

Minutes of the Fifteenth Meeting of the
Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
under Eastern District Council

Date: 26 May 2026 (Tuesday)

Time: 2:30 pm

Venue: Eastern District Council Conference Room

Present

Mr TING Kong-ho, Eddie, MH	Mr LAM Wing-shing	Mr CHAN Hoi-wing, Joseph
Mr TING Wong, Kacee	Mr LAM Wing-cheung	Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi
Mr WONG Chi-chung	Ms LIN Cai-ying	Ms CHIK Kit-ling, Elaine
Ms HO Sau-yin, Zareenah	Mr HUNG Chi-kit	Mr CHENG Chi-sing, MH
Mr YUEN Kin-chung, Kenny	Mr HUNG Lin-cham, MH, JP	Ms LAU Suk-yin
Ms LI Lee	Mr HUNG Chiu-kwan	Ms LAU Dana Sing-she
Ms NG Ching-ching	Mr LIANG Li (Vice-chairman)	Mr LAU Hing-yeung, MH (Chairman)
Ms LEE Ching-har, MH	Ms CHAN Hang, MH, JP	Mr LAI Nuen-san
Mr HO Ngai-kam, Stanley	Mr KWOK Ho-king, Calvin	Mr LAU Yu-bun (Co-opted Member)
Mr LAM Sum-lim, MH	Mr KWOK Wing-kin	Mr CHIU Chi-fai (Co-opted Member)

In Regular Attendance (Government Representatives)

Mr WONG Tsz-wai, Adrian	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)2, Eastern District Office
Ms LUONG An-an, Jacqueline	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Eastern District Office
Ms CHENG Lai-yin, Daisy	Senior Liaison Officer (3), Eastern District Office
Mr LAI Tsz-foon	Senior Manager (Hong Kong East), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms SUNG Lai-ping, Maggie	Senior Librarian (Eastern), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHEUK Wai-ming, Roxana	District Leisure Manager (Eastern), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms WONG Sosanna	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Eastern, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

In Attendance by Invitation (Government Representatives)

Ms LEUNG Chui-ha, Jodi	Regional Officer/Hong Kong Island, Independent Commission Against Corruption
Ms FUNG Ho-yin	Senior Community Relations Officer, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Miss CHUNG Suk-yan, Janet	Manager (Hong Kong East) Marketing, Programme and District Activities, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LING Yu-kwai	Assistant District Leisure Manager (District Support) Eastern, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Secretary

Ms WONG Siu-na, Siena	Executive Officer I (District Council)1, Eastern District Office
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Opening Remarks

Action

The Chairman welcomed all Members and government representatives to the meeting.

Agenda 1. Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 14th Meeting of Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (CICRC)

2. The above draft minutes were confirmed without amendments.

Agenda 2. Report on Arts and Cultural Activities in Eastern District by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in 2026-27 (CICRC Paper No. 8/2026)

3. The representative of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) briefed Members on Paper No. 8/2026.

4. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Noting that the actual number of participants in certain activities and training courses had exceeded the original quotas, Members asked whether the department would revise its projected numbers of participants in future to accommodate more participants;
- (b) In light of the presumably strong demand for venue hire among local stakeholders, Members sought clarification on the reasons why the hiring rates of the major facilities at Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre (SWHCC) had not reached 100% in April 2026; and

Action

- (c) Members enquired whether, under equal conditions, the department would consider according priority to stakeholders in the Eastern District (such as District Council Members, Care Teams or local organisations) in the hire of facilities such as the Theatre and Cultural Activities Hall at the SWHCC.

5. The representative of the LCSD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

- (a) The estimated number of participants for an event was mainly determined on the basis of the popularity and participation rates of similar past events. For example, the estimated number of participants for an event held in the Theatre was generally set at about 70% to 80% of the seating capacity. The LCSD would liaise with event organisers in future and would, having regard to factors including resource availability and the nature of the event, consider increasing the estimated numbers of participants for certain events;
- (b) In April 2026, some applicants cancelled their bookings at short notice, making it difficult to re-let the relevant facilities within a short period of time, and thereby affecting the utilisation rate for the month. The LCSD would utilise the vacant slots to arrange for venue maintenance or to carry out repair works, such as equipment testing and noise mitigation works; and
- (c) The facilities available for hire at the SWHCC were open to the public and all applications were assessed against the same criteria. The LCSD would take the cultural and artistic nature of an activity as the primary consideration, and all organisations were welcome to submit applications in accordance with the existing hiring procedures.

6. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

Agenda 3. Annual Implementation Report on Community Involvement in Arts and Cultural Activities by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (CICRC Paper No. 9/2026)

7. The representative of the LCSD briefed Members on Paper No. 9/2026.

Action

8. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

Agenda 4. Report by LCSD on Extension Activities and Usage of Public Libraries **(CICRC Paper No. 10/2026)**

9. The representative of the LCSD briefed Members on Paper No. 10/2026.
10. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:
- (a) Members sought information on the borrowing statistics and trends for physical books and e-books in recent years to better understand shifts in the public's reading habits, including whether the number of e-books borrowed had increased over the past few years and the specific growth rate, and whether physical book loans had shown a corresponding downward trend;
 - (b) In view of the recent emergence of Hong Kong's first astronaut, it was expected that books on aerospace and scientific knowledge would attract strong interest among schoolchildren and young people. Members therefore recommended that the department arrange additional promotional activities centred on aerospace technology to spark young people's interest in reading;
 - (c) Members reported that the reading activity for Hong Kong Reading for All Day on 23 April held at the East Coast Boardwalk had drawn favourable public feedback, and thus proposed that the department make available leisure books or children's picture books there on an on-going basis to cultivate a reading culture within the community; and
 - (d) Members proposed inviting professionals or scholars with insights into reading to host different types of guided reading programmes or book recommendation activities, with a view to guiding young people back from the virtual world to physical reading.

11. The representative of the LCSD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

Action

- (a) The number of annual physical book loans rose significantly from 21.49 million items in 2023 to approximately 29 million items in 2025, while the annual number of e-book loans currently remained at around 2.3 million items. To keep pace with changes in the public's lifestyle, the LCSD was actively developing online services, expanding its electronic collection to over 540 000 items, and providing nearly 20 Chinese and English e-book platforms, audiobooks, and close to 80 e-resources. The libraries would continue to expand their electronic collection to enable the public to read anytime, anywhere;
- (b) In April 2026, the LCSD had organised the “STEAM Parent-child Storytelling Theatre: Space Stories” and set up a dedicated national security education webpage on the library website, providing e-resources and book recommendations related to aerospace technology, as well as online storytelling theatres. The LCSD planned to launch a series of thematic activities under the “Appreciating the History of the War of Resistance in the Eastern District” during the summer, which would showcase national achievements in military and aerospace technology through diversified activities and book exhibitions. The LCSD would email Members after the meeting to provide a list of recommended books and e-resources focusing on the theme of aerospace technology, so that they could help promote the relevant collections; and
- (c) To actively encourage reading among students, three district libraries in the district regularly organised the “Meet-the-Authors” activities, inviting various authors and experienced education experts as guests to share their insights on writing and reading, alongside book recommendations, with students of different ages and their families.

12. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

Agenda 5. Report by LCSD on Extension Activities of Public Libraries in the Eastern District Held from Apr 2025 to Mar 2026
(CICRC Paper No. 11/2026)

13. The representative of the LCSD briefed Members on Paper No. 11/2026.

14. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

Agenda 6. Leisure and Cultural Services Department's Eastern District Annual Recreation and Sports Programme Implementation Report 2025-26 (CICRC Paper No. 12/2026)

15. The representative of the LCSD briefed Members on Paper No. 12/2026.
16. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:
- (a) Members proposed providing additional fitness rooms and fitness facilities in the Eastern District for the convenience of residents; and
 - (b) Members enquired whether the department would organise more activities on new sports popular among young people, such as pickleball.
17. The representative of the LCSD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
- (a) The LCSD had opened a fitness room at the Java Road Sports Centre in May 2023 in response to public demand for fitness facilities. Currently, there were a total of 39 outdoor venues in the Eastern District provided with outdoor fitness facilities, which were available for public use free of charge; and
 - (b) Apart from the activities funded by the Community Involvement Programme, the LCSD also organised other recreation and sports activities, including new sports. In 2025-26, the LCSD had organised activities on dodgeball, kin-ball, pickleball and tchoukball, and would continue to promote these new sports in the current year.
18. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

