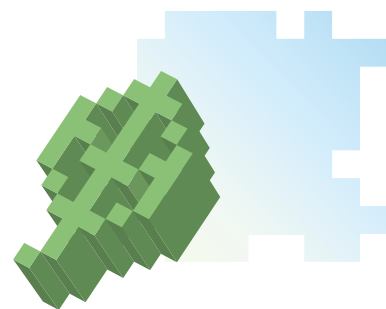


PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION

推廣可持續消費



In support of Hong Kong's vision to build a green living environment and mitigate climate change, the Council puts great effort into educating, facilitating and encouraging the public to make greener consumption choices. Despite the difficulties posed by the pandemic, the Council was able to publish its second sustainable consumption (SC) report in mid-2021, a tracking study of the baseline survey published in 2016. Its findings affirm that a community-wide adoption of SC culture requires tripartite effort by consumers, businesses and the Government. This form of periodic study is one of the initiatives of the Council's three-pronged sustainable consumption strategy, the other two being the embedding of sustainability elements into product testing, research and surveys, the results of which are published in CHOICE Magazine; and consumer education programmes, as it is especially important to cultivate awareness of SC from a young age and at a community level.

為支持本港建構綠色生活環境和減緩氣候變化的願景，消委會不遺餘力地教育、促進和鼓勵公眾作出支持環保的消費選擇。儘管疫情帶來了不少困難，本會仍能於 2021 年年中發布了第 2 份可持續消費研究報告，作為 2016 年發表的基線調查的追蹤研究。調查結果指出，推動全民建立可持續消費文化，有賴消費者、企業和政府的三方合作。作出定期研究是本會推動可持續消費的三線策略性工作之一，另外兩項是將可持續性的元素納入產品測試、研究和調查中，並將結果於《選擇》月刊發表；以及推行消費者教育活動，將可持續消費的意識推廣予年輕消費者及普羅大眾。

Tracking Study on Consumer Behaviour

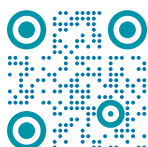
With its vision on advocating sustainable consumption, the Council conducted an in-depth study titled *"Embracing Sustainable Consumption for a Happy Life – A Tracking Study on Consumer Behaviour"*⁹ ("Tracking Study") to monitor changes in consumers' attitude and behaviour towards SC since its baseline survey published in 2016, as well as to examine the latest developments of SC locally and overseas.

The Tracking Study, which was published in June 2021, indicated that consumers showed progress, albeit marginally, in terms of the 2 major Sustainable Consumption Indexes as compared with the baseline survey. The index score of "Consumers' Awareness and Attitude"

消費行為追蹤研究

本著推動可持續消費的願景，本會就 2016 年發表的首份可持續消費研究報告，進行題為《可持續消費 知行融樂—消費行為追蹤研究》的深入研究⁹（「是次追蹤研究」），以監察消費者對於可持續消費的態度和行為的轉變情況，並審視可持續消費於本地及海外的最新發展。

是次追蹤研究於 2021 年 6 月發表，顯示相對於基線調查，消費者就 2 個有關消費者認知和行為的主要指數均略有進步，但升幅輕微。「消費者的認知和態度」的得分從基線調查的 74 分提



9 Visit www.consumer.org.hk/en/advocacy/study-report/20210617 or scan the QR code to read the full report of *"Embracing Sustainable Consumption for a Happy Life – A Tracking Study on Consumer Behaviour"*.
《可持續消費 知行融樂—消費行為追蹤研究》報告全文，請瀏覽 www.consumer.org.hk/tc/advocacy/study-report/20210617，或掃描二維碼。

increased from 74 in the baseline survey to 77 in the current survey, while “Consumers’ Behaviour and Readiness” increased from 69 (Consumers’ Behaviour) and 65 (Consumers’ Readiness) in the baseline survey to 71 in the current survey. The 2 major indexes were comprised of 8 sub-indexes, among which “Recycling Behaviour” was the only one that stayed at a relatively low score of 63 with no increase. Results of the 2 major indexes reflected that there was still a gap between consumers’ awareness and their behaviour in reality, in particular their participation in recycling, suggesting more consumer education work needs to be done to strengthen this important habit.

