

Annex 4 to Legislative Council Question No 24

Key progress on the preparation work relevant to the implementation of MSW Charging

(a) **Formulating effective implementation plans to give effect to the charging mechanism at the various types of MSW reception points:** Through an Interdepartmental Working Group (“IWG”) and its sub-working group, we are reviewing the relevant operation details at different reception points for the purpose of the implementation of quantity-based MSW charging. The review will lead to the formulation of various implementations plans relating to compliance standards, enforcement strategy etc. Members of the IWG include senior representatives of the Environmental Protection Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”), the Housing Department and the Home Affairs Department. Where necessary, representatives from other relevant departments may also be co-opted.

(b) **Development of relevant complementary systems:** We have completed a technical trial on retrofitting all refuse collection vehicles (“RCVs”) operated by or on behalf of FEHD by installing an automated bin-counting system and the related billing system to support the interim charging mechanism on the basis of “by volume of waste disposed by the building”. We are reviewing the results of the trial and will accordingly determine the way forward.

(c) **Stepping up of public education and community involvement programmes:** The Environment and Conservation Fund has earmarked a provision of \$50 million to provide support to community involvement programmes to give waste generators of different building types and relevant stakeholders an early start in experiencing waste charging and reviewing the performance on waste reduction. The Fund has received the first batch of applications and the vetting is expected to be completed by March 2016.

(d) **Drafting of the enabling legislation to provide the legal basis for implementation of MSW charging:** We are preparing the Draft Drafting Instructions taking into account the outcome of item (a) above and are seeking inputs from the Department of Justice and other relevant departments.