

Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP 葛珮帆議員

Geographical Constituency – New Territories East

Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong

Membership in Environmental-related Committees:

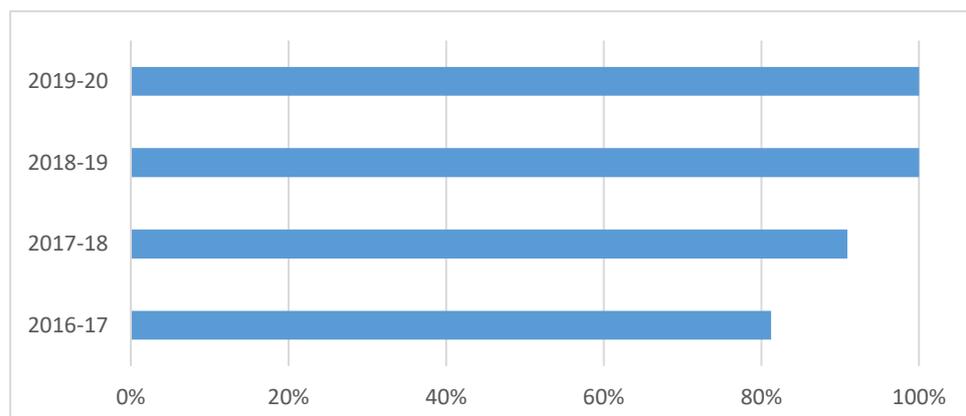
- Panel on Environmental Affairs
- Bills Committee on Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources Bill
- Bills Committee on Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants (Amendment) Bill 2017
- Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018
- Subcommittee on Air Pollution Control (Vehicle Design Standards) (Emission) (Amendment) Regulation 2017
- Subcommittee on Country Parks (Designation) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Order 2017
- Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to the Development of Electric Vehicles

Voting Record:

8 December 2016: Motion Moved by Hon Chan Han-Pan on “Updating the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and Increasing Community Facilities to Enhance Living Environment” as Amended by Hon Alice Mak, Ir Dr Hon Lo Wai-Kwok, Hon Frankie Yick and Hon Andrew Wan	Yes
1 June 2017: Motion on “Promoting ‘Hong Kong People Using Hong Kong Water’ and Protecting Local Resources”	No
5 July 2017: Proposed Resolution Moved by Secretary for the Environment under the Product Eco-Responsibility Ordinance and the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance	Yes
16 November 2017: Proposed Resolution under the Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Ordinance	Yes
31 January 2018: Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Third Reading	Yes
12 April 2018: Motion Moved by Hon Frankie Yick on “Promoting the Popularization of Electric Vehicles” as Amended by Hon Kenneth Leung, Hon Charles Peter Mok, Ir Dr Hon Lo Wai-Kwok, Hon Yung Hoi-Yan, Hon Chan Hak-Kan and Hon Tanya Chan	Yes

Panel on Environmental Affairs Attendance:

As Member



Comments Made in Environmental-related Committees:

Panel on Environmental Affairs

20161128	33. Pointing out that some social enterprises had received support under the Environment and Conservation Fund ("ECF") to manufacture recycled products, Ms Elizabeth QUAT also asked if the Administration would provide support under the Fund to social enterprises in marketing such products locally or opening up overseas markets for these products.	Waste
20170123	16. The Chairman and Ms Elizabeth QUAT asked if the Administration would make reference to overseas experiences to promote installation of photovoltaic ("PV") systems for electricity generation at suitable sites/buildings.	Climate
20170123	19. Ms Elizabeth QUAT asked about the implementation details of developing Hong Kong into a sponge city and a smart city under the "Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2030+". She also queried the absence of measures to tackle light pollution in CE's 2017 Policy Address.	Climate
20170123	38. Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan considered that publicity, education and public engagement should form an integral part in all environmental and conservation strategies.	Misc
20170327	6. Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Kenneth LEUNG, Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Ms Elizabeth QUAT , Mr Martin LIAO, Mr Andrew WAN, Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Mr HO Kai-ming and Mr Kenneth LAU expressed support in principle for the proposed quantity-based MSW charging.	Waste

