

Minutes of the 9th Meeting of the Eastern District Council

Date : 4 July 2017 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue: Eastern District Council (EDC) Conference Room

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u> <u>(pm)</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u> <u>(pm)</u>
Mr TING Kong-ho, Eddie	2:30	end of meeting
Mr WONG Chi-chung, Dominic	2:30	end of meeting
Mr WONG Chun-sing, Patrick	2:30	end of meeting
Mr WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH	2:30	4:15
Mr KU Kwai-yiu	2:30	end of meeting
Mr HO Ngai-kam, Stanley	2:30	end of meeting
Ms LI Chun-chau	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LEE Chun-keung	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LAM Sum-lim	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LAM Kei-tung, George	2:30	end of meeting
Ms LAM Chui-lin, Alice, MH	2:30	2:35
Mr SHIU Ka-fai	2:30	end of meeting
Mr HUNG Lin-cham	2:30	end of meeting
Mr CHUI Chi-kin	2:30	end of meeting
Mr CHEUNG Kwok-cheong, Howard	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LEUNG Siu-sun, Patrick	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, David	2:30	end of meeting
Ms LEUNG Wing-man, Bonnie	2:30	end of meeting
Mr HUI Ching-on	2:30	3:00
Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Aron, JP	2:30	4:06
Mr MAK Tak-ching	2:30	end of meeting
Mr WONG Kin-pan, BBS, MH, JP (Chairman)	2:30	end of meeting
Mr WONG Kin-hing	3:00	4:30
Mr YEUNG Sze-chun	2:30	end of meeting
Mr CHIU Ka-yin, Andrew	2:30	end of meeting
Mr CHIU Chi-keung, BBS (Vice-chairman)	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LAU Hing-yeung	2:30	end of meeting
Ms Choy So-yuk, BBS, JP	2:30	4:15
Mr CHENG Chi-sing	2:30	end of meeting
Mr CHENG Tat-hung	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LAI Chi-keong, Joseph	2:30	end of meeting
Mr NGAN Chun-lim, MH	2:30	end of meeting
Mr LO Wing-kwan, Frankie, MH	2:30	end of meeting
Mr KUNG Pak-cheung, MH	2:30	end of meeting

Absent with Apologies

Mr HUI Lam-hing (absent with consent)

In Regular Attendance (Government Representatives)

Ms TENG Yu-yan, Anne, JP	District Officer (Eastern), Eastern District Office
Miss NGAI Lai-ying, Angora	Assistant District Officer (Eastern) 1, Eastern District Office
Mr CHUI Cheuk-yin, Matthew	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)2, Eastern District Office
Mr Rupert Timothy Alan DOVER	District Commander (Eastern District), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms LAU Tak-yi	Police Community Relations Officer (Eastern District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mrs CHEUNG LO Pik-yuk, Helen	Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island and Islands) Housing Department
Miss LEE Sin-man	Senior Housing Manager (Hong Kong Island and Islands)2 Housing Department
Miss WONG Ho-yan, Doris	Senior Transport Officer/ Eastern, Transport Department
Mr SUM Siu-hin	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent(Eastern), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms LOK Mee-mee, Mimi	District Leisure Manager (Eastern), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr LAU Wai-lun, Eddie	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Eastern District Office
Ms CHENG Chung-yan, Lorraine	Acting Senior Liaison Officer (2), Eastern District Office
Ms KONG Kei-kei, Hayley	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Eastern District Office

In Attendance by Invitation (Representatives from the Government and Organizations)

Mrs LAI CHAN Chi-kuen, Marion, JP	Permanent Secretary for Education Education Bureau
Ms MAK Yam-yuet, Eva	Chief School Development Officer (Hong Kong East) Education Bureau

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Secretary

Miss WAH Pui-ye, Vivian

Senior Executive Officer (District Council),
Eastern District Office

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Councillors and government representatives, particularly Mrs Marion LAI, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education and Ms Eva MAK, Chief School Development Officer (Hong Kong East) of the Education Bureau (EDB), to the meeting. He also extended welcome to Mrs Helen CHEUNG, Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island and Islands) of the Housing Department (HD); and Miss Doris WONG, Senior Transport Officer / Eastern of the Transport Department for attending the meeting on behalf of Mr Albert HO, Chief Transport Officer / Hong Kong (Hong Kong Island and Islands).