Agenda 7. Workplan Presentation of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Regional Office (Hong Kong East) 2026/27 (CICRC Paper No. 13/2026)

19. The representative of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) briefed Members on Paper No. 13/2026.

Action

20. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Regarding the promotion of integrity values among students and foreign workers, Members enquired how the ICAC would evaluate the actual effectiveness of the relevant work;
- (b) In view of the recent spate of bribery cases involving the education sector, Members suggested stepping up publicity efforts targeting schools and teachers, and enquired about the ICAC's publicity channels in recent years other than television advertisements;
- (c) As foreign workers were often reluctant to report exploitative practices such as "dual contracts" for fear of losing their jobs, Members enquired whether the ICAC had conducted publicity and educational activities for enterprises that employed a large number of foreign workers, in addition to publicity targeted at foreign workers themselves;
- (d) Given the large number of old buildings in the Eastern District, Members recommended that the department promptly provide the schedule of local talks and seminars to facilitate Members' assistance with publicity efforts. In addition, Members suggested that the department should make good use of the high pedestrian flow along the East Coast Boardwalk by holding thematic exhibitions and other activities there, in order to broaden the reach of its publicity campaign; and
- (e) Members indicated that the tendering process for estate maintenance was complex and that methods of corruption were covert, making it difficult for ordinary property owners to detect and identify them.

21. The representative of the ICAC responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

- (a) The ICAC attached great importance to the effectiveness of anti-corruption education. Following anti-corruption activities, the ICAC generally collected feedback from participants through questionnaire surveys or focus groups, and would regularly carry out overall performance evaluations to ensure that educational initiatives were effectively implemented;

Action

- (b) The ICAC was also deeply concerned about the recent bribery cases in the education sector. It would collaborate with the Education Bureau to organise anti-corruption talks for school sponsoring body managers, supervisors, principals and teachers, and would continue to use short videos and social media to convey integrity values to parents and students in the future;
- (c) The ICAC regularly provided anti-corruption training to enterprises, contractors and subcontractors in sectors that employed a large number of foreign workers, such as the construction and transport trades. The Corruption Prevention Department also collaborated with relevant government departments and organisations in reviewing the systems for the importation and management of foreign workers, thereby plugging loopholes at source;
- (d) The ICAC would upload the schedule for Integrity Building Management and Maintenance Seminars to the “Integrity and Quality Building Management” thematic website on a monthly basis, and all Members were welcome to make reference to it and help with publicity. The Café “1974” under the ICAC had previously held a collaborative photo-taking campaign at the East Coast Boardwalk, where members of the public could redeem coffee vouchers or gifts after taking photos and checking in at the Boardwalk. The ICAC would continue to explore the use of diverse channels to promote integrity messages in the future; and
- (e) Corruption in major building maintenance works was covert and often involved organised crime syndicates. The ICAC urged owners to familiarise themselves with details such as the scope of the maintenance works and to perform their monitoring role. Members of the public who noticed any unusual signs might report them to the ICAC even if they did not have concrete evidence. They only needed to provide their observations and grounds for suspicion, and the ICAC would follow up as appropriate. The ICAC’s Operations Department would also adopt an “early intervention” strategy to prevent potential corrupt practices at an early stage and protect owners from suffering losses.

22. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

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Agenda 8. Half-yearly Report (October 2025 – March 2026) on the Community Involvement Programme 2025/26 of the Eastern District Office **(CICRC Paper No. 14/2026)**

23. The representative of the Eastern District Office (EDO) briefed Members on Paper No. 14/2026.
24. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

Agenda 9. Production of Promotional Souvenirs of Eastern District Council **(CICRC Paper No. 15/2026)**

25. The representative of the EDO briefed Members on Paper No. 15/2026.
26. Members suggested that the inner liner of the souvenir vacuum flasks be made of grade 316 stainless steel.
27. The representative of the EDO noted Members' views.
28. The CICRC noted the captioned paper.

Agenda 10. Any Other Business

29. There was no other discussion item for the CICRC.

Agenda 11. Date of Next Meeting

30. The 16th meeting of the CICRC would be held at 2:30 pm on 16 July 2026 (Thursday).
31. The meeting ended at 3:55 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat
June 2026