

**Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging  
Best Practice Guide**

**Hotel Sector**

# Content

<b>Content .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1 MSW Charging Overview.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1.1 Coverage .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1.2 Charging Mechanism.....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.2.1 Charging by Designated Bags.....	7
1.2.2 Charging by Weight .....	10
<b>2 Legislative Requirements.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2.1 For Cleansing Workers of Hotels and Cleansing Contractors .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2.2 Applicable to Individual Tenants Not Under the Direct Management of the Hotel .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2.3 Penalty.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>2.4 Statutory Defences .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>3 Implementation of MSW Charging in Hotels .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>3.1 Determination of the Applicable Charging Mode(s) for Hotels.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>3.2 Staff Training .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>3.3 Assisting Tenants in Getting Ready .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>3.4 Implementing “Charging by Designated Bags” .....</b>	<b>17</b>
3.4.1 Purchasing Designated Bags/Designated Labels.....	17
3.4.2 Explanation of Charging Arrangements to Individual Tenants Not Under the Direct Management of the Hotel .....	17
3.4.3 Clear Delineation on Communal Waste Reception Areas.....	17
3.4.4 Waste Collection.....	18
3.4.5 Expenditure Arrangements for Handling Hotel Waste and NCW from Tenants	20
<b>3.5 Implementing “Charging by Weight” .....</b>	<b>20</b>
3.5.1 Arrangements for Opening Billing Accounts .....	20
3.5.2 Arrangements for “Gate-Fee” Apportionment Mechanism(s).....	22
3.5.3 Waste Collection.....	22
<b>3.6 Waste Reduction and Recycling Arrangements.....</b>	<b>22</b>
3.6.1 Review of Recycling Facilities .....	22
3.6.2 Review of Recyclables Collection Arrangements .....	23

3.6.3	Enhancement of Awareness of Waste Reduction and Recycling of Tenants / Guests	23
3.6.4	Reducing and Recycling Waste Generated by the Hotel’s Catering Services	23
<b>4</b>	<b>Contact the EPD .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Annex .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Annex I</b>	<b>Frequently Asked Questions on the Legislative Requirements on MSW Charging .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Annex II</b>	<b>Charging Modes for Premises with Refuse Compaction Systems .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Annex III</b>	<b>Staff Training .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Annex IV</b>	<b>Assisting Tenants in Getting Ready .....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Annex V</b>	<b>Contractual Arrangements for Cleansing/ Waste Collection Services in Relation to MSW Charging.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Annex VI</b>	<b>Suggested Measures in Response to NCW in Premises under “Charging by Designated Bags” .....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Annex VII</b>	<b>Suggested Preparatory Measures for Premises under “Charging by Weight”</b> <b>51</b>	
<b>Annex VIII</b>	<b>Suggested Measures on Waste Reduction and Recycling in the Hotel.....</b>	<b>56</b>

# **Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging Best Practice Guide**

## **Hotel Sector**

### **Introduction**

The Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 has been passed by the Legislative Council in August 2021. The purpose of this Best Practice Guide (Guide) is to introduce the legislative requirements for municipal solid waste (MSW) charging, and how relevant stakeholders may complement the implementation of MSW charging.

This Guide aims at the hotel sector<sup>1</sup>. This Guide is for reference only. The actual operation may vary depending on the individual circumstances of the hotel. Please contact<sup>2</sup> the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) if you have any questions. In addition, the EPD has set up a dedicated website for MSW charging (<https://www.mswcharging.gov.hk/>) to provide the latest information for the public and the industry.

---

1 For the purpose of this Guide, “hotel” refers to hotel, guesthouse or holiday camp and includes the accommodation, catering services, exhibition venues and shops within its area. If there are large shopping malls and/or restaurants within the hotel area, please also refer to the Best Practice Guides for the relevant sectors.

2 For the contact details of the EPD, see Chapter 4 of this Guide.

# 1 MSW Charging Overview

## 1.1 Coverage

MSW charging covers the following waste:

- (i) Domestic waste - such as household waste and waste generated from daily activities in institutional premises (e.g., schools); and
- (ii) Commercial and industrial waste - such as waste arising from shops, restaurants, hotels, offices, markets and all industrial activities.

However, construction waste, chemical waste and clinical waste are not subject to the MSW charging regime but are subject to their existing charging regimes<sup>3</sup>.

## 1.2 Charging Mechanism

MSW charging is based on the “polluter-pays” principle. All waste disposed of by residential and non-residential premises (including commercial and industrial sectors) in Hong Kong will be subject to charging based on its quantity, so as to drive behavioural changes in waste generation and hence reduce overall waste disposal. In other words, the more waste you dispose of, the more you have to pay.

**To comply with the “polluter-pays” principle, regardless of which of the following charging mode(s) is/are adopted, the waste producers (e.g., individual tenants) are responsible for the concerned charges, which should not be passed on to cleansing contractors/private waste collectors that provide waste disposal service.**

MSW charging is levied in two modes, namely:

- (i) charging by pre-paid designated garbage bags (hereinafter referred to as “designated bags”)/ designated labels (“charging

---

3 (a) For details of the Construction Waste Disposal Charge Scheme, please visit:

<https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/misc/cdm/scheme.htm>

(b) For details of the Chemical Waste Control Scheme, please visit:

[https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/guide\\_ref/guide\\_cwc.html](https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/guide_ref/guide_cwc.html)

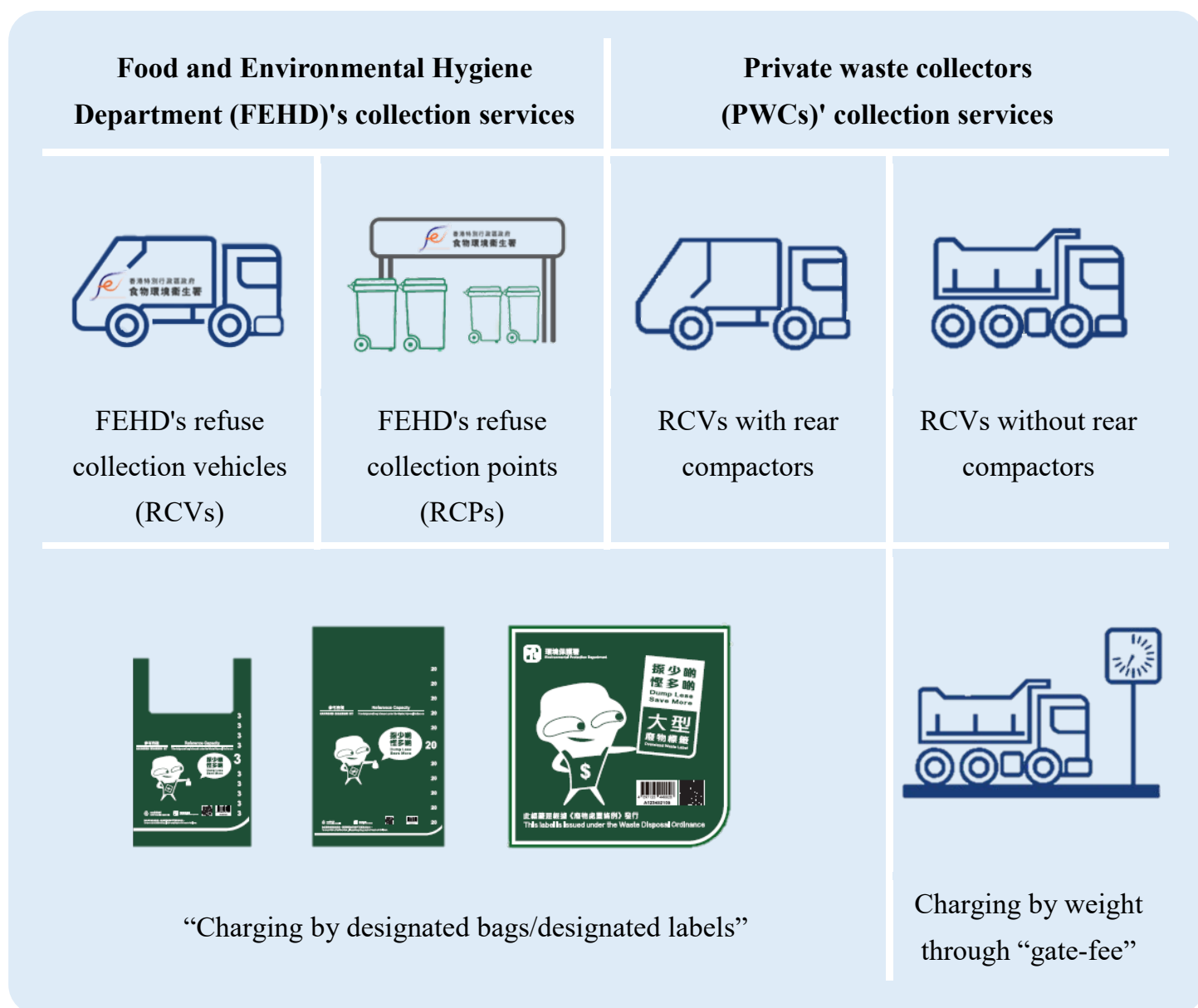
(c) For details of the Clinical Waste Control Scheme, please visit:

<https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/clinicalwaste/en/scheme.html>

by designated bags”) – “pre-paid” means the government charges fees through the sale of designated bags/ labels before waste disposal. The price of a designated bag is linked to its capacity (i.e., also linked to the quantity of waste); and

- (ii) charging by weight-based “gate-fee” at refuse transfer stations or landfills (hereinafter collectively referred to as “waste disposal facilities”)

Please see the figure below for the application of the two charging modes:



### 1.2.1 **Charging by Designated Bags**

“Charging by designated bags” is applicable under the following waste collection modes:

- (i) waste collected by the RCVs of the FEHD or its contractors (whether or not RCVs with rear compactors are used);
- (ii) waste collected by PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors; and
- (iii) waste disposed of by waste producers themselves/waste collection staff at the FEHD’s RCPs (including bin sites<sup>4</sup>)

#### **Illustration of variety of RCVs/facilities applicable to “charging by designated bags”**

##### **I. FEHD's RCVs**



FEHD's RCVs with rear compactors



FEHD's RCVs without rear compactors<sup>5</sup>

##### **II. FEHD's contractors' RCVs**



FEHD's contractors' RCVs with rear compactors



FEHD's contractors' RCVs without rear compactors<sup>5</sup>

##### **III. PWC's RCVs**

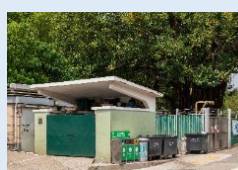


PWC's RCVs with rear compactors

##### **IV. FEHD's RCPs**



Off-street RCPs



Village-type RCPs



Bin Sites

Members of the public are required to first purchase designated bags to wrap their waste properly before disposal.