20170327	<p>11. Ms Elizabeth QUAT opined that the Administration should adopt a carrot and stick approach by offering incentives to individual households in the form of MSW charge rebates based on the amount of waste reduced while collecting the MSW charges. This would enhance public acceptability of the charging scheme. Mr Tommy CHEUNG and Mr SHIU Ka-fai shared similar views. Referring to the practice of Seoul which tracked garbage disposal and waste recycling by individual households, and offered rebates through reductions in electricity and/or water charges for eligible households, Ms QUAT enquired whether the Administration would consider providing similar initiatives in Hong Kong.</p>	Waste
20170424	<p>12. Ms Elizabeth QUAT indicated that she had no objection to the proposed manpower arrangements but expressed concern about the effectiveness of the waste reduction and recycling work undertaken by WRD. In particular, she noted that the amount of waste plastics recovered and recycled had dropped significantly from 2013 to 2015 while the amount of waste plastics disposed of at landfills during the same period had increased.</p>	Waste
20170529	<p>12. Mr HUI Chi-fung and Ms Elizabeth QUAT opined that the MSW charges collected should be ploughed back to an account designated for initiatives related to waste management and recycling. Ms QUAT urged the Administration to enhance efforts in promoting waste reduction at source and recycling of waste.</p>	Waste
20170529	<p>19. The Deputy Chairman and Ms Elizabeth QUAT enquired about the possible difficulties encountered in taking enforcement actions in future against non-compliances with the requirements under MSW charging, and the relevant enforcement measures to be taken by the Administration to overcome those difficulties.</p>	Waste
20170626	<p>17. Mr HUI Chi-fung, Ms Elizabeth QUAT and the Chairman enquired about the measures to be taken by the Administration to assist owners of residential and commercial buildings and village houses in installing equipment for converting solar energy into electricity. Ms QUAT and the Chairman enquired about inter-departmental cooperative</p>	Climate

	measures to streamline the procedures for installation of solar power equipment by the public, and other measures to promote the installation and use of solar power systems at residential and commercial buildings on a district basis for self-generation of power supply.	
20171012	12a. Measures to assist the recycling industry to meet the Mainland's tightened requirements for import recyclables: In connection with the Implementation Plan on Advancing Reform of the Administration System on Import of Solid Wastes through Prohibiting Import of Foreign Rubbish promulgated in July 2017 whereby the Mainland authorities would phase in more stringent requirements on the import of recyclables, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Ms Elizabeth QUAT and the Deputy Chairman urged that the Administration should explore measures to assist the recycling industry as local recyclables might not have sufficient market outlets if other countries were also tightening up their national standards for imported waste in future.	Waste
20171012	12e. Use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong – Mr HUI Chi-fung, Ms Elizabeth QUAT , Mr CHAN Hak-kan and Mr Frankie YICK proposed to discuss policies and measures in this regard, including the provision of battery charging facilities for electric vehicles, and whether there were plans to phase out conventional vehicles in the long run in view of the development overseas.	Air
20171030	16. Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Mr CHU Hoi-dick enquired whether any target year had been set for phasing out the use of conventional vehicles. Ms QUAT expressed concern about the reduction in concession of FRT for electric private cars had driven owners to purchase diesel private cars instead. She and Mr HUI Chi-fung enquired whether the administration would re-instate full waiver of FRT for electric private cars or provide other tax incentives for purchasing EVs.	Air
20171127	24. Pointing out that the huge quantities of waste paper piled up on the street as a result of the incident had caused environmental hygiene problems and also affected the property management companies, cleaning and transport companies, Ms Elizabeth QUAT expressed grave concern that	Waste

	<p>some waste paper recyclers had already indicated that they might have to close down because of the Mainland's tightening requirements for import recyclables in early 2018. In this connection, she urged the Administration to devise appropriate contingency measures to assist the relevant sectors to prevent the recurrence of similar incident.</p>	
20171127	<p>31. Mr CHAN Hak-kan and Ms Elizabeth QUAT expressed support for the Administration's proposed approach of incubating a local manufacturing industry using recycled materials. Ms QUAT enquired about the Administration's plan in this regard, including providing incentives to attract investment, profit projections and sustainability of such business.</p>	Waste
20171127	<p>34. To enhance the sale of products manufactured from recycled materials by local recyclers, Mr CHAN Hak-kan and Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should take the lead in purchasing products manufactured from recycled materials.</p>	Waste
20171219	<p>12. Ms Elizabeth QUAT enquired whether particular emphasis would be given to provide specific targets on waste reduction and recycling rates of waste paper and plastics in the course of the Administration's publicity drive. She said that many people were gravely concerned that the recyclables collected through the three-colour bins would eventually end up in landfills. She further said that despite the efforts made by her and the nongovernmental organizations in promoting the recycling of glass bottles in the local district, the relevant project ceased to receive funding support from the Environment and Conservation Fund ("ECF") owing to the rigid policy of ECF.</p>	Waste
20171219	<p>19. Whilst indicating support for the proposal, Ms Elizabeth QUAT enquired whether the countryside revitalization efforts would also aim to encourage some villagers to move back to their local villages to support development (e.g. tourism) in the village. She said that different villages had their historical uniqueness and cultural characteristics, and enquired whether only sites with ecological/conservation value would fall within the scope of work of CCO.</p>	Misc

