

## **Minutes of the First Meeting of the Eastern District Council**

Date: 4 January 2024 (Thursday)

Time: 2:30 pm

Venue: Eastern District Council Conference Room

### **Chairman**

Mr CHAN Sheung-man, Simon, JP District Officer (Eastern)

### **Present**

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

### **Government Representatives in Attendance**

Miss CHIU Man-nga, Jasmine	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)1, Eastern District Office
Mr POON Cheuk-hong, Hong	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)2, Eastern District Office
Mr CHAO Ka-man, Stanley	Senior Liaison Officer (1), 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
Miss NGAI Ka-man, Carman	Senior Liaison Officer (4), Eastern District Office
Mr LAU Chi-kan, Kenneth	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Eastern District Office

### **Secretary**

Ms NG Yan-mei, Monie Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Eastern District Office

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#### **Agenda Item 1. Opening Remarks by Chairman and Appointment of Secretary to the Eastern District Council (EDC)**

The Chairman of the EDC (the Chairman) welcomed all Members of the EDC to the First Meeting of the 7th term of EDC. The Chairman remarked that the EDC

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Standing Orders (Standing Orders) had been formulated according to section 68(1) of the District Councils Ordinance (DC Ordinance) and the District Council Standing Orders (template) by the Home Affairs Department. The Standing Orders had been sent to all Members and was tabled while the Secretariat would upload it to the EDC webpage for public access later on. The Chairman also promulgated that the Senior Executive Officer (District Council) was appointed as the Secretary to EDC under section 69 of the DC Ordinance and Order 12 of the Standing Orders.

### **Agenda Item 2. Registration and Declaration of Interests of District Council Members**

2. The Chairman asked Members to declare their interests according to Orders 19 to 22 of the Standing Orders as necessary and asked the Secretary to brief Members on the requirements for registration and declaration of interests of DC Members.

3. The Secretary briefed Members that every DC member should, within one month from the commencement of each term, furnish the DC Secretary with particulars of his registrable interests by using the registration form provided by the EDC Secretary. The personal interests registered by DC members would be entered in the register of DC members' personal interests (the register) for public inspection. The registration forms on personal interests of DC members (registration forms) would also be uploaded to the EDC website for public viewing. The Secretary remarked that the Secretariat had sent the registration forms to all Members and asked Members to return the completed forms to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The Secretary further remarked that Orders 19 to 22 of the Standing Orders required DC Chairman and Members to declare the interests in accordance with Orders 19 to 22 of the Standing Orders if he found that he had any direct personal or pecuniary interests in a proposed discussion item on the meeting agenda, or found that he had any pecuniary or other interests in matters on tender, quotation, etc. being dealt with in a discussion item or had any connection with the benefited party or potential benefited party.

**Agenda Item 3. Committees and Working Groups under the 7th Term of EDC**

**(EDC Paper No. 1/2024)**

4. The Chairman said that five committees and one working group would be set up in the 7th term of the EDC and their appointment was announced in accordance with section 71(1) of the DC Ordinance and Orders 68(1), 69 and 84 of the Standing Orders.

*The four specified committees included:*

- (i) District Facilities and Works Committee
- (ii) Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee
- (iii) Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
- (iv) Traffic and Transport Committee

*One other committee*

- (i) Social Welfare Committee

*One working group*

- (i) Working Group on Boosting Local Economy

5. The Chairman announced that the terms of reference of the above committees and working group were set out in **Annexes I to VI** to the Paper. The tenure of office of all committees would be expired on 31 December 2027 while that of the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy (the Working Group) would be expired on 31 December 2024 tentatively.

6. The Chairman announced that the membership lists of the committees and working group were set out in **Annex VII** to the paper. If any Member wished to join or withdraw from a committee or working group, he had to seek the Chairman's consent through the Secretariat for revising the membership list.

7. The Chairman announced the appointment of the following Members as Chairman/Chairlady or Vice-chairman/Vice-chairlady of the respective committee with tenure of office until 31 December 2025 in accordance with section 71(3) of the DC Ordinance and Orders 71 and 72 of the Standing Orders:

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Mr HUNG Lin-cham	Chairman, District Facilities and Works Committee
Ms LI Lee	Vice-chairlady, District Facilities and Works Committee
Mr Kenny YUEN	Chairman, Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee
Mr CHENG Chi-sing	Vice-chairman, Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee
Mr LIANG Li	Chairman, Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
Ms CHAN Hang	Vice-chairlady, Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
Mr Calvin KWOK	Chairman, Traffic and Transport Committee
Mr LAU Hing-yeung	Vice-chairman, Traffic and Transport Committee
Ms Zareenah HO	Chairlady, Social Welfare Committee
Ms LEE Ching-har	Vice-chairlady, Social Welfare Committee

8. The Chairman also announced the appointment of Mr LAM Sum-lim as the Chairman of the Working Group in accordance with Order 87 of the Standing Orders with the tenure of office until 31 December 2024.

### **Agenda Item 4. Schedule of Meetings for EDC and its Committees in 2024** **(EDC Paper No. 2/2024)**

9. The Chairman said that, apart from the first EDC Full Council meeting held on Thursday, the Secretary had scheduled the 2024 EDC Full Council meeting and the meetings of the aforesaid five committees to be held at 2:30 pm on Tuesday in the EDC Conference Room in accordance with the past practice of the EDC. He asked Members to note the Paper.

### **Agenda Item 5. “Meet-the-Public Scheme”** **(EDC Paper No. 3/2024)**

10. The Chairman said that a “Meet-the-Public Scheme” would be launched in the 7th term of the EDC in order to provide more opportunities for DC members to get in touch with local residents or people working in the district. The Secretary briefed Members on Paper No. 3/2024.

11. The Chairman asked Members to note the Paper and said that the Secretariat

would follow up with Members on the arrangements later on.

