

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Paper 05/05

The First Sustainable Development Strategy for Hong Kong

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on progress with the First Sustainable Development (SD) Strategy for Hong Kong being prepared by the Government in response to the Council's report on the engagement process.

The Engagement Process

2. The five-stage engagement process endorsed by the Council and outlined in the Invitation and Response (IR) document: *Sustainable Development – Making Choices for Our Future* is as follows --

- I. Identifying Pilot Areas
- II. Preparation of an "Invitation and Response" document
- III. Directly involving the wider community
- IV. Reporting
- V. The Government to act

3. The Council completed Stage IV of the process by reviewing the findings of the engagement process, and endorsing the report: *Making Choices for Our Future* (at **Annex A**), which advises the Government on the way forward for the three Pilot Areas selected for the first exercise, i.e., solid waste management, renewable energy and urban living space.

SD Strategy for Hong Kong

4. Now that we have reached the final stage of the engagement process, the Government is considering the Council's report and preparing a first SD Strategy for Hong Kong. The draft of the strategy document is at **Annex B**.

5. The SD Strategy reviews the challenges for Hong Kong in moving towards sustainable development in the three pilot areas. It also outlines the strategic objectives and targets applicable to each area, having due regard to the findings of the engagement process.

6. The Government's commitment to implementing the SD Strategy takes the form of fifteen key initiatives in a Plan of Action that follows on from the strategic objectives and targets.

Next Steps

7. The Government will finalise the SD Strategy in the coming weeks, and we expect this to be ready for publication before June. We will organise appropriate publicity activities, with the aim of bringing issues related to Hong Kong's sustainability to the attention of the wider community. Specifically, we propose to -

- Publish the Council's report on the engagement process and the SD Strategy at the same time as separate and independent documents in the context of the engagement process; and
- Organise a public event and other related activities to introduce the Council report and the SD Strategy, with the involvement of Council members and the relevant Bureaux.

8. The SD Strategy will represent the conclusion of the first engagement process for an SD Strategy for Hong Kong. Members will be invited to consider how to build on this exercise and take forward future rounds of public engagement when discussing Paper 07/05.

Council Secretariat
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