

Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the
Social Welfare Committee
under Eastern District Council

Date: 16 October 2025 (Thursday)
Time: 2:30 pm
Venue: Eastern District Council Conference Room

Present

Mr TING Kong-ho, Eddie, MH	Mr LAM Wing-cheung	Ms CHIK Kit-ling, Elaine
Mr TING Wong, Kacee	Mr CHAU Chi-yan, Benny	Mr CHENG Chi-sing, MH
Ms HO Sau-yin, Zareenah (Chairlady)	Ms LIN Cai-ying	Ms LAU Suk-yin
Mr YUEN Kin-chung, Kenny	Mr HUNG Chi-kit	Ms LAU Dana Sing-she
Ms LI Lee	Mr HUNG Lin-cham, MH, JP	Mr LAU Hing-yeung, MH
Ms NG Ching-ching	Mr HUNG Chiu-kwan	Mr LAI Nuen-san
Ms LEE Ching-har, MH (Vice- chairlady)	Mr KWOK Ho-king, Calvin	Mr LU Xiaofeng, Anthony
Mr HO Ngai-kam, Stanley	Mr KWOK Wing-kin	Mr CHEUNG Man-sung (Co- opted Member)
Mr LAM Sum-lim, MH	Mr CHAN Hoi-wing, Joseph	Ms TSOI Ka-yu (Co-opted Member)
Mr LAM Wing-shing	Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi	

Absent with Apologies

Mr WONG Chi-chung (absent with consent)

In Regular Attendance (Government Representatives)

Mr FU Yiu-nam, Daniel	Assistant District Officer (Eastern) ² , Eastern District Office
Miss NGAI Ka-man, Carman	Senior Liaison Officer (4), Eastern District Office
Ms HAU Suet-fan, Iris	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Eastern/ Wan Chai) ³ , Social Welfare Department

In Attendance by Invitation (Representatives from the Government)

Mr CHOW Kwok-chu, Tony	Assistant Police Community Relations Officer, Eastern District, Hong Kong Police Force
Mr WONG Chun-tung	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Eastern District, Hong Kong Police Force

Secretary

Ms NG Sze-chung, May	Executive Officer I (District Council) ³ , Eastern District Office
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Opening Remarks

The Chairlady welcomed all Members and representatives from the government to the meeting.

Handling Application for Absence

2. Mr WONG Chi-chung submitted notification of absence from meeting before the meeting. The Social Welfare Committee (SWC) decided to give consent to his application for absence on the ground of sickness.

Agenda 1. Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 10th Meeting of Social Welfare Committee

3. The above draft minutes were confirmed by the SWC without amendment.

Agenda 2. Fostering Racial Inclusion to Build a Harmonious Eastern District (SWC Paper No. 12/2025)

4. The Chairlady welcomed the representatives of the Eastern District Office (EDO) to the meeting.

5. A Member briefed the meeting on Paper No. 12/2025.

6. The Chairlady requested Members to note the written replies from the Race Relations Unit of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) and Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

7. Members' views and enquiries about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members proposed organising more activities for ethnic minorities to interact and exchange with local residents, such as visits to Islamic mosques and celebrations of Diwali (the Hindu Festival of Lights), so that local Chinese residents could learn about the living habits and customs of various ethnic groups;

Action

- (b) Members suggested organising cross-boundary cultural exchange programmes for ethnic minority young people to deepen their understanding of Chinese culture;
- (c) Members hoped that the EDO would collaborate with 35 Care Teams to publicise and promote messages of racial inclusion, thereby building a diverse and harmonious community; and
- (d) Members considered that there was currently a lack of gathering places and suitable prayer venues for ethnic minorities in the district, and therefore sought the assistance of relevant government departments in identifying suitable locations (e.g. vacant campuses and public housing units) to accommodate their customary and religious needs.