<sup>4</sup> Since some RCPs in rural areas have no building structures and only some large waste collection bins (usually of 240-litre or 660-litre capacity) are placed there, they are known as bin sites.

<sup>5</sup> In this Guide, “RCVs without rear compactors” refers to RCVs without installation of rear compactors, such as grab lorries, demountable trucks, tipplers, box vans or flatbed trucks, etc. Only one of them is shown in the figure for reference.

Generally, “charging by designated bags” applies to most residential buildings, commercial and industrial buildings, village houses, street-level shops, and institutional premises, etc. Members of the public are required to properly wrap their waste in designated bags before disposing of it at the communal waste reception areas (e.g., staircase landings, refuse rooms, the inlets of refuse chutes, etc.)<sup>6</sup> of relevant premises or the RCPs/bin sites of the FEHD.

As for oversized waste which cannot be wrapped in designated bags (e.g., large furniture such as dining tables, bookshelves or mattresses, etc.), if they are to be collected through one of the waste collection modes mentioned in (i)-(iii) above, members of the public are required to affix with a designated label on each piece of oversized waste before they can be disposed of at the oversized waste reception areas. (If oversized waste is collected by PWCs using RCVs without rear compactors, please refer to Section 1.2.2 “Charging by Weight” below.)

There are 9 different sizes of designated bags, ranging from 3-litre to 100-litre<sup>7</sup>, to cater for the needs of different users. Designated bags are charged at \$0.11 per litre. See figure below for details.

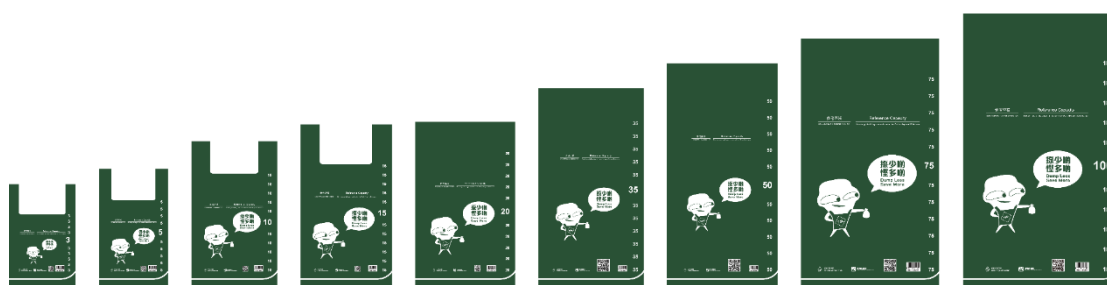
---

6 I.e., the “common area for waste” in section 20N in Division 2 of Part IVB of the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) as amended by the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Ordinance 2021(hereinafter referred to as the amended WDO), which refers to a common area of any premises that is used for depositing waste pending removal from the premises for disposal.

7 Designated bags are also available in 240 litres and 660 litres in capacity, they are mainly sold for use by residential buildings with refuse chutes such that frontline cleansing workers would not have to unnecessarily put the waste that is not properly wrapped in designated bags collected at the bottom of the chutes into designated bags for further disposal. As for other institutional or industrial and commercial premises, the EPD will consider based on their operational needs. Designated bags of 240-litre and 660- litre are priced at \$26 and \$73 per bag, respectively. For the details of the sales arrangements of designated bags of these two capacities, please visit the dedicated website for MSW charging.



## Capacity, design and price of the designated bags



3-litre	5-litre	10-litre	15-litre	20-litre	35-litre	50-litre	75-litre	100-litre
\$0.3	\$0.6	\$1.1	\$1.7	\$2.2	\$3.9	\$5.5	\$8.5	\$11.0

Each designated label is priced at a uniform rate of \$11. A designated label is required to be affixed to each oversized waste.

## Design of the designated label



Designated bags and designated labels are available for sale on authorised online platforms and at a few thousands of authorised sales points, including supermarkets, convenience stores, pharmacies, and vending machines, etc.

Any company, organisation or individual member of the public should only purchase designated bags and designated labels from sales points/online platforms authorised by the EPD to avoid purchasing counterfeit products.

In addition, if you need to purchase designated bags and/or designated labels in bulk, you can visit the EPD's sales online platform. For the details of specific sales arrangements of designated bags and designated labels, please visit the dedicated website for MSW charging.

### 1.2.2 **Charging by Weight**

For the waste collected by PWCs using RCVs without rear compactors and disposed of at waste disposal facilities, a “gate-fee” will be charged based on its weight. The “charging by weight” arrangement is mainly applicable to oversized waste or waste in irregular shape disposed of by commercial and industrial premises, and also some residential buildings.

#### **Illustration of a PWC's RCVs without rear compactors<sup>5</sup>**



Designated bags/designated labels are not applicable under the “charging by weight” arrangement. Members of the public do not need to wrap their waste in designated bags or affix with a designated label on each piece of oversized waste; otherwise it would lead to double payment.

When a person needs to dispose of waste at a waste disposal facility, registration for the “gate-fee” account is required according to the legislation. The Government is adopting a hybrid system to allow both PWCs and waste producers to register as account holders for paying the “gate-fee” in a flexible manner. Please refer to Section 3.5.1 for details on account opening and operation of “gate-fee”.

According to the disposal location, the “gate-fee” charged by weight of the waste is as follows: <sup>8</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> To complement the implementation of MSW charging, the Government will adjust the charging level of construction waste disposal to align with that of MSW charging, so as to prevent any deliberate mixing of MSW and construction waste to avoid the difference in charges.



## 2 Legislative Requirements

### 2.1 For Cleansing Workers of Hotels and Cleansing Contractors

The cleansing workers of hotels and/or their cleansing contractors (cleansing workers) will collect waste generated from areas under the direct management of the hotel, such as guest rooms, public areas (e.g. lobbies, restaurants, conference rooms, banquet halls, swimming pools, fitness rooms, spa facilities, etc.), waste generated from businesses under the direct management of the hotel, and waste disposed of by individual tenants at communal waste reception areas within the hotel as mentioned in section 2.2.

Under “charging by designated bags”, no person (including cleansing workers) shall deposit waste that is not properly wrapped in designated bags or affixed with designated labels (hereinafter referred to as non-compliant waste (NCW)) at the following waste reception areas /enforcement points:

- (i) RCVs of the FEHD or its contractors;
- (ii) RCVs with rear compactors of PWCs; or
- (iii) FEHD’s RCPs/bin sites,

otherwise, it constitutes an offence<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> For relevant legislation, see section 20K in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO.

It also constitutes an offence if anyone (including cleansing workers) handover the NCW to the frontline staff carrying out their duties at the three types of enforcement points mentioned above to remove the waste (hereinafter referred to as “providing removal services”<sup>10</sup>), including staff from the FEHD’s RCPs or its contractors, and drivers and staff of relevant RCVs<sup>11</sup>.

If the cleansing workers discover NCW from unknown sources at hotels’ communal waste reception areas when collecting waste, they may still continue to handle the relevant waste, including collection and depositing it into refuse chutes, and deliver to central refuse collection points, without violating the legislation mentioned in Section 2.2 below regarding NCW being deposited at the communal waste reception areas<sup>12</sup>.

However, after collecting the NCW, the cleansing workers are required to properly wrap it in designated bags or affix it with designated labels before it can be disposed of to the PWCs’ RCVs with rear compactors, or handed over to the frontline staff who is providing removal services through those vehicles. The relevant PWCs will reject NCW.

## **2.2 Applicable to Individual Tenants Not Under the Direct Management of the Hotel**

Some individual tenants not under the direct management of the hotel (e.g. shop and restaurant tenants in the hotel) may dispose of their waste through the waste collection service provided by the hotel. They may dispose of their waste at the hotel’s communal waste reception areas, such as refuse rooms on individual floors, central refuse collection points, oversized waste reception areas, etc<sup>13</sup>. **Under “charging by designated bags”**, the staff of individual tenants (hereafter referred to as merchant staff) is required to use designated bags to wrap their general waste or affix designated labels to oversized waste before placing it at the communal waste reception areas in the hotel, to be collected by the hotel’s cleansing contractors, and then handed over to the PWCs that collect waste with RCVs with rear compactors. Otherwise, it constitutes an offence.

---

10 See section 2(1) of the amended WDO for the new definition of “removal services”.

11 For relevant legislation, see section 20M in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO.

12 For relevant legislation, see section 20N(3)(c) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO.

13 For relevant legislation, see section 20N in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO.

If there are refuse chutes on individual floors of hotels, merchant staff are also required to wrap their general waste in accordance with the above requirements before it is deposited into the refuse chutes, otherwise, it constitutes an offence.

In addition, apart from any person who disposes of the waste, the relevant legislation is also applicable to any person who causes or permits another person to commit the offence, for instance, an employer who instructs a merchant staff to dispose of waste in a non-compliant manner.

For frequently asked questions regarding legislative requirements, please refer to **Annex I**.

### **2.3 Penalty**

Any merchant staff/cleansing contractor/cleansing worker who contravenes or causes others to contravene the above-mentioned requirements of the relevant legislation on MSW charging will be subject to a fixed penalty of \$1,500 under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570).

Prosecution by way of summons may also be brought against serious or repeated offenders. The penalties are as follows<sup>14</sup>:

- (i) on the first conviction — a fine at level 4 (\$25,000) and imprisonment for 6 months; and
- (ii) on a subsequent conviction — a fine at level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for 6 months.

