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Lapco Holdings Limited

立高控股有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 8472)

ANNUAL RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

CHARACTERISTICS OF GEM OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LIMITED (THE "STOCK EXCHANGE")

GEM has been positioned as a market designed to accommodate small and mid-sized companies to which a higher investment risk may be attached than other companies listed on the Stock Exchange. Prospective investors should be aware of the potential risks of investing in such companies and should make the decision to invest only after due and careful consideration. The greater risk profile and other characteristics of GEM mean that it is a market more suited to professional and other sophisticated investors.

Given that the companies listed on GEM are generally small and mid-sized companies, there is a risk that securities traded on GEM may be more susceptible to high market volatility than securities traded on the Main Board and no assurance is given that there will be a liquid market in the securities traded on GEM.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
Revenue	3	966,288	765,921
Cost of services	_	(918,454)	(721,336)
Gross profit		47,834	44,585
Other income	4	10,492	516
Other gains and losses, net	4	3,544	1,526
Administrative expenses		(34,577)	(35,795)
Finance costs	5 _	(4,507)	(4,431)
Profit before taxation	6	22,786	6,401
Income tax expense	7 _	(2,460)	(1,040)
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year attributable to owners of the Company	_	20,326	5,361
Earnings per share			
- Basic (HK cents)	9	5.08	1.34

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
N			
Non-current assets		2 < 40	10 = 20
Plant and equipment		36,649	18,720
Right-of-use assets		41,498	32,686
Deposits		12,556	_
Deposits for acquisition of plant and equipment	_	2,677	3,873
	_	93,380	55,279
Current assets			
Trade receivables	10	163,806	119,815
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments		14,011	12,181
Tax recoverable		_	1,355
Pledged bank balances		29,700	21,700
Bank balances and cash	_	21,084	40,483
	_	228,601	195,534
Current liabilities			
Trade payables	11	14,187	5,683
Other payables		73,178	43,817
Provisions		20,973	15,503
Bank and other borrowings		58,508	91,904
Lease liabilities		12,118	14,874
Loan from a director of the Company's subsidiaries		20,000	_
Tax payable	_	1,759	
	_	200,723	171,781
Net current assets	_	27,878	23,753
Total assets less current liabilities	_	121,258	79,032
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions		18,966	6,611
Deferred tax liabilities		718	718
Lease liabilities	_	22,265	12,720
	_	41,949	20,049
Net assets	_	79,309	58,983
Capital and recovers			
Capital and reserves	12	4 000	4.000
Issued share capital	12	4,000	4,000
Reserves	_	75,309	54,983
Equity attributable to owners of the Company	_	79,309	58,983

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Issued share capital HK\$'000	Share premium HK\$'000	Other reserve HK\$'000 (note)	Retained profits HK\$'000	Total <i>HK</i> \$'000
At 1 January 2021 Profit and total comprehensive	4,000	31,362	11,051	7,209	53,622
income for the year				5,361	5,361
At 31 December 2021	4,000	31,362	11,051	12,570	58,983
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year				20,326	20,326
At 31 December 2022	4,000	31,362	11,051	32,896	79,309

Note: Other reserve represented (i) the difference between the share capital of Lapco Service Limited, Shiny Glory Services Limited and Shiny Hope Limited and that of Sharp Idea Global Limited issued pursuant to a group reorganisation completed in 2017 amounted to HK\$10,200,000; and (ii) the fair value adjustment on the non-current shareholder loans using the effective interest rate of 7.5% per annum in 2019 amounted to HK\$851,000.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Lapco Holdings Limited (the "Company") was incorporated and registered as an exempted company with limited liability in the Cayman Islands under the Companies Law Chapter 22 of the Cayman Islands on 12 August 2016. The shares of the Company were listed on GEM of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") on 18 July 2017. The addresses of the Company's registered office and the principal place of business are Cricket Square, Hutchins Drive, P.O. Box 2681, Grand Cayman KY1–1111, Cayman Islands and Unit No. 301A, 3/F., Tower III, Enterprise Square, 9 Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong respectively.

The Company is an investment holding company and its principal subsidiaries are engaged in provision of environmental hygiene services, including (a) cleaning services; (b) pest management services; (c) waste management and recycling services; and (d) landscaping services.

The functional currency of the Company is Hong Kong dollar ("HK\$"), which is the same as the presentation currency of the consolidated financial statements.

2. APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS TO HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS ("HKFRSs")

Amendments to HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year

In the current year, the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the "**Group**") has applied the following amendments to HKFRSs issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("**HKICPA**") for the first time, which are mandatorily effective for the Group's annual periods beginning on 1 January 2022 for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements:

Reference to the Conceptual Framework
Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021
Property, Plant and Equipment – Proceeds before Intended Use
Onerous Contracts – Cost of Fulfilling a Contract
Annual Improvements to HKFRSs 2018-2020

The application of the amendments to HKFRSs in the current year has had no material impact on the Group's financial positions and performance for the current and prior years and/or on the disclosures set out in these consolidated financial statements.