20171219	21. Ms Elizabeth QUAT further pointed out that while Mui Tsz Lam Village was close to the town centre of Ma On Shan, the lack of potable water supply and emergency passageway for vehicular use had hindered its development. In this connection, she asked whether requests for improvement works such as water infrastructure would fall within the scope of work of CCO, and the criteria adopted by CCO in its consideration of relevant funding applications.	Misc
20171219	30. Noting the close proximity of the Ma Wan Fish Culture Zones to SCISTW, Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Mr CHAN Han-pan enquired whether the fish culture zones would be adversely affected by the potential impact on water quality during the sewage bypass on five occasions, resulting in large scale fish kill incidents and if so, whether the fishermen being affected would be accorded with compensation.	Water
20171219	37. Ms Elizabeth QUAT said that while the Administration had been advocating significant water quality improvement of Shing Mun River and Tolo Harbour, regular reports were received from nearby residents on odour problems and fish kill incidents in Shing Mun River and Tolo Harbour. Noting the presence of a number of unsewered villages in Sha Tin where untreated sewage was discharged directly into Shing Mun River, Ms QUAT enquired about the progress of sewerage project works in those villages which had been agreed by the Sha Tin DC but were pending funding approval. She also enquired about additional measures to be taken by the Administration to further improve the water quality of Shing Mun River and Tolo Harbour.	Water
20180226	4. In the light of the Government's existing measure of capping the first registration tax ("FRT") concession for electric private cars ("e-PCs") at \$97,500 from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, instead of granting a full waiver as in previous years, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Ms Elizabeth QUAT , Mr Steven HO and Mr HUI Chi-fung sought clarification whether it remained a policy of the Government to promote the use of electric vehicles ("EVs") and if so, the objectives of the policy. These members also urged the Administration to set a timetable and relevant targets for the	Air

	replacement of conventional private cars running on fossil fuels by e-PCs.	
20180226	6. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Ms Elizabeth QUAT , Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr Steven HO and Mr HUI Chi-fung expressed dissatisfaction that the number of newly registered e-PCs had declined drastically after reduction of the FRT concessions for e-PCs.	Air
20180226	7. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok, Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Mr HUI Chi-fung further enquired whether the Administration would consider implementing a "one-for-one replacement" scheme to allow a person who bought a new e-PC/clean energy vehicle and scrapped an existing self-owned private car to enjoy a higher FRT concession for the e-PC/clean energy vehicle concerned.	Air
20180226	15. The Chairman, Mr Frankie YICK, Ms Elizabeth QUAT , Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr Steven HO and Mr HUI Chi-fung called on ENB to collaborate with relevant B/Ds (e.g. Home Affairs Bureau) to offer more assistance to current/prospective EV owners in installing EV chargers in existing buildings; offer assistance and incentives to owners' corporations to draw their support for installing EV chargers on their premises; and set a timetable for the development of the EV charging network, including both public and private chargers.	Air
20180719	9. Mr CHAN Hak-kan and Ms Elizabeth QUAT requested the Administration to consider earmarking part/all of the proceeds from the levy for supporting the development of the local recycling industry on the basis of "dedicated fund for dedicated use".	Waste
20180719	13. Mr CHAN Hak-kan and Ms Elizabeth QUAT said that they supported the recycling of glass containers for gainful reuse in principle. However, they were concerned whether there would be sufficient outlets for the recycled glass materials and products. In particular, they questioned the feasibility of using the recycled materials as fill materials, given that the supply of other fill materials generated in Hong Kong had already exceeded local demand. Ms QUAT further asked about the incentives, if any, for [glass management contractors] to identify more outlets for the recycled materials and products.	Waste