高至是次調查的 77 分；而「消費者的行為和意願」則從基線調查的 69 分（消費者行為）和 65 分（消費者意願）增加至是次調查的 71 分。這 2 個主要指數由 8 個次指數組成，當中「回收行為」是唯一一個沒有上升的次指數，保持在較低水平的 63 分。從 2 個主要指數的得分，反映消費者的認知與實際行為之間仍有差距，尤其在回收方面更為明顯，在未來需要聚焦加強教育本港消費者這一重要習慣。



香港可持續消費指數及次指數 - 2020 年調查



Based on the findings and with reference to the rapid development overseas, the Council puts forward 9 recommendations for consideration by the Government and related stakeholders.

As drivers for behavioural change of **consumers**, the Council proposed (1) nurturing SC understanding and culture through public education and creation of support platform; (2) strengthening availability and choice of products and services with relevant incentives to encourage consumption; and (3) rebuilding recycling habits by a convenient, stringent, and transparent waste management system.

In terms of the role and responsibility of **businesses**, the Council suggested them to (1) adopt sustainable principles along the value chain, from production to end-of-life disposal; (2) provide accurate information about the sustainability of products and services; and (3) set measurable sustainability targets and roadmaps.

Last but not least, the Council recommended the **Government** to consider the directions and policies of: (1) promoting research in advancing SC related patterns; (2) establishing long-term and holistic policy to foster the recycling and sustainable industry; and (3) introducing legislation and enforcement measures to achieve specific SC goals.

根據調查結果，並觀乎海外的急速發展情況，本會提出 9 項建議，供政府及相關持份者參考。

作為改變**消費者**行為的動力，本會建議(1) 加強公眾教育及建構支援平台，以培育對可持續消費的知識及文化；(2) 增加市面上有關產品及服務的供應及選擇，並提供誘因鼓勵購買；及(3) 建立方便使用、嚴謹及有透明度的廢物管理系統，以重建消費者參與回收的信心。

在**企業**的角色和責任方面，本會建議企業(1) 從產品生產到報廢處理，在價值鏈中採用可持續原則；(2) 提供有關產品和服務可持續性的準確信息；及(3) 設定能衡量量值的可持續發展目標和路線圖。

最後，本會建議**政府**考慮採納以下方向及政策：(1) 推動可促進可持續消費模式的研究；(2) 建立長遠和整全的政策以促進回收和可持續產業的發展；及(3) 引入法例和執法措施以實現特定的可持續消費目標。

The release of the Tracking Study report was followed by a Sustainability Conference co-hosted with the Centre for Business Sustainability of the CUHK Business School. The conference aimed to facilitate sharing and exchange of ideas among stakeholders, thereby driving Hong Kong to progress towards a sustainable future. Amid the pandemic, the conference still attracted the physical attendance of over 120 stakeholders from the Government, business sectors, academics and NGOs, with media coverage extending the reach to the general public. Pre- and post-engagement work involving a total of 11 organisations was conducted.

(The project was funded by the Sustainable Development Fund.)

是次追蹤研究報告發表後，本會與香港中文大學商學院商業可持續發展中心合辦了可持續發展研討會，旨在促進持份者之間分享和交流意見，從而推動香港邁向可持續發展的未來。在疫情期間，研討會仍然吸引了來自政府、商界、學術界和非政府組織的 120 多名持份者親臨參與，並得到媒體報導，把訊息傳遞到廣大公眾。除此以外，本會亦在發表研究報告的前期和後期，與 11 個機構組織進行了交流。

(是項計劃由可持續發展基金資助。)



Control of Single-use Plastics

In response to a public engagement exercise on the control of single-use plastics launched by the Council for Sustainable Development, the Council pledged support of the overall direction proposed in eliminating non-essential and hard-to-recycle single-use plastic items. The Council also provided its views on the types of products to be controlled, timeframe and approach for controlling them, and supported the enhancement of the Plastic Shopping Bag Charging Scheme, the provision of information on the recyclability and percentage of recycled content of a single-use plastic product, and the establishment of a platform for sharing information on plastic alternatives among different stakeholders. Based on the findings of its Tracking Study, the Council provided references on factors affecting consumers' choices and their willingness to pay a premium for non-plastic/reusable alternatives.