2. The Chairman reminded Councillors to declare interests where necessary in accordance with Section 48 of the Standing Orders of the EDC.

I. Confirmation of Minutes of the Eighth Eastern District Council Meeting

3. The minutes were confirmed without amendments.

II. Permanent Secretary for Education to Meet Eastern District Council Members

4. Mrs Marion LAI, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education, briefed Councillors on EDB's work.

5. 14 Councillors expressed their views with enquiries as summarised below:

- (a) Mr Eddie TING said that the EDB should consider improving the class suspension arrangements under adverse weather conditions. He said that the red and black rainstorm warning signals had been issued several times in May and June this year, but announcement of class suspension had not been properly arranged and some students were already on the way to schools resulting in confusion and safety problems. He also pointed out that there were cases where nanny vans had been trapped by flood under inclement weather and needed firemen's rescue. He hoped that the EDB could improve the arrangements with students' safety as the prime consideration. With the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) having regional rainfall information, he suggested that the EDB should explore with the HKO on considering suspension of classes by districts according to actual localised rainfall.

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- (b) Mr Patrick WONG expressed concern about the appointment of the Chief Executive (CE) as the Chancellor of the eight University Grants Committee-funded (UGC-funded) institutions such as the University of Hong Kong, and hoped that the EDB could explore its abolition. Recently, there were views that liberal studies should be removed from the list of compulsory subjects. He opined that this subject could train students' ability to think and there was a need to keep the subject. He also hoped that the new CE could shelve the Primary 3 Basic Competency Assessment (P3 BCA) as suggested in her election campaign, and urged the EDB to introduce measures in the short run to reduce the study pressure of primary students so as to prevent them from committing suicide under excessive stress. He suggested that the Government should strengthen communication with the education sector on enhancing the overall education policy so as to make better use of the \$5 billion resources.
- (c) Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed concern about "matchbox primary schools" in the district such as Chai Wan, and enquired whether the EDB had worked out a schedule to resolve the problems of these school premises. He also pointed out that the vacant primary school premises in Siu Sai Wan had been allocated to a non-profit-making organisation, but the playground and storeroom had not been put into use for years. Since there was a shortage of recreational and cultural facilities in Siu Sai Wan, he suggested that the EDB should consider making them available for community use.
- (d) Ms Bonnie LEUNG voiced concern over the woodland site at Mount Parker. A number of Councillors requested preservation of the green land and there were views to build a tai chi leisure trail. However, the EDB had reserved the site for school development and the proposal could not be taken forward. The EDB's representative said in June 2016 that there was a need to reserve the site for school development and reiterated the stance in the written reply to the Council in June 2017. She hoped that the EDB could provide grounds for reserving the site for school development, and enquired whether the Government of the new term would change the use of the site.
- (e) Mr Patrick LEUNG pointed out that the woodland site had been idle for 10 odd years and the EDB had been reserving the site for school development. In the past, neighbouring residents had strongly opposed to the construction of a school there. He hoped that the EDB could release the site as soon as possible for residents' use. He also welcomed EDB's introduction of the Free Quality Kindergarten Education Scheme. Nonetheless, the scheme did not provide free comprehensive nursery education. He hoped that the EDB could review nursery education arrangements in the long term, including consideration of establishing a pay scale for kindergarten teachers so as to attract talents to the kindergarten sector for enhancing the quality of nursery education. As regards vocational and professional education and training, he hoped that the EDB could allocate more resources to enable those who could not study at mainstream schools

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to learn skills. He also hoped that the EDB could implement “one school social worker for each school” in primary schools.