20180719	37. Ms Elizabeth QUAT said that it was costly to construct [Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 2] at the estimated price of about \$2.5 billion but she did not object to the proposal since there was no better means of recycling food waste on a large scale.	Waste
20180719	45. Mr CHAN Hak-kan and Ms Elizabeth QUAT questioned whether the 16 500 tonnes of compost produced by [Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1] and [Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 2] annually could be fully absorbed by local uses. They urged the Administration to diversify the outlets for recycled food waste, such as turning it into fish feed.	Waste
20180719	52. Given that the first two [organic resources recovery centres] would only recycle food waste from the C&I sectors, Ms Elizabeth QUAT enquired when the Administration would start collecting and recycling domestic food waste on a large scale.	Waste
20181011	7b. Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should brief members on the use of new technologies to combat climate change, thereby contributing to the development of a "smart environment";	Climate
20181011	7c. Excessive external lighting and noise pollution: Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Ms Tanya CHAN suggested that issues related to the problem of excessive external lighting should be discussed in the 2018-2019 session;	Misc
20181011	8a. Management of yard waste: Mr CHU Hoi-dick and Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Panel discuss the overall management of yard waste and measures to promote reuse/recycling of such waste, including the contingency arrangements for fallen trees and branches caused by natural disasters;	Waste
20181011	8b. Promoting the use of electric vehicles ("EVs"): Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Ms Tanya CHAN and Ms Elizabeth QUAT proposed discussing this item in the 2018-2019 session. They suggested that the Administration should brief the Panel on the relevant policies and measures, the latest development in the provision of ancillary facilities (such as charging facilities) for EVs, and the Administration's long-term plan (if any) to phase	Air

	out conventional vehicles;	
20181126	33. Mr Steven HO and Ms Elizabeth QUAT commented that some members of the public distrusted the Administration's capability in enforcing the regulatory requirements of MSW charging and preventing aggravation of fly-tipping. A case in point was the ineffectiveness of the enforcement actions against illegal disposal of construction waste. They said that the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong had all along been advocating for the adoption of a "free-of-charge" arrangement in the initial phase of MSW charging, and the provision of rewards to better drive behavioural changes in reducing waste.	Waste
20181126	48. Mr Steven HO and Ms Elizabeth QUAT sought elaboration on how the Administration would take enforcement actions against non-compliances, in particular in "three-nil buildings" (i.e. buildings without owners' corporations, residents' organizations or property management companies). Ms QUAT expressed concern about the possible environmental hygiene problems caused by fly-tipping of food waste.	Waste
20181219	11. Ms Elizabeth QUAT shared the above opinion concerning the [insufficient] financial incentive for e-PCs, and criticized the lack of progress in upgrading public EV chargers to quick chargers. She asked about the policy direction and targets regarding the promotion of e-PCs.	Air
20181219	22. In addition, he and Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should launch new initiatives expeditiously to encourage franchised bus companies to test out more electric bus models.	Air
20181219	40. Expressing concern about the poor ventilation and air quality of some semi-confined public transport interchanges ("PTIs"), Ms Elizabeth QUAT asked how the Administration would tackle the problem.	Air
20190128	10. Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Mr Steven HO expressed the following views: (a) the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong ("DAB") supported policies on promoting the use of green transport, including the relaxation of eligibility criteria under the "One-for-One Replacement" Scheme; (b) however, due to low participation	Air

	<p>rate, the said scheme had been ineffective in promoting the use of e-PCs; and (c) given that FRTs payable of many e-PC models on the market remained significantly higher than the current concession cap under the scheme (i.e. \$250,000), DAB considered that a higher FRT concession should be offered for e-PCs (say a uniform 50% waiver for FRT in excess of the current concession cap) in order to encourage more PC owners to switch to e-PCs, especially those who would not choose mass-market e-PC models due to personal preferences.</p>	
20190128	<p>16. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok and Ms Elizabeth QUAT expressed disappointment about the small number of licensed [e-commercial vehicles] and considered that the Administration should set a clear target in this regard.</p>	Air
20190128	<p>25. Ms Elizabeth QUAT also called on the Administration to ensure a sufficient supply of public EV charging facilities.</p>	Air
20190128	<p>31. Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should offer one-stop service to building owners, property management companies and owners' corporations to support the installation of EV charging facilities in existing buildings; and implement more facilitation measures such as relaxation of plot ratio to enable the installation of additional equipment for increasing a building's power supply, as well as a subsidy scheme for relevant modification works carried out in buildings.</p>	Air
20190128	<p>37. Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should formulate policies on promoting the local recycling and reuse of EV batteries.</p>	Waste
20190429	<p>18. Ms Elizabeth QUAT, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr Kenneth LAU and Mr Kenneth LEUNG welcomed the proposed introduction of further enhancement measures to the Recycling Fund.</p>	Waste
20190429	<p>30. Ms Elizabeth QUAT relayed the concerns of some recyclers that the application and reporting procedures of the Recycling Fund were too complicated, and urged the Administration to continue to maintain close communications with the recycling industry and put in place timely support measures whenever necessary. She suggested that RFAC should introduce new solicitation themes targeting at certain</p>	Waste