管制即棄塑膠

就可持續發展委員會發表的「管制即棄塑膠」公眾參與文件，本會支持有關建議的整體方向，淘汰非必要和難以回收的即棄塑膠。同時，本會亦就管制即棄塑膠產品的類別、時間框架及管制方法提出意見，並支持塑膠購物袋收費計劃的優化措施、提供更多有關即棄塑膠產品的可回收程度和再生塑膠成分百分比的資訊，以及建立一個平台供不同持份者互相分享塑膠替代品的資訊。本會亦根據其追蹤研究結果向可持續發展委員會提供了相關參考資料，包括影響消費者選擇的因素，以及消費者為非塑膠/可重用的替代品所願意支付更多費用的意願。



Besides, the Council recommended the Government to formulate a holistic approach to tackle waste, including tackling all packaging waste, promoting circular economy and life cycle approach, reducing the use of microplastic in the cosmetic industry, facilitating the shift to sustainable production and consumption practices, as well as promoting behavioural change through effective motivation as advocated in its Tracking Study.

Scheme on Regulation of Disposable Plastic Tableware

The Council fully supported the Environmental Protection Department's proposal of introducing legislation to regulate disposable plastic tableware, and commented that the implementation schedule should be sped up.

The Council put forward several suggestions, including: (1) an outright ban of the sale of disposable expanded polystyrene (EPS) tableware to local end-consumers (including catering premises); (2) provision of a clear definition and examples of the 4 types of plastic tableware under the scope of the regulation scheme; (3) inclusion of "compostable plastics" and "bio-based plastics" in the definition of plastic substitutes; (4) extension of the scope of "dine-in services" to include large public events; and (5) introduction of recognition/incentive scheme to foster a smooth transition.

As regards the proposed exclusions in the regulation scheme, the Council expressed reservation on allowing the provision of disposable plastic straws by catering premises on request by persons with special needs due to medical care reasons if alternative means are available, and the exclusion of disposable plastic tableware that forms part of pre-packaged food products prepared outside catering premises. The Council was of the view that to ensure success of the regulation, the scheme should eliminate any open up leeway from the ban of single-use plastic tableware.

Apart from the above, the Council also suggested a series of measures with an aim to promote overall waste reduction, such as extending the coverage of the regulation scheme to other common types of plastics and encouraging the use of reusable tableware. Scan the QR code to read the Council's submitted views and suggestions in full.

Product Comparative Tests on Appliances

Air Conditioners

Many households plan on replacing their air conditioners in the run-up to summer to keep the heat at bay, and inverter split-types are a popular choice in recent years. The Council tested 14 models of "1.5 horsepower" (HP) inverter split-type reverse cycle air conditioners and found 1 model to have a cooling capacity almost 18% lower than its claim, failing to meet the requirement of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (MEELS). The test results were referred to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) for follow-up.

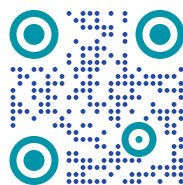
此外，本會建議政府制定一個全面的減廢應對方案，包括處理所有包裝廢物、推動發展循環經濟和生命周期模式、減少化妝品行業使用微塑膠、促進轉向可持續生產和消費方式，以及透過本會在其追蹤研究報告中倡議的政策，為改變消費行為注入動力。

管制即棄膠餐具計劃

本會全力支持環境保護署就立法管制即棄膠餐具提出的建議，並表示應盡早落實。

本會提出多項意見，包括（1）全面禁止銷售即棄發泡膠餐具予本地的最終消費者（包括餐飲業處所）；（2）就4種即將納入管制範圍的膠餐具作出清晰的定義，並提供相關例子；（3）將「可堆肥塑膠」及「生物基塑膠」納入塑膠替代品的定義之中；（4）擴大「堂食」的涵蓋範圍，包括大型公眾活動；以及（5）推行認證或獎勵計劃，以促進管制計劃的順利過渡。

就管制計劃中提出的豁免，本會表示有所保留，並認為在有替代方案下，不宜容許餐飲業處所在有特別需要的人士基於醫療原因而提出要求時，提供即棄膠飲管；以及豁免在餐飲處所外預先包裝的食品所附帶的即棄膠餐具。為了確保管制計劃成功實施，本會認為相關管制措施應盡量禁止為任何即棄膠餐具提供豁免。



除此之外，本會亦提出一系列建議，以期推動全面減廢，包括：擴大計劃的管制範圍，以涵蓋更多常見的塑膠種類；以及鼓勵使用可重用餐具。請掃描二維碼，詳閱本會提交的意見及建議全文。

電器產品比較測試

冷氣機

為迎接炎炎夏日，不少家庭有計劃更換冷氣機，變頻分體式冷氣機更是近年熱門之選。本會測試了14款俗稱「匹半」的變頻式分體冷氣機，發現1款樣本實際量得的製冷量較聲稱低近18%，未能符合「強制性能能效標籤計劃」的要求，本會已將測試結果轉交機電工程署跟進。

Although the Cooling Seasonal Performance Factor (CSPF) of all tested models met the Energy Efficiency Grade 1 standard under MEELS, their measured CSPF values showed a vast variance of over 55%, indicating a high disparity in energy-saving performance.

