the Panel on Transport to discuss issues relating to the existing policies on bicycles and promoting bicycles as a mode of transport. Mr HUI further wrote to the Panel Chairman on 12 October 2017 proposing to discuss bicycle-friendly policies (LC Paper No. CB(1)86/17-18(01)).

Separately, an item on "Cycling safety and consultancy study on cycling networks and parking facilities in existing new towns" is currently on the list of outstanding items for discussion of the Panel on Transport.

16. Development of an artificial bathing beach at Lung Mei in Tai Po

Letter from Save Lung Mei Alliance on 25 October 2016 requesting the Panel on Environmental Affairs and the Panel on Development to discuss and monitor the captioned issue (LC Paper No. CB(1)42/16-17(01) issued on 4 November 2016).

As agreed at the work plan meeting on 7 November 2016, the Environment Bureau/Environmental Protection Department will liaise with the relevant bureau or department to provide an information paper on the latest development of the matter.

17. Free distribution of paper towels in public toilets

As suggested by Mr Kenneth LEUNG at the meeting on 12 October 2017, members requested the Administration to step up efforts to reduce use of paper towels in public toilets.

18. Excessive external lighting and noise pollution

As suggested by Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr SHIU Ka-fai at the meeting on 30 October 2017, members agreed to discuss the Administration's initiatives to regulate excessive external lighting and noise pollution at a future meeting. The To be confirmed

To be confirmed

Administration was urged to address the issue given its potential effect on public health.

19. Regulating the manufacturing and sale of products containing microplastics in Hong Kong

To be confirmed

Hon KWOK Wai-keung wrote to the Chairman on 24 November 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(1)281/17-18(01)) proposing discussion on the captioned subject. The Administration's written response was circulated to members on 15 December 2017 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)360/17-18(01). At the meeting on 19 December 2017, members agreed to include the item on this list.

20. Environmental pollution issues caused by garages in urban areas

On 19 December 2017, the Panel received a referral (LC Paper No. CB(1)382/17-18(01)) arising from the meeting between Legislative Council Members and Eastern District Council members on 14 July 2017 concerning the safety issues of garages in urban areas. The problem of garages/vehicle repair workshops which pollute the environment in residential areas had been referred to the Panel for follow-up.

The Administration will provide an information paper on the subject, with focus on the position in Eastern District.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
22 February 2018