

Transcript of remarks by SEN

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, on the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 at a media session after attending the meeting of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Environmental Affairs this afternoon (June 22):

Reporter: Secretary, will the Government be looking at how the waste levy bill can be improved so that it can get more support from lawmakers in the next term? Also, in the meantime, what is the Government going to do to make up for the fact that this bill is not here, because it was originally planned to roll out in the second half of 2019?

Secretary for the Environment: Thank you for your questions about how to move forward so that the MSW (municipal solid waste) charging bill could be better supported in future. We are focusing more on clean recycling, including food waste, paper and waste plastics. With all this support, together with other waste reduction education campaigns, we hope that more people can understand the Government's determination to support a "waste less" Hong Kong, so that in the near future, we hope we could have more support on the MSW charging bill.

Reporter: Will the bill be coming back to the LegCo the first thing after the election?

Secretary for the Environment: Similar to other bills that might not be able to be passed within this term of the LegCo, the Government as a whole would review the situation. As I said earlier, waste reduction would be one of the major initiatives of the Government. We would try different means to let Hong Kong's waste reduction initiatives be launched and be positively pushed ahead in the future. Thank you.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)