### **2.4 Statutory Defences**

It is a statutory defence for a person (e.g. a cleansing worker or merchant staff) charged with an offence under Section 2.1 and 2.2 mentioned above to establish that<sup>15</sup>:

- (i) the person took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid committing the offence mentioned in Section 2.1 and 2.2 above;

---

<sup>14</sup> For relevant legislation, see section 20P in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO.

<sup>15</sup> For relevant legislation, see section 20O in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO.

- (ii) the person did the act constituting the offence mentioned in Section 2.1 and 2.2 above at the instruction of his/her employer or was not provided by his/her employer with the necessary means (e.g. designated bags and / or designated labels) for compliance; and the person took all steps reasonably open to him/her to avoid committing the offence;
- (iii) the person did the act/ caused / permitted to be constituting the offence mentioned in Section 2.1 and 2.2 above in an emergency to avoid danger to the public; and informed the EPD in writing of the act as soon as reasonably practicable;
- (iv) the person can see from the outer bag of the NCW being handled that all the waste inside has been properly wrapped in designated bags (e.g., because the outer bag is a transparent bag);
- (v) the person handled the relevant NCW in an honest and reasonable belief that such waste will not be disposed of at a waste disposal facility, based on the fact that such waste is reasonably suitable for recycling or otherwise (e.g., such waste can be reused); or
- (vi) the person can establish that the relevant NCW escaped from a designated bag that had been damaged or unfastened:
  - (a) during the compaction by a device for compacting waste; or
  - (b) when it was deposited into a refuse chute.

For other details related to the above-mentioned statutory defences, please refer to Questions 10 and 13 of Annex I.

### **3 Implementation of MSW Charging in Hotels**

The successful implementation of MSW charging relies on the support and participation of different stakeholders (including hotel management staff, hotel frontline staff, cleansing contractors, cleansing workers and individual tenants, etc.). Hotel management staff should play the role of a coordinator to formulate and implement work plans, with reference to the implementation details of various aspects as described in Sections 3.1 to

3.6 below and according to the charging mode(s) applicable to the premises.

### **3.1 Determination of the Applicable Charging Mode(s) for Hotels**

Hotel management staff should determine the applicable charging mode(s) according to the existing waste collection arrangements in the hotel, such as the type of RCVs, or the use of RCPs/ bin sites, and the disposal method(s) of oversized waste, etc. For details on the charging modes, please refer to Section 1.2 on “Charging Mechanism”. Special circumstances that may be encountered when determining the applicable charging mode(s) for the premises are explained below.

(i) Equipped with mobile refuse compactor(s) or stationary refuse compaction system(s)

Some hotels are equipped with refuse compactor(s) or stationary refuse compaction system(s) in the central refuse collection points to reduce the volume of waste before being removed. For the charging modes applicable to these premises, please refer to **Annex II**.

(ii) More than one applicable MSW charging modes

There may be more than one applicable MSW charging modes depending on the existing waste collection modes of the hotel. For example, general waste is collected by PWCs’ RCVs with rear compactors while the oversized waste is collected by PWCs’ RCVs without rear compactors. In other words, general waste will be charged by designated bags, and oversized waste will be charged by weight -based “gate-fee” instead of by designated labels.

(iii) Collect oversized waste in a mixed mode

Some hotel may collect oversized waste in a mixed mode, that is, most of the non-compactable oversized waste (e.g., large furniture) is collected by PWCs’ RCVs without rear compactors (“charging by weight”), but also a small portion of compactable oversized waste (e.g., brooms/long-handled umbrellas) is collected by the PWCs’ RCVs with rear compactors (“charging by designated labels”). In order to avoid confusion, for example, the merchant or cleansing worker mistakenly believe that the oversized waste that should be charged by designated labels is charged by weight, so no designated

label is affixed before disposal; or they mistakenly believe that the oversized waste that should be charged by weight is charged by designated labels and affix a designated label on the disposed oversized waste, resulting in double payment. According to the actual situation, hotel management staff may consider adopting only one way to collect all the oversized waste that cannot be properly wrapped in designated bags in the hotel, so as to avoid misunderstandings. For example, all oversized waste is only collected by PWCs' RCVs without rear compactors and is charged by weight.

If hotel management staff consider that it is necessary to collect oversized waste in the above-mentioned mixed mode, they should formulate detailed guidelines in advance to set out the charging modes and collection arrangements for different types of oversized waste and inform the tenants and the cleansing workers of the relevant arrangements in advance to avoid confusion.

### **3.2 Staff Training**

Hotel management staff should provide their staff with appropriate trainings and formulate relevant guidelines, specify the scope of work for their staff in different positions, and arrange briefings for new staff and circulate relevant notices regularly to ensure that they have a clear understanding on the relevant legislative requirements and guidelines, as well as the corresponding work procedures and arrangements. For example, cleansing workers should know how to deal with the NCW found during work.

Hotel management staff should make good use of the various training programmes and materials provided by the EPD to assist the industry in implementing MSW charging. Please visit the EPD's dedicated website for MSW charging for details.

For suggestions on providing trainings to staff, please refer to **Annex III**.

### **3.3 Assisting Tenants in Getting Ready**

Hotel management staff may coordinate activities promoting MSW charging within the hotel, and proactively contact and distribute relevant information to the tenants in the hotel. For advice on assisting tenants in getting ready, please refer to **Annex IV**.



### **3.4 Implementing “Charging by Designated Bags”**

#### **3.4.1 Purchasing Designated Bags/Designated Labels**

Hotels should purchase designated bags of appropriate size/designated labels for disposing of waste from a few thousand sales points or online platforms authorised by the EPD (see Section 1.2.1 for details), and should make reference to the suggested contractual arrangements in **Annex V** if they request their cleansing contractors or PWCs to provide designated bags/designated labels on their behalf.

#### **3.4.2 Explanation of Charging Arrangements to Individual Tenants Not Under the Direct Management of the Hotel**

Individual tenants should also purchase designated bags of appropriate size/designated labels for disposing of waste through sales points and online platforms authorised by the EPD, allowing them to experience the “Polluter Pays “ and “Dump Less, Save More“ principles direct, and thus enabling a more effective drive for waste reduction. Hotel management staff should make good use of the preparation period to promote and explain the purpose of MSW charging to the tenants, as well as the arrangements after the implementation of MSW charging and consider providing the information of sales points for the tenants’ reference.

#### **3.4.3 Clear Delineation on Communal Waste Reception Areas**

The communal waste reception areas of the hotels are the enforcement points under the relevant legislation on MSW charging. When disposing of waste at the relevant locations, individual tenants not under the direct management of the hotel are required to have wrapped their waste in designated bags properly or affixed it with designated labels. Hotel management staff should work with the cleansing contractors to delineate the communal waste reception areas in the hotel (e.g., refuse rooms on individual floors, central refuse collection points, and oversized waste reception areas) according to the waste collection arrangements of the premises, and displaying signages at prominent locations (please visit the dedicated website for MSW charging for downloading the signages) to remind tenants that they are required to properly wrap their waste using designated bags or affix it with designated labels when disposing of waste at these reception areas.

#### 3.4.4 Waste Collection

(i) Waste generated by guests at the hotel

In general, the amount of waste generated by guests in hotels is relatively small and the hotel's accommodation charge already covers the handling of waste generated by guests. Guests are only required to dispose of their waste at the hotel rooms or in the litter containers in the common areas of the hotel for collection by cleansing workers, instead of disposing of their waste at the hotel's communal waste reception areas by themselves. Guests are not required to use designated bags or labels when disposing of waste in the hotel's litter containers.

(ii) Waste generated from areas under the direct management of the hotel

For collecting waste generated from areas under the direct management of the hotel (including waste in guest rooms), cleansing workers are not required to line each litter container with designated bags in advance or to check for NCW. Instead, they should use large size designated bags (e.g. 100 litre designated bags) for collecting and properly wrapping the waste, and then hand over to the PWCs that collect waste with RCVs with rear compactors.

(iii) Waste generated by individual tenants not under the direct management of the hotel

Hotel management staff/cleansing contractors shall instruct the cleansing workers to check whether the general waste/oversized waste disposed of by individual tenants has been properly wrapped in designated bags or affixed with designated labels when collecting waste from the communal waste reception areas and reject any NCW that is being handed over to them face-to-face. To maintain environmental hygiene, hotel management staff/cleansing contractors may instruct them to collect any NCW from unknown sources found at the communal waste reception areas for further handling.

In addition, if the hotel provides door-to-door waste collection arrangements for tenants, the cleansing workers should check whether the waste disposed of by individual

tenants is wrapped in designated bags or affixed with designated labels, and reject any NCW upon collection. When collecting waste from tenants, cleansing workers may prepare additional designated bags for immediate use by tenants who do not wrap their waste in designated bags. The cleansing workers should record the information of the tenants to facilitate subsequent collection of the relevant designated bag charge from the tenants.

(iv) Other common areas

According to the law, waste disposed of in small litter containers (e.g., small litter containers that are usually placed in the lift lobbies) placed in common areas (e.g., hotel lift lobbies, etc.) for collecting small quantity of small-sized waste (e.g., used tissue paper) is not required to be wrapped properly in designated bags or affixed with designated labels. In other words, hotel management staff / cleansing contractors are not required to instruct cleansing workers to check for NCW when collecting waste from such litter containers, or line the relevant containers with designated bags in advance.

Meanwhile, in order to maintain environmental hygiene, hotel management staff / cleansing contractors may instruct cleansing workers to collect NCW from unknown sources found in common areas (including communal recyclables collection points (hereinafter referred to as “recycling points”)) for further handling.

Hotel management staff and cleansing contractors should instruct cleansing workers to ensure that all waste collected (including waste from the above-mentioned small litter containers placed in common areas for collecting small quantity of small-sized waste, and the NCW found at the communal waste reception areas and common areas) in the premises have been properly wrapped in designated bags or affixed with designated labels before handing it over to PWCs who collect waste by RCVs with rear compactors. Hotel management staff and cleansing contractors should

provide designated bags or designated labels for cleansing workers to dispose of the above waste.

### 3.4.5 Expenditure Arrangements for Handling Hotel Waste and NCW from Tenants

As it is difficult for cleansing contractors to accurately estimate and include the expenditures on designated bags and designated labels for handling hotel waste and the NCW from tenants into the relevant services contracts during the initial stage of implementation of MSW charging, hotel should not require cleansing contractors to bear all the related costs on an “all-inclusive” basis without providing any calculation methods or mechanisms for the estimation of the said expenditures when drafting relevant cleansing services contracts.