The energy efficiency directly impacts the electricity cost. Based on the tariff of \$1.2 per unit of electricity and the scenario where the air conditioner operates for 12 hours per day for 180 days a year, the Council estimated the annual electricity tariff of the models to range from \$657 to \$1,023, representing a difference of \$366. This means that the models with a lower energy efficiency would incur 56% more electricity tariff than the more energy-efficient models.

Refrigerators

Refrigerators are an essential home appliance and run for 24/7, drawing power around the clock. Therefore, energy efficiency is a key decision factor when selecting a refrigerator. The Council tested 17 models of 1-door, twin-door and 3-door refrigerators with claimed total net storage volumes of 122L to 252L (medium-sized), and 45L to 122L (smaller-sized). 11 were frost-free refrigerators and 6 were direct cool models (known as frost refrigerators).

The annual electricity tariff of each model was estimated based on their power consumption in the test. It was found that the 6 smaller direct cool models had a lower power consumption as they did not require extra power for defrosting; their estimated annual electricity tariff could be lower than certain frost-free models by over 70%. Taking both 1-door and twin-door models into consideration, the annual electricity tariff ranged from \$107 to \$163. The 11 larger-sized frost-free refrigerator models had a relatively higher electricity tariff, ranging from \$257 to \$471.

The freezing capacity and cooling performance of refrigerators are of utmost importance. Among the 12 models with a freezer compartment, most had a satisfactory freezing capacity. However, the cooling performance of the fresh food compartment varied vastly among the models. In the test, 3 food samples were placed in the fresh food compartment and the time required for the test loads to drop from room temperature (25°C) to 10°C was measured. The results revealed that the cooling times of the tested models ranged from 2.9 hours to 6.7 hours, a difference of 1.3 times.

Despite direct cool refrigerators being more energy efficient and space-saving, they require regular defrosting. Consumers should be mindful that the full warranty of certain direct cool model was as short as 1 year and did not offer warranty renewal. Besides personal factors such as the home size, types of food often stored in the fridge, and fridge usage habits, consumers who wish to select a more energy-efficient frost-free refrigerator might also consider models with an inverter compressor which had a better overall performance in general.

儘管全部樣本的「製冷季節性表現系數」(CSPF)均符合標示的1級能源效益，但樣本間的CSPF數值相差逾5成半，代表慳電程度懸殊。

電器產品的能源效益直接影響電費開支，若以每度電\$1.2計算，假設全年開冷氣180天，每天12小時，各樣本每年所需電費由\$657至\$1,023不等，相差\$366。換言之，使用能源效益較低的樣本，相比能源效益較高的，每年須多付56%電費。

雪櫃

雪櫃是家庭必備電器之一，並需要每天24小時運作，小數怕長計，能效表現是選購雪櫃時的重要考慮因素。本會測試了17款單門、雙門及三門雪櫃，聲稱總淨儲存容量分別為122升至252升(中型)，以及45升至122升(較小型)。當中11款為無霜雪櫃，6款為直冷式雪櫃(即「有霜雪櫃」)。

若根據各樣本測試所得的耗電量來推算全年電費，6款較小型的直冷式雪櫃樣本，由於毋須耗電除霜，耗電量較少，全年電費可較個別無霜雪櫃樣本低逾7成。無論單門或雙門型號，推算出的全年電費，介乎\$107至\$163。至於11款較大型的無霜雪櫃樣本計算所得的電費則較高，介乎\$257至\$471。

雪櫃的冷凍及保持低溫能力至為重要。測試中12款樣本均設有冷凍室，大部分樣本的冷凍表現不俗。不過，樣本間冷藏室的冷卻表現參差，測試將3個模擬食品放入各樣本的冷藏室內，再量度模擬食品由室溫25°C降至10°C所需要的時間。結果發現，各樣本量得的冷卻時間由2.9小時至6.7小時，相差達1.3倍。

雖然直冷式雪櫃省電又慳位，不過需要定期溶雪清理。消費者亦應留意，有直冷式雪櫃樣本的全機保養期僅1年，更不設續保。消費者宜因應家居空間大小、日常冷藏食物的種類和習慣，細心選擇慳電及冷卻表現較佳的雪櫃，例如可考慮選擇整體表現較佳的變頻式壓縮機型號。



Warranty and Maintenance for Electrical Appliances

According to the Council's complaint statistics, short product warranty periods, high annual warranty renewal fees and maintenance charges are common pain points for consumers. As durable whitegoods such as air conditioners and refrigerators could often last for a few years or even up to 10 years, warranty and maintenance are consequential to the appliance's lifespan.