**Agenda Item 6. Study on Issues of Community Concern and Collection of Public Views**  
**(EDC Paper No. 4/2024)**

12. The Chairman said that the function of a DC included collecting the views of the people in the district in respect of an issue specified by the Chairman of the DC, and submitting to the Government a summary of the views collected and the suggested corresponding measures. In view of the torrential rain earlier on which had caused serious flooding in a number of places in the Eastern District and the impacts of super typhoons, etc. earlier on, it was hoped that Members would collect public views on issues such as the capacity and arrangements for coping with extreme weather in the Eastern District, so as to enable the departments concerned to make reference to and implement improvement measures. Mr Hong POON, Assistant District Officer (Eastern)<sup>2</sup>, of the EDO, briefed Members on Paper No. 4/2024.

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

- (a) Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi said that the recent serious landslides and tree collapses on Hong Kong Island had caused traffic congestion and road closures, which had caused great distress to the public. In particular, the diversion of green minibus route No. 65 had caused much inconvenience to the public travelling to work and to and from the Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital. In order to tackle the problem, she suggested the departments concerned plan ahead by conducting geotechnical investigations and slope inspections in a prioritised manner; planting a wide array of vegetation on slopes with potential tree collapse hazards to reduce soil erosion; installing additional drainage sensor system, continuously expanding drainage facilities and clearing blocked channels in a timely manner; and constructing retaining walls on potentially hazardous slopes to avoid landslides and installing parapets to prevent mudslides, as well as putting up warning signs to alert the public of the risk of landslides; and encouraging contractors to designate more green areas in the Eastern District to reduce the heat island effect.

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- (b) Ms Elaine CHIK said that the heavy rainstorm had caused serious flooding or great damage to a number of locations in the Eastern District, such as Chai Wan, Quarry Bay, Yiu Tung Estate, etc., which had aroused territory-wide concern. She pointed out that the flooding problem in the area around Des Voeux Road West in Central and Western District (commonly known as “Dried Seafood Street”) was serious in the past, but the situation had been greatly improved after the construction of a stormwater storage tank in Happy Valley. Noting that the stormwater storage tank at Happy Valley was the only one constructed on Hong Kong Island at present, she opined that consideration should be given to constructing a stormwater storage tank in the Eastern District to ameliorate the serious flooding situation in the district. She had collected views from many members of the public who would like to see the construction of a stormwater storage tank at a suitable location in the Eastern District.
- (c) Mr LAI Nuen-san said that as a result of the collapse of two walls of about 100 metres long at the rear lanes of Nos. 296-306 Electric Road in North Point due to the extreme weather earlier on, the supply of fresh and salt water and gas to the nearby buildings, including Southern Building, Nam Tin Building, Luen Wo Apartments, and Nos. 296-306 Electric Road, had been suspended for two to three days. He thanked the EDO for co-ordinating the owners of the buildings for urgent follow-up and the Buildings Department (BD) for making special arrangements for a special case to clear the concrete of the collapsed walls as a matter of priority so that the supply of fresh and salt water and gas could be resumed as soon as possible. He said that it had been difficult to co-ordinate and solve the hygiene problems as the above rear lanes involved different owners, and he would like the departments concerned to assist in the co-ordination if the rear lanes were damaged by inclement weather again in the future.
- (d) Mr HUNG Lin-cham shared the view that the options for coping with extreme weather in the Eastern District could be formulated through collection of views and studies. He would like the departments concerned to provide information, such as the location of the affected areas in the Eastern District and the issues that required improvement or follow-up, etc., in the past few years for Members to study the issue in a

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more precise manner and provide their views.

- (e) Mr Calvin KWOK said that during the exchange of views with the public, a member of the public engaged in the engineering trades had provided professional advice on coping with rainstorms, including making good use of the Internet of Things system by installing sensors in underground drains at the flooding blackspots; expeditiously replacing aged underground drains at the flooding blackspots and their vicinity, or even laying stormwater drains of a larger diameter; and, where technically feasible, carrying out the works with trenchless excavation technology to minimise the traffic impact in the area. Lastly, he pointed out that although the Drainage Services Department (DSD) had completed the “Stormwater Drainage Master Plan Study in Northern Hong Kong Island” in 2019, the torrential rain had led to serious flooding, and considered that the findings of the study at that time might have become obsolete and suggested that the DSD re-launch the programme.
- (f) Mr KWOK Wing-kin pointed out that the residents of Eastern District had been greatly affected by the heavy rains in the past, so he opined that there should be short-, medium- and long-term options for prevention and relief work. Examples of the options included improvement of the drainage system in advance, provision of the contact information of the departments responsible for dealing with different problems during extreme weather to the public and formation of an inter-departmental working group to tackle the problems in case of extreme weather emergencies.
- (g) Mr Joseph CHAN pointed out that he had met with the departments concerned such as the Development Bureau (DEVB), the Water Supplies Department and the DSD in October 2023 regarding the problems caused by the torrential rains in Eastern District. After the briefing on the background information by the departments, he learnt that the flow of water to the urban area was due to the blockage of the Mount Parker catchwater, and that Fei Tsui sub-district was the source of the water flow. At that time, the departments had put forward six proposals for Chai Wan, of which two were of particular concern, including stepping up inspection of the upper catchwater channel of Chai Wan and studying the provision of additional monitoring facilities, as well as the construction of

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additional underground drains along Fei Chui Road. He further pointed out that the relevant works had already commenced and suggested that a site visit be conducted with the departments concerned to understand the current situation and review whether the measures could effectively prevent blockage of the catchwater channels and the flow of water to the urban areas.