8. The SWC requested relevant departments to note Members' views and suggestions.

Agenda 3. Progress Report by the Social Welfare Department on the “Services and Community Care Teams – Pilot Scheme on Supporting Elderly and Carers”

(SWC Paper No. 13/2025)

9. The representative of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) briefed Members on Paper No. 13/2025.

10. Members' views and enquiries about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members commended the SWD for installing the indoor emergency alarm system (EAS) (commonly known as Safety Bell) for elderly persons in need;
- (b) Members hoped that the SWD would further explore other gerontechnology products, such as radar-based life detectors that could monitor the vital signs of elderly individuals. If an elderly person fell and became immobile or unconscious, rendering them unable to activate the EAS, the smart system could immediately alert carers for timely

Action

assistance;

- (c) Members hoped that the SWD would consider extending the provision of the EAS installation welfare service to cover middle-class elderly households;
- (d) Members enquired of the department about the data on the EAS, including the number of quotas, the number of requests for assistance, the duration of the welfare service; and
- (e) Members expressed concern about the mental health of the elderly, particularly hoping that relevant departments could provide more support and follow-up services for hidden and introverted singleton and doubleton elderly households.

11. The representative of the SWD noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded as follows:

- (a) The SWD thanked Members for their participation as Care Teams members in identifying hidden and high-risk elderly persons by actively conducting "door-to-door" visits;
- (b) The SWD would consider incorporating Members' views on gerontechnology and concerns over the mental health of the elderly in the Eastern and Wan Chai District Annual Work Plan 2026-27; and
- (c) Regarding the information and data of the EAS, the SWD would provide a reply to Members through the Secretariat later.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat sent the supplementary information provided by the SWD to the SWC for reference on 25 November 2025.)

Agenda 4. Progress Report of Matters Arising from Previous SWC Meetings under Eastern District Council

(SWC Paper No. 14/2025)

- (i) ***"Request for Additional Residential Care Home for the Elderly in Eastern District"***

Action

12. The representative of the SWD quoted the contents in the progress report, including the number of residential care places for the elderly to be made available in the coming few years through the Sai Wan Ho Complex and Siu Sai Wan Health Integrated Building development projects, as well as the comprehensive redevelopment project of Ming Wah Dai Ha under the Hong Kong Housing Society. The SWC considered that the presentation had enabled them to fully grasp the latest progress of residential care services for the elderly and therefore agreed to cease following up on the agenda item.

(ii) “Improvement to Difficulties in Appointment Booking with General Outpatient Clinics in the Eastern District”

Hospital
Authority (HA)

13. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

(iii) “Suggesting the Government to Conduct Joint Operations in Stamping Out On-street Prostitutes on Chun Yeung Street in North Point to Restore Community Peace”

14. The Chairlady welcomed the representatives of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) to the meeting.

15. The SWC noted the written reply from the Immigration Department (ImmD).

16. The views of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members considered that the arrest figures reflected the persistence of street prostitution in Chun Yeung Street, and therefore urged the HKPF, ImmD and SWC to jointly discuss other measures to combat prostitution activities, with a view to minimising the nuisance caused to residents; and
- (b) Members proposed following up on the agenda item at the next meeting and inviting representatives from the ImmD to attend the meeting to deliberate on further measures together.

Action

17. The representative of the HKPF noted Members' views and indicated that they would continue to adopt short-term and long-term strategies, including deploying uniformed officers for high-profile patrols, gathering intelligence through the regional crime unit responsible for anti-triad operations, as well as supporting inter-departmental joint operations, in order to safeguard community security.

HKPF/ImmD

18. After discussion, the SWC agreed to follow up on the agenda item at the next meeting.

(iv) "Establishment of a Support Service Centre for Ethnic Minorities in Chai Wan for Enhancing Support for Ethnic Minorities in Eastern District"

Housing
Department/
District Lands
Office, Hong Kong
East/Planning
Department/
HAD/
Education Bureau

19. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

(v) "Concern over Future Development Plan of Eastern Hospital"

HA

20. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

(vi) "Concerns about Ageing Population in Eastern District"

SWD/Department
of Health/HA/
Health Bureau
(Primary
Healthcare
Commission)/
Labour
Department

21. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

Action

(vii) “Concern over the Merger of the Hong Kong East and Hong Kong West Hospital Clusters”

HA 22. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

Agenda 5. Any Other Business

23. There was no other discussion item for the SWC.

Agenda 6. Date of Next Meeting

24. The twelfth SWC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 9 December 2025 (Tuesday).

25. The meeting ended at 3:15 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat
December 2025