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ACE Paper 17/2007
For discussion

**Public Consultation Report on the Proposal on An
Environmental Levy on Plastic Shopping Bags**

PURPOSE

This paper presents the results of the public consultation on the proposal on an environmental levy on plastic shopping bags, and seeks Members' views on the proposed way forward.

BACKGROUND

2. The Environmental Protection Department launched a public consultation on a proposal on an environmental levy on plastic shopping bags on 28 May 2007. The objective of the proposal is to reduce the indiscriminate use of plastic shopping bags through an economic disincentive. The proposal involves a phased introduction of an environmental levy of 50 cents on each plastic shopping bag distributed at retailers, with the first phase covering chain or large supermarkets, convenience stores and personal health and beauty stores. It is estimated that close to one billion plastic shopping bags could be saved each year with the introduction of the environmental levy. The public consultation lasted for about two months and ended on 31 July 2007.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION REPORT

3. The public consultation report is at [Annex](#).

ADVICE SOUGHT

4. Members are invited to note the public consultation report and comment on the proposed way forward.

Environmental Protection Department
September 2007