- (h) Ms LEE Ching-har said that Quarry Bay Street and Yiu Tung Estate in the Eastern District had been most affected by the recent extreme weather, with one of the walls of Mount Parker Lodge having been washed down and had caused road subsidence of the entire Quarry Bay Street. She said that the EDO staff and civil servants of other departments had assisted in clearing the mud so that the road could be re-opened as soon as possible. She would like the DSD to make use of more artificial intelligence (AI) technology to monitor whether the channels were clear. Secondly, she said that she had followed up with the DSD staff at the scene during the heavy rainstorm that day, but the DSD staff could not open the roadside gullies due to water pressure. She enquired whether it was due to the involvement of employees' compensation insurance that the DSD had not been able to deploy its staff to follow up the case as soon as possible under emergency, and opined that the DSD should have dealt with the issue in a timely manner to avoid the above problem. Regarding the landslide in Yiu Tung Estate, she suggested that the Slope Section of the Highways Department and the BD should make use of AI technology to prioritise the investigation of slopes in the vicinity of residential areas, and carry out appropriate repair and maintenance to protect public safety. Lastly, on the issue of a large amount of mud being washed down from the hillside to Quarry Bay Street, she said that as the slope maintenance works in the vicinity had been suspended in the middle of the project, but the departments concerned had not anticipated the onset of heavy rainfall. It had resulted in the mud being washed down the hillside and blocking the channels. She urged the departments to enhance the supervision of the project, and precautionary measures must be adopted if the project was suspended in the middle of the work.
- (i) Mr Stanley HO pointed out that there were rapids and serious flooding at the Chai Wan roundabout after the torrential rainfall, so he urged the Administration to review the effectiveness of the size of the roadside



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drainage intakes in collecting rainwater and the need to increase the capacity of the underground channels. He suggested that the department use the Chai Wan roundabout as a pilot point to increase the size of roadside drainage intakes for more effective collection of rainwater and avoidance of recurrence of rapids. In addition, he had inspected some public housing estates built on hillsides in Chai Wan and found that miscellaneous items such as boulders and tree trunks had not yet been cleared. Rainwater could not flow smoothly into the gullies which would affect the drainage effect in case of heavy rainfall, and he urged the departments concerned to deal with the problem as soon as possible.

- (j) Mr LAM Sum-lim pointed out that the drainage improvement works at Shau Kei Wan Main Street East had completed. He opined that there was still flooding during the recent black rainstorm might due to the blockage of drains which in turn affected the drainage capacity. He shared that there was a street in Shau Kei Wan with 20 roadside drainage intakes and hence there was no serious flooding during the black rainstorm. He urged the departments concerned to take precautionary measures as early as possible before the onset of typhoons, such as reviewing the drainage capacity of the flooding blackspots in Shau Kei Wan and blockage conditions of the intakes and ageing of pipes, and examining ways to repair the collapsed catchment areas in private lots.
- (k) Mr LAM Wing-shing said that there were three steps to prevent widespread flooding, namely, interception, flood storage and dredging. While he was aware that the DSD was carrying out interception works at the upstream of Fei Tsui Road to prevent rainwater from flowing down to the Chai Wan roundabout, he was more concerned about dredging. He recalled that during a site visit to Chai Wan during the black rainstorm on 7 and 8 September 2023, he found that the DSD staff were unable to alleviate the flooding situation as they were unable to identify the location of the blockage at the flooding blackspots. He and his team had visited the upper reaches of Fei Tsui Road in the following days and found that the blockage of the drains at Cape Collinson Road had led to serious flooding in the middle and lower reaches. He urged the DSD to improve dredging by using high-end technology to detect damaged or blocked channels, and to carry out large-scale inspection and clearing of channels before the rainy season. Lastly, he suggested that the DSD renovate and

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provide more drainage intakes to enhance the effectiveness of dredging, and construct a flood storage tank at the Chai Wan roundabout or in the vicinity of the park behind Tsui Wan Estate.

- (l) Mr Eddie TING said that he had met with the DEVB staff in September 2023 after the heavy rainstorm. While the Administration's figures indicated that there were only four flooding blackspots in the territory, he considered that the actual number was much higher. He suggested that the Administration organise consultation sessions in the community or provide online means for the public to reflect their views directly to the DEVB in addition to the reliance on DC members to collect public views in their respective districts. In addition, he would like the Administration to prepare reports on the above topics to inform the public of the issues to be followed up by the Government and the reasons for failing to follow up on certain issues.
- (m) Mr WONG Chi-chung said that the daily life of the residents of Yiu Tung Estate was still affected by the road closure at present due to landslides on the slopes of Yiu Hing Road. He enquired whether the departments concerned could make use of computer simulation of extreme weather to predict the slope conditions and improve the design of the drainage system to avoid recurrence of similar situations affecting the daily lives of the residents. Moreover, he would like the Government to step up collection of public views and publicity.
- (n) Mr Kenny YUEN pointed out that as the private slope of a private housing estate in the Braemar Hill was situated at the bottom of the hillside, rubbish such as leaves were washed into the housing estate by rainwater and blocked the intakes of the drains. Muddy water had flooded into the swimming pool of the housing estate during the last extreme weather and the housing estate had to spend more than \$100,000 for the clean-up. Although the housing estate had sought assistance from departments concerned such as the EDO, Lands Department, DSD and Civil Engineering and Development Department, the BD had issued a letter requesting for clearance of the private slope. He said that the housing estate would not be able to afford the relevant clean-up costs if similar incidents recurred every year and would like the departments concerned to help solve the problem.

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- (o) Ms NG Ching-ching pointed out that the blackspots in the Eastern District under black rainstorms or extreme weather included Yiu Tung Estate, Chai Wan, Shau Kei Wan Main Street East and Quarry Bay, etc. She would like the departments concerned to set up an inter-departmental task force to study improvement options, such as installing additional sensors and stepping up daily monitoring. In addition, the closure of Yiu Hing Road was still affecting and troubling the residents of Yiu Tung Estate, especially those with mobility difficulties. Although temporary measures had been implemented by the Housing Department to facilitate the access by the residents with mobility difficulties, the residents worried that using the temporary measures to go out might increase the risk of accidents due to the steep gradient of the staircases in Yiu Tung Estate. She would like the Administration to deal with the problem at Yiu Hing Road expeditiously and suggested that the Transport Department set up a telephone hotline to answer the enquiries from affected residents.

