

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)268**

**(Question Serial No. 4210)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses  
Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services  
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the refuse collection facilities under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department), please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) whether the Department will conduct a study in 2017-18 on the installation of recyclables collection facilities in some refuse collection points (RCPs) of a bigger size for collecting recyclable materials with relatively low economic value, so as to raise the waste recycling rate in Hong Kong; if yes, the work plan, work schedules and estimated expenditure in this respect; if not, the reason(s); and
- (b) whether the Department will consider providing all RCPs with additional manpower to better combat the disposal of refuse outside RCPs; if yes, the details; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (Member Question No. 233)

Reply:

Promotion of recyclable collection facilities falls under the purview of the Environment Bureau.

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (a) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has commissioned a consultancy study which looks into, amongst others, incorporating the resource recovery function in future Refuse Collection Points (RCPs). The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will work closely with EPD to follow up the recommendations made by the consultant with a view to enhancing recycling work in the community. In fact, FEHD has been working in collaboration with EPD in past years to make available space in a few designated RCPs to support the trial of glass bottles recycling. The Government remains open on the proposal of making available space in RCPs for collecting recyclable materials, on the premise that the efficiency and effectiveness of refuse collection service at RCPs is not affected.

- (b) In combating the disposal of refuse outside RCPs, apart from stepping up enforcement action, the Department has, with the consent of respective District Councils, extended the opening hours of some targeted RCPs with additional manpower provided to cater for the local demand at midnight or in the early morning. These 2 measures have brought about improvements to a certain extent.

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