

Vehicle owner convicted for illegal deposit of waste with evidence collected through IP cameras

A vehicle owner was fined \$5,000 by the Shatin Magistrates' Courts today (October 24) for being involved in a case in which someone illegally deposited waste from his goods vehicle, with the illegal act captured by Internet protocol (IP) cameras installed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD).

A spokesman for the FEHD said that the department's IP cameras recorded footage of someone driving a goods vehicle to Tai Po Tau Village Refuse Collection Point (RCP) in Tai Po and illegally depositing disused furniture outside the RCP from the vehicle on June 9, 2018. The goods vehicle owner was hence charged.

To address the environmental hygiene problems caused by frequent illegal deposits of refuse and waste at black spots in various districts, the FEHD progressively extended the scheme on installation of IP cameras at illegal refuse deposit black spots to all districts in the territory starting from June this year, for enhanced monitoring of the situation on illegal dumping of waste and planning of more effective enforcement action so as to strengthen the effectiveness of evidence collection and law enforcement. Since the scheme was launched, the FEHD has instituted some 80 prosecutions.

According to the Public Cleansing and Prevention of Nuisances Regulation (Cap 132BK), it is an offence to litter in public places. Offenders are liable to a maximum fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for six months upon conviction. The FEHD will continue to closely monitor the targeted black spots. Members of the public are urged not to litter and offenders will be prosecuted.