- (f) Mr Howard CHEUNG expressed concern about the woodland site. He regretted the EDB’s updated analysis of the technical feasibility of constructing a school there, and hoped that the EDB could listen to the residents’ opposing views and change the decision of keeping the site for school development. He also suggested that the EDB should strengthen support for students with mental health problems. For example, provision of assistance for referring them to psychiatrists for follow-up actions when necessary. He enquired about the EDB’s measures of assisting students in fulfilling the minimum requirements of UGC-funded institutions for continuing their studies, in light of the shortage of funded school places. Furthermore, he hoped that the Government could abolish the P3 BCA.
- (g) Mr CHUI Chi-kin said that when answering media enquiries, the new CE stated that there was always room for adopting a middle-of-the-road approach which built consensus and alleviated students’ pressure while achieving the original objective of the Territory-wide System Assessment (TSA). It seemed to imply that the Primary 3 Territory-wide System Assessment (P3 TSA) would not be shelved at the present stage, which was different from what she had said in her election manifesto: “Before the comprehensive review is completed, I shall suspend the Primary Three Territory-wide System Assessment component of the Basic Competency Assessment”. He hoped that the EDB would suspend the assessment in light of the opposing views. On students’ suicide, he welcomed the EDB’s extension of educational psychology service to government and subsidised primary schools. Nonetheless, only 80 primary and secondary schools could benefit from that in 2017-18. He suggested that the EDB should provide more resources to offer help to students in need so as to lower suicide rate.
- (h) Mr HUNG Lin-cham said that as a parent and education worker, he concurred that the P3 TSA had its value. On ways to address the problems arising from assessment, he considered it necessary that the discussions should base on professional assessment and that the reviewed and enhanced arrangements could achieve the original intention of assessment. Assessment should be a basic competency test and should not place additional drilling pressure on students. He also pointed out that education should not be commercialised or politicised, and hoped that the new Government could step up communication with different education bodies and stakeholders on relevant education issues so as to progressively deal with education issues with a view to providing quality education for our next generation and restoring the community confidence in Hong Kong’s education.
- (i) Mr MAK Tak-ching said that according to the remark made by the new CE during her election campaign, the P3 BCA would be suspended and reviewed. However, it seemed there would be other

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arrangements and he hoped that the EDB could advise on the policy direction. Besides, there were views in the society that the development history of Hong Kong should be incorporated into the school curriculum. He enquired whether the EDB would consider introducing such elements into the subject of Chinese History. He said that modern Chinese history affected Hong Kong people's recognition of their national identity and hoped that the EDB could explain the relevant policy direction.

- (j) Mr YEUNG Sze-chun showed concern about the implementation of small-class teaching. He pointed out that, according to the study on small-class teaching in Hong Kong by University of Cambridge in 2009, small-class teaching showed positive effects. Although such policy was conducive to student development and reducing teachers' pressure, the EDB did not provide relevant resources and schools could only implement small-class teaching through self-financing. He proposed that the EDB should allocate resources to implement small-class teaching to enhance the competitiveness of Hong Kong students. He also expressed concern about the Comprehensive Student Guidance Service introduced by the EDB. According to many school social workers, they had to cope with the workload relating to school policies, student interviews, paperwork and other areas, which in turn created greater pressure on them.
- (k) Mr Andrew CHIU urged the CE to fulfil her pledge to suspend the P3 BCA and give an account of the arrangements and conduct a review as soon as possible. The CE hoped that the P3 TSA could achieve its original intention and serve as a basic competency test without the need to over-drill primary students. He, together with nine Councillors, urged the Government to suspend the P3 BCA to ensure that students and parents would not suffer before specific and effective measures would be implemented to address and prevent over-drilling of students by schools, and for the Government to work out the specific timetable for reviewing the assessment, as well as, to give the public and parents a solemn pledge to suspend the assessment before a formal arrangement was reached. As regards the woodland site, local residents strongly opposed to the construction of an international school and hoped that the EDB would identify and reserve another site for school development. Besides, he said that the past curriculum of Chinese History for Secondary 6 had covered the development of Hong Kong, and suggested that the EDB should consider incorporating such element into the curriculum of Chinese History.
- (l) Mr Joseph LAI pointed out that a number of Councillors were against the P3 TSA, and said that irrespective of the BCA or TSA, the target subject to assessment was Primary 3 students. Such arrangement was not seen in other places such as Japan, Korea and Taiwan. In Germany, seven-year-old students would not receive drilling or mandatory training. He was disappointed about the CE's response to P3 TSA and hoped that the EDB would not exert additional pressure on Primary 3 students. On establishing a pay scale for kindergarten teachers, he opined that quality kindergarten teachers were of utmost

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importance in implementing quality nursery education and that establishing a pay scale for them was conducive to enhancing the education quality.