14. The Chairman said that the EDO would follow up with the departments concerned on the views put forward by Members and discuss with Members again as necessary. Members could raise with the Chairman if more public views were collected on the agenda item.

**Agenda Item 7. Concrete Proposals for Launching (a) Caring Campaigns in 18 Districts with Care Teams; and (b) Year-end District Clean-up Campaigns with Food and Environmental Hygiene Department before Lunar New Year (EDC Paper No. 5/2024)**

15. The Chairman expressed the hope that the new term of the EDC would actively participate in the activities organised by the EDO, the Care Teams (Eastern) and various departments. The EDO would join hands with the Care Teams and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to launch the “Year-end Operation Warmth in the Eastern District” (“Operation Warmth”) and the “Year-end Clean-up Campaign in the Eastern District” (“Clean-up Campaign”) respectively towards the end of the year. Mr Kenneth LAU, Senior Executive Officer (District Management), and Ms Carmen NGAI, Senior Liaison Officer (4), of the EDO, briefed Members on Paper No. 5/2024.

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

- (a) Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi opined that many elderly people required assistance in cleaning their homes towards the end of the year. However, she said that when her Care Team paid home visits to more than 100 households to provide household cleaning services earlier on, about 10% of the households had refused their entry. She understood that the Care Teams might not have commanded the confidence of some members of the public, and therefore would like the EDO to accompany the Care Teams in their home visits through “Operation Warmth” and act as a bridge of communication between the Care Teams and the public.
- (b) Mr CHENG Chi-shing pointed out that it had been more difficult to provide services to residents of “three-nil” buildings in the past as some of them refused to open the doors of their homes due to the misconception that the distributors of goody bags were fraudsters. He opined that publicity should be made to the residents of “three-nil” buildings before the launch of the “Operation Warmth”, for example, by dropping programme leaflets in their mailboxes or putting up posters in the buildings, so as to let them know about the details of the activity and the arrangements in advance. Misunderstanding would then be avoided during home visits.
- (c) Mr LAI Nuen-san suggested that goody bags should also be distributed to street sleepers who had stayed in cold shelters during the “Operation Warmth” as the Care Teams had visited street sleepers in cold shelters before.
- (d) Mr HUNG Chi-kit enquired, subject to availability of resources, whether he could be allocated with more goody bags as there were more elderly people in his sub-district Care Team.
- (e) Mr LIANG Lik would like to know about the family conditions of the residents receiving home visits and hidden dangers in their homes as well during the distribution of goody bags for publicity through “Operation Warmth”. He also suggested that the “Clean-up Campaign” be organised on a regular basis to target publicity at hygiene blackspots in

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various sub-districts in the Eastern District, such as Chun Yeung Street, and to identify the sources of hygiene blackspots, as well as to follow up on a quarterly basis on issues that particularly affected the living environment and posed health hazards to workers.

- (f) Ms LEE Ching-har said that the amount of subsidy approved varied among sub-district Care Teams and some sub-districts had a greater demand for home visits. Therefore, she enquired whether the number of goody bags allocated could be adjusted according to the demand of different sub-districts.
- (g) Mr Stanley HO opined that the allocation of only 30 goody bags to each sub-district might not be able to meet the demand of residents while appreciating that the number of goody bags was limited, and that the distribution of goody bags might easily lead to conflicts among residents. Therefore, he would like the department to provide clear guidelines for Members to distribute the bags to specific groups first to facilitate the smooth conduct of the activity.
- (h) Mr LAM Sum-lim was concerned about the increase in the amount of refuse due to year-end clean-up by many households and the upcoming introduction of the municipal solid waste charging (MSW charging). Therefore, he enquired whether additional refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) could be deployed to clear the waste at fixed time at fixed locations during public holidays to prevent the accumulation of refuse from affecting environmental hygiene.
- (i) Mr Eddie TING enquired whether the FEHD could provide a means of contact for Members to provide the locations of hygiene blackspots so that the department could focus on stepping up cleansing. He also reckoned that with the upcoming implementation of the MSW charging, many members of the public would dispose of large quantities of refuse before the New Year, which would result in accumulation of refuse in many places in the community and affecting environmental hygiene. He asked the FEHD to deploy more RCVs to collect refuse from key housing estates in the district. In addition, he understood that the EDO would like to express their gratitude to residents through “Operation Warmth”, but considered that the allocation of only 30 goody bags to each sub-

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district could hardly meet the demand. He also would like the Government to show concern for the cleansing workers serving the public.

- (j) Ms Zareenah HO said that ethnic minority families in general felt that they received less attention from the community. She therefore hoped that “Operation Warmth” would provide a certain number of goody bags to ethnic minority families in the Eastern District as a token of concern. She also expressed the hope that the Government would step up publicity in MSW charging as many grassroots and the elderly did not know much about the charging arrangement. She believed that many families would take advantage of the upcoming implementation of the MSW charging to clear their household junk before the charging was imposed, and would like the departments concerned to make proper arrangements to avoid the accumulation of refuse affecting environmental hygiene.
- (k) Mr Kenny YUEN said that in order to enable more people to get to know the newly established Care Teams, Care Teams would normally start with mass distribution of low-cost goody bags at street counters. He asked the EDO to consider adopting the practice as residents would only accept home visits by the Care Teams after trust was built up,. He said that if the goody bags for “Operation Warmth” were more costly and would be distributed during home visits, the quantity would be considered reasonable. As for “Clean-up Campaign”, he suggested inviting more local Owners’ Corporations (OCs) or individuals to participate in order to make concerted efforts to promote cleanliness in the community.
- (l) Ms LI Lee considered it necessary to conduct care visits to understand the needs of the residents during the visits. For example, when the elderly required assistance in repairing small electrical appliances, the Care Teams could provide immediate assistance. Also, the distribution of goody bags under “Operation Warmth” was intended to convey the message of care to the residents, and in fact the Care Teams had raised funds on its own to buy gifts for the elderly as a token of concern. Regarding hygiene blackspots, she would like the FEHD to provide a means for Members or OC members to submit the list of hygiene blackspots directly to achieve better results.

