

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)291

(Question Serial No. 3577)

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:

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2020-21 under the Programme that the Department will “continue to explore and apply new technology and automation to enhance environmental hygiene services and strengthen related enforcement and prosecution work”. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

As at March this year, what new technologies and automation methods have been applied to enhance environmental hygiene services and strengthen related enforcement and prosecution work? What are the expenditure and manpower deployment involved?

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has been proactively applying technologies to enhance environmental hygiene services and the efficiency of prosecution work through the use of machines and automation. A summary of the technologies and automation methods used for enhancing environmental hygiene services and enforcement efficiency in 2019-20 is provided at Annex. The revised estimate of expenditure is \$70 million.

Application of Technologies in Enhancing Environmental Hygiene

- (a) **Internet Protocol (IP) Cameras**
IP cameras have been installed at over 150 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively increase to over 300 by mid-2021.
- (b) **360 Degrees Cameras**
360 degrees cameras have been installed at 15 Marine Refuse Priority Sites on a trial basis since March 2020.
- (c) **Solar-powered Aluminium Refuse Collection Points (RCPs)**
Solar-powered aluminium RCPs were put on trial at 26 rural sites from September 2019 to February 2020. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (d) **Atomised Ozonated Water Technology**
The Atomised Ozonated Water Technology is currently put on trial at RCPs to abate odour.
- (e) **Mini-mechanical Sweepers**
Mini-mechanical sweepers have been used for street cleansing in designated areas of Tai Po and Yuen Long Districts. As the results are found satisfactory, suitable locations in other districts are being identified for their wider use.
- (f) **Solar-powered Compacting Refuse Bins (CRBs)**
Solar-powered CRBs with an improved design have been put on trial since April 2019. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (g) **Street Leaf Vacuum Cleaners**
A trial run of street leaf vacuum cleaners at suitable locations in the New Territories is planned for the second quarter of 2020.
- (h) **Solar-powered Mobile Refuse Compactors (MRCs)**
Solar-powered MRCs were put on trial in Tai Po District from May to June 2019. As the preliminary results are found satisfactory, a further trial will be conducted at suitable RCPs in rural areas of Yuen Long District in mid-2020.

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