	types of recyclables that had not yet been covered by any approved projects. Furthermore, she enquired whether the Administration would consider subsidizing, through the Recycling Fund, the provision of rewards to the public by recyclers to facilitate the collection of recyclables.	
20190527	22. Ms Elizabeth QUAT noted that the Administration had promulgated the Green Data Centre Practices to B/Ds. As green data centre systems/facilities could be expensive upfront, she asked if the Administration would provide any incentives to encourage private operators to adopt green data centre practices	Climate
20190527	24. While commending on the Administration's continued efforts in implementing various measures to promote EE&C and RE, Ms Elizabeth QUAT considered the progress rather slow, such as in the retrofitting of light emitting diode ("LED") lighting systems.	Climate
20190527	26. Mr Jeremy TAM and Ms Elizabeth QUAT urged the Administration to strengthen the promotion of wider use of electric vehicles ("EVs") by expanding the EV charging network. Ms QUAT considered that the Administration could make reference to overseas experiences in setting up dedicated EV charging lanes (i.e. with embedded EV chargers) so that EVs could recharge wirelessly while they were driven along the lanes.	Air
20191028	4. Ms Elizabeth QUAT said that she was supportive of the Administration's plan to launch a \$2 billion pilot scheme to subsidize the installation of electric vehicle ("EV") charging-enabling infrastructure in car parks of existing private residential buildings. However, she was concerned that it remained a challenge for the owners' corporations of the buildings concerned to reach a consensus on carrying out the required modification works; and the permissible plot ratios of certain buildings might have been fully utilized already, rendering it impossible to carry out the works unless the plot ratios were relaxed. She asked whether the Environment Bureau ("ENB")/Environmental Protection Department ("EPD") had assigned dedicated staff to handle tasks relating to EV charging facilities.	Air

20191028	9. Ms Elizabeth QUAT urged that the Administration should enhance the network of public charging facilities for EVs, and install quick EV chargers for public use in government premises.	Air
20191028	12. Ms Elizabeth QUAT opined that the Administration's policies on promoting the use of EVs were ambiguous. She suggested that a higher first registration tax ("FRT") concession be offered for e-[private cars (PCs)], so that prospective buyers would have a stronger incentive to choose e-PCs instead of conventional PCs.	Air
20191028	24. Members noted that the Administration currently planned to introduce only voluntary measures to reduce the use of plastic packaging materials and single-use plastic items as well as phase out products containing microbeads. Ms Elizabeth QUAT expressed doubts about the effectiveness of voluntary measures in influencing producers/suppliers' business decisions and changing consumer behaviours. She and Mr HUI Chi-fung asked about the timetable for introducing mandatory schemes for reducing waste plastics.	Waste
20191028	44. Ms Elizabeth QUAT called on the Administration to strengthen its efforts in mitigating climate change. She considered that the Administration should more proactively promote the development of renewable energy ("RE") and encourage the public to reduce electricity consumption.	Climate
20191028	49. Ms Elizabeth QUAT asked whether new measures would be implemented to facilitate the adoption of "sponge city" urban planning and development practices.	Climate
20191028	56. Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Mr HUI Chi-fung enquired about the latest development in respect of controlling nuisance caused by external lighting, and the timetable for controlling light pollution through legislative means.	Misc
20191216	7. Mr Frankie YICK and Ms Elizabeth QUAT said that they supported the general direction of the Administration's strategy for improving air quality.	Air
20191216	13. Mr Frankie YICK and Ms Elizabeth QUAT expressed support for the introduction of a pilot scheme on new energy ferries, and asked about other new measures to be launched for reducing marine emissions. As it was technically and	Air

	<p>financially difficult for small-scale operators of local vessels (such as work boats and fishing vessels) to upgrade the engines of such vessels, and the operators might not be eligible for funding support under the Pilot Green Transport Fund ("PGTF"), the two members considered that the Administration should explore ways to assist the operators in improving the environmental performance of their vessels. Ms QUAT added that the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong ("DAB") had suggested the introduction of a new subsidy scheme for the purpose.</p>	
20191216	<p>19. Ms Elizabeth QUAT suggested that the Administration should explore with the Guangdong authorities the establishment of a unified mechanism for disseminating forewarning information about regional air pollution and related health risks.</p>	Air
20191216	<p>42. Ms Elizabeth QUAT said that DAB had all along been supportive of the implementation of strong measures to promote the adoption of EVs, and advocated the provision of more incentives and ancillary facilities to further encourage the switch to EVs.</p>	Air
20191216	<p>45. Ms Elizabeth QUAT and the Chairman considered that the Administration should take quicker actions to improve the environmental performance of public transport vehicles, especially if the technologies and/or methods to be adopted had been proven in other places; and a timetable should be set for the replacement of diesel franchised buses with electric buses.</p>	Air
20191216	<p>47. Ms Elizabeth QUAT expressed dissatisfaction that the ventilation and air quality of some semi-confined public transport interchanges ("PTIs") (e.g. those in Lam Tin and Tseung Kwan O) had remained poor even though improvement works had been carried out following public complaints. She asked how the Administration would tackle the problem and questioned whether the Practice Note for Professional Persons – Control of Air Pollution in SemiConfined Public Transport Interchanges ("the Practice Note") issued by EPD was still up to date. She also urged the</p>	Air