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- (m) Ms NG Ching-ching said that the newly-established Care Teams could play a more useful role in complementing the activities organised by the Government. She also pointed out that many elderly people in the district who had difficulties in cleaning their homes would like the Government to provide them with assistance, and Care Teams could fill the service gap.

17. The Chairman thanked Members for their views and responded that the two proposals in the agenda item were intended to provide services and send blessings to the residents of Eastern District through Members at year-end, and said that the EDO had been carrying out various cleansing activities and social services in the Eastern District. Regarding cleansing activities, the Eastern District Clean-up Day had been held in 2022, and an anti-rodent workshop had been held last year, in which a unique anti-rodent song had been created and the FEHD would use it in 18 districts. The EDO would continue to work with Members to promote environmental hygiene in the district. As for “Operation Warmth”, the EDO had prepared 1 000 goody bags for new Members so that they could send their blessings to the residents at year end. In fact, the Care Teams had already been subsidised by the Government to organise similar care activities by paying home visits to residents and distributing goody bags. The EDO would like Members and the Care Teams to join hands to promote more caring community activities for the Eastern District, and believed that Members would actively support and participate in those activities. The EDO staff would make arrangements for liaising with Members on the activities in the agenda item later.

### **Agenda Item 8. Concrete Proposals for Activities to Promote Local Economic Development**

**(EDC Paper No. 6/2024)**

18. The Chairman said that in order to facilitate the early recovery of Hong Kong’s economy, the Government would like the EDC to assist in the organisation of activities to promote local economic development. As it was hoped that the activities could be organised within a short time, a focus activity was proposed first. Miss Jasmine CHIU, Assistant District Officer (Eastern)<sup>1</sup>, of the EDO, briefed Members on Paper No. 6/2024.

19. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised

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as follows:

- (a) Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi said that the Tam Kung Festival events held in the Eastern District had attracted a lot of public participation in the past and the Tam Kung Cakes distributed were also well received. She would like the scope of the event to be extended to the vicinity of the Eastern District Cultural Square and Shau Kei Wan Typhoon Shelter to avoid overcrowding. In addition, she proposed including different feature activities, such as dragon and lion dances, Cantonese opera performances, setting up of feature stalls and “check-in spots”, and selling “boat congee” featuring the characteristics of the typhoon shelter fishermen where hygiene conditions permit, as well as publicising the event in Kowloon and the New Territories in order to attract more participants. Lastly, she suggested producing promotional leaflets with details of the locations and concessions of the event.
- (b) Ms Elaine CHIK said that as the Shau Kei Wan Main Street East was already a culinary hotspot in its own right and attracted many members of the public to come to enjoy, she hoped that similar concessions could be introduced in other constituencies, such as Tai Pak and Chai Wan, in future, so as to publicise the non-hot spots in the Eastern District and to promote the economic development of the entire Eastern District.
- (c) Ms Dana LAU remarked that the Tam Kung Festival events had been very successful in the past, and that the inclusion of a night-time element that time around would gain a more satisfactory result. She suggested that local specialties of other districts in the Eastern District, such as Sai Wan Ho, North Point and Chai Wan, etc., should also be publicised apart from promoting the delicacies of Shau Kei Wan so as to achieve a synergy effect. In addition, she pointed out that care should be taken in holding nighttime activities to avoid creating noise and light pollution, in the hope of enhancing residents’ sense of well-being without disturbing them.
- (d) Mr LAU Hing-yeung said that the speciality Tam Kung Cake had been successfully introduced in Tam Kung Festival events in the past, and it was hoped that Tam Kung Cake could be developed into a brand name of the Eastern District in future. He also pointed out that lion dance teams from different places were invited to Hong Kong for competitions in the



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past Tam Kung Festival events. The visiting teams had originally planned to stay for three nights but could only stay for one night in the end due to the occupancy restriction of the Y Loft at the Youth Square in Chai Wan. He suggested that the Home Affairs and Youth Affairs Bureau (HYAB) be more flexible in the management of the Y Loft to facilitate the promotion of the economic development.

- (e) Mr Anthony LU opined that the event should collaborate with local shops to revitalise the economy, such as by incorporating food and shopping elements at the performance venues of the event, extending the parade route to nearby shops, setting up temporary bazaars, and incorporating emerging and international elements into the traditional event, so as to attract more participation from the public, tourists and local enterprises. It would thereby improve local business environment and create more job opportunities. He also reminded that the rest and working times of the residents should be taken into account when holding the event to avoid causing nuisance.
- (f) Mr HUNG Chi-kit commented that the public had become accustomed to the shortened business hours of shops after the epidemic and so participated less in nighttime activities, which had formed a cycle. He hoped that the Tam Kung Festival would continue to be held in future to boost the economy of the Eastern District.
- (g) Mr HUNG Lin-cham said that the Tam Kung Festival was an important event in the Eastern District and the nearby Sha Kei Wan Main Street East was a famous food street. He believed that the combination of the two would create favourable conditions for revitalising the economy of the Eastern District. He pointed out that as nighttime element would be included in that year's event, he suggested that more "check-in spots" be set up along the parade route to attract more members of the public and tourists. He also suggested stepping up online publicity. Lastly, he reminded that the impact on local residents should be taken into account when planning nighttime activities.
- (h) Mr Hung Chiu-kwan pointed out that the scale of the Tam Kung Festival last year was larger than before and more teams had come to Hong Kong to participate in the "Lion King Competition". He therefore suggested

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that a brand name for the “Lion King Competition” be developed. As regards to accommodation, he enquired whether the Government could explore the possibility of allowing visiting teams to stay at the Lei Yue Mun Park Holiday Camp at a concessionary rate to reduce the accommodation cost to be borne by the organisers. In addition, he considered that the “Night Dragon Parade” was innovative and hoped that it could boost the night economy.