For details on handling waste generated in common areas and the NCW within the premises and relevant expenditures and contractual arrangements as set out in Sections 3.4.3 and 3.4.4, please refer to **Annex V** and **Annex VI**.

## 3.5 Implementing “Charging by Weight”

### 3.5.1 Arrangements for Opening Billing Accounts

There are two types of “Gate-fee” billing accounts, namely “Type A Account” and “Type B Account”.

#### (i) “Type A Account”

Mainly applicable to companies or individuals (e.g., PWCs) with RCVs registered in their names. Upon approval of the application, “Type A Account” holders can use the vehicles registered under his/her account to transfer waste to waste disposal facilities for disposal. Hotel and cleansing contractors may engage PWCs with “Type A Account” direct to collect and dispose of waste on their behalf.

Hotel management staff and cleansing contractors should discuss with PWCs on the arrangements for waste collection services, such as confirming the type(s) of RCVs, relevant details of fee settlement, including billing arrangements (e.g., on a per service or monthly basis, to

relieve cash flow pressure on small-sized waste collectors. In the case of regular settlement, the settlement date, payment method, payment period, etc. should be set), how to calculate the fee by quantity of the waste and how to verify the fee, etc., and list the relevant arrangements and calculation methods in the contract, to protect the interests of both parties.

(ii) “Type B Account”

Mainly applicable to large scale waste producers (i.e. premises that generate large amount of daily waste, e.g., large-scale facilities, factories, shopping malls, etc.). When applying for a “Type B Account”, the applicant is required to pay a deposit according to the required number of chits issued under the MSW Charging Scheme (hereinafter referred to as “e-chits”). Upon approval of the application, “Type B account” holders can hire vehicles registered under “Type A Accounts” to dispose of waste at the waste disposal facilities. The drivers of the relevant vehicles are required to present the e-chits provided by the above-mentioned “Type B Account” holders when entering the waste disposal facilities to allow the weighbridge computer systems to record the gate-fee direct in the accounts of the “Type B Account” holders, so that the relevant fees can be charged direct to the “Type B Account” holders via monthly statements afterwards. E-chit is only applicable to “Type B Account”.

For details on the account opening and “gate-fee” payment arrangements of the two types of accounts, please refer to **Annex VII**.

We encourage large scale hotels to apply for “Type B Account” direct. “Type B Account” holders may use the registered vehicles of “Type A Account” holders to transfer waste to the waste disposal facilities, and then pay the relevant fees direct to the EPD.

In this way, the “Type B Account” holders do not need to work out separate arrangements for apportioning the “gate-fee” with the “Type A Account” holders. This arrangement may also reduce the problems of fee splitting, cash flow and bad debts arising from the “gate-fee” advance payment by the “Type A Account” holders.

### 3.5.2 Arrangements for “Gate-Fee” Apportionment Mechanism(s)

Hotel should discuss with the individual tenants, which are not under the direct management of the hotel, about the arrangements for apportioning the “gate-fee” and formulate guidelines or rules for the apportionment mechanism(s) for tenants' reference. Meanwhile, the application and fairness of the apportionment mechanism(s) should also be regularly reviewed. For suggestions on the apportionment mechanisms, please refer to **Annex VII**.

### 3.5.3 Waste Collection

Hotel management staff **are not required** to instruct cleansing workers to check whether the waste disposed of by individual tenants or guests has been wrapped properly in designated bags or affixed with designated labels. Hotel management staff / cleansing contractors can provide cleansing workers with ordinary garbage bags to collect and dispose of the above-mentioned waste and waste from unknown sources, just like the practices before the implementation of MSW charging.

## 3.6 Waste Reduction and Recycling Arrangements

Implementation of MSW charging provides more incentives for hotel to put waste reduction at source, waste separation at source and clean recycling into practice, which in turn reduces the overall expenditures on MSW charging. Hotel and cleansing contractors may refer to the content below to carry out waste reduction and recycling.

### 3.6.1 Review of Recycling Facilities

Hotel management staff should review the existing waste separation and recycling facilities. Apart from placing three-colour waste separation and recycling facilities (i.e., waste paper, plastics, metals) in the hotel, they may also consider increasing the types of recyclables from the traditional three types to common recyclables (including glass bottles, fluorescent lamps and tubes, rechargeable batteries, etc.) to facilitate cleansing workers / tenants to separate recyclables from waste and thus reduce the amount of overall waste disposal.

### 3.6.2 Review of Recyclables Collection Arrangements

Hotel / cleansing contractors should ensure that items collected are properly separated and suitable for recycling, and that they should be properly handled, including handling and storing separately from other waste (e.g., checking and removing any sundries or waste inside recycling facilities). They should also deliver the recyclables to reliable recyclers downstream for subsequent handling and recycling.

Regarding the guidelines on clean recycling of the above recyclables, please refer to **Annex VIII**.

### 3.6.3 Enhancement of Awareness of Waste Reduction and Recycling of Tenants / Guests

Hotel management staff should step up the education and promotion efforts within the hotel by organising different types of green activities, such as promotion of reducing usage of disposable items in hotel rooms, to enhance the awareness of waste reduction and clean recycling of guests and further achieve “Dump Less, Save More”. They should educate tenants / guests to correctly sort and identify recyclable items, items unsuitable for recycling (e.g., contaminated recyclables) and waste, so that to avoid the recycling facilities being misused as dumping grounds of NCW, which affects the quality of the recyclables and the effectiveness of recycling.

For more information on waste reduction and recycling, please refer to **Annex VIII**.

### 3.6.4 Reducing and Recycling Waste Generated by the Hotel’s Catering Services

For details on good food waste management, reduction of disposable plastic tableware and recycling of glass bottles, please refer to Section 3.5 of the “Municipal Solid Waste Charging Best Practice Guide – Catering Trade”.

## **4 Contact the EPD**

If you have any questions regarding this Guide, or need to seek support for the implementation of MSW charging, please call the EPD hotline at 2838 3111 or send an email to [mswcharging@epd.gov.hk](mailto:mswcharging@epd.gov.hk).

### **Disclaimer**

This Guide is for general reference only and have no legal effect and should not be regarded as legal advice. All legislative requirements are subject to the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354), Laws of Hong Kong.



## **5 Annex**

Annex I	Frequently Asked Questions on the Legislative Requirements on MSW Charging
Annex II	Charging Modes for Premises with Refuse Compactors
Annex III	Staff Training
Annex IV	Assisting Tenants in Getting Ready
Annex V	Contractual Arrangements for Cleansing/ Waste Collection Services in Relation to MSW Charging
Annex VI	Suggested Measures in Response to NCW in Premises under “Charging by Designated Bags”
Annex VII	Suggested Preparation Measures for Premises under “Charging by Weight”
Annex VIII	Suggested Measures on Waste Reduction and Recycling in Hotel

## Annex I    Frequently Asked Questions on the Legislative Requirements on MSW Charging

### Cleansing Workers and Individual Tenants

#### 1. What should be taken note of when “wrapping waste in designated bags”?

When disposing of general waste using designated bags, cleansing workers / tenants should make sure that no part of the waste (e.g., handle/skewer) is protruded from the opening of the bags or pierced through the body of the bags. In the meantime, the opening of the bags must be tied so that no waste can escape from the bags. Cleansing workers / tenants should use designated bags of appropriate size to ensure that the relevant waste is completely and properly wrapped<sup>16</sup>.

#### Demonstration on how to properly “wrap waste in a designated bag”



#### Examples of waste not properly “wrapped in a designated bag”



Some of the waste protrudes from the opening of the bag



Some of the waste pierce through the body of the bag



The opening of the bag is not tied well and the waste inside escapes

<sup>16</sup> According to section 2(1) of the amended WDO, “wrapped in a designated bag” means completely contained in a designated bag with the bag’s opening tied so that no solid contents can escape from the bag during handling and transportation”.

2. **When disposing of a piece of oversized waste that has been separated into different parts (e.g., feet and bed base of a bed), is it necessary to affix a designated label to each part? Or is it acceptable to simply tie all parts together with a rope and affix with just one designated label?**

In determining the number of designated labels required, cleansing workers / tenants should consider the properties of the oversized waste, including its structure, functions, design, overall size, and quantity, before deciding whether such oversized waste should be considered as one or several articles. The Government will take into account of the above factors and adopt a common-sense approach when deciding whether irregularities are involved.

For example, subject to the actual facts and circumstances, the dismantled parts of the same abandoned oversized waste firmly tied together by a rope is likely to be regarded as one article of waste requiring one designated label for disposal. However, in case of a table and some chairs, or a bed and a mattress, they are likely to be regarded as separate articles even being tied together, and one designated label is required for each article for disposal.

In addition, multiple bags of general waste tightly bound together cannot be regarded as one article based on their nature. Therefore, such waste should be properly wrapped in several designated bags but not just affixed with a designated label.

### **Individual Tenants**

3. **If individual tenants have already properly wrapped their waste in designated bags or affixed with designated labels before placing it at the communal waste reception areas, but the designated bags/designated labels are damaged/detached during normal handling and transportation, and renders the waste falling within the definition of NCW, have the tenants committed an offence?**

If tenants have followed the legal requirement of “wrapping waste properly in designated bags” (see Note 16 for the definition) before waste disposal, they will not commit an offence even if the designated bags/designated labels are damaged subsequently during the handling and transportation by other persons (which leads to escape of the waste from the designated bags/detachment of the designated labels from the waste).

- 4. Is it illegal for tenants to dispose of recyclables that are not properly wrapped in designated bags/ affixed with designated labels at the communal waste reception areas? In addition, if the hotel has participated in the food waste collection and recycling scheme, is it necessary to wrap the source separated food waste in designated bags for collection by food waste collectors (FWCs)?**

If the containers/locations for collecting recyclables is located within communal waste reception areas (e.g., also located at refuse rooms on individual floors or central refuse collection points), tenants are required to place the recyclables inside the containers/areas for collecting recyclables (e.g., separation bins/boxes/bags).