The Council also surveyed the maintenance schemes of home appliances in its product tests. Among the tested air conditioner models, 11 merely provided a full warranty period of 1 year, while only 3 offered a 2-year warranty period, after which the annual warranty renewal fee ranged from \$620 to \$1,500, a 1.4-time difference. Besides, the arrangements and charges for after-sales services offered by different agents, such as maintenance checks and machine cleaning, were also found to differ notably. As for refrigerators, the warranty period ranged from 1 to 5 years, of which 9 models claimed to offer renewal with annual fees ranging from around \$180 to \$800; the remaining 8 models did not offer warranty renewal and an on-site inspection fee would be charged after the warranty expired.

Consumers often lack control over the selection of after-sales services. Costly after-sales service and annual warranty renewal fees would dampen consumers' desire to renew the warranty or repair malfunctioning appliances, which would lower the product's operating efficiency and lifespan, in turn spurring consumers on to purchase replacements more frequently. Not only does this go against the principle of sustainable consumption, but it will also escalate the expenses for purchasing electrical appliances. The Council therefore urged product suppliers to offer more affordable maintenance services with a longer warranty period, to support sustainable consumption and reduce electrical waste.

Product Comparative Test and Survey on Products with Environmental Claims

Foldable Food Containers

As more consumers have started bringing their own reusable containers for takeaway food and beverages in recent years, the Council conducted a test on foldable silicone food containers (9 models) and foldable cups (5 models).

Test items included overall migration for 3 food simulants, potassium permanganate consumption, colour migration when soaked in liquids, volatile organic matter (VOM), total lead and cadmium levels, food colouring residue and durability, while the labelling information on the packaging was also examined.

While all models performed satisfactorily in tests for lead and cadmium migration and durability, there is room for improvement in VOM levels.

電器產品的保養及維修

按本會的投訴個案分析，發現產品的保用期短、續保年費及維修費用高昂，普遍都是消費者的痛點。由於冷氣機和雪櫃等家庭電器一般可以用上數年，甚至 10 年不等，因此保養和維修可能影響相關電器產品最終的使用壽命。

本會在進行產品測試的同時，亦調查了相關電器產品的保用計劃資料。在測試的冷氣機樣本中，11 款只提供 1 年的全機保用期，3 款的保用期則為 2 年；在保用期過後，每年續保的費用為 \$620 至 \$1,500，相差 1.4 倍。此外，調查亦發現，由各代理商提供的售後服務的安排及收費差異也頗大，包括上門檢查和清洗等服務。若以測試的雪櫃樣本為例，機身保用期由 1 年至 5 年不等，其中 9 款聲稱可提供續保服務，費用由每年約 \$180 至 \$800，餘下 8 款樣本的代理商則表示不會提供續保，而於保用期後更會收取上門檢查費用。

消費者在選擇售後服務時往往處於被動角色，高昂的售後服務和續保年費，變相會降低消費者為產品維修和續保的意欲，一旦機件出現問題而未能及時維修，不但減低產品的運作效率和壽命，同時亦加速消費者更換新機的頻率，既不符合可持續消費原則，亦增加購買電器的開支。本會呼籲代理商，為產品提供較便宜和較長保用期的維修保養服務，以支持可持續消費和減少廢物棄置量。

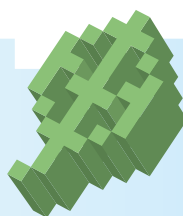
測試和調查具有環保聲稱的產品

可摺合矽膠容器

近年不少消費者在購買外賣食物和飲品時，習慣自攜可重用的容器。有見及此，本會測試了 9 款可摺合矽膠食物盒和 5 款摺杯。

檢測項目包括以 3 種模擬食物進行的總遷移量測試、高錳酸鉀消耗量、浸泡液會否有顏色遷移、矽膠物料的可揮發性有機物質含量、總鉛量、總鎘量、食物色素殘留的程度，以及各樣本的耐用程度，另檢視了包裝標籤所載的資料。