New and amendments to HKFRSs in issue but not yet effective

The Group has not early applied the following new and amendments to HKFRSs that have been issued but are not yet effective:

HKFRS 17 (including the October Insurance Contracts¹ 2020 and February 2022 Amendments to HKFRS 17) Amendments to HKFRS 10 and Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its HKAS 28 Associate or Joint Venture² Amendments to HKFRS 16 Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback³ Amendments to HKAS 1 Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current and related amendments to Hong Kong Interpretation 5 (2020)³ Amendments to HKAS 1 Non-current Liabilities with Covenants³ Amendments to HKAS 1 and Disclosure of Accounting Policies¹ **HKFRS** Practice Statement 2 Amendments to HKAS 8 Definition of Accounting Estimates¹ Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Amendments to HKAS 12 Single Transaction¹

- Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023.
- ² Effective for annual periods beginning on or after a date to be determined.
- Effective for annual periods beginning on or 1 January 2024.

Except for the amendments to HKFRSs mentioned below, the directors of the Company anticipate that the application of all other new and amendments to HKFRSs will have no material impact on the consolidated financial statements in the foreseeable future.

Amendments to HKAS 1 and HKFRS Practice Statement 2 "Disclosure of Accounting Policies"

HKAS 1 is amended to replace all instances of the term "significant accounting policies" with "material accounting policy information". Accounting policy information is material if, when considered together with other information included in an entity's financial statements, it can reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of general purpose financial statements make on the basis of those financial statements.

The amendments also clarify that accounting policy information may be material because of the nature of the related transactions, other events or conditions, even if the amounts are immaterial. However, not all accounting policy information relating to material transactions, other events or conditions is itself material. If an entity chooses to disclose immaterial accounting policy information, such information must not obscure material accounting policy information.

HKFRS Practice Statement 2 "Making Materiality Judgments" (the "**Practice Statement**") is also amended to illustrate how an entity applies the "four-step materiality process" to accounting policy disclosures and to judge whether information about an accounting policy is material to its financial statements. Guidance and examples are added to the Practice Statement.

The application of the amendments is not expected to have significant impact on the financial position or performance of the Group but may affect the disclosures of the Group's significant accounting policies. The impacts of application, if any, will be disclosed in the Group's future consolidated financial statements.

Amendments to HKAS 8 "Definition of Accounting Estimates"

The amendments define accounting estimates as "monetary amounts in financial statements that are subject to measurement uncertainty". An accounting policy may require items in financial statements to be measured in a way that involves measurement uncertainty – that is, the accounting policy may require such items to be measured at monetary amounts that cannot be observed directly and must instead be estimated. In such a case, an entity develops an accounting estimate to achieve the objective set out by the accounting policy. Developing accounting estimates involves the use of judgments or assumptions based on the latest available, reliable information.

In addition, the concept of changes in accounting estimates in HKAS 8 is retained with additional clarifications.

The application of the amendments is not expected to have significant impact on the Group's consolidated financial statements.

Amendments to HKAS 12 "Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction"

The amendments narrow the scope of the recognition exemption of deferred tax liabilities and deferred tax assets in paragraphs 15 and 24 of HKAS 12 "Income Taxes" ("HKAS 12") so that it no longer applies to transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences.

For leasing transactions in which the tax deductions are attributable to the lease liabilities, the Group applies HKAS 12 requirements to the relevant assets and liabilities as a whole. Temporary differences relating to relevant assets and liabilities are assessed on a net basis.

Upon the application of the amendments, the Group will recognise a deferred tax asset (to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary difference can be utilised) and a deferred tax liability for all deductible and taxable temporary differences associated with the right-of-use assets and the lease liabilities.

The amendments are effective for the Group's annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023, with early application permitted. The Group is in still the process of assessing the full impact of the application of the amendments.

3. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

Revenue

Revenue represents the fair value of amounts received and receivable by the Group to external customers. The Group's operations are solely derived from services provided in Hong Kong for both years.

(i) Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
Types of services		
Cleaning services	786,807	600,104
Pest management services	62,381	64,608
Waste management and recycling services	116,278	100,484
Landscaping services	822	725
	966,288	765,921
Types of customers		
Government	850,502	682,709
Non-government	115,786	83,212
	966,288	765,921
Timing of revenue recognition		
Over time	966,288	765,921

(ii) Performance obligations for contracts with customers

The performance obligation is the promise to provide cleaning services, pest management services, waste management and recycling services and landscaping services over the contract period. These services considered to be distinct as they are both regularly supplied by the Group to other customers on a stand-alone basis and are available for customers from other providers in the market. Under the terms of these contracts, performance obligation satisfied over time as the customers of the Group simultaneously receive and consume the benefits provided by the Group's performance as the Group performs (i.e. cleaning services, pest management services, waste management and recycling services and landscaping services rendered by the Group under contracts with the customers with fixed consideration) and thus these income are recognised over time.