- (m) Mr CHENG Tat-hung pointed out that according to the CE's remark during her election campaign, the P3 TSA would be suspended. Her recent remark that there was always a room for adopting a middle-to-the-road approach created doubt on whether the arrangement would be abolished or would continue. He hoped that the new Government would abolish P3 BCA to relieve the pressure of parents and students. He also showed concern over the review of the effectiveness of "using Putonghua to teach the Chinese Language subject" which had been implemented for years, and hoped that the EDB could assess its effectiveness on enhancing the learning on Chinese Language. In addition, he supported enhancing young people's understanding of Hong Kong history.
- (n) Mr KU Kwai-yiu urged the EDB to abolish the P3 BCA as soon as possible. There were parents mentioning to him that some primary students needed to consult psychiatrists due to pressure arising from drilling. He considered that the EDB should abolish BCA so as not to place students under unnecessary pressure. Furthermore, talents could be nurtured under an education system without such assessment in the past. He hoped that the new CE could honour her election pledge to abolish P3 BCA.

6. Mrs Marion LAI, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education, responded to the views and enquiries of Councillors as follows:

- (a) She thanked Councillors for their valuable views. As regards P3 BCA, the learning differences among students began to widen at about seven years old in general. The EDB hence needed to implement BCA at the key stages of Primary 3, Primary 6 and Secondary 3 to facilitate schools to timely formulate and improve school-based teaching and learning strategies. The EDB emphasised repeatedly that the intention of the assessment was to solely gauge students' attainment of basic competencies, the individual performance of students would not be recorded and the TSA had been removed from the "performance indicators for schools". The EDB would provide schools with assessment data to enable teachers to have an overall understanding of students' strengths and weaknesses so as to enhance learning and teaching based on assessment data and school development needs. The EDB would provide school-based support for schools. The EDB also expressed great concern over excessive drilling and had been emphasising that there was no need to drill students for BCA. If parents found any over-drilling on the students, they could voice out their views to the schools or the EDB. The EDB would take actions as appropriate.
- (b) The EDB understood the concern about P3 BCA. The Coordinating Committee on Basic Competency Assessment and Assessment Literacy (the Committee) had conducted a comprehensive review on

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TSA. As regards the 2016 Tryout Study (the Study), Primary 3 students from some 50 primary schools had taken part in it. Under the Study, a number of measures had been adopted to eliminate the incentives for over-drilling induced by the TSA, including improving question design, enhancing school reports and so on. Based on the positive feedback on the Study, the 2017 P3 BCA Research Study was extended to all primary schools in the territory and the assessments had just been conducted in June. While the Committee was reviewing and studying the data collected, the EDB would gather the views of different parties for further reviewing on related arrangements.

- (c) On Councillors' proposal of incorporating the history of Hong Kong into the Chinese History curriculum, the EDB intended to include relevant element in the curriculum to help students understand that Hong Kong is part of the Mainland, with a view to deepening their recognition of their national identity.
- (d) In order to cope with future educational needs, the EDB needed to reserve land for school development. Regarding concern over the woodland site at Mount Parker, the EDB had asked the Planning Department (Plan D) to identify an alternative site in similar size and suitable for school development on Hong Kong Island. The Plan D had advised that an alternative site meeting the requirements could not be identified on Hong Kong Island. The woodland site was the only site on Hong Kong Island that could be reserved for school development.
- (e) In general, "matchbox schools" had been built a long time before with certain constraints on their sizes and facilities. It was unlikely to improve the facilities in situ. However, the EDB would try its best to enhance some of the facilities in a practical and appropriate manner. The EDC also had in place a mechanism to process applications for school relocation and reconstruction.
- (f) On the arrangement of class suspension upon issuance of typhoon/rainstorm warning signals, the EDB had been closely communicating with the HKO and had established a notification mechanism. When the red or black rainstorm warning signal was issued during school hours, students should continue their lessons for the sake of safety. If the signal was issued or still in force at the end of school hours, students should stay at school until it was safe to return home. The EDB had explored with the HKO the proposal of implementing class suspension on a regional basis. Since rain might gather or disperse very swiftly, it was difficult to forecast rainfall for regional class suspension. In fact, individual schools could make appropriate arrangements for their students according to the actual situation (e.g. the weather or road conditions of their districts). If schools considered that there was a need for class suspension, they could decide to suspend classes after consulting the EDB. The EDB also encouraged schools to set up a notification network and mechanism to make announcements to students and parents the