Otherwise, it will be an offence for tenants to dispose of any waste (including recyclables) without properly wrapped in designated bags or affixed with designated labels at the communal waste reception areas<sup>17</sup>.

In addition, if the hotel separates food waste properly, food waste sent to food waste recycling facilities will not be subject to MSW charges. This arrangement will be same as the case where recyclables properly recovered by the general public will not be subject to MSW charges. Therefore, if the hotel has participated in the food waste collection and recycling scheme, the food waste to be collected by the FWCs does not need to be wrapped in designated bags.

- 5. Are tenants required to wrap the waste in designated bags or affix with designated labels when disposing of it in waste collection bins which have been lined with designated bags at the communal waste reception areas?**

MSW charging is premised on quantity-based and the “polluter-pays” principles. Our policy intent is that it is primarily the responsibility of individual waste producers to bear the charges for designated bags and designated labels, so as to drive behavioural changes for achieving waste reduction. Tenants can purchase designated bags of appropriate size/designated labels for waste disposal from a few thousand sales points authorised by the EPD.

Even hotels have lined waste collection bins at the communal waste reception areas with large designated bags in advance, tenants are still

---

<sup>17</sup> See sections 20N(1) and 20N(3)(d) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

required to wrap their waste in designated bags or affix with designated labels before disposing of it at the communal waste reception areas to meet the legislative requirements<sup>18</sup>. If hotels line the bins with designated bags in advance, extra costs will be involved.

- 6. The law stipulates that no designated bags or designated labels are required for waste (e.g. used tissue paper) placed inside litter containers in common areas (e.g. small litter container placed in lift lobbies) for collection of small quantity of small-sized waste. What volume of waste would fit the description of “small quantity” of “small-sized” waste under the Ordinance<sup>19</sup>?**

Hotels usually place small litter containers at the lobbies or lift waiting areas so as to facilitate individuals to dispose of small quantity of small-sized waste, such as used tissue paper. These small litter containers are however not designed for individuals to dispose of daily waste from individual tenants. Hence, only when disposing of waste in the abovementioned containers for collection of small quantity of small-sized waste would be exempted to use designated bags or designated labels.

The Government will take into account the actual facts and circumstances and adopt a common-sense approach when deciding whether individual litter containers serve the above purpose.

### **Cleansing Workers**

- 7. Is it illegal for cleansing workers to temporarily deposit NCW pending to be handled at communal waste reception areas in hotels?**

The law has already provided exemption for cleansing workers regarding the above scenario.

Generally speaking, cleansing workers will not commit any offence regarding deposition of NCW at the communal waste reception areas when depositing NCW pending to be handled at the communal waste reception areas<sup>20</sup> in hotels (for depositing waste into refuse

---

18 See section 20N(1) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

19 See section 20N(3)(a) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

20 See section 20N(3)(c) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

compactors, please refer to Question 8 below). However, cleansing workers are required to properly wrap NCW in designated bags or affix with designated labels before handing it over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors.

**8. Is it illegal for cleansing workers to deposit NCW into refuse chutes? Also, is it illegal for cleansing workers to deposit NCW into refuse compaction systems (i.e., the systems mentioned in Annex II)?**

Cleansing workers can still continue to handle NCW found at the communal waste reception areas with unknown sources and deliver it to central refuse collection points (including transportation of such NCW via refuse chutes). This act does not contravene the law regarding deposition of NCW at the communal waste reception areas. However, cleansing workers are required to properly wrap such waste in designated bags or affix with designated labels before handing it over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors. For arrangements on monitoring and handling NCW associated with the use of refuse chutes, please refer to Annex VI.

As for hotels using refuse compactors mentioned in Annex II, “charging by designated bags” applies in some cases. Under this charging mode, it will be an offence for cleansing workers to deposit NCW into refuse compactors as the workers may be considered as causing NCW to be deposited onto the RCVs<sup>21</sup>. Cleansing workers should first check whether the waste disposed of by individual tenants complies with the law when collecting it from communal waste reception areas such as refuse rooms on individual floors, and properly wrap all NCW in designated bags or affix with designated labels before depositing it into the above refuse compactors. They are also required to ensure that all waste collected in common areas of the hotel is properly wrapped in designated bags or affixed with designated labels before depositing it into the above refuse compactors.

---

21 See section 20K(1)(b) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

**Cleansing workers deposit waste properly wrapped in designated bags into refuse chute inlets**



Refuse chute inlets

- 9. If a designated bag containing waste is damaged (e.g., with small cracks or holes) but no waste escapes or protrudes from the designated bag, should cleansing workers collect the waste?**

Depending on the actual circumstances, if the designated bag collected by the cleansing workers is damaged but the waste is still completely contained inside the designated bag with the bag's opening tied so that no solid content escapes from the bag during handling and transportation, such waste still meets the definition of “wrapped in a designated bag” (see footnote 16) and cleansing workers can still follow the normal procedures to handle that bag of waste.

If the designated bag is severely damaged to the extent that waste escapes or protrudes from the designated bag and it is no longer “wrapped in a designated bag”, cleansing workers are required to properly wrap the waste in a designated bag before handing it to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors.

- 10. Is it illegal when cleansing workers accidentally damage the designated bags or designated labels during normal handling and transportation? Moreover, is it illegal for cleansing workers to handle waste of which the designated bags are damaged during normal handling and transportation (e.g., dropping from refuse chutes) or the designated labels are damaged/detached during the said processes? Are cleansing workers required to properly wrap NCW in designated bags or affix with designated labels again before depositing that waste onto PWCs’ RCVs with rear compactors?**

If cleansing workers accidentally damage designated bags or designated labels during normal handling and transportation, it may render the concerned waste falling within the definition of “NCW” (i.e., “municipal solid waste that neither is properly wrapped in a designated bag nor has a designated label attached to it”, see footnote 16).

However, as mentioned in Question 7, generally speaking, cleansing workers will not commit any offence when depositing NCW pending to be handled at the communal waste reception areas, and they can continue to handle waste that escaped from designated bags which have been damaged during normal handling and transportation, or waste with its designated labels detached during normal handling and transportation, including delivering the waste from the bottom of refuse chutes to a designated location for collection by RCVs. However, cleansing workers should properly wrap such waste in designated bags or affix with new designated labels before handing it over PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors. Otherwise, they may commit an offence.

Generally speaking, the workers of PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors will check whether the waste is properly wrapped in designated bags/ affixed with designated labels and reject waste which is not properly wrapped in designated bags/ affixed with designated labels. However, the law stipulates that when NCW escapes from a designated bag that has been damaged or unfastened during the compaction of the designated bag by a device designed for compacting waste or when the designated bag is deposited into a refuse chute, a statutory defence can be established (please see Section 2.4 for the details of statutory defences)<sup>22</sup>. Therefore, if some waste has been properly wrapped in designated bags and the waste escapes from the designated bags damaged in refuse chutes or during compaction, the staff of PWCs may still collect the waste, depending on the actual circumstances, without requiring the cleansing workers to properly wrap the waste in designated bags again.

---

22 See section 200(3)(b) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.



**Cleansing workers collect waste properly wrapped in designated bags at the bottom of refuse chutes**



**11. Is it illegal for cleansing workers to break open designated bags and deposit the waste inside into refuse chutes to avoid blockage of refuse chutes?**

If cleansing workers break open the designated bags that have been properly wrapped in compliance with the law to deposit the waste inside the bags into refuse chutes, this may be considered as causing to be deposited NCW on RCVs under certain circumstances and committing an offence (see Question 8 above). Under other circumstances, if cleansing workers do not properly wrap the NCW in designated bags again before handing it over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors, they may also commit an offence. Moreover, breaking open designated bags to deposit the waste may also easily lead to environmental hygiene problems.

Hotel management staff / cleansing contractors should remind tenants / cleansing workers to use refuse chutes properly, e.g. use designated bags of appropriate size for disposal of waste and avoid filling up the designated bags with oversized waste to avoid blockage of refuse chutes. Hotel management staff / cleansing contractors can also advise tenants to take the initiative to practice waste reduction and recycling by properly separating and recycling plastics, glass bottles, metals and other recyclables which may easily cause blockage of refuse chutes. The volume of waste can then be reduced and smaller designated bags can be used to avoid blockage of refuse chutes.

**Hotel Management Staff/Cleansing Contractors**

**12. Does the law allow hotel/cleansing contractors/cleansing workers to line waste collection bins with large designated bags in advance (please also refer to Question 5 above)?**

MSW charging is premised on quantity-based and the “polluter-pays” principles. Our policy intent is that it is primarily the responsibility of individual tenants to bear the charges for designated bags and designated labels, so as to drive behavioural changes for achieving waste reduction.

Even if waste collection bins at the communal waste reception areas are lined with large designated bags in advance, tenants are still required to wrap their waste properly in designated bags or affix with designated labels before disposing of it to meet the legislative requirements<sup>23</sup>. If hotel / cleansing contractor line the bins in advance, extra costs will be involved.

Depending on the individual needs, hotels / cleansing contractors may separately use transparent garbage bags to collect waste which has been wrapped in designated bags by individual tenants. This helps ensure that all the waste inside is wrapped in designated bags<sup>24</sup>.

**13. What specific measures can hotels, cleansing contractors and cleansing workers take to establish the statutory defence of having taken “all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid committing the offence”<sup>25</sup> (see Section 2.4 for details of statutory defences)?**

The specific measures to be taken by hotels, cleansing contractors and cleansing workers depend on the actual circumstances of each hotel/case.

For example, they should refer to this Guide and adopt the measures that are suitable for the hotel. Hotels and cleansing contractors should also keep proper records (e.g., records on training and provision of designated bags by cleansing contractors to cleansing workers) to show that they have followed the relevant guidelines. This would help them establish the relevant statutory defence.

---

23 See section 20N(1) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

24 See section 20O(2) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the statutory defences.

25 See section 20O(1)(a) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

**14. Are hotels allowed to purchase designated bags and designated labels on behalf of tenants?**

Under “charging by designated bags”, tenants should purchase designated bags/ designated labels from a few thousand sales points authorised by the EPD, and properly wrap the waste in designated bags or affix with designated labels before disposing of it at the communal waste reception areas to achieve the “polluter-pays” principle. Therefore, the preferable measures are to publicise and explain the arrangements after implementation of MSW charging to the tenants during the preparatory period.