(iii) Transaction price allocated to the remaining performance obligation for contracts with customers

The transaction price allocated to the remaining performance obligations (unsatisfied or partially unsatisfied) at 31 December 2022 and the expected timing of recognising revenue are as follows:

	Cleaning services <i>HK</i> \$'000	Pest management services HK\$'000	Waste management and recycling services HK\$'000	Landscaping services <i>HK</i> \$'000
Within one year	638,350	21,675	94,416	830
More than one year but not more than two years	509,832	4,767	91,065	138
More than two years	73,501		162,108	
	1,221,683	26,442	347,589	968

The transaction price allocated to the remaining performance obligations (unsatisfied or partially unsatisfied) at 31 December 2021 and the expected timing of recognising revenue are as follows:

			Waste	
		Pest	management	
	Cleaning services <i>HK</i> \$'000	management services <i>HK</i> \$'000	and recycling services <i>HK\$</i> '000	Landscaping services <i>HK</i> \$'000
Within one year	454,104	35,941	105,763	830
More than one year but not				
more than two years	303,744	2,448	92,437	830
More than two years	201,394		247,693	138
	959,242	38,389	445,893	1,798

Segment information

Information reported to the chief operating decision maker (the "CODM") for the purposes of resource allocation and assessment of segment performance focuses on types of services provided. The Group's operating and reportable segments are therefore as follows:

- Cleaning services
- Pest management services
- Waste management and recycling services
- Landscaping services

The following is an analysis of the Group's revenue and results by operating and reportable segments.

	Cleaning services HK\$'000	Pest management services HK\$'000	Waste management and recycling services HK\$'000	Landscaping services HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
For the year ended 31 December 2022 Segment revenue – external customers	786,807	62,381	116,278	822	966,288
Segment results	46,637	617	564	16	47,834
Other income Other gains and losses, net Administrative expenses Finance costs					10,492 3,544 (34,577) (4,507)
Profit before taxation					22,786
For the year ended 31 December 2021 Segment revenue – external customers	600,104	64,608	100,484	725	765,921
Segment results	40,381	3,117	1,055	32	44,585
Other income Other gains and losses, net Administrative expenses Finance costs					516 1,526 (35,795) (4,431)
Profit before taxation					6,401

There was no inter-segment revenue for both years.

The accounting policies of the operating and reportable segments are the same as the Group's accounting policies. Segment results represent the results from each segment without allocation of other income, other gains and losses, net, administrative expenses and finance costs. This is the measure reported to the CODM for the purposes of resource allocation and assessment of segment performance.

Segment assets and liabilities

The segment assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period by operating and reportable segments are as follows:

	Cleaning services HK\$'000	Pest management services HK\$'000	Waste management and recycling services HK\$'000	Landscaping services HK\$'000	Total HK\$`000
At 31 December 2022 Segment assets Certain plant and equipment Certain right-of-use assets Certain other receivables, deposits and prepayments Pledged bank balances Bank balances and cash	172,937	7,982	74,422	208	255,549 291 1,347 14,010 29,700 21,084
Total assets Segment liabilities Certain other payables Bank and other borrowings Loan from a director of the Company's subsidiaries Tax payable Lease liabilities Deferred tax liabilities	95,730	7,590	15,738	100	321,981 119,158 8,146 58,508 20,000 1,759 34,383 718
At 31 December 2021 Segment assets Certain plant and equipment Certain right-of-use assets Certain other receivables, deposits and prepayments Tax recoverable Pledged bank balances Bank balances and cash	110,099	15,098	48,661	222	174,080 208 1,994 10,993 1,355 21,700 40,483
Total assets Segment liabilities Certain other payables Certain provisions Bank and other borrowings Lease liabilities Deferred tax liabilities Total liabilities	48,929	7,943	7,797	57	250,813 64,726 5,592 1,296 91,904 27,594 718 191,830

For the purposes of monitoring segment performance and allocating resources between segments:

- all assets are allocated to operating and reportable segments other than certain plant and equipment, certain right-of-use assets, certain other receivables, deposits and prepayments, tax recoverable, pledged bank balances and bank balances and cash.
- all liabilities are allocated to operating and reportable segments other than certain other payables, certain provisions, bank and other borrowings, loan from a director of the Company's subsidiaries, lease liabilities, tax payable and deferred tax liabilities.

Other segment information

		D 4	Waste				
	Cleaning services HK\$'000	Pest management services HK\$'000	0	Landscaping services HK\$'000	Segment total HK\$'000	Unallocated HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
For the year ended 31 December 2022							
Deposits paid for acquisition of							
plant and equipment	-	-	2,677	_	2,677	-	2,677
Additions to plant and equipment	2,166	-	22,227	_	24,393	173	24,566
Additions to right-of-use assets	9,438	-	18,680	-	28,118	504	28,622
Depreciation of plant and equipment	3,456	262	9,193	-	12,911	90	13,001
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	4,409	984	6,352	-	11,745	1,151	12,896
Gain on disposal of plant and							
equipment, net	472	3	3,074		3,549		3,549
For the year ended 31 December 2021							
Deposits paid for acquisition of							
plant and equipment	-	-	3,873	-	3,873	-	3,873
Additions to plant and equipment	1,040	-	10,477	_	11,517	21	11,538
Additions to right-of-use assets	6,215	-	13,081	-	19,296	2,204	21,500
Depreciation of plant and equipment	2,322	199	1,651	_	4,172	69	4,241
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	8,788	1,699	12,308	-	22,795	1,170	23,965
Gain on disposal of plant and							
equipment, net	1,887	453		_	2,340	11	2,351

Geographical information

No geographical segment information is presented as the Group's revenue are all derived from Hong Kong based on the location of services provided and the Group's plant and equipment amounting to HK\$36,649,000 (2021: HK\$18,720,000), right-of-use assets amounting to HK\$41,498,000 (2021: HK\$32,686,000) and other non-current assets excluded financial instruments amounting to HK\$2,677,000 (2021: HK\$3,873,000) at 31 December 2022 are all located in Hong Kong by physical location of assets.