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soonest possible.

- (g) The EDB was aware of the heavy workload of school social workers. Primary schools were provided with grant for flexible procurement of student guidance service from non-government organisations (NGOs) based on their own needs. As for secondary schools, school social workers were arranged by the Social Welfare Department through social welfare organisations. These organisations could provide assistance to their school social workers when needed.
- (h) Regarding the introduction of a salary scale for kindergarten teachers, the flexibility of kindergarten operation would be affected if a salary scale modelling on the practice in the aided school sector was to be introduced. The practice could not be applied to kindergartens in isolation. The aided school subvention mode contained several inter-connected components such as the EDB's annual approval for the number of operating classes and staff establishment, and was subject to a basket of control measures under the Government's prudent and balanced planning of school places operated through school place allocation systems. Local kindergartens had always been able to make prompt adjustments to their services in response to the needs of parents. For example, kindergartens could timely increase their whole-day and long whole-day services as necessary in areas with more working parents. On the other hand, a tide-over grant would be provided for eligible kindergartens in the early period of implementation of the Free Quality Kindergarten Education Scheme to ensure that the relevant kindergartens might retain their long serving teachers with higher salaries.
- (i) On the use of Putonghua to teach the Chinese Language subject, schools could use Cantonese or Putonghua to teach the Chinese Language subject taking into account the school needs.
- (j) According to the information available, the covered playground and staff quarters adjacent to the premises of TWGHs Lee Chi Hung Memorial Primary School had been integral parts of the former school premises, which were currently owned by the Hong Kong Housing Authority. Non-profit-making organisations interested in hiring the covered playground for organising short-term non-commercial activities could apply to the Siu Sai Wan office of the HD directly. As the covered playground and staff quarters were located at a school site, the HD would consult the EDB and/or the bureaux/departments related to the applied uses on such applications.
- (k) Under the ordinances governing the eight UGC-funded institutions, the CE was the Chancellor of these institutions. Since the UGC-funded institutions were largely publicly funded, the Government had to ensure that funding was put to appropriate uses that served the best interests of the community and students while safeguarding academic freedom. The arrangement of the CE as the Chancellor was an effective and responsible practice.

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- (l) As regards the problem of student suicides, the Report of the Committee on Prevention of Student Suicides found that suicides were related to mental health. Attaching great importance to students' mental health, the EDB had all along encouraged schools to adopt the 3-Tier Support Model to promote the mental health of students and enhance the detection of and support for primary and secondary students with mental health needs including those with suicidal risk. Inter-sectoral collaboration and multi-disciplinary cooperation were adopted to prevent student suicides. Furthermore, the EDB had allocated resources to launch the Joyful@School Campaign, which encouraged schools to organise school-based activities to enhance the understanding of mental health among teachers, students and parents, and encouraged students to consider from different angles when facing challenges and seek help from others when necessary. Adjustment was also made to the curriculum such as streamlining the school-based assessment for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination and adjusting the lesson time allocation for the senior secondary level to alleviate the study pressure on students. EDB would continue to keep in view and make refinements.
- (m) Regarding the provision of subsidised places, about 40% of the HKDSE candidates attained at least "3322" in the four core subjects every year, meeting the general entrance requirements for local undergraduate university programmes. While about 15 000 were admitted to the eight UGC-funded institutions, some of the candidates who failed to enrol in UGC-funded undergraduate programmes could opt for undergraduate or sub-degree programmes offered by self-financing institutions. In recognition of the concerns of the community about young people's receiving post-secondary education, the Government would continue to pay close attention to the development of the higher education sector.