儘管全部樣本的總鎘量和總鉛量，以至產品的耐用程度等方面都表現理想，不過樣本中可揮發性有機物質含量則有待改善。矽膠物料中的可揮發性有機物質以矽氧烷為主，若含量過多可能會遷移到食物中，甚或影響食物安全。根據德國食



Siloxanes are main VOMs found in silicone materials which, when in excess levels, might migrate onto the food and affect food safety. The test revealed that over 60% (9 models) exceeded the German LFGB standard's VOM limit of 0.5% for food-contact silicone products, of which 6 were food containers with VOM levels from 0.76% to 1.3% for the body and sealing ring materials; the remaining 3 were foldable cups which had VOM levels from 0.8% to 1.4%. Research has indicated that long-term contact with high dosages of siloxanes may adversely affect the liver health of test animals.

In view of the Government's plans to regulate disposable plastic tableware, the Council opined that apart from progressive control of the selling and use of disposable plastic cutlery, the Government should also take prompt action to set safety standards for reusable products, so as to ensure quality and increase the public's confidence in using such products.

品及消費品規例 LFGB 標準，盛載或與食品有接觸的矽膠製品的可揮發性有機物質含量上限為 0.5%。測試結果顯示，逾 6 成（9 款）樣本的可揮發性有機物質含量超過標準上限，其中 6 款食物盒樣本的主體和封圈矽膠物料的可揮發性有機化合物含量由 0.76% 至 1.3% 不等，餘下 3 款摺杯樣本的含量介乎 0.8% 至 1.4%。有研究顯示，長期接觸高劑量矽氧烷或會影響實驗動物的肝臟健康。

因應政府有計劃由源頭管制即棄膠餐具，本會認為除逐步管制出售及使用即棄膠餐具外，亦需就可重用餐具盡早訂定各種安全標準以規範產品質素，從而增加公眾使用這類產品的信心。



Bathroom and Toilet Cleaning Products

The Council conducted a survey covering 17 models of bathroom cleaners and 23 models of toilet cleaners, reviewing their labelling information including the ingredients, environmental claims, the use of Chinese and English safety warnings and precautions.

Aside from the cleaning efficacy, consumers should also consider whether the cleaning products comply with sustainability principles before purchase. Among the 40 surveyed models, only less than 20% (7 models) offered refill packs that could help reduce plastic waste, out of which only 4 provided pouch packaging with less plastic materials, whereas only 15% (6 models) claimed to have packaging with recycled materials.

浴室清潔劑及潔廁劑

本會檢視了 17 款浴室清潔劑及 23 款座廁清潔劑樣本的標籤資料，包括產品標示的成分、有關環保的聲稱、中文及英文的安全警告語句和注意事項等資料。

除了關注產品的清潔效能外，選購浴室及座廁清潔產品時還應考慮產品是否符合可持續的環保原則。檢視的 40 款樣本中，只有不足 2 成（7 款）有提供補充裝，以幫助減少塑膠廢物，其中只有 4 款提供使用較少塑膠物料的袋裝包裝產品；聲稱採用循環再造的包裝物料的產品，更只佔 1 成半（6 款）。

Although most of the models displayed the plastic code or plastic material on the container, namely 3 types of recyclable plastics – type 1 polyethylene terephthalate (PET), type 2 high-density polyethylene (HDPE), and type 5 polypropylene (PP), 6 models did not indicate the relevant code, which was unsatisfactory as consumers are unable to identify its recyclability.

For the 7 models with biodegradability claims, as none presented the biodegradation rate, it was impossible for a meaningful comparison.

The Council urged manufacturers to strengthen product sustainability by introducing more eco-friendly practices throughout the products' life cycle, from the selection of raw materials, manufacturing process, to the packaging and disposal, as well as providing certification of ecolabelling by a third party.

Opinion Survey on Purchasing and Usage Habits of Skincare Products

The Council conducted phone interviews with 1,650 female respondents aged between 20 and 60 to understand their purchasing and usage habits of skincare products (including facial cleansers, face serums, moisturisers and face masks) by random sampling. It was found that close to 50% users stockpiled unused skincare for beyond a year, easily causing wastage.