Information about major customer

Revenue attributed from a customer that accounted for 10% or more of the Group's total revenue is as follows:

	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
Customer A ¹	809,958	646,589

Revenue from cleaning services, waste management and recycling services and pest management services.

4. OTHER INCOME/OTHER GAINS AND LOSSES, NET

Other income

	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
Rental income	1,443	113
Bank interest income	98	18
Interest income from payment for life insurance policies	_	33
Sundry income	1,731	180
Government grants (note)	7,220	172
	10,492	516

Note: During the year ended 31 December 2022, the Group recognised government grants of HK\$7,220,000 (2021: HK\$172,000), of which HK\$4,216,000 (2021: nil) related to Employment Support Scheme provided by the Hong Kong government, HK\$1,561,000 (2021: HK\$172,000) related to subsidy of phasing out diesel commercial vehicles and HK\$1,443,000 (2021: nil) related to an administration fee on anti-epidemic fund for cleaning workers.

Other gains and losses, net

		2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
	Gain on disposal of plant and equipment, net Net foreign exchange losses Loss on early termination of life insurance policies	3,549 (5) 	2,351 (33) (792)
		3,544	1,526
5.	FINANCE COSTS		
		2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
	Interests on:		
	Bank and other borrowings Lease liabilities	3,011 1,496	2,788 1,643
		4,507	4,431

6. PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
Profit before taxation has been arrived at after charging:		
Auditor's remuneration	1,000	950
Depreciation of plant and equipment	13,001	4,241
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	12,896	23,965
Directors' and chief executive's remuneration (note 8) Other staff costs	5,091	7,370
Salaries, bonuses and other benefits	744,394	601,973
Retirement benefits scheme contributions	22,429	17,058
Total staff costs	771,914	626,401
7. INCOME TAX EXPENSE		
	2022	2021
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong Profits Tax:		
– Current tax	2,443	313
 Underprovision in previous years 	17	97
Deferred tax charge	<u> </u>	630
	2,460	1,040

During the year ended 31 December 2021, the Group agreed the income tax expense, penalties and interests of approximately HK\$1,582,000, approximately HK\$1,385,000 and approximately HK\$195,000, respectively, on certain Hong Kong subsidiaries of the Company for the previous years of assessment from 2011/2012 onwards with Inland Revenue Department (the "IRD") that they were included in underprovision in previous years of Hong Kong Profits Tax, other expenses and finance costs, respectively, for the year. Income tax expense, penalties and interests of approximately HK\$1,311,000, approximately HK\$1,385,000 and approximately HK\$195,000, respectively, had been offset by the compensation from a retired director (who was also an ex-major shareholder) of the Company for the settlement of the same amounts to the IRD directly.

8. DIVIDEND

No dividends were paid, declared and proposed by the Company during the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: Nil).

The directors of the Company do not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: Nil).

9. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic earnings per share attributable to owners of the Company is based on the following data:

	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
Earnings		
Profit for the year attributable to owners of		
the Company for the purpose of basic earnings per share	20,326	5,361
	2022	2021
Number of shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for		
the purpose of basic earnings per share	400,000,000	400,000,000

No diluted earnings per share for both years was presented as there were no potential ordinary shares in issue during both years.

10. TRADE RECEIVABLES

At 1 January 2021, trade receivables from contracts with customers amounted to HK\$105,626,000.

The following is an analysis of the trade receivables by types of customers.

	2022	2021
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Government customers	134,896	95,915
Non-government customers	28,910	23,900
	163,806	119,815

The Group grants credit terms of 90 days to its customers. An ageing analysis of the trade receivables presented based on the invoice dates which approximated the respective dates on which revenue was recognised at the end of the reporting period.