7. The Chairman thanked Mrs Marion LAI, JP, Permanent Secretary for Education and her EDB colleagues for attending the meeting. He also invited them to note Councillors' views.

III. Information Items

Chairman's Report on the Discussion Items of the Regular Meeting

8. The Chairman reported that the discussion items of the regular meeting held in June 2017 had been set out in the report of Chairman/Vice-chairman in detail. The regular meeting of July 2017 was scheduled on 10 July. Councillors could send their enquiries or views to the Chairman or the Vice-chairman for relaying at the regular meeting to be held in July 2017.

IV. Discussion of the Appropriation of the Eastern District Council Funds for 2017/2018

(EDC Paper No. 29/17)

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9. The Chairman asked Councillors to declare their interests.
10. The Chairman declared that he was the Honorary Advisor of the Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited, the Honorary President of the Chai Wan Fishermen's Recreation Club, the Honorary President of the Shau Kei Wan National Dragon Boat Organisation and a Member of the Hong Shing Area Committee. He invited the Vice-chairman to make a ruling. The Vice-chairman ruled that as the Chairman held nominal positions in these organisations and was a member of the Hong Shing Area Committee, under tier 1 arrangement of the declaration of interests, the Chairman could take part in the discussion and decision-making of the appropriation, and continue to chair the meeting.
11. Councillors declared their interests as follows:

Name of Councillor	Interests in the Relevant Organisations
WONG Kin-pan	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Honorary President, Chai Wan Fishermen's Recreation Club
	Honorary President, Shau Kei Wan National Dragon Boat Organisation
	Member, Hong Shing Area Committee
CHIU Chi-keung	Member, Aldrich Area Committee
CHENG Chi-sing	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Member, North Point East Area Committee
CHENG Tat-hung	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Member, North Point East Area Committee
Howard CHEUNG	Member, Eastern District Fight Crime Committee
	Member, Working Group under Eastern District Fight Crime Committee
	Member, Hong Shing Area Committee
Andrew CHIU	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Member, Eastern District Fight Crime Committee and its Working Group
	Member, Hong Shing Area Committee
CHOY So-yuk	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Honorary President, Ming Wah Yin Ngai Society
	Member, North Point East Area Committee
CHUI Chi-kin	Member, Yee Wan Area Committee
Stanley HO	Member, Wan Tai Area Committee
	Member, Eastern District Youth Programme Committee
	Member, Eastern District Fire Safety Committee

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Name of Councillor	Interests in the Relevant Organisations
HUI Ching-on	Member, North Point West Area Committee
	Permanent Member, Eastern District Federation of Multi-storey Building Organisations
HUNG Lin-cham	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Member, North Point West Area Committee
	Member, Eastern District Fight Crime Committee
KU Kwai-yiu	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Member, Wan Tai Area Committee
KUNG Pak-cheung	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Advisor, Chai Wan Fishermen's Recreation Club
	Chairman, Wan Tai Area Committee
Joseph LAI	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Member, Wan Tai Area Committee
George LAM	Honorary Advisor, Shau Kei Wan National Dragon Boat Organisation
	Member, Eastern District Fire Safety Publicity Working Group under Eastern District Fire Safety Committee
	Member, Aldrich Area Committee
LAM Sum-lim	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Honorary President, Chai Wan Fishermen's Recreation Club
	Honorary Advisor, Shau Kei Wan National Dragon Boat Organisation
	Member, Aldrich Area Committee; Chairman, Activities Working Group under Aldrich Area Committee
	Member, Eastern District Youth Programme Committee
	Member, Eastern District Fire Safety Publicity Working Group under Eastern District Fire Safety Committee
LAU Hing-yeung	Member, Wan Tai Area Committee
	Member, Eastern District Fire Safety Committee
LEE Chun-keung	Member, Yee Wan Area Committee
	Member, Eastern District Fight Crime Committee
	Member, Eastern District Fire Safety Committee
David LEUNG	Vice-chairman, Yee Wan Area Committee
	Member, Eastern District Fight Crime Committee
Patrick LEUNG	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
	Member, Hong Shing Area Committee