- (i) Mr LIANG Li said that the night economy could help boost the economy and promote employment, as well as bring rich programmes to the public. He said that last year’s Tam Kung Festival event was a great success and suggested that publicity be stepped up that year, for example, by inviting KOLs to promote the programmes, stories, history, performances, etc. of the Tam Kung Festival on the social media, so as to attract more members of the public and tourists. As for inviting shops to offer concessions, he suggested inviting shops in Chai Wan and Tai Pak constituencies to link up the whole Eastern District, and considering the continuity of the event, such as making Tam Kung Cake a must-buy souvenir in the Eastern District.
- (j) Mr Kwok Wing-kin said that the Tam Kung Festival event was rich in characteristics of the Eastern District. He suggested that innovative technological elements be added to the event that year, e.g. the public could earn bonus points by scanning the QR code when shopping at different locations in the Eastern District for souvenirs or Tam Kung Cake, etc., so as to boost the economy of the whole Eastern District. In addition, he believed that holding the “Night Dragon Parade” at dusk on the weekend could extend the overall duration of the Tam Kung Festival. He also hoped that the event can make good use of the harbourfront space, and believed that the “Night Dragon Parade” should be quite attractive taking into account safety and minimising the impacts on the local residents.
- (k) Mr Joseph Chan believed that the inclusion of “Night Dragon Parade” in that year’s Tam Kung Festival could attract more young people to come and watch the parade, and suggested inviting KOLs to take part in the “check-in spot” activity to attract more participants. In addition, he agreed that the provision of evening concessions by shops could attract

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the public to spend on nighttime activities. He also suggested exploring the long-term provision of Tam Kung Cake or inviting students of the Hong Kong Art School to design souvenirs for shops to distribute to customers, so as to encourage more members of the public to change the pattern of nighttime spending in the long run.

- (l) Ms LEE Ching-har said that it was necessary to pay attention to the ancillary facilities, crowd control and details, and to maintain good communication with the organiser and the Police beforehand in organising the Tam Kung Festival event, so as to ensure that the event could be held more successfully and that the participants could enjoy the event.
- (m) Mr Stanley HO pointed out that the Night Vibes Hong Kong was intended to boost people's desire to spend money and restore their confidence in the economy, thereby boosting Hong Kong's economy as a whole. As far as the Eastern District was concerned, he opined that apart from Shau Kei Wan, there were many other places in Tai Pak and Chai Wan constituencies in the Eastern District where "Night Vibes" could be held. He enquired whether the Government could allow public markets to extend their business hours and ground floor restaurants to extend their business areas at night without causing obstruction to pedestrians, so as to provide more room for business operation and make the streets more vibrant to boost the public's desire to spend money.
- (n) Mr LAM Sum-lim enquired about the feasibility of setting up short-term stalls at the Eastern District Cultural Square and the nearby waterfront for creation and sale of products featuring local or Tam Kung culture, as well as organising business start-up competitions for students so that they could gain experience in business operation. He hoped that the activities could boost the local economy and believed that the shops would be more than willing to extend their business hours to serve customers.
- (o) Mr LAM Wing-shing suggested that apart from performances, the Tam Kung Festival event could also organise activities for participation from the public or tourists, such as experiencing dragon and lion dances, providing lions' heads made of luminous materials for the public to "check-in", and providing traditional costumes for children to try on in

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exchange for souvenirs, etc., with a view to attracting more participation from parent-child groups.

- (p) Mr LAM Wing-cheung said that many members of the public would follow the procession during the parade of the Tam Kung Festival event in the past. He proposed including elements of traditional Chinese costumes and invite the public to join the parade together with the “Night Dragon Parade” if the event was to be held in the evening. In addition, he also suggested developing a brand name for the Tam Kung Festival in the Eastern District and designing souvenirs with elements of blessing for purchase by tourists or the public in the Eastern District. Lastly, he also suggested setting up game booths for the public to win points in exchange for souvenirs.
- (q) Mr Benny CHAU said that night markets should include elements such as food stalls, singing and dancing performances, and “check-in spots” by drawing reference from night markets in different places. He suggested that a pot-luck feast be held at noon for the elderly or families, with singing and dancing performances by young people, followed by a “Night Dragon Parade” in the evening, and then a “morning bazaar” selling items such as handmade products. He hoped that a series of activities could boost the flow of people and the economy of the Eastern District.
- (r) Ms LIN Cai-ying suggested that shops on Shau Kei Wan Main Street East be invited to put up special decorations to their frontages after the Tam Kung Festival event to attract the public to stop by and “check-in”, so as to promote Shau Kei Wan Main Street East Street as a food street.
- (s) Mr Eddie TING said that the Tam Kung Festival event had become a brand event in the Eastern District, and suggested that more publicity be carried out on the Internet and social media, and that the event could also be publicised outside the territory to attract more tourists. In addition, he suggested inviting views from stakeholders, such as shop operators in Shau Kei Wan Main Street East, members of the tourism industry and local residents, and communicating with residents before the event to minimise nuisance. Lastly, he would also like the Government to organise local cultural activities in Tai Pak and Chai Wan constituencies to boost the local economy.