	2022	2021
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
0–30 days	83,661	49,326
31–60 days	68,959	48,469
61–90 days	7,019	12,697
91–180 days	3,837	9,115
Over 180 days	330	208
	163,806	119,815

11. TRADE PAYABLES

The credit period is 30 to 60 days. The following is an ageing analysis of trade payables presented based on the invoice date at the end of the reporting period:

	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000
0–30 days	7,687	2,415
31–60 days	4,509	3,218
61–90 days	1,507	45
Over 90 days	484	5
	14,187	5,683

12. ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL

Details of the share capital of the Company are disclosed as follows:

	Number of shares	Amount HK\$'000
Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each Authorised: At 1 January 2021, 31 December 2021 and 2022	10,000,000,000	100,000
Issued and fully paid: At 1 January 2021, 31 December 2021 and 2022	400,000,000	4,000

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

BUSINESS REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

We are an established and one-stop environmental service provider based in Hong Kong. Our environmental hygiene services cover four types, namely (a) cleaning services; (b) pest management services; (c) waste management and recycling services; and (d) landscaping services. We provide our environmental hygiene services to a wide range of venues including streets, cultural, leisure and recreational premises, residential premises, commercial buildings, markets, restaurants and academic institutions etc. Our major customers during the year ended 31 December 2022 include various departments of the Hong Kong Government, property management companies and other corporations in the private sector.

During the Reporting Period, the competition in the environmental hygiene service industry remained keen. Shortage of labour and high operating costs, particularly the insurance expenses, labour costs, vehicle expenses, legal and professional expenses continued to be the challenges of the business.

During the Reporting Period, we provided tenders and quotations for our street cleaning solutions. We are optimistic about the prospects of the environmental cleaning service industry, and thereby have been investing on purchase of additional motor vehicles, cleaning machinery and equipment so as to expand our business and enhance our ability to undertake more projects.

Furthermore, we intend to build on our track record and capitalise on our customer relationship to secure additional opportunities to offer our services. We believe that our long-standing relationship with some of our key customers does provide us with significant advantages to strengthen our market share. As many of our customers, such as government departments of Hong Kong and property management companies, have multiple projects in Hong Kong, we will continue to foster their confidence in our service delivery with a view to identifying and acquiring new opportunities to serve them.

Undoubtedly, we intend to secure more tender contracts with both government departments of Hong Kong and private sectors that have not previously engaged our service. With our considerable resources, including our stable and sizeable labour force and growing fleet of specialised vehicles, we believe that we are particularly well-equipped to undertake new projects of government departments of Hong Kong and private sectors, which generally require cleaning services providers with substantial resources, such as our Group, to undertake their medium-size and large scale projects.

We have been cautious when bidding tenders, and will continue to invest resources to secure more promising business with higher gross profit from both public and private sectors to strengthen the business foundation. During the Reporting Period, this strategy was successful, and the profit margins of street cleaning contracts, which account for the largest proportion of the Group's business, were greatly improved.

By bolstering our sales and marketing manpower to promote our brand recognition in the coming years, we will endeavour to become more competitive and be able to compete for more sizeable and profitable projects.

Looking ahead, the global and local economies are expected to recover after COVID-19 epidemic. The Group will remain vigilant and responsive to the impact of the epidemic on the Group's operation and financial position, and will fully support the continuant anti-epidemic work in Hong Kong on an on-going basis and to contribute to the society by the Group's professional services. Although the environment in the future is still full of challenges and uncertainties, with the increasing public awareness of environmental hygiene and health as well as the escalating demand for services in response to the long-term anti-epidemic efforts, we are optimistic and confident about the future of the environmental hygiene service industry.

Financial Results

Revenue of the Group increased by approximately 26.2% from approximately HK\$765.9 million for the year ended 31 December 2021 to approximately HK\$966.3 million for the Reporting Period. The Group, recorded an increase in the cost of services by approximately 27.3% to approximately HK\$918.5 million (2021: approximately HK\$721.3 million) and an increase of approximately 7.3% in gross profit to approximately HK\$47.8 million (2021: approximately HK\$44.6 million). Gross profit margin also decreased by approximately 0.8% to 5.0% (2021: decreased approximately 0.4% to 5.8%). Due to the receipt of the Employment Support Scheme, government subsidy of phasing out diesel commercial vehicles and other income from administration fee received for processing the anti-epidemic fund for cleaning workers for the Reporting Period, as well as the decrease in administrative expenses, the Group recorded a profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company (the "Shareholders") for the year ended 31 December 2022 which amounted to approximately HK\$20.3 million (as compared to a profit of approximately HK\$5.4 million for the corresponding period in 2021).

Final Dividend

The Board does not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: nil).

HUMAN RESOURCES

As at 31 December 2022, the Group employed 3,853 employees, including both full time and part time (31 December 2021: 2,231). Remuneration packages are generally structured by reference to market terms, individual qualifications and experience.

During the Reporting Period, various training activities, such as training on operational safety, administrative and management skills, were conducted to improve the quality of frontend services, office support and management. In addition, employees are also encouraged, subsidised and sponsored to attend job-related seminars and courses organised by professional and/or educational institution to ensure the smooth and effective management of the Group's business.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue

The Group's revenue for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021 were approximately HK\$966.3 million and HK\$765.9 million, respectively, representing an increase of approximately 26.2%. The increase was mainly driven by the new contracts commenced during the Reporting Period in our service segment of cleaning services.

