

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

Date: 9 June 2026 (Tuesday)
Time: 2:30 pm
Venue: Eastern District Council Conference Room

Present

Mr TING Kong-ho, Eddie, MH (Vice-chairman)	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	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	Ms CHAN Hang, MH, JP	Mr LAI Nuen-san
Ms LEE Ching-har, MH	Mr HUNG Chiu-kwan	Mr LU Xiaofeng, Anthony
Mr HO Ngai-kam, Stanley	Mr KWOK Ho-king, Calvin	Mr CHEUNG Man-sung (Co-opted Member)
Mr LAM Sum-lim, MH	Mr KWOK Wing-kin	Ms TSOI Ka-yu (Co-opted Member)

In Regular Attendance (Government Representatives)

Ms CHIU Man-nga, Jasmine	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)1, Eastern District Office
Mr WONG Yam-pui, David	Senior Liaison Officer (2) (Ag.), Eastern District Office
Miss KWOK Lai-yan, Avery	Senior Liaison Officer (4) (Ag.), 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 and Organisation)

Ms HUNG Shuk-yee	Department Operations Manager (Family Medicine and Primary Healthcare), Hong Kong Island Cluster, Hospital Authority
Ms Michelle PANG	Public Affairs Officer, Hong Kong Island Cluster, Hospital Authority
Ms CHAN Wing-yin	Neighbourhood Police Co-ordinator, Eastern District Police Community Relations Office, 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, representatives from the government and organisation to the meeting.

Agenda 1. Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 14th Meeting of Social Welfare Committee (SWC)

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

Agenda 2. Proposal to Establish a Family Medicine Clinic in Quarry Bay (SWC Paper No. 9/2026)

3. The Chairlady welcomed the representatives of the Hospital Authority (HA) to the meeting.
4. A Member briefed the meeting on Paper No. 9/2026.
5. Members' views and suggestions about the agenda item were summarised as follows:
 - (a) Members pointed out that Quarry Bay had the highest proportion of elderly residents in the entire Eastern District, and the current lack of family medicine clinics ("clinics") caused inconvenience to the elderly, patients with chronic diseases and persons with mobility difficulties who had to travel across sub-districts for medical consultation;
 - (b) Members proposed conducting a long-term study on the establishment of an additional clinic in Quarry Bay to address the pressing demand;
 - (c) In the short term, Members suggested that consideration be given to increasing the number of mobile clinics and installing advanced medical diagnostic equipment at community halls to provide primary healthcare services;

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- (d) Members expressed concern over the impact of the merger of the Hong Kong East and Hong Kong West Clusters into the Hong Kong Island Cluster on the future development and planning of clinic services; and
- (e) Members raised a number of enquiries, including:
 - (i) the factors taken into account when establishing new clinics;
 - (ii) the current utilisation rates and waiting times for follow-up appointments at the five clinics in the Eastern District; and
 - (iii) relevant data, including the number of Quarry Bay residents (particularly the elderly) attending these clinics and the average waiting times.

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

- (a) The current clinic service network in the Eastern District was based on the Government's overall planning for primary healthcare, and the HA would continue to assess local needs in collaboration with the Primary Healthcare Commission, with a view to providing appropriate family medicine clinic services for major service users;
- (b) The HA briefly outlined the waiting mechanism for clinic services, and added that the Eastern District Health Centre, which had recently commenced operation in December 2025, could also provide residents with certain primary healthcare support; and
- (c) The HA stated that supplementary information on the detailed statistics requested by Members would be provided after the meeting.

HA

7. After discussion, the SWC agreed to follow up on the agenda item upon further progress.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat sent the supplementary information provided by the HA to the SWC for information on 31 July 2026.)

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Agenda 3. Progress Report of Matters Arising from Previous SWC Meetings under Eastern District Council (SWC Paper No. 10/2026)

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

HA 8. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

(ii) “Establishment of a Support Service Centre for Ethnic Minorities in Chai Wan for Enhancing Support for Ethnic Minorities in Eastern District”

Housing 9. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

Department/
District Lands
Office, Hong Kong
East/Planning
Department/
Home Affairs
Department/
Education Bureau

(iii) “Concern over Future Development Plan of Eastern Hospital”

HA 10. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

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

HA 11. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

(v) “Concern over Problems of Begging in the Eastern District”

12. The Chairlady welcomed the representatives of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) and Social Welfare Department (SWD) to the meeting.

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

- (a) Members suggested that the Police step up patrols at locations with suspected begging activities during long holidays;
- (b) Members enquired about the procedures followed by the Police when they found beggars;
- (c) Members expressed concern over the system for issuing street performance permits. They considered that both unauthorised street performances and begging activities caused nuisance to nearby shops, and therefore suggested that the Police enforce the law impartially; and
- (d) Members proposed a review of the immigration restrictions applicable to persons with criminal records.

14. The representatives of the SWD and HKPF noted Members' views. The representative of the HKPF responded to their views and suggestions as follows:

- (a) The Police would, where practicable, step up patrols at relevant begging locations at irregular intervals during festive long holidays;
- (b) Generally speaking, when handling suspected begging cases, the Police would take corresponding action subject to the availability of sufficient evidence at the scene. Where sufficient evidence was available, police officers would arrest the persons concerned pursuant to the Summary Offences Ordinance. Where evidence was insufficient, police officers would still record the personal particulars of the persons concerned and refer the cases to the Immigration Department for follow-up. Their future applications for entry to Hong Kong might be refused as a result; and
- (c) When taking enforcement action against beggars and unauthorised performers, the Police would handle the cases impartially in accordance with the law and established procedures.

SWD/HKPF

15. After discussion, the SWC agreed to follow up on the agenda item upon further progress.

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Agenda 4. Any Other Business

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

Agenda 5. Date of Next Meeting

17. The sixteenth SWC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 25 August 2026 (Tuesday).
18. The meeting ended at 3:07 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat
August 2026