It was found that women in Hong Kong have an average yearly spending of \$3,100 on facial skincare products. Those aged between 30 and 39 had the highest spending (around \$3,500), whereas respondents aged 20 to 29 spent the least (around \$2,500).

The respondents had average brand loyalty in terms of facial cleansers, face serums and moisturisers. Over 40% of the users would try out products from different brands for these 3 categories, of which face masks had the lowest brand loyalty, with 65% respondents expressing that they would try out different brands.

Close to half (49%) of the respondents admitted to owning facial skincare products which remained unopened for over a year, most of which were face masks (42%). After a skincare product has expired, almost half the respondents (49%) would discard it, yet 38% would apply it on other parts of the body, and 25% would even continue to apply it on the face. The Council reminded consumers that continued usage of skincare products beyond their shelf life/expiry date could increase dermatological risks.

雖然大部分樣本的塑膠容器均有標示塑膠編碼或說明塑膠物料，例如 3 類可以再造的塑膠物料：編號 1 為聚對苯二甲酸乙二酯 (PET)、編號 2 為高密度聚乙烯 (HDPE)，以及編號 5 為聚丙烯 (PP)，然而 6 款樣本的容器並沒有標示相關塑膠物料編碼，令消費者難以確定是否可回收再造，情況並不理想。

樣本中，有 7 款具可生物降解的聲稱，但全部都沒有列明所需的降解時間，消費者未能從相關資訊比較其降解速度，從而揀選較環保的產品。

本會呼籲生產商由產品原材料、生產過程，以至包裝及處理棄置容器上引入更多環保元素，並提供由第三方機構發出的環保標籤認證，支持環保。

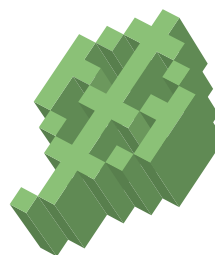
購買和使用護膚品習慣意見調查

本會以隨機抽樣形式，成功以電話訪問了 1,650 位年齡介乎 20 至 60 歲的女士，了解她們購買及使用護膚品（包括潔面產品、面部精華、面霜和面膜）的習慣，發現近半受訪者囤積逾年未開封的護膚品存貨，容易造成浪費。

調查發現本港女士平均每年花費約 \$3,100 於面部護膚品，當中以 30 至 39 歲的女士花費最高（約 \$3,500），至於 20 至 29 歲受訪者的花費則最低（約 \$2,500）。

受訪者對潔面產品、面部精華及面霜品牌的忠誠度只屬一般，該 3 個產品類別均有逾 4 成用家會嘗試不同品牌的產品，當中忠誠度最低的為面膜，有 65% 受訪者樂於嘗試不同品牌。

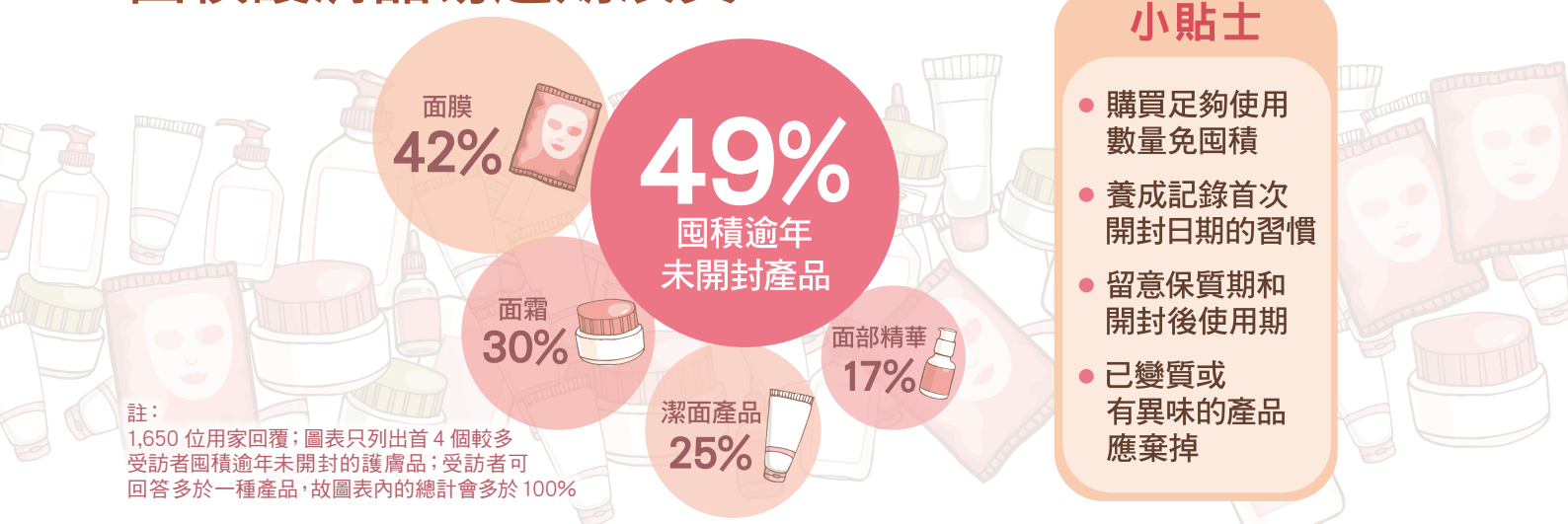
近半（49%）受訪者表示擁有逾年尚未開封的面部護膚品，當中以面膜佔最多（42%）。當發現護膚品過期，雖然有近半受訪者（49%）會把護膚品棄掉，但仍有近 4 成受訪者（38%）會用於身體其他部位，2 成半（25%）甚至會繼續用於臉上。本會提醒，倘若護膚品過了保質期/使用期限，有機會增加影響皮膚健康的風險。