The following table sets forth our revenue by business segments during the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021:

	For the year ended 31 December			
	2022		2021	
	HK\$'000	%	HK\$'000	%
Cleaning services	786,807	81.4	600,104	78.4
Pest management services	62,381	6.5	64,608	8.4
Waste management and				
recycling services	116,278	12.0	100,484	13.1
Landscaping services	822	0.1	725	0.1
Total	966,288	100.0	765,921	100.0

The revenue from cleaning services increased by approximately 31.1% for the year ended 31 December 2022 as comparing with that of the previous year as certain cleaning services contracts were awarded during the year. The revenue from pest management services decreased by approximately 3.4% for the Reporting Period as compared to the previous year as certain pest management services contracts expired during the year. The revenue from waste management and recycling services increased by approximately 15.7% for the Reporting Period as compared to the previous year as certain waste management and recycling services contracts were awarded during the year.

More details of the Group's performance for the Reporting Period by business segments are set out in note 3 to the consolidated financial statements.

Cost of Services

For the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021, the cost of services of the Group amounted to approximately HK\$918.5 million and HK\$721.3 million respectively, representing approximately 95.0% and 94.2% of the Group's revenue for the corresponding years. Our cost of services mainly consists of direct labour costs, vehicle expenses, consumables, and direct overheads. The increase in cost of services was mainly caused by the increase in direct labour costs, petrol expenses and motor vehicles expenses attributable to the new tender contracts awarded.

Gross Profit

The Group's gross profit for the Reporting Period was approximately HK\$47.8 million, representing an increase of approximately 7.3% from approximately HK\$44.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2021. The increase was mainly caused by the increase of revenue.

Gross Profit Margin

The gross profit margins of the Group for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021 were approximately 5.0% and 5.8% respectively.

Other income

The Group's other income for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021 were approximately HK\$10.5 million and HK\$0.5 million respectively. The significant increase was mainly due to the Group recognised government grants of HK\$5.6 million in respect of COVID-19-related subsidies for the Reporting Period, out of which HK\$4.2 million relates to the Employment Support Scheme provided by the Hong Kong government and HK\$1.4 million relates to an administration fee on anti-epidemic fund for cleaning workers in 2022 and no such income in 2021. HK\$1.6 million relates to the government subsidy of phasing out diesel commercial vehicles was recorded for the Reporting Period as compared to HK\$0.2 million for the year ended 31 December 2021. HK\$1.4 million related to commercial vehicles rental was recorded for the Reporting Period as compared to HK\$0.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Administrative Expenses

The administrative expenses incurred by the Group for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021 were approximately HK\$34.6 million and HK\$35.8 million respectively, representing a decrease of approximately 3.4%, and approximately 3.6% and 4.7% of the respective year's total revenue. The decrease was mainly due to the decrease in salaries and welfare of approximately HK\$2.3 million for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Finance Costs

The finance costs of the Group amounted to approximately HK\$4.5 million and HK\$4.4 million for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021 respectively, representing approximately 0.5% and approximately 0.6% of the Group's revenue in the respective years.

Profit Attributable to Owners of The Company

As a result of the foregoing, the profit attributable to the Shareholders for the Reporting Period amounted to approximately HK\$20.3 million as compared to the approximately HK\$5.4 million for the year ended 31 December 2021.

FOREIGN CURRENCY EXPOSURE

The Group's foreign currency exposure is limited as most of its transactions, assets and liabilities are denominated in Hong Kong dollars. There were no foreign currency investments hedged by foreign currency borrowings and other hedging instruments during the Reporting Period.

LIQUIDITY, FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE

As at 31 December 2022, total bank and other borrowings of the Group amounted to approximately HK\$78.5 million (2021: approximately HK\$91.9 million) which represented the secured and guaranteed bank borrowings including loans from factoring of trade receivables with full recourse, unsecured and unguaranteed other borrowings and unsecured and unguaranteed loan from a director of the Company's subsidiaries. As at 31 December 2022, the cash and cash equivalents and pledged bank balances of the Group amounted to approximately HK\$50.8 million (2021: approximately HK\$62.2 million). As at 31 December 2022, debt to equity ratio of the Group was approximately 76.5% (2021: approximately 97.2%). Debt to equity ratio is calculated by dividing the net debt, which is defined to include bank and other borrowings and lease liabilities net of pledged bank balances and bank balances and cash, by total equity at the end of the respective years. Current ratio as at 31 December 2022 was approximately 1.1 time (2021: approximately 1.1 time).

The Group maintained sufficient working capital as at 31 December 2022 with bank balances and cash of approximately HK\$21.1 million (2021: approximately HK\$40.5 million). The Board of Directors will continue to follow a prudent treasury policy in managing its cash balances and maintain a strong and healthy liquidity to ensure that the Group is well placed to take advantage of growth opportunities for the business.