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- (t) Mr Kacee TING suggested inviting Indonesian domestic helpers' organisations and students of Islamic schools to assist in organising a feast to provide opportunities for Indonesian domestic helpers to get together and improve the relationship between domestic helpers and their employers, with a view to publicising overseas Hong Kong's respect for Islam so as to attract overseas Muslims to come to Hong Kong for sightseeing.
- (u) Mr WONG Chi-chung believed that with concerted efforts in organising the Tam Kung Festival and "Night Vibes" in the Eastern District, participants would be left with fond memories and would continue to participate every year.
- (v) Ms Zareenah Ho opined that street snack was most appealing to the public and tourists. She therefore suggested that a mini bazaar be organised for the sale of street snack and believed that it would attract more people to come to the Eastern District to taste the traditional delicacies. She also suggested that the word "vegan" could be printed on the back of the package if Tam Kung Cake were vegan food. Hence, vegetarians or Muslims could enjoy the food with peace of mind and Tam Kung Cakes could be publicised as vegetarian food as well. In addition, she said that the school also taught luminous dragon and lion dances to students and suggested inviting students to participate in the performances in order to pass on the traditional Chinese culture. She believed that it would make the event more meaningful and special. She could assist in liaising with the school if necessary. Lastly, she enquired about the possibility of setting up a mini bazaar for selling New Year flowers and festive food in the open space behind Walton Estate in Chai Wan before the Chinese New Year. She believed that it would be a quicker way to promote Chinese New Year shopping activities in the Eastern District.
- (w) Mr Kenny YUEN suggested setting up stalls selling food and goods along the parade route of the Tam Kung Festival event, so that visitors could enjoy eating, shopping and having fun. He believed that it would increase the attractiveness of the event. In addition, he opined that the tourism industry could be invited to assist in promoting the Tam Kung Festival event to tourists.

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- (x) Ms LI Lee opined that the Tam Kung Festival and “Night Dragon Parade” events should be publicised as early as possible. She hoped that the events would not be confined to Shau Kei Wan but would be extended to districts such as North Point, Chai Wan and Quarry Bay, etc., and that the participating shops would be allowed to affix the event logo and offer discounts to the public and tourists. She also suggested that the Government apply for the inscription of the Tam Kung Festival in the Eastern District as an “Intangible Cultural Heritage”. She also pointed out that some tourists would like to use Tam Kung Cakes to pray for blessings and give to their friends and relatives as souvenirs.
- (y) Ms NG Ching-ching suggested that a one to two-week bazaar be conceived for the Tam Kung Festival event, and that the event be linked to Soho East in Sai Wan Ho to boost the business of the neighbouring shops. She hoped that the Tam Kung Festival event could combine elements such as bazaar, young people and sand painting in order to provide the public with a fresh perspective while retaining the traditional characteristics of the event. At the same time, the public would be able to enjoy the food, have fun and “check-in”. She believed that with proper publicity and co-ordination, more people would be attracted for participation and the night economy in the entire Eastern District could be effectively promoted.

20. The Chairman thanked Members for their valuable views and believed that the event would certainly receive their full support, and that the Chairman of the Working Group would lead Members to focus more on the organisation of the event. He said that in view of the success of the Tam Kung Festival events in the past, it was made the first event to revitalise the economy of the Eastern District in the hope that it could produce immediate results within a short time to promote the economy of the Eastern District. He pointed out that the Tam Kung Festival event required the cooperation of other sub-districts to achieve synergy, and that there were many places, activities or cultures with special characteristics in the Eastern District which were worth promoting. He hoped that Members would join hands in organising more economic boosting activities in future to promote the economy of the Eastern District, so as to promote the vibrant development of the people’s livelihood. The agenda item would be referred to the Working Group for follow-up. The Secretariat would collect Members’ views and forward them to the Working Group,

and it was hoped that Members would actively participate in the discussions and work of the Working Group.

**Agenda Item 9. DC-related Measures in Policy Address - Proposals for Distinctive Photo-taking District Landmarks**  
**(EDC Paper No. 7/2024)**

21. The Chairman pointed out that each of the District Youth Community Building Committees across 18 districts would be invited to propose a distinctive photo-taking landmark (“check-in spot”) in their respective districts as mentioned in the Chief Executive’s 2023 Policy Address. He said that while a number of “check-in spots” could be set up in the Eastern District, the EDO would first put forward a proposal at present as the Government hoped that the proposal could be implemented within a short time. Mr Hong POON, Assistant District Officer (Eastern)<sup>2</sup>, of the EDO, briefed Members on Paper No. 7/2024.

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

- (a) Mr Eddie TING remarked that the more “check-in spots”, the better, especially when Hong Kong was holding “Night Vibes” events. He supported the preliminary setting up of the “check-in spot” at the Eastern District Cultural Square as a suitable location but was concerned that it was not a popular “check-in spot” for young people. In addition, he enquired whether the “check-in spot” could include *hanfu* [*Translator’s remarks: the traditional clothes worn by ancient Han Chinese*] or characters to attract young people to wear *hanfu* to promote Chinese culture as wearing *hanfu* was now a craze.
- (b) Mr Kacee TING pointed out that there was a painting with a history of more than 20 years on the hillside near Exit D1 of MTR Taikoo Shing Station, but the painting was now blurred after years of being washed away by rainwater. He said that the area was bustling with pedestrians and suggested that the painting be restored and made a “check-in spot”.
- (c) Ms LI Lee agreed that there should be a theme for the “check-in spot”. She said that the Eastern District had organised a *hanfu* day which was

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well received by the public, and suggested that the public be allowed to take photographs of themselves trying on *hanfu* at the “check-in spot” for sharing on the social media. She also suggested that interactive games or children’s game booths or facilities be set up in the vicinity of the “check-in spot” to achieve better results.

- (d) Ms NG Ching-ching said that there were seven pet parks in the Eastern District and suggested that a “check-in spot” with the theme of caring for and protecting pets be created in the pet parks to enable the public to “check-in” and at the same time disseminate the message of caring for pets.
- (e) Mr LAM Sum-lim suggested that professional photographers select the best shooting locations for the “check-in spots” and make use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology for the public to take photographs at the suggested locations and then scan the QR code to download the photographs. In addition, he suggested that apart from adding lighting effects to the “check-in spot” at night, “check-in” elements could also be added during daytime to allow the public to “check-in” at different times of the day, so as to keep on attracting more members of the public to “check-in” at the location.
- (f) Mr LAM Wing-cheung suggested that different themes be adopted for the “check-in spot”, e.g. inviting the elderly to tell stories about different places in the Eastern District to add interest to the “check-in spot”; changing and updating the themes of the “check-in spot” on a regular basis; setting up small “check-in spots” in the Tai Pak and Chai Wan constituencies to publicise the “check-in spot” of the Eastern District Cultural Square in the meantime; and inviting local enterprises or brands to co-operate in creating “check-in spots” in the Eastern District with reference to the popular “check-in” craze of the rubber ducks.
- (g) Mr Benny CHAU suggested that mobile app games be used to promote the “check-in spot”. For example, if there were “check-in spots” in 18 districts across the territory, they could be linked together to allow the public to redeem gifts after “checking-in” in each of the districts. He believed that it would be able to enhance the public’s desire for “check-in”.