As every person's skin type and reaction differ, consumers were recommended to trial samples of new products before buying the full-sized product, or to purchase it in a smaller size. Consumers were reminded to shop rationally, try to understand the product's efficacies and scrutinise the ingredients list, select skincare suitable for their own skin type, and not to buy larger-sized products on impulse. In particular during festive seasons, many skincare brands tend to tout quantity discounts which might entice consumers to purchase and stockpile a larger number of products than needed, resulting in product expiry and wastage.

由於個人的膚質及皮膚反應各有不同，消費者在考慮嘗試新款護膚品時，建議在購買貨裝產品前先索取試用裝，或購買較細小的瓶裝使用。消費者應保持理性消費，選購護膚品時宜仔細了解其功效，細閱成分列表，選購適合自己膚質的護膚品，勿因較大容量產品相對划算而衝動購買，尤其在節日臨近期間，不少護膚品品牌會以「多買多折」促銷，消費者容易因為折扣優惠而購買多於實際所需的數量，以致囤積護膚品，最終因產品過期而造成浪費。

囤積護膚品易過期浪費！



小貼士

- 購買足夠使用數量免囤積
- 養成記錄首次開封日期的習慣
- 留意保質期和開封後使用期
- 已變質或有異味的產品應棄掉

Public Education on Sustainable Consumption

One of the Council's focuses is to nurture the understanding and culture of SC through public education. Apart from the theme of sustainable consumption in the Earth 2038 Project for primary school students, and the thematic award "Innovative Design for Sustainable Consumption" in the Consumer Culture Study Award for secondary school students, the concept of SC has indeed been infused into all consumer education programmes of the Council, including an experience sharing and refresher training session of the "Support Programme for Persons with Special Needs", as well as training materials of the "Pilot Educator Scheme for Senior Citizens". Community talks with topics such as "Sustainable Consumption" and "Environmental Protection Under the Pandemic" were also conducted. This year, in related talks and programmes, audiences were also reminded of issues such as overpackaging of goods bought online and the wastage as a result of panic buying, which were particularly prominent during the pandemic.

Details of the programmes and award are covered in the chapter "Empowering Consumers Through Education" (p.86).

可持續消費的公眾教育

本會的重點工作之一是通過公眾教育，培育大眾對可持續消費的知識及文化。除了以可持續消費為專題的小學生「2038 地球人計劃」，以及中學生「消費文化考察報告獎」（「報告獎」）的「可持續消費創意設計主題獎」外，可持續消費的概念其實已滲透至本會所有消費者教育計劃中，當中包括「特殊需要人士支援計劃」實踐經驗分享會暨進修培訓，以及「智齡消費教育大使試行計劃」的培訓教材。本會亦舉辦了以「可持續消費」及「疫下環保」為專題的社區講座，亦在今年相關講座和計劃中，提醒公眾在疫情期間尤其顯著的問題，包括網購商品所引致的過度包裝、搶購造成浪費等。

本年報「以教育活動提升消費者自我保護能力」（第 86 頁）一節詳載有關計劃及「報告獎」內容。