As at 31 December 2022, the Group's net current assets amounted to approximately HK\$27.9 million (2021: approximately HK\$23.8 million). The Group's operations are financed principally by operating cashflow generated from its business operation, available cash and bank balances, bank and other borrowings and lease liabilities.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 31 December 2022, performance guarantee of approximately HK\$165,153,000 (2021: HK\$160,542,000) and HK\$3,362,000 (2021: nil) was given by bank and insurance companies respectively in favour of the Group's customers as security for the due performance and observance of the Group's obligations under the contracts entered into between the Group and their customers. If the Group fails to provide satisfactory performance to its customers to whom performance guarantee have been given, such customers may demand the banks to pay the sum stipulated in such demand. The Group will become liable to compensate such banks accordingly. The performance guarantee will be released upon completion of the service contracts.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from the issue of new shares of the Company through the Public Offer of an aggregate of 10,000,000 Public Offer Shares and the placing of 90,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each in the share capital of the Company at the price of HK\$0.50 per share, after deducting the underwriting commission and listing expenses borne by our Group and excluding the net proceeds of the Sale Shares, were approximately HK\$18.7 million ("Actual Proceeds"), as compared to the estimated net proceeds of approximately HK\$20.8 million as disclosed in the prospectus dated 30 June 2017 of the Company (the "Prospectus"), there was a shortage of approximately HK\$2.1 million mainly due to the additional listing expenses at final payment. Accordingly, the Group has adjusted the use of proceeds on a pro-rata basis. The utilization of net proceeds as at 31 December 2022 is set out below:

Summary of use of proceeds

Use of net proceeds	Total planned amount to be used HK\$' million	Actual amount utilised up to 31 December 2021 HK\$' million	Actual amount utilised during the year ended 31 December 2022 HK\$' million	Actual amount utilised up to 31 December 2022 HK\$' million	Unutilised balance as at 31 December 2022 HK\$' million	Expected timeline for utilising the remaining Net Proceeds as at 31 December 2022
Procure additional vehicles	9.0	9.0	_	9.0	-	
Procure additional equipment	0.9	0.9	-	0.9	-	
Hire additional staff	1.4	1.4	-	1.4	_	
Enhance information technology application system to enhance						On or before 31 December
operational efficiency	2.7	0.8	0.7	1.5	1.2	2023
Repay a bank loan	2.9	2.9	-	2.9	_	
General working capital	1.8	1.8		1.8		
Total	18.7	16.8	0.7	17.5	1.2	

The Directors will constantly evaluate the Group's business objectives and will change or modify the plans against the changing market condition to suit the business growth of the Group.

CHARGES ON THE GROUP'S ASSETS

As at 31 December 2022, the amount of lease liabilities within one year was approximately HK\$12.1 million (31 December 2021: HK\$14.9 million), and after one year but within five years was approximately HK\$22.3 million (31 December 2021: HK\$12.7 million).

As at 31 December 2022, we had approximately HK\$78.5 million (31 December 2021: HK\$91.7 million) of secured bank and other borrowings and loan from a director of the Company's subsidiaries. Such loans were primarily used in financing the working capital requirement of our operations.

In addition, we have (i) pledged bank balances of approximately HK\$29.7 million as at 31 December 2022 (31 December 2021: HK\$21.7 million), (ii) pledged trade receivables of approximately HK\$163.8 million as at 31 December 2022 (31 December 2021: HK\$119.8 million) and (iii) pledged motor vehicles of approximately HK\$40.2 million (31 December 2021: HK\$30.7 million).

As at 31 December 2022, the gearing ratio of the Group was approximately 1.4 times (2021: 2.0 times), which was calculated based on the total interest-bearing bank borrowings, non-interest bearing loan from a director of the Company's subsidiaries and lease liabilities over total equity of the Group.

Save as mentioned above in this section, we did not have any outstanding mortgages or charges, borrowings or indebtedness including bank overdrafts, loans or debentures, loan capital, debt securities or other similar indebtedness, finance lease or hire purchase.

ACQUISITION, DISPOSAL AND SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT HELD

During the Reporting Period, the Group did not make any material acquisition, disposal nor significant investment.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The corporate governance practices of the Group are based on the principles and the code provisions in the Corporate Governance Code (the "Code") as set out in Appendix 15 to the Rules GEM Listing Rules.

During the year ended 31 December 2022, the Company has complied with all the applicable code provisions of the Code.

APPOINTMENT, RE-ELECTION AND RETIREMENT OF THE DIRECTORS

In accordance with article 84 of the Articles, at each AGM one-third of the Directors for the time being (or, if their number is not a multiple of three (3), the number nearest to but not less than one-third) shall retire from office by rotation provided that every Director shall be subject to retirement at an AGM at least once every three years.

Pursuant to article 84 of the Articles, Mr. Tam Yiu Shing, Billy, Mr.Ho Kin Wai and Ms. Lam Kit Yan will retire from office as Directors at the forthcoming AGM, and being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. Tam Yiu Shing, Billy, being an executive Director has entered into a service agreement with the Company for an initial term of three years commencing from the 25 January 2019 and continuing thereafter until terminated by either party by giving not less than one month's prior written notice to the other.

Each of Mr. Mak Kwok Kei, Ms. Lam Kit Yan and Mr. Ho Kin Wai, being all independent non-executive Directors, has entered into a service agreement with the Company for a term of three years commencing from 24 June 2017 which has been renewed for a further term of three years and may be terminated by either party by giving not less than one month's prior written notice.

No Director proposed for re-election at the AGM has a service contract with the Company which is not determinable by the Company within one year without payment of compensation, other than statutory compensation.

