

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)111

(Question Serial No. 1974)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

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:

In connection with household waste collection and management of public cleansing facilities, please advise this Committee on:

1. the annual expenditure on outsourcing the collection service for three-colour waste separation bins (three-colour bins) managed by the Department, the information on the contractors hired and the respective number of three-colour bins they handled in each of the past 3 years;
2. the whereabouts of the materials collected by the contractors in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by type (i.e. paper, metals and plastics), the quantities of materials (in kilograms) eventually recycled and the quantities of materials (in kilograms) ended up being disposed of in landfills;
3. the expenditure to be involved in outsourcing the collection service for three-colour bins in the coming year; and
4. the total number of complaints received by the Department against the contractors' frontline cleansing workers for disposal at will of recyclable materials as general waste in the past 3 years; details of the follow-up actions taken by the Department; and details of the surprise checks (if any) conducted by the Department to monitor the performance of the contractors in regard to the collection of recyclable materials. Besides, will the Department consider stipulating a minimum collection tonnage of clean recycling materials in the contracts? If yes, the details; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon HUI Chi-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

1. The names of the contractors engaged by the Department to provide recyclables collection services in the past 3 years and the respective contract values are tabulated below:

Contract period	Contractor	Contract Value
1 August 2016 to 31 August 2018	Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited	\$23.19 million
1 September 2018 to 31 August 2020	Baguio Waste Management & Recycling Limited (Hong Kong and Islands, and New Territories East and New Territories West)	\$26.85 million
	Shiny Glory Services Limited (Kowloon)	6.47 million

The number of recyclables collection bins provided by the Department throughout the territory in the past three years is as follows:

Year	No. of recyclables collection bins
2017	1 981
2018	1 981
2019	1 982

2. The recyclables collected by the contractors will be delivered to the relevant recyclers for proper handling, including processing them into recycled products or raw materials so that they can be exported or supplied to the local market. The general waste collected in the recyclables collection bins as well as the materials contaminated or unsuitable for recycling will be treated as general waste. The quantities of recyclables and other waste collected by the Department's contractors in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	Paper (kilograms)	Metal (kilograms)	Plastic materials (kilograms)	Other waste (kilograms)
2017	301 800	33 600	389 400	557 600
2018	270 300	40 200	419 900	433 600
2019	341 100	55 500	479 700	527 800

3. The existing service contracts will expire on 31 August 2020. The expenditure required for the new contracts depends on the results of the public tender exercises to be conducted in due course.
4. The Department received 10 complaints against the contractors' improper disposal of recyclables in the past 3 years. As regards the follow-up actions on the complaints, in addition to routine inspections, the Department conducted surprise checks and took contract enforcement actions as appropriate. No improper disposal of recyclables was found in the follow-up inspections. Whether a minimum collection tonnage of

clean recycling materials should be stipulated in the service contracts depends on whether such a requirement is reasonable. The Department will take this into consideration when drawing up the terms and conditions of the new service contracts.

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