# Fifty-second Meeting of the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee

Agenda Item 3(a): Report on the work of the Joint Meeting of the three Task Forces under the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee

### **Purpose**

This paper reports the work of the three Task Forces under the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee (i.e. Wholesale and Retail Task Force, Food Business and Related Services Task Force and Task Force on Business Liaison Groups) (hereafter collectively referred to as "Task Forces") at the joint meeting of 30 August 2023.

#### **Work progress of Task Forces**

## Municipal Solid Waste Charging

- 2. At the joint meeting, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) briefed Members on the charging framework and legislative requirement of the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (Amendment Ordinance) for the implementation of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) charging. The Amendment Ordinance will be implemented on 1 April 2024.
- 3. Under "charging by designated bags/designated labels (DBs/DLs)", any working staff of a business organisation shall not deposit waste that is not properly wrapped in DBs or affixed with DLs, at the designated waste reception areas/enforcement points, otherwise, it constitutes an offence. The EPD has formulated the Best Practice Guides ("BPGs"), and has uploaded them to the thematic website for MSW charging for the reference of relevant stakeholders. The EPD is also arranging briefings and specialised trainings for frontline staff of the relevant trades in preparation for the implementation of MSW charging. Furthermore, the secretariats of the Business Liaison Groups (BLGs) arranged the EPD to brief trades on the details and suggestions relevant to their day-to-day operation as contained in the BPGs in the joint BLG meeting of 12 September 2023.

4. The Task Forces notes the charging framework and legislative requirement of the Amendment Ordinance, and have had some good exchange of views on the implementation arrangements of the Amendment Ordinance. A joint letter from the Convenors of the three Task Forces was issued to EPD on 8 September 2023 to the Director of Environmental Protection, expressing concerns about facilitating trade compliance and setting up key performance indicator to measure the effectiveness of MSW charging by the department.

## Way forward

5. Members are invited to note the work progress of the Task Forces. The Task Forces will continue to monitor the development of the above matters.

Business Facilitation Team Efficiency Office Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau September 2023