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Name of Councillor	Interests in the Relevant Organisations
	Member, Eastern District Fight Crime Committee
Bonnie LEUNG	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited Member, Hong Shing Area Committee
LI Chun-chau	Member, Wan Tai Area Committee Member, Eastern District Fight Crime Committee
Frankie LO	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited Member, Eastern District Arts Council Limited Member, North Point West Area Committee
MAK Tak-ching	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited Member, Aldrich Area Committee
Aron KWOK	Member, North Point West Area Committee
NGAN Chun-lim	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited Member, Aldrich Area Committee
SHIU Ka-fai*	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited Member, North Point West Area Committee
Eddie TING	Member, North Point East Area Committee EDC Representative, Eastern District School Liaison Committee Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
Dominic WONG	Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited Member, Aldrich Area Committee Member, Eastern District Youth Programme Committee Advisor, Chai Wan Fishermen's Recreation Club
Patrick WONG	Member, Hong Shing Area Committee
WONG Kin-hing	Member, Yee Wan Area Committee Member, Eastern District Youth Programme Committee Member, Eastern District Fire Safety Committee Honorary Advisor, Eastern District Recreation and Sports Advancement Association Limited
WONG Kwok-hing	Member, Yee Wan Area Committee
YEUNG Sze-chun	Member, Aldrich Area Committee

* The Councillor withdrew from the meeting during the discussion of this item

12. Mr SHIU Ka-fai said that the Audit Commission had conducted a review of the "Provision of District Council Funds for Community Involvement Projects". As a member of the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislative Council, he would withdraw from the discussion of this item. The Chairman ruled that as the declarations made by other Councillors involved nominal positions in the relevant organisations or membership in the area committees/committees established by the

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Eastern District Office, they could take part in the discussion and decision-making of the appropriation under tier 1 arrangement of the declaration of interests. The Secretary briefed the meeting on Paper No. 29/17.

13. 3 Councillors expressed their views and raised enquiries as summarised below:

- (a) Mr Andrew CHIU said that the new project “Community caring and integration activities” under item 7(f) aimed at encouraging district organisations to organise community caring and integration activities tailored to the needs of specific groups such as new arrivals. He suggested that activities bearing the theme of social inclusion and promoting harmony across generations or among ethnic groups could also be included.
- (b) Mr Frankie LO remarked that there was no need to further specify activities promoting social inclusion as they were covered under the community caring and integration activities.
- (c) Mr Patrick WONG enquired whether the number of funded organisations would be reduced if the maximum annual provision for projects undertaken by an individual NGO was raised to \$30,000.

14. The Chairman stated that according to the 2017 Policy Address, an additional funding would be provided to the Community Involvement Programme. The proposed earmarking of \$400,000 for implementing the special project “Community caring and integration activities”, under which funding applications for organising activities for specific groups such as the disadvantaged would be invited, and the maximum funding for each activity would be capped at \$80,000. The project encouraged the provision of assistance to the relevant groups for promoting social inclusion. Regarding the proposed increase of the maximum provision for projects undertaken by an NGO from \$25,000 to \$30,000, the Chairman said that the adjustment was proposed due to increased resources this year and inflation, as well as the fact that the maximum provision had not been raised over the past few years.

15. After discussion, Councillors endorsed the paper and the proposed appropriation of funds for 2017/18 financial year.

V. Report on the Ninth Meeting of District Facilities Management Committee

(EDC Paper No. 30/17)

16. Councillors noted the above report and endorsed the funding applications under items IV and VI in the paper.

VI. Report on the Eighth Meeting of Culture, Leisure, Community Building and Services Committee

(EDC Paper No. 31/17)

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17. Councillors noted the above report.

