



Economic Aspects of A Sustainable Waste Management Strategy in Hong Kong

“Where There’s Muck There’s Brass”

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Challenges to the Strategy

- Silver Bullet Solutions
- NIMTO – Not-in-my-term-of-office
- Laissez Faire Legacy
- Sustainable Strategies must be Economically Viable



Perceptions from the Business Community

- Urgent need for action – Landfills
- Willing to bite the bullet and share cost
- Legislation is necessary
- Economic incentives are necessary




Successful Schemes: Avoid and Reduce

- Biggest problem is amount of waste
- Plastic Bags: A low hanging fruit
- Producer responsibility schemes led by business
- EU Examples – Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment



Successful Schemes: Re-Use C&D Waste

- The Past: Reclamation
- The Future: Guangdong
- Is polluter pays enough to encourage re-use?
- UK = Landfill Tax + Aggregate Tax + Legislation



Successful Schemes: Separating and Recycling

- 1998 waste reduction framework plan
- A proven success
- Economically Sustainable
- A Voluntary Plan?

Successful Schemes: Buildings

- Significant Economic Incentives trigger Re-Use
- Legislation to recycle C&D waste
- Swire properties environmentally sensitive demolition
- Environmentally friendly designs for all future buildings

Successful Schemes: The I-Word

- A vital part of Integrated Waste Management
- Clean and modern
- Must overcome Hong Kong's legacy
- Waste-to-Energy

In Conclusion

- Sustainable strategies are economically viable
- There are many proven technologies and schemes
- We must contribute, inform, educate and lead
- We must support and partner with Government
- Business, our Time For Action Is Now!