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- (h) Mr HUNG Chi-kit remarked that “check-in spot” should maintain a fresh perspective to the public, otherwise its popularity would diminish over time. He suggested that the “check-in spot” be enhanced with seasonal changes and festive atmosphere apart from providing day and night features so that it would last longer and cater for different needs.
- (i) Mr Calvin KWOK suggested that consideration be given to setting up “check-in spots” in places rich in history and culture to promote the blending of the old and the new. He shared a social media video he had recently watched which featured a public housing estate where the uploader used to live when he was a child. The video had received 200 000 hits in just one month. He opined that many people would like to learn about the history of Hong Kong. He believed that many people would be attracted to “check-in” and that the public would get to know more about the Eastern District if the “check-in spots” were integrated with local architecture and history.
- (j) Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi remarked that a “check-in spot” had to have creative elements and ambience in order to attract the public or tourists. She suggested that the culturally rich Kai Yuen Street be turned into a cultural “check-in spot” for young people and that the public be invited to collect old videos and photographs of Kai Yuen Street so as to preserve public memory and enhance their sense of belonging to the area. It would in turn foster the communication between the public and the Government. In addition, she proposed setting up tram-themed “check-in spots” along the waterfront promenade to tie in with night economy to allow the public to redeem souvenirs at designated locations after collecting stamps at different “check-in spots”.
- (k) Ms LAU Suk-yin enquired whether consideration would be given to setting up “check-in spots” at the Youth Square in Chai Wan, North Point or Quarry Bay Waterfront Promenade in addition to that of the Eastern District Cultural Square. In addition, she suggested that consideration be given to setting up stalls selling traditional snacks at the “check-in spots” during weekends for the public to “check-in” and revitalisation of the economy of the Eastern District at the same time.

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- (l) Ms Dana LAU expressed concern about the sustainability of the “check-in spots” activities. She said that many activities in the community used disposable devices and exhibition panels, etc. She hoped that environmentally friendly and recyclable materials could be used in the “check-in spots” to avoid pollution and wastage in order to tie in with the Government’s upcoming MSW charging initiatives.
- (m) Mr Kenny YUEN commented that many tourists passed by the North Point Ferry Pier every day but the pier appeared to be dilapidated and in a poor state of repair. He suggested that the Administration turn the pier into a “check-in spot” and improve its ancillary facilities so as to promote a better image of the Eastern District.

23. The Chairman thanked Members for their valuable views and would like the “check-in spot” proposal to be implemented as soon as possible in order to create a synergy effect with the local economic boosting activities. He said that there would not be just one “check-in spot” in the Eastern District, but he would like to focus resources on the first one for the public to take photographs while other “check-in spots” would be set up progressively, which he would like Members to assist in the promotion by then. Apart from setting up a “check-in spot” at the Eastern District Cultural Square as a first step, he also hoped that there would be activities to be conducted or art installations to be set up at other locations for the public to “check-in”. He said that art installation under the “Via North Point” project was organised earlier on in collaboration with the Hong Kong Arts Centre, in which a number of distinctive art installations were set up in North Point. Last year, co-operation was also made with local artists to set up a large-scale sea installation at the North Point Ferry Pier for the public to “check-in”. However, as the boardwalk works project along the waterfront promenade of the North Point Ferry Pier was underway, a “check-in spot” could not be set up for the time being. In addition, he said that he would collect youth views through the Eastern District Youth Community Building Committee, which was also discussing elements such as trams and parks mentioned by Members earlier on, in the hope of creating more and better “check-in spots” for the Eastern District and contributing to the enhancement of the environment of the Eastern District. He said that the EDO would consult the Committee on the “check-in spots” in due course and report to the EDC in a timely manner.

**Agenda Item10. Any Other Business**

(i) Government Representatives in Attendance of the EDC Full Council

24. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief Members on the List of Government Representatives in Attendance of the EDC Full Council. The Secretary brief Members on the list as follows:

Government Departments	Departmental Representatives
<u>In Regular Attendance</u>	
EDO	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)1
	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)2
	Senior Liaison Officer (1)
	Senior Liaison Officer (2)
	Senior Liaison Officer (3)
	Senior Liaison Officer (4)
	Senior Executive Officer (District Management)
Hong Kong Police	District Commander, Eastern District
	Community Affairs Officer, Eastern District
Housing Department	Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island)
Transport Department	Chief Transport Officer (Hong Kong Island)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong East)
	District Leisure Manager (Eastern)
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Eastern)
Civil Engineering and Development Department	Chief Engineer/South 3
<u>By Invitation when Necessary</u>	
Lands Department	District Lands Officer (Eastern)
Social Welfare Department	District Social Welfare Officer (Eastern and Wan Chai)
Environmental Protection Department	Chief Environmental Protection Officer (South)
Planning Department	District Planning Officer (Hong Kong)
Highways Department	Chief Highway Engineer (Hong Kong)
Buildings Department	Chief Buildings Surveyor/B

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(ii) *Invitation by Various Departments and Public Bodies to EDC Members for Attending Exchange Sessions*

25. The Chairman said that invitations had been received from various departments and public bodies to Members for attending exchange sessions and the Secretariat would send the invitations to Members by email in due course. He asked Members to spare time to attend as far as possible.

**Agenda Item 11. Date of Next Meeting**

26. The second meeting of the EDC would be held at 2:30 pm on 5 March 2024 (Tuesday).

27. The meeting ended at 5:00 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat  
February 2024