

**Southern District Council**  
**Matters Arising from the Last Meeting**

**Purpose**

The Southern District Council (SDC) held its 21<sup>st</sup> meeting on 17 March 2011. This paper informs Members of the major issues discussed and latest developments reported at the meeting.

**Major Issues Discussed**

**Meeting of Permanent Secretary for Education with SDC Members**

2. Mrs TSE LING Kit-ching, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education, attended the meeting of SDC and briefed Members on the work of the Education Bureau. She also responded to Members' comments and enquiries on various issues relating to Project Yi Jin, class reduction in the Southern District, shortage of qualified teachers for special education and resources to replace/upgrade the facilities for such education, early childhood education and inadequacy of the assessment mechanism under the pre-primary education voucher scheme, closure of primary schools in Stanley due to under-enrolment, enrolment places in and traffic problems arising from international schools, and progress on the development of higher education institutes in the Southern District.

**Meeting of Director of Civil Engineering & Development with SDC Members**

3. Mr HON Chi-keung, JP, Director of Civil Engineering and Development, attended the meeting of SDC and briefed Members on the work of the Civil Engineering and Development Department and its major works projects in the Southern District. He also responded to Members' comments and enquiries on various issues relating to slope management and the power/responsibility of property owners, greening works and their future maintenance, breakwaters and desilting works in the typhoon shelter, the flooding problem and the development of waterfront promenade.

## **Financial Implications of Salary Increase of Contract Staff for Recreation and Sports Programmes**

4. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) was still working on the solution and would report to SDC when the results were available. The District Facilities Management Committee would follow up the matter.

## **Follow-up on the Tenancy Term for the Shipyard Site**

5. The District Development and Environment Committee would follow up the matter at its meeting held on 21 March 2011.

## **Competition Bill**

6. This agenda item was raised by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau. Mr SO Kam-leung, Gregory, JP, Under Secretary for Commerce & Econ Dev, briefly explained the reasons for introducing the bill and the proposals of the Government. He also responded to the questions raised by Members.

7. SDC supported enacting the legislation as soon as possible.

## **Policy to Encourage Walking**

8. This agenda item was raised by Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN.

9. The representatives from the Transport Department, Ms YING Fun-Fong, Chief Traffic Engineer / Hong Kong, and Mr TAM Chung On, Alan, Chief Engineer/Southern & Peak (Acting), attended the meeting and briefed Members on the current policy, while the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department furnished a written reply on the subject.

10. Members expressed their views on the subject and suggested developing the waterfront promenade. SDC supported in principle the provision of more walking trails in the Southern District and would consider financing smaller-scale developments through funding for minor works, but maintained that government departments should be responsible for larger-scale projects.

**Application for SDC Fund: Southern District Literary Trail - (a) Consultation for the Design of Eileen Chang's Landmark; and (b) Maintenance and Promotion Fees for "Southern District Tourism" Website in 2011-12**

11. SDC noted the latest progress on the landmark designs for the Southern District Literary Trail and approved an allocation of \$75,000 to the Working Group on Promoting the Development of Tourism for carrying out a consultation on the design of Eileen Chang's landmark and hiring a contractor to maintain and promote the "Southern District Tourism" website.

**Application for SDC Fund: Aberdeen Dragon Boat Races 2011**

12. SDC approved an allocation of \$420,000 to the Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race Committee for organising the Aberdeen Dragon Boat Races 2011 and agreed to a 50% advance payment to meet the initial expenses.

**Application for DC Funds: Programmes Organised by the Southern District Recreation and Sports Association from June 2011 to February 2012**

13. SDC approved the allocations of \$173,800 and \$277,400 to the Southern District Recreation and Sports Association for promoting sports and organising football training programmes in the Southern District respectively, and agreed to a 50% advance payment to meet the initial expenses.

**The 2011-12 Budget**

14. Mr CHAI Man-hon moved the following provisional motion at the meeting, which was seconded by Mr FUNG Wai-kwong:

“The Southern District Council urges the Government for a study to revive the Home Ownership Scheme and to resume regular land sale.”

15. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH then proposed the following amendment to the motion, which was seconded by Mr CHAN Fu-ming, Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying, Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, Mr CHEUNG Siu-keung, Mrs MAK TSE How-ling, Mr TSUI Yuen-wa and Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN:

“The Southern District Council urges the Government **to construct additional**

**public rental housing flats** ~~for a study~~, to revive the Home Ownership Scheme as soon as possible and to resume regular land sale.”

16. SDC unanimously approved the motion for amendment put forth by Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH.

17. Also, Mrs MAK TSE How-ling moved the following provisional motion, which was seconded by Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH:

“The Southern District Council urges the Government to include early childhood education in the scope of subsidisation for basic education and to extend the duration of free education from 12 years to 15 years.”

18. SDC unanimously approved Mrs MAK TSE How-ling’s motion.

#### **2011 Hong Kong Island Outstanding Students Selection Programme**

19. SDC endorsed the participation of SDC in and the support to the 2011 Hong Kong Island Outstanding Students Selection Programme. It was approved that Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH would continue to serve in the organising committee of the programme.

#### **Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races and Aberdeen Dragon Boat Races in 2011**

20. SDC endorsed that SDC would form a team to compete in the Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races 2011 and the Aberdeen Dragon Boat Races, and that Mr CHAN Fu-ming would follow up the related matters. SDC also agreed to allocate more resources to strengthen the pre-race training of the team.

#### **Invitation for Being a Supporting Unit of “Create Our Magical Sky”**

21. SDC agreed to be a supporting unit of the above programme.

#### **Sand on the Repulse Bay Beach**

22. This agenda item was raised by Mr FUNG Se-goun, and Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP introduced the details on his behalf.

23. A beach rugby match was going to take place on the Repulse Bay Beach from 19 to 20 March 2011, and the organiser would replenish the beach with finer sand. Noting that presently the sand near the Seaview Building was relatively coarse, SDC wished to retain the finer sand replenished by the organiser and requested that LCSD should consider replenishing the entire Repulse Bay Beach with finer sand in future.

24. The representative of LCSD responded that they were waiting for the assessment from the organiser on the sand quality, and if it were confirmed that it met the required standards, LCSD would actively consider retaining the sand. In the long run, LCSD would closely monitor the sand in the Repulse Bay Beach, and subject to the availability of resources, would consider replenishing the entire beach in future.

25. As reported by LCSD after the meeting, the assessment results showed that the sand replenished by the organiser met the required standards. Arrangements were now being made by LCSD for official acquisition of the sand.

#### **Advice Sought**

26. Members are invited to note the contents of the paper.

Secretariat, Southern District Council  
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