MODEL CODE FOR DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Group has adopted the required standard of dealing, as set out in Rules 5.48 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules, as the code of conduct for securities transactions by the Directors in respect of the shares of the Company. Having made specific enquiry of all Directors, all Directors have confirmed that they have complied with the required standard of dealing and the code of conduct for securities transactions by directors during the Reporting Period.

PURCHASE, REDEMPTION OR SALE OF LISTED SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, redeemed or sold any of the Company's listed securities during the Reporting Period.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN COMPETING BUSINESS

As at the date of this report, none of the Directors of the Company and directors of the Company's subsidiaries, or their respective associates had interests in business, which compete or are likely to compete either directly or indirectly, with the business of the Company and its subsidiaries as required to be disclosed pursuant to the GEM Listing Rules.

PERMITTED INDEMNITY PROVISION AND INSURANCE

Pursuant to the Articles and subject to the applicable laws and regulations, every Director shall be indemnified and secured harmless out of the assets and profits of the Company against all actions, costs, charges, losses, damages and expenses which they or any of them may incur or sustain in or about the execution of their duty in their offices. Such permitted indemnity provision has been in force throughout the Reporting Period. The Company has arranged for appropriate directors' and officers' liability insurance coverage for the Directors and officers of the Group.

DIRECTORS' AND CHIEF EXECUTIVES' INTERESTS IN SHARES

As at 31 December 2022, none of the Directors and chief executive of the Company had any interests or short positions of the Directors and chief executive of the Company in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO"), Chapter 571), which were required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests or short positions which they are taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SFO), or which were required, pursuant to Section 352 of the SFO, to be entered in the register referred to therein, or which were required, pursuant to Section 352 of the SFO, to be entered in the register referred to therein, or which were required, pursuant to Rules 5.46 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules relating to securities transactions by directors to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange.

FINAL DIVIDEND

The Board does not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: nil).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ("AGM")

The forthcoming AGM will be held on Friday, 5 May 2023. A notice convening the AGM will be published in due course.

CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The register of members of the Company will be closed from Tuesday, 2 May 2023 to Friday, 5 May 2023, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of Shares will be registered. For determining the entitlement of members of the Company to attend and vote at the AGM, all share transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's branch share registrar and transfer office in Hong Kong, Tricor Investor Services Limited at 17/F, Far East Finance Centre, Hong Kong, no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 28 April 2023.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company established the Audit Committee on 24 June 2017 with written terms of reference in compliance with the GEM Listing Rules. The Audit Committee comprises the three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Mak Kwok Kei, Ms. Lam Kit Yan and Mr. Ho Kin Wai. Ms. Lam Kit Yan currently serves as the chairman of the Audit Committee. The duties of the Audit Committee include reviewing, in draft form, the annual report and accounts, half-year report and quarterly reports and providing advice and comments to the Board. In this regard, members of the Audit Committee will liaise with the Board, the senior management, and auditors. The Audit Committee will also consider any significant or unusual items that are, or may need to be, reflected in such reports and accounts and give consideration to any matters that have been raised by the accounting staff, compliance officers or auditors. Members of the Audit Committee are also responsible for reviewing our Group's financial reporting process and internal control and risk management systems.

During the Reporting Period and up to the date of this report, the Audit Committee had reviewed the final results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2021, the first quarterly results (and related quarterly report) of the Group for the three months ended 31 March 2022, the interim results (and interim report) of the Group for the six months ended 30 June 2022 and the third quarterly results (and related quarterly report) of the Group for the nine months ended 30 September 2022. The Group's final results for the Reporting Period had been reviewed by the Audit Committee before submission to the Board for approval. The Audit Committee is of the view that the annual results complied with the applicable accounting standards, the requirements under the GEM Listing Rules and other applicable legal requirements, and that adequate disclosures had been made.

SCOPE OF WORK OF MESSRS. DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU

The figures in respect of the Group's consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and the related notes thereto for the year ended 31 December 2022 as set out in the preliminary announcement have been agreed by the Group's auditor, Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, to the amounts set out in the Group's audited consolidated financial statements for the year as approved by the Board of Directors on 27 March 2023. The work performed by Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu in this respect did not constitute an assurance engagement in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing, Hong Kong Standards on Review Engagements or Hong Kong Standards on Assurance Engagements issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and consequently no assurance has been expressed by Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu on the preliminary announcement.

By order of the Board of

Lapco Holdings Limited

Tam Yiu Shing, Billy

Executive Director and Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 27 March 2023

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises one executive Director, namely Mr. Tam Yiu Shing, Billy; and three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Mak Kwok Kei, Ms. Lam Kit Yan and Mr. Ho Kin Wai.

This announcement, for which the Directors collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the GEM of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The Directors, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that to the best of their knowledge and belief, the information contained in this announcement is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive, and there are no matters the omission of which would make any statement in this announcement misleading.

This announcement will remain on the "Latest Company Announcements" page of the GEM website at http://www.hkgem.com for at least 7 days from the date of its posting and on the Company's website at www.lapco.com.hk.

In case of any inconsistency, the English text of this announcement shall prevail over the Chinese text.