	Administration to enhance the air quality of sheltered waiting areas erected by franchised bus companies on roadsides.	
20200122	59. Mr Charles MOK and Ms Elizabeth QUAT opined that it was imperative that the Administration set a target year for phasing out conventional vehicles powered by fossil fuels to guide policy measures on promoting the adoption of new energy vehicles (NEVs).	Air
20200122	60. Ms Elizabeth QUAT further commented that the Administration's policy on promoting the use of EVs had been inconsistent. To bolster business confidence in the local EV market and enhance transparency, she suggested that the Administration should formulate a long-term action plan with specific targets covering various aspects, such as the FRT concessions for EVs, charging facilities and electric public transport.	Air

Bills Committee on Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources Bill

20181008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Elizabeth QUAT's enquiries and the Administration's responses on: (a) the number of new posts to be created respectively in the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD") and the Government Laboratory ("GL") to cope with the increase in workload arising from the implementation of the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources Ordinance ("the Ordinance"), as referred to in paragraph 4 of LC Paper No. CB(2)1976/17-18(01), if the Bill was passed; (b) the expertise required for the post holders; and (c) the estimated staff cost and other expenses involved in providing the new services 2. The Chairman and Dr QUAT considered that the Administration should critically assess the need for creating two teams of professional and technical staff (one each under AFCD and GL) to carry out the additional workload, since only a small number of fishing vessels carrying Antarctic marine living resources had entered Hong Kong waters in recent years. 3. Dr Elizabeth QUAT's enquiries and the Administration's responses on (a) the composition and membership of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources ("the Commission"); and (b) precedent cases of giving international organizations legal personality in Hong Kong.
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	<p>4. Referring to the submission from the Jane Goodall Institute Hong Kong ("the Institute") (LC Paper No. CB(2)1988/17-18(01)), Dr QUAT requested the Administration to relay to the Commission the Institute's concern about the dangers of microplastics in Antarctic waters and their adverse impacts on marine ecology and human health. In Dr QUAT's view, the Hong Kong Government should regulate the sale of products containing microplastics for the protection of marine ecology.</p>
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Bills Committee on Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants
(Amendment) Bill 2017

20170707	<p>1. Deputy Chairman said that there was already rumour circulating overseas that the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region would compensate ivory traders for cancelling their PLs. It was important for the Administration to step up enforcement against illegal smuggling, especially during the grace period. She was against Hong Kong compensating ivory traders because it would set a very bad precedent for the international community.</p>
20170906	<p>2. Deputy Chairman said that the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong fully supported the legislative proposal, and opposed to any form of compensation to the traders. She enquired about the situation of the import of European ivory into Hong Kong over the years.</p>
20171108	<p>3. Deputy Chairman said that determining the exact age and legality of a piece of ivory required expensive hi-tech radiocarbon dating analysis and there was no technology for the detection of illegal ivory that was 100% foolproof. As long as there was a legal ivory market, illegal trade in ivory would be perpetuated, and legislation on a total ban on ivory trade would be the only way to protect the endangered elephants.</p>
20171129	<p>4. The Deputy Chairman enquired how one might prove that ivory specimens in his/her possession were personal or household effects when he/she emigrated to another country.</p>

Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste)
(Amendment) Bill 2018

20181205	<p>1. Dr QUAT considered that the proposed charging levels were generally acceptable to members of the public. She opined that the Administration should provide more information on the following issues:</p> <p>(a) how it would enforce the proposed charging scheme and prevent aggravation of fly-tipping, and the manpower resources required for the purpose;</p> <p>(b) its enhanced support for recycling, and whether there would be sufficient outlets for the increased amount of recyclables collected as a result of the proposed implementation of MSW charging;</p> <p>(c) details of the pilot scheme on the application of RVMs for recycling of plastic beverage containers, including the number of RVMs to be installed, outlets for the collected containers and the amount of rebate to be provided for each container;</p> <p>(d) the estimated amount of additional recurrent resources to be allocated to each of the proposed complementary measures; and</p> <p>(e) whether it would explore the wider use of new technologies such as RFID and geographic information systems to facilitate the proposed implementation and enforcement of MSW charging, and promote the development of a "Smart City" at the same time.</p>
20190107	<p>2. Dr QUAT said that the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong supported in principle the adoption of better waste management methods and the "polluter pays" principle, but was concerned about the implementation details of the proposed charging scheme. In particular, she expressed concerns on the following: (a) there were insufficient recycling facilities to complement the implementation of the proposed charging scheme; (b) potential aggravation of fly-tipping of domestic waste and food waste, which could cause serious environmental hygiene problems; and (c) workload of frontline cleaning staff.</p>
20190326	<p>3. Dr QUAT expressed disappointment about the persistent fly-tipping and rodent problems at certain black spots. A case in point was the refuse collection point ("RCP") at Tai Shui Hang Village. She pointed out that according to some staff members of the Food and</p>

	<p>Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD"), the existing surveillance camera system outside the said RCP was installed by the Environmental Protection Department ("EPD"), and FEHD did not have direct access to the information obtained by the system. Besides, FEHD planned to apply for funding for the installation of its own surveillance camera system at the same black spot. The above appeared to indicate insufficient cooperation between EPD and FEHD and a duplication of resources.</p> <p>4. Dr QUAT considered that the Administration should use artificial intelligence to enable round-the-clock monitoring of fly-tipping black spots and improve enforcement efficiency.</p> <p>5. Dr QUAT requested the Administration to provide in writing the details of interdepartmental cooperation on enforcement against fly-tipping activities, including the existing cooperation mechanism and new measures to be implemented in tandem with the launch of the proposed charging scheme (if the Bill was passed); and to explain whether it would consider developing a platform for real-time sharing of intelligence obtained from surveillance systems among relevant government departments (such as EPD and FEHD) to facilitate enforcement actions; if not, the reasons for that.</p>
20190415	<p>6. Dr QUAT sought elaboration on (a) how the use of surveillance camera systems could facilitate enforcement against illegal waste disposal, (b) coordination between EPD and FEHD in combating fly-tipping of C&D waste and household waste, and (c) the respective numbers of surveillance camera systems installed/to be installed by EPD and FEHD.</p> <p>7. Dr QUAT and the Deputy Chairman requested the Administration to explain in writing why FEHD was planning to install its own surveillance camera system near the RCP at Tai Shui Hang Village (which was a fly-tipping black spot), even though EPD had already installed a surveillance camera system at the same location.</p>
20190430	<p>8. Dr QUAT asked how the Administration would tackle the following problems in relation to waste separation and recovery: (a) insufficient public knowledge in distinguishing recyclables from other waste; and (b) insufficient space for waste separation in common households.</p> <p>9. Dr QUAT asked how the outreaching teams would establish effective communication channels with residents in villages and</p>

	<p>buildings without owners' corporations, so as to promote waste reduction and recycling in those places.</p> <p>10. Dr QUAT asked about the existing arrangements for the provision of free waste separation bins to residential buildings/housing estates and villages, and how the Administration would promote resource recovery in villages.</p> <p>11. Dr QUAT sought elaboration on the types of waste separation bins that the Government provided without any charge or subsidized the cost of setting them up in residential premises to facilitate waste separation at source and resource recovery.</p> <p>12. Dr QUAT suggested that the Administration should consider providing portable equipment (such as hanging bags that could be hung on a wall or door) to the public for free to facilitate separation and recovery of household waste with reference to South Korea's practice.</p> <p>13. Dr QUAT pointed out that some light-weight household articles, such as a mop with a long handle, could not be wrapped into any DB that would be available for sale to the general public (if the Bill was passed), and there might not be any recycling outlet for such articles. Under the proposed charging mechanism, all oversized waste would be subject to a uniform charging rate of \$11 per article through the use of pre-paid DLs. She expressed concern that some members of the public might consider the proposed charging rate out of proportion for those light-weight household articles that were to be discarded, and hence be unwilling to comply with the requirement of using DLs.</p> <p>14. Mr CHENG echoed Dr Elizabeth QUAT's concern about the potential fly-tipping problems arising from the proposed uniform charging rate for oversized waste. He added that it might be impracticable for common households to break certain articles into smaller pieces for putting them into DBs.</p>
20190507	<p>15. Dr QUAT relayed the concerns of non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") that were operating collection points under the Community Recycling Network ("CRN") about the (a) administrative burden arising from the complicated application procedure of the Environment and Conservation Fund ("ECF") and the post-approval reporting requirements; (b) cash flow problems due to deferred payments/reimbursements from ECF; and (c)</p>