VII. Report on the Eighth Meeting of Traffic and Transport Committee
(EDC Paper No. 32/17)

18. Councillors noted the above report.

VIII. Report on the Ninth Meeting of Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee
(EDC Paper No. 33/17)

19. Councillors noted the above report.

IX. Report on the Eighth Meeting of Planning, Works and Housing Committee
(EDC Paper No. 34/17)

20. Councillors noted the above report.

X. Report on the Eighth Meeting of Vetting Committee
(EDC Paper No. 35/17)

21. Councillors noted the above report.

XI. Report on the Eighth Meeting of Task Group on Festival Celebrations
(EDC Paper No. 36/17)

22. Councillors noted the report of the task group.

XII. Report on the Sixth Meeting of Task Group on Publicity about the Work of Eastern District Council
(EDC Paper No. 37/17)

23. Councillors noted the report of the task group. Mr Andrew CHIU said that as the supplier for the publication of the EDC Half-yearly Report confirmed that they had submitted a quotation with an erroneous price quoted, a new supplier had to be selected. He enquired if the work progress would be affected. The Secretary said that upon the EDC's endorsement of the revised funding application, the Secretariat would proceed in accordance with the established procurement procedures. It was expected that the work progress for publicising the half-yearly report would not be affected.

XIII. Report on the Fifth Meeting of Steering Group on the Signature Project of Eastern District
(EDC Paper No. 38/17)

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24. Councillors noted the report of the steering group.

XIV. Reports on the 221st Meeting of the Eastern District Management

Committee

(EDC Paper No. 39/17)

25. Councillors noted the above report.

XV. Any Other Business

Duty Visit related to the District Council (DC) Work

26. The Chairman said that a provision of up to \$10,000 had been earmarked for each Councillor to cover expenses incurred in duty visits related to the work of the EDC in this term. With reference to other DCs' arrangements, he suggested that one duty visit could be conducted during the current term. He also proposed the setting up of a working group to discuss and advise on the duty visit arrangements. Interested Councillors could join the working group.

27. 4 Councillors expressed their views and raised enquiries as summarised below:

- (a) Mr Frankie LO hoped that an exchange tour to a coastal Mainland city in closer proximity to Hong Kong be arranged.
- (b) Ms LI Chun-chau suggested conducting a visit to Japan, with reference to the arrangements made by some other DCs. If Councillors intended to enhance the understanding on the development in the Mainland, consideration might be given to arranging a visit to a fast developing city along the Belt and Road.
- (c) Mr Andrew CHIU suggested visiting Singapore to study her district and municipal administration or Taiwan to study the operation of her city government or city council. If a visit to the Mainland was to be conducted, he suggested visiting a city farther away such as Qingdao to study the local infrastructure or municipal facilities. He also indicated interest in joining the working group.
- (d) Mr Patrick LEUNG enquired whether the unused provision of the Councillors who were unable to join the visit could be deployed to fund the visit.

28. The Chairman responded that according to the Home Affairs Department, each Councillor would be provided with a provision of up to \$10,000 to cover expenses incurred in duty visits during the current term. Expenses in excess of the ceiling should be borne by the Councillor himself/herself. Funds in the individual account of each Councillor were non-transferable. Any Councillor who had signed up for a duty visit but was unable to join the tour due to other commitments had to bear the expenses incurred. Mr NGAN Chun-lim added that

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given the refund restrictions imposed on bookings through travel agents, the Councillors who could not join the visit might not get a full refund of their airfare and hotel accommodation expenses. District Officer (Eastern) said that the working group would work out the specific visit arrangements, and the procurement of duty visits should follow the principles of open and fair competition as well as prudent use of public money.

29. After discussion, the Chairman announced that the working group would tentatively comprise of himself, the Vice-chairman, Mr NGAN Chun-lim and Mr Andrew CHIU. Other interested Councillors could also join the working group after the meeting. He would report to the EDC on the preliminary suggestions.

(Post-meeting note: The working group would comprise of the Chairman, the Vice-chairman, Mr NGAN Chun-lim, Mr Andrew CHIU and Ms Bonnie LEUNG.)

XVI. Date of the Next Meeting

30. The meeting ended at 4:40 pm. The 10th EDC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 26 September 2017 (Tuesday).

Eastern District Council Secretariat
September 2017