To purchase designated bags by the tenants direct can save hotels from the administrative and human resources burden of discussing with tenants on the details of purchasing/distributing designated bags (e.g., size and quantity of designated bags, distribution frequency and modes, etc.). Moreover, tenants can purchase designated bags of appropriate size and quantity depending on their own needs, without being restricted by the overall distribution arrangements of the hotel and thus, achieving waste reduction at source effectively.

**15. Are hotel management staff required to clearly delineate locations of communal waste reception areas? Can the Government still enforce the law against tenants for not using designated bags/ designated labels during waste disposal, even if hotel management staff have not delineated the locations of communal waste reception areas?**

Hotel management staff and cleansing contractors can jointly delineate the locations of communal waste reception areas within the hotel, i.e., communal waste reception areas on individual floors (e.g., refuse rooms on individual floors, central refuse collection points, etc.) and oversized waste reception areas, which are for temporary waste storage pending collection by cleansing workers, in consideration of the waste collection arrangements of the hotel. Signages of the EPD should be displayed at prominent locations (see Section 3.4.3 of this Guide) to remind tenants to properly wrap the waste in designated bags or affix with designated labels when disposing of the waste in those reception areas.

This helps clearly inform tenants of the statutory enforcement points in the hotel in relation to MSW charging and avoid breaching the law inadvertently. This also helps facilitate the evidence collection work of enforcement officers on suspected breaches. However, they can still

investigate and collect evidence on suspected breaches even if hotels do not clearly delineate the locations of communal waste reception areas, and charge suspected offenders when evidence is sufficient.

**16. Under “charging by designated bags”, what circumstances can be exempted from the legislation on the use of designated bags/designated labels?**

Under “charging by designated bags”, if satisfied that it is reasonable to do so, the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) may, on application, grant exemption from the legislation on the use of designated bags/ designated labels to those depositing waste for or on behalf of the Government<sup>26</sup> and in the course of providing service for collecting recyclables<sup>27</sup>. Moreover, the DEP may, on the Director’s own initiative, exempt any person from the legislation on the use of designated bags/ designated labels when the exemption is necessary for public safety, environmental hygiene or environmental protection, or when exceptional circumstances render it impracticable or unreasonable for the person to comply with the provisions related to the use of designated bags/ designated labels<sup>28</sup>. Generally speaking, waste collected from hotels may not meet the relevant exemption criteria<sup>29</sup>.

---

26 Example includes waste that is generated as a direct and inevitable result of the delivery of public services, such as street waste collected by the FEHD.

27 For example, when there are no other alternatives, recyclers/recycling organisations may have to deliver the collected recyclables to landfills for disposal when recyclables treatment facilities fail to operate properly and cannot continue to accept and handle recyclables, so as to avoid causing environmental hygiene problems.

28 For example, when there are no other alternatives, recyclers may have to deliver the collected recyclables to landfills for disposal when recyclables treatment facilities fail to operate properly and cannot continue to accept and handle recyclables due to unforeseeable reasons, so as to avoid causing environmental hygiene problems. Operationally, it is not feasible to require the related persons to file an application to the DEP for exemption, especially under emergency situations.

29 See sections 20Q and 20R in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the legislation.

## Annex II Charging Modes for Premises with Refuse Compaction Systems

The following are four common types of refuse compaction systems. Regardless of the type of refuse compaction systems being used, the charging mode for premises with refuse compaction systems is determined by the type of RCVs that collect the waste. The respective charging modes are as follows:

### Charging by Designated Bags

- Collection by RCVs of the FEHD or its contractors; or
- Collection by PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors

### Charging by weight through “gate-fee”

- Collection by PWCs using RCVs without rear compactors (e.g., delivery by hook-lift trucks)

## Common Types of Refuse Compaction Systems



Mobile refuse compactor

The refuse skip possesses built-in compacting device and no other fixed external device is required to be installed in the refuse room.



Stationary refuse compactor

The refuse skip does not possess a built-in compacting device and fixed external compacting device is required to be installed in the refuse room.



Rotary drum refuse compactor

The fixed compactor is installed inside the refuse room. Waste can be discharged onto a RCV for onward delivery after compaction.



Automatic refuse collection system

The system uses underground suction pipes to convey waste that is deposited into the refuse chute inlets on individual floors to the centrifugal chamber at the central refuse collection station. The waste will be collected for onward delivery after compaction.

### Annex III Staff Training

Enhancing the knowledge of staff on MSW charging helps hotels and cleansing contractors implement MSW charging smoothly with the Government. Hotels and cleansing contractors may refer to the following suggestions on staff training to ensure that they clearly understand the legislative requirements and guidelines, and the related workflow and arrangements.

	Staff	Suggested training content
1.	Management staff of hotels and cleansing contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Relevant legislative requirements               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal responsibilities of their companies</li> <li>• Legal responsibilities of frontline staff</li> <li>• Relevant penalties</li> <li>• Statutory Defences</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2.	Hotel management staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Formulation of work plans               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders who need to take part in formulating the plans</li> <li>• Contents of the work plans</li> <li>• How to seek support from stakeholders to implement the plans</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Communication with tenants               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Messages required to be delivered to tenants, e.g., charging modes, their legal responsibilities, points to note when disposing of waste and sorting waste and recyclables, etc.</li> <li>• How to encourage tenants to comply with the law</li> <li>• How to effectively deliver the message</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Formulation of guidelines for frontline staff               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to formulate the guidelines, e.g., review of the current waste collection workflow and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<p>identification of the required changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to ensure that frontline staff understand and familiarise with the guidelines well</li> </ul> <p>– Handling of non-compliant cases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructions and guidelines to frontline management staff and cleansing workers on handling NCW</li> <li>• How to follow up on non-compliance of tenants</li> </ul> <p>– Provision of recycling support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to review and enhance the existing recycling support to tenants, and the handling process of recyclables</li> <li>• How to make good use of different channels/ resources to improve recycling facilities</li> </ul> <p>– Communication with the EPD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publicity and education resources provided by the EPD</li> <li>• How to report cases of non-compliance to the EPD</li> <li>• Recycling support provided by the EPD</li> </ul>
3.	Hotel frontline staff	<p>– Communication with tenants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remind and help tenants to comply with the law</li> <li>• Answer tenants' questions on MSW charging</li> </ul> <p>– Execution of guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requirements of the guidelines</li> <li>• Situations which require reporting to supervisors</li> </ul> <p>– Handling of non-compliant cases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to follow up on non-compliance of tenants</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Situations which require reporting to supervisors</li> <li>• Required information for reporting non-compliant cases</li> </ul> <p>– Information on waste reduction and recycling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help tenants/guests correctly use recycling facilities in the hotel and provide the EPD's information on clean recycling</li> <li>• Answer tenants/guests' questions on recycling arrangements in the hotel</li> </ul>
4.	Cleansing workers	<p>– Waste collection arrangements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in waste collection arrangements and the requirements in the guidelines</li> </ul> <p>– Handling of recyclables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to ensure recyclables that increased significantly after implementation of MSW charging are properly handled</li> <li>• How to properly handle waste and items unsuitable for recycling that are mixed inside recycling bins</li> </ul> <p>– Handling of NCW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to ensure NCW is correctly handled and the relevant requirements in the guidelines</li> </ul> <p>– Record and report on non-compliant cases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Situations which require reporting to supervisors</li> <li>• Required information for reporting non-compliant cases</li> </ul>

## Annex IV Assisting Tenants in Getting Ready

During the preparation period and after the implementation of MSW charging, hotels and cleansing contractors may make reference to the following examples to make suitable arrangements to assist tenants in getting ready for MSW charging and waste recycling.

	Type	Examples
1.	Prior communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss with tenants the details of implementing MSW charging in the hotel and formulate work plans with the responsibilities and roles of different stakeholders defined</li> <li>• Organise briefings to inform tenants of the objectives of MSW charging and related arrangements of the hotel</li> <li>• Provide tenants with a location map of the recycling facilities within the hotel, types of recyclables accepted by different recycling facilities and items unsuitable for recycling</li> </ul>
2.	Dissemination of Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disseminate information on MSW charging and waste reduction to tenants through different channels, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Briefings</li> <li>■ Publicity corners</li> <li>■ Questionnaires</li> <li>■ Notices, posters, leaflets, newsletters, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Print or distribute leaflets prepared by the Government, inform tenants of the locations of recycling facilities within the hotel, types of recyclables accepted by different recycling facilities and items unsuitable for recycling</li> </ul>
3.	Publicity and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage tenants to keep track of the information provided by the Government, e.g., dedicated website for MSW charging, posters, leaflets, etc., and to actively participate in waste reduction measures and</li> </ul>

		related events of the Government, e.g., briefings, competitions, waste reduction campaigns, etc.
4.	Regular review/report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders may have different opinions on the MSW charging and recycling arrangement in the hotel and the measures formulated beforehand may not achieve the expected outcome. Therefore, a regular review system is necessary</li> <li>• Conduct regular meetings with stakeholders to review the implementation and operation of MSW charging in the premises</li> <li>• Take follow-up actions to further improve the ancillary measures on MSW charging and waste reduction and recycling in the hotel after considering the review results and opinions of stakeholders</li> </ul>

## **Annex V Contractual Arrangements for Cleansing/ Waste Collection Services in Relation to MSW Charging**

The EPD provides the following suggestions on contractual arrangements for cleansing/waste collection services in relation to MSW charging:

Hotels should not include in their cleansing/ waste collection services contracts (contracts) “all-inclusive” provisions requiring cleansing/ waste collection services contractors to bear all costs incurred by the implementation of MSW charging, i.e., all additional costs incurred by the implementation of MSW charging during the contract period such as expenditures on the purchase of designated bags/designated labels for handling waste in common areas of the premises as well as NCW, and expenditures on “gate-fee”, etc., without providing any calculation methods or mechanisms for the estimation of the said expenditures. Such kind of contractual arrangement is not consistent with the “polluter-pays” principle and will undermine the effectiveness of MSW charging. Moreover, the cleansing/ waste collection services contractors may tend to offer higher bids for new contracts to balance the currently uncertain risks, which will not be in the interest of hotels, cleansing/ waste collection services contractors and tenants.