	<p>uncertainties about the continuation of funding support due to the time-limited nature of ECF projects. She and Mr CHENG raised the following questions:</p> <p>(a) how many districts were currently covered by CRN, whether the Administration had plans to expand CRN's coverage, and how the Administration evaluated the performance of the Community Recycling Centres ("CRCs") and Community Recycling Vehicles ("CRVs") funded by ECF; and</p> <p>(b) details of new measures to support NGOs involved in CRN with a view to enhancing CRN's effectiveness in promoting waste reduction and recycling.</p> <p>16. Dr QUAT and Mr CHENG raised the following views and questions:</p> <p>(a) NGOs currently operating CRCs had put much efforts in establishing collaboration and communication networks with stakeholders in their respective services areas, and should be given priority to maintain the CRCs' operations after the regularization of funding support;</p> <p>(b) the tendering procedure for the CRC contracts after the regularization efforts might create additional administrative burden on these NGOs;</p> <p>(c) the Administration should increase funding support for CRCs with a view to expanding their scales and coverage as well as upgrading their service quality;</p> <p>(d) whether the tenders for the CRC contracts would be assessed based on the "lowest bid wins" principle only; and</p> <p>(e) whether performance targets/indicators would be set for CRN.</p> <p>17. Dr QUAT requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on: (a) the specific measures to be implemented to strengthen support for CRCs currently operated by NGOs, with a view to expanding the scale and upgrading the service quality of these CRCs; (b) the detailed plan for the regularization of funding support for CRCs; and (c) whether and how the Administration would ensure that the NGOs that had been operating CRCs would be given priority to maintain the CRCs' operations and would not be crowded out by more resource-rich private operators after the said regularization efforts.</p>
20190520	18. Dr QUAT enquired about the Administration's plan for the application of new technologies in the surveillance camera

	<p>systems used for combating fly-tipping activities.</p> <p>19. The Deputy Chairman, Dr QUAT, Mr CHEUNG, Mr CHENG and Mr OR raised the following views and questions in respect of the use of surveillance camera systems:</p> <p>(a) the Administration should provide information as follows: (i) the numbers of surveillance cameras installed/to be installed by EPD and FEHD respectively, and (ii) relevant statistics to demonstrate the effectiveness of the surveillance camera systems in deterring fly-tipping activities;</p> <p>(b) given that there were many fly-tipping black spots across the territory, and fly-tipping activities could be shifted to locations where surveillance camera systems were not installed, how the Administration would ensure that the surveillance cameras it deployed would provide sufficient coverage, including whether surveillance cameras with mobility features would be introduced for efficient redeployment if and when necessary; and</p> <p>(c) how the Administration would tackle the fly-tipping problem at a black spot if relevant stakeholders raised objection to the installation of a surveillance camera system at the location.</p>
20191218	<p>20. As the implementation of the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme ("CWDCS") had given rise to fly-tipping problems, and the proposed MSW charging scheme would have an even larger scope of application compared to that of CWDCS, the Deputy Chairman and Ms QUAT expressed concern about the potential aggravation of fly-tipping problems due to the launch of MSW charging (if the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 ("the Bill") was passed).</p> <p>21. The Deputy Chairman, Mr YICK and Ms QUAT expressed the following views and concerns:</p> <p>(a) the Administration might need to consider upgrading the surveillance camera systems at fly-tipping black spots, so that they could more clearly capture the appearances of fly-tippers to facilitate prosecution actions;</p> <p>(b) EPD should make reference to the operation of surveillance camera systems installed at public places by other government departments (such as the Hong Kong Police Force), with a view to enhancing its own systems; and</p> <p>(c) the effectiveness of the Administration's enforcement actions</p>

	<p>against illegal waste disposal would be impaired if it could not continue to install surveillance camera systems at black spots due to District Councils' objections.</p>
20200317	<p>22. Ms QUAT said that she and the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong all along supported the implementation of measures that accorded with the "polluter-pays" principle and believed that the introduction of MSW charging could reduce household waste disposal. They were however deeply concerned about the implementation details of the proposed MSW charging scheme, and in particular how the Administration could prevent aggravation of fly-tipping and environmental hygiene problems. As the livelihoods of many people had been affected by a series of protests since 2019 and the COVID-19 outbreak, she considered that it was not an appropriate time to launch the proposed MSW charging scheme.</p>

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20171016	<p>1. Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr CHU Hoi-dick have requested the Administration to report progress of its work since the incorporation of the Sai Wan enclave as part of the Sai Kung East Country Park.</p>
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