

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)112

(Question Serial No. 0813)

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 Diane WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

It is stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under the Programme that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will “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:

Between March 2020 and February 2021, 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.: 78)

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 between March 2020 and February 2021 is provided at Annex. The total expenditure was about \$24 million.

Application of technologies in enhancing environmental hygiene

- (a) **Internet Protocol (IP) Cameras**
IP cameras have been installed at about 240 illegal refuse deposit spots across the territory, and the number will progressively expand to about 300 by mid-2021.
- (b) **360 Degrees Cameras**
360 degrees cameras continue to be installed at 15 marine refuse priority sites.
- (c) **Solar-powered Aluminium Refuse Collection Points (RCPs)**
Solar-powered aluminium RCPs have been put on trial at 38 rural sites since September 2019. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (d) **Atomised Ozonated Water Technology**
The atomised ozonated water technology has been put on trial at 6 RCPs to abate odour since April 2020. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (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 satisfactory, further tests on their effectiveness at other suitable locations are being considered.
- (f) **Solar-powered Compacting Refuse Bins (CRBs)**
A new round of tests on 24 improved solar-powered CRBs has been conducted since September 2020. The effectiveness is being assessed.
- (g) **Street Leaf Vacuum Cleaners**
Street leaf vacuum cleaners have been put on trial in Sai Kung District. After preliminary assessment, the feasibility of improving the cleaners is being explored. Further tests at other suitable locations in the New Territories are planned.
- (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, another trial has been conducted at 3 RCPs in rural areas of Yuen Long District since July 2020. Their wider use at other suitable rural sites is planned.

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