Hotel management staff may consider jointly conducting regular (e.g., every 6 months) surveys with cleansing contractors to collect the daily waste and garbage bags usage data in the hotel. This would facilitate hotel management staff to provide cleansing contractors with more accurate waste data for their reference in working out their bids. On the other hand, this would also be useful for hotels to explain the calculation basis of the relevant expenditures to tenants and collect relevant charges from them. Such data may also provide references for hotel management staff on the effectiveness of waste reduction in the premises.

In view of the above, hotels should incorporate provisions in the new contracts at this stage that provide an estimation on the basic usage of designated bags/designated labels based on the current usage of garbage bags and amount of oversized waste in the hotel, and reimburse cleansing/ waste collection services contractors for any extra expenditures of designated bags/designated labels on top of the basic usage. Hotels may also consider including new terms on conducting regular surveys with cleansing/ waste collection services contractors on the daily waste and garbage bags usage data in the contracts.

For templates of the terms in Government cleansing/waste collection services contracts, please visit the dedicated website for MSW charging for hotel management staff's reference.

## **Annex VI Suggested Measures in Response to NCW in Premises under “Charging by Designated Bags”**

### **1. Measures to Prevent NCW and Monitor the Compliance**

#### *Communal waste reception areas*

- Hotel management staff should display the signages of the EPD (please refer to Section 3.4.3 of this Guide) at prominent locations of communal waste reception areas (e.g., refuse rooms on individual floors, or central refuse collection points, etc.), so as to remind tenants / guests that these reception areas are statutory enforcement points.
- Apart from displaying signages at the communal waste reception areas, hotel management staff may prepare notices which list out locations of communal waste reception areas and points to note when disposing of waste there, and distribute those notices to tenants.
- Hotel management staff and/or cleansing contractors should instruct their cleansing workers to conduct visual screening to check whether the waste is properly wrapped in designated bags or affixed with designated labels when collecting waste at the communal waste reception areas.
- Hotel management staff should not line the large waste collection bins at the communal waste reception areas with large designated bags (see Questions 5 and 12 of **Annex I**). Instead, depending on the needs, they may arrange the purchase of transparent garbage bags (rather than the large black garbage bags generally in use at present) and line the large waste collection bins (usually about 100-litre) at the communal waste reception areas to collect waste that has been properly wrapped in designated bags by tenants, in order to confirm that only designated bags are found in the transparent garbage bags<sup>30</sup>.
- Hotel management staff may step up the inspection of communal waste reception areas to facilitate monitoring of the compliance. If they discover tenants disposing of NCW, they should request the tenants to properly wrap the waste in designated bags or affix it with designated labels before disposal.

---

34 See section 200(2) in Division 2 of Part IVB of the amended WDO for the statutory defences.

- Hotel management staff and cleansing contractors may jointly formulate work plans on the inspection of communal waste reception areas of the premises, including the inspection points, inspection frequency, records and follow-up actions to be taken, etc. Regular reports on inspection findings should be provided to hotel management staff and site managers of cleansing contractors to facilitate monitoring of the compliance and the effectiveness of the preventive measures.

#### Refuse chutes

- If there are refuse chutes in hotels, hotel management staff may lock the refuse chutes on individual floors as far as practicable and only allow cleansing workers to unlock them, so as to prevent individual tenants from disposal of NCW into refuse chutes. Hotel management staff should determine the arrangements with cleansing workers in advance. If cleansing workers need to use refuse chutes for delivering waste, they should lock the refuse chutes after finishing their work.

#### Oversized waste reception areas

- Hotel management staff should ensure as far as possible that the oversized waste reception areas are spacious enough not only to temporarily store the oversized waste, but also to allow cleansing workers to check whether all oversized waste is affixed with designated labels.

#### Refuse compaction systems

- If hotels are equipped with refuse compaction system(s), hotel management staff may consider installing CCTVs at the common areas for collection and temporary storage of waste before delivery to the refuse compaction systems, so as to facilitate the provision of information as per the request of enforcement officers for subsequent investigation.

## **2. Suggested Measures on Handling NCW**

#### Rejection of NCW

- If tenants handover NCW to cleansing workers in person, hotel management staff / cleansing contractors should instruct cleansing workers to reject the NCW and remind the tenants to follow the legislative requirements.

General handling of NCW

- If cleansing workers cannot contact the tenants on the spot or identify the tenants that have disposed of the NCW, or if some person insist on putting down the NCW and leave even though cleansing workers have rejected the waste, hotel management staff/cleansing contractors may instruct the cleansing workers to continue to collect the NCW to maintain environmental hygiene. However, hotel management staff / cleansing contractors should instruct cleansing workers to properly wrap the waste in designated bags or affix it with designated labels before handing it over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors.
- If cleansing workers find waste wrapped in non-designated bags inside the transparent garbage bags of the waste collection bins at communal waste reception areas, they should take out the NCW and properly wrap it in designated bags. If the transparent garbage bags only contain waste properly wrapped in designated bags, they may direct hand it over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors.
- Depending on the circumstances, hotel management staff/ cleansing contractors may provide cleansing workers with large designated bags (e.g., 100 -litre) for properly wrapping all of the NCW collected before handing it over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors.

Handling of NCW involving refuse chutes

- There are 240-litre and 660-litre designated bags which will be sold for use by hotels with refuse chutes such that frontline cleansing workers would not have to unnecessarily put the NCW collected at the bottom of the refuse chutes into designated bags for further disposal.
- As for hotels that can lock the refuse chutes for use by only cleansing workers, hotel management staff/cleansing contractors may consider to separately handle the waste properly wrapped in designated bags and the NCW found on each floor depending on the actual circumstances. Cleansing workers may place large waste collection bins without lining 240/660- litre designated bags at the bottom of refuse chutes in advance to collect waste properly wrapped in designated bags from communal waste reception areas on each floor. Then, cleansing workers may replace the large waste collection bins lining with 240/660- litre designated bags for the collection of NCW left on each floor. They are required to tightly tie the 240/660- litre designated bags before handing them over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors, so as to ensure compliance with the law.



- As for hotels that cannot lock the refuse chutes (e.g., out of fire safety concern), hotel management staff/cleansing contractors may consider placing large waste collection bins lined with 240/660 - litre designated bags at the bottom of refuse chutes for collection of waste deposited inside, including waste that has been properly wrapped in designated bags and NCW, when there is more non-compliance at the early stage of implementation of MSW Charging. Cleansing workers are required to tightly tie the 240/660 - litre designated bags before handing them over to PWCs using RCVs with rear compactors, so as to ensure compliance with the law.

### **Demonstration on lining waste collection bins with 240/660 - litre designated bags**

Cleansing workers may line waste collection bins with designated bags securely by tying knots or using ropes



Cleansing workers tightly tie the 240/660 - litre designated bags



### **3. Suggested Measures on Following Up and Reporting Non-compliance**

- If NCW is found at the communal waste reception areas /oversized waste reception areas, hotel management staff may post notices on concerned locations to alert those tenants that are involved.
- Hotel management staff may also step up inspection at the concerned communal waste reception areas /oversized waste reception areas.

- Hotel management staff should regularly review the records of non-compliant locations and install surveillance camera system when non-compliance is serious and when necessary.
- Hotel management staff should report to the EPD on repeated or serious non-compliant cases. The Government will draw up a list of black spots based on intelligence and complaints of hotel management staff and conduct surveillance and enforcement actions accordingly.
- Hotel management staff should try their best to provide the following information when reporting non-compliant cases to the EPD:
  - The locations of the concerned communal waste reception areas
  - Frequency, date, and time of NCW discovery
  - Site photos that show the signages at the communal waste reception areas (please refer to Section 3.4.3 of this Guide) and the severity of non-compliance
  - The timeslots for the concerned tenants to dispose of NCW
- Hotel management staff/ cleansing contractors and its workers can report non-compliance cases using the mobile application developed by the EPD for MSW charging.
- Hotel management staff should proactively work with the Government in the enforcement against the disposal of NCW, by reporting the disposal of NCW and working with the enforcement officers of our Department to facilitate their entry into the hotel to conduct enforcement work. The deterrence effect thus produced can help decrease the disposal of NCW and subsequently the extra workload or expenditures arisen from handling NCW.

## **Annex VII Suggested Preparatory Measures for Premises under “Charging by Weight”**

### **1. Arrangements for opening “gate-fee” accounts**

- The EPD has set up an online platform for account opening and the required documents can be uploaded to the system for submission. Please visit the dedicated website for MSW charging for details.

#### Type A Account

- Mainly targets at companies or individuals with RCVs registered under their names, e.g., PWCs
- Pay deposit according to the number of registered vehicle(s) (\$3,000 per vehicle)
- The system will issue a designated QR code for that vehicle to the account holder upon successful registration. When the vehicle delivers waste to the waste disposal facilities on behalf of a “Type A Account” holder, the driver is required to show the QR code for the weighbridge computer system to identify the corresponding “Type A Account”

#### Type B Account

- Mainly targets at large scale waste producers (i.e., premises that generate large amount of daily waste, e.g., larger facilities, factories, shopping centres, etc.)
- Pay deposit according to the required number of e- chit(s) (\$550 per e- chit)
- The drivers of the relevant vehicles are required to present the e-chits provided by the above-mentioned “Type B Account” holders when entering the waste disposal facilities, allowing the weighbridge computer system to record the gate-fee direct to the accounts of the “Type B Account” holder

### **2. Payment Arrangements**

- The EPD will issue monthly statements to account holders by mail or email. They are required to make payment within 30 days from the

issue date of the statement. Otherwise, a surcharge on top of the “gate-fee” will become payable.

- Different payment methods will be available, e.g., through automated teller machines (ATMs), PPS, Faster Payment System (FPS), post offices and convenience stores, etc.

### **3. Suggested Arrangements for the Apportionment Mechanisms of “Gate-fee”**

Hotel management staff should prepare relevant guidelines or house rules for individual tenants’ reference when devising the “gate-fee” apportionment mechanism. Hotel management staff may refer to the following suggested “gate-fee” apportionment mechanisms for reference:

#### **(A) Apportionment of fees proportional to the tenants’ usage of garbage bags**

Hotel management staff may consider adopting standardised garbage bags (Non-designated bags) as the tool of the apportionment mechanism. They may provide tenants with garbage bags of one or more specific capacities while tenants would request for garbage bags of suitable quantities and/or capacities depending on their needs every month. Hotel management staff should make monthly records on the amount of garbage bags /total capacity of garbage bags distributed to each tenant, and then apportion the “gate-fee” based on the record.

#### **(B) Apportionment of fees based on the weight of waste**

Hotel management staff may consider adopting weighing equipment coupled with an identification system as the tool of the apportionment mechanism when resources are available and their central refuse collection points/ oversized waste reception areas are spacious enough, so as to determine the fees of individual tenants and issue the bills accordingly.

Hotel management staff should regularly check the electronic systems including the weighing systems or other software and make corrective adjustments immediately when noticing errors in the data, so as to ensure that the fee calculation is accurate and reliable.

**(C) Specifying the fee levels for common oversized waste**

Hotel management staff may refer to the List of Weights of Common Oversized Waste and Their Corresponding "Gate-fees" on the next page when determining the fees to be charged for disposing of different oversized waste with individual tenants.

List of Weights of Common Oversized Waste and Their Corresponding "Gate-fees"						
Common Furniture Types		Average emptied net weight range(kg)*	"Gate-fee" fee range (HKD)		Examples of Lighter Furniture	Examples of heavier furniture
			Calculated based on a fee of \$365 per tonne**	Calculated based on a fee of \$395 per tonne**		
Bedroom	Single bed	15 - 45	5.5 - 16.4	5.9 - 17.8	Bed frame only without drawers	With headboard and drawers
	Double bed	35 - 65	12.8 - 23.7	13.8 - 25.7	Bed frame only without drawers	With headboard and drawers
	King bed	50 - 100	18.3 - 36.5	19.8 - 39.5	Bed frame only without drawers	Hydraulic bed frame and with under-bed storage box
	Single mattress	10 - 20	3.7 - 7.3	4 - 7.9	Foam mattress	Spring mattress
	Double mattress	20 - 35	7.3 - 12.8	7.9 - 13.8	Foam mattress	Spring mattress
	King mattress	30 - 45	11 - 16.4	11.9 - 17.8	Foam mattress	Spring mattress
	Wardrobe	40 - 100	14.6 - 36.5	15.8 - 39.5	Single door wardrobe	Double door wardrobe with drawers
	Chest of drawers	30 - 75	11 - 27.4	11.9 - 29.6	Narrow chest of 2 drawers	Wide chest of 2 drawers
Living Room	Sofa	15 - 55	5.5 - 20.1	5.9 - 21.7	Single armchair/sofa	3-seat sofa
	Sofa bed	25 - 115	9.1 - 42	9.9 - 45.4	Single sofa bed	Sofa bed with Storage corners
	TV cabinet	30 - 80	11 - 29.2	11.9 - 31.6	Single unit TV cabinet	TV cabinet combination
	Coffee table	10 - 50	3.7 - 18.3	4 - 19.8	Wooden coffee table	Marble/glass coffee table
Dinin	Dining table	10 - 80	3.7 - 29.2	4 - 31.6	Wooden dining table	Marble/glass dining table
	Dining chair	5 - 15	1.8 - 5.5	2 - 5.9	Plastic dining chair	Wooden dining chair

<b>Kitchen</b>	Sideboard	20 - 60	7.3 - 21.9	7.9 - 23.7	Single unit sideboard	Modular sideboard
	Base cabinets	20 - 35	7.3 - 12.8	7.9 - 13.8	Single door base cabinet	Double door base cabinet
	Wall cabinet	15 - 30	5.5 - 11	5.9 - 11.9	Single door wall cabinet	Double door wall cabinet
	Trolley	5 - 10	1.8 - 3.7	2 - 4	Steel trolley	Wooden trolley
<b>Bathroo</b>	Mirror cabinet	15 - 30	5.5 - 11	5.9 - 11.9	Single door mirror cabinet	Double door mirror cabinet
	Wash-basin cabinet	15 - 45	5.5 - 16.4	5.9 - 17.8	Single wash-basin cabinet	Wash-basin cabinet combination with a washbasin
<b>Study</b>	Bookshelf	25 - 75	9.1 - 27.4	9.9 - 29.6	Single unit bookshelf	Bookshelf combination
	Desk	10 - 60	3.7 - 21.9	4 - 23.7	Wooden personal desk	Computer desk unit
	Swivel chair	10 - 25	3.7 - 9.1	4 - 9.9	Foam seat	Leather seat

\*The above list of weight ranges is compiled based on the information provided by various furniture stores and moving companies, and it is for reference only. The actual weight of individual furniture depends on various factors such as materials used, size, design, etc.

\*\*These fees are calculated based on the weight listed in the table (rounded to one decimal place)

Remarks: The above fees do not include charges for administration/collection services of PMCs/cleansing contractors/PWCs (if applicable).

## **Annex VIII Suggested Measures on Waste Reduction and Recycling in the Hotel**

### **1. Review and Enhancement of Recycling Facilities**

- Apart from the traditional three-colour (i.e., waste paper, plastics, metals) recycling bins, hotel management staff may also actively consider participating in other recycling programmes of the EPD to collect other common recyclables (e.g., glass containers, REE, fluorescent lamps and tubes, rechargeable batteries, small electrical appliances, etc.).
- May consider to place small scale recycling facilities in guest rooms together with recycling instructions (e.g. types of recyclable items), so as to facilitate the guests to dispose of the recyclables.
- Should place recycling facilities at prominent and highly accessible locations together with eye-catching notices. Location maps of recycling facilities should also be posted in the hotel, so that tenants / guests are informed of the locations of nearby recycling facilities and more tenants / guests can be encouraged to use the recycling facilities.

### **2. Review of Arrangements for Collection of Recyclables**

- Should arrange cleansing workers to regularly collect recyclables from different recycling points within the hotel and deliver them to the locations for the temporary storage of recyclables before they are collected by recyclers, and maintain cleanliness and hygiene of the recycling points.
- May designate several recyclables temporary storage areas in the central refuse collection points for the proper storage of different types of recyclables while awaiting collection by recyclers. When necessary, cleansing workers may be instructed to sort and clean the recyclables to ensure that they are suitable for subsequent handling.
- Should discuss the recycling arrangements with recyclers (e.g., types of recycling facilities (bins/boxes/bags), number and locations of recycling facilities, collection frequency, etc.), review the arrangements from time to time and make corresponding adjustments on the collection frequency according to the amount of recyclables, so as to avoid overflowing of recycling facilities.



- Should set up recycling facilities (especially storage areas for recyclables) at locations highly accessible by recycling vehicles for loading/ unloading as far as possible to safeguard the occupational health and safety of frontline recycling staff and enhance recycling efficiency.
- Should provide frontline hotel and cleansing staff with guidelines and training and arrange placing of recyclables at designated locations pending door-to-door collection services at the agreed date and time. No disposal of recyclables is allowed.
- Hotel management staff / cleansing workers should regularly check whether only appropriate recyclables are found inside the recycling points/recycling facilities, and properly handle any contaminated recyclables, items unsuitable for recycling or waste, to ensure that the recyclables are suitable for subsequent handling.
- May consider the credibility of recycling contractors and should put the recycling service requirements into services contracts to ensure that recyclables will be properly recycled. The following provisions should be included:
  - (a) Arrange recyclers to regularly collect recyclables from recycling points and maintain the cleanliness and hygiene there;
  - (b) State clearly that recyclers shall ensure that the recyclables will be re-used or recycled, instead of disposal of in landfills; and
  - (c) Require recyclers to regularly provide receipts showing the types and quantities of recyclables collected in each trip for record purposes.
- Should properly keep track of the quantities of recyclables and the related income/expenditure records. They may also consider announcing the information at prominent locations of the hotel/ designated notice boards to enhance transparency and allow effective monitoring and understanding of the overall recycling performance of the hotel.

### **3. Suggested Measures on Enhancing Awareness of Tenants / Guests / Cleansing Workers on Waste Reduction and Recycling**

- Work with the Government/ community organisations/ green groups to organise publicity events.
- Set up designated notice boards or green information corners at prominent locations such as hotel lobbies to provide updates on the Government's messages on waste reduction and recycling.
- Provide correct "clean recycling" information to tenants / guests /cleansing workers, including identification and sorting of recyclables, clean recycling, no waste to be deposited into recycling facilities, etc., to ensure that the communal recycling points are hygienic, and recyclables are suitable for subsequent handling. This can increase the overall recycling efficiency.
- Include the hotel's waste reduction and recycling messages in the guest check-in information.





### **4. Good Management Practices for Waste Reduction at Source in Hotel Guests Rooms**

- To reduce the use of single-use plastics, guest rooms should be equipped with a water filtration system to provide clean drinking water and provide reusable containers instead of providing bottled water.
- Install soap dispensers in the bathrooms instead of providing individually packaged shampoo, conditioner, body wash and hand soap.
- Provide guests with reusable laundry bags, such as cotton laundry bags, instead of plastic laundry bags.

### **5. Information on Waste Separation at Source and Clean Recycling for Catering Services at Hotels**

- For details on food waste source separation and glass bottle recycling, please refer to Annex VII of the "Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging Best Practice Guide - Catering Trade".

## 6. Waste Reduction and Recycling Information

Information	QR code/website link
Hong Kong Waste Reduction Website	 <a href="https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/en/index.htm">https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/en/index.htm</a> Relevant guidelines/information within the website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ “Waste Less” free mobile application</li> <li>➤ Information of 8 Types of Recyclables</li> </ul>
Food Wise Hong Kong	 <a href="https://www.foodwisehk.gov.hk/en/index.php">https://www.foodwisehk.gov.hk/en/index.php</a> Relevant guidelines/information within the website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Food Waste Reduction Good Practice Guide for Hotel Sector</li> </ul>
Waste glass containers collection service	 <a href="https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/pro_responsibility/gprs_gmc.html">https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/pro_responsibility/gprs_gmc.html</a>
Food Waste Management Strategies	 <a href="https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/prob_solutions/food_waste_challenge.html">https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/prob_solutions/food_waste_challenge.html</a>