

(Translation)

Islands District Council
Minutes of Meeting of the
Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee

Date : 9 September 2019 (Monday)
Time : 2:00 p.m.
Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room

Present

Ms YU Lai-fan (Chairman)
Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine (Vice-Chairman)
Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS
Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, JP
Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS
Mr CHAN Lin-wai
Ms LEE Kwai-chun
Mr TANG Ka-piu, Bill, JP
Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy
Mr KWONG Koon-wan
Mr CHOW Ho-ding, Holden
Ms FU Hiu-lam Sammi
Mr WONG Hoi-yu
Ms KWOK Wai-man, Mealoha
Mr WONG Chun-kit
Mr MOK Kwong-yuen
Mr LAI Lok-man, Lawrence

Attendance by Invitation

Mr CHEUNG Ka-yin, Kevin	General Manager (Regulatory), Property Management Services Authority
Ms LAU Fung-yi, Winnie	Senior Manager (Licensing), Property Management Services Authority
Ms CHU Ching-han, Heidi	Chief Manager (Festivals and Audience Development), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms WONG Kit-yi, Pat	Senior Manager (Community Programmes), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

In Attendance

Ms CHAN Sok-fong, Cherry	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Elaine	Senior Librarian (Islands), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms WONG Fan-ni, Jasmine	Senior Manager (New Territories South)Promotion, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr WONG Kin-sun	Senior Community Relations Officer (Hong Kong West/Islands), Independent Commission Against Corruption
Dr LEE Chi-on, Clement	Senior School Development Officer (Islands)1, Education Bureau
Mr LEUNG Po-wah, Taddy	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western, Southern & Islands)2, Social Welfare Department
Mr AU Sheung-man, Benjamin	Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office
Ms YUEN Wai-kwan	Representative, Association of School Heads of Islands District

Secretary

Miss LAM Po-yan, Eloisa	Executive Officer (District Council)1, Islands District Office
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Absent with Apologies

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken	
Mr HO Chun-fai	
Mr HO Siu-kei	
Ms WONG Chau-ping	
Mr KWOK Ping, Eric	
Mr LAI Tsz-man	
Mr LAM Kit-sing	Representative, Islands District Sports Association
Ms CHOI Kwok-por	Representative, Hong Kong Islands Cultural & Art Association

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Welcoming Remarks

The Chairman welcomed representatives of government departments and organisations as well as Members to the meeting.

2. Members noted that Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr LAI Tsz-man, Mr LAM Kit-sing and Ms CHOI Kwok-po were unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

I. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 8.7.2019

3. The Chairman said that the above minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by government departments and organisations and had been distributed to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.

4. The captioned minutes were confirmed unanimously without amendments.

II. Suggestions for the Licensing Regime under the Property Management Services Ordinance (Cap. 626)
(Paper CACRC 46/2019)

5. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHEUNG Ka-yin, Kevin, General Manager (Regulatory) and Ms LAU Fung-yi, Winnie, Senior Manager (Licensing) of the Property Management Services Authority (PMSA) to the meeting to present the paper.

6. Mr Kevin CHEUNG presented the paper with the aid of PowerPoint presentation.

7. Ms Amy YUNG expressed her views as follows:

- (a) She thanked the PMSA for the detailed explanation and requested the PMSA to provide an electronic copy of the English version of the PowerPoint presentation.
- (b) She enquired whether the PMSA would visit and consult various owners' corporations (OCs) or owner's committees (OComms) apart from consulting property management companies (PMCs), and whether those who were invited to attend the relevant meetings would be briefed on the Property Management Services Ordinance (Cap. 626) (the PMSO).
- (c) As regards the transitional arrangements, the PMSA stated that a two-year transition period would be provided for property management practitioners (PMPs), but subsequently indicated that there would be a three-year transition period commencing from the implementation date of the licensing regime for PMCs and PMPs (licensing regime). She hoped that the PMSA would explain and clarify it.
- (d) In the event of serious mistakes made by PMPs such as committing criminal offences, the problems might be solved through legal means. However, in the event of contravention made by PMCs against the PMSA's requirements, operators might close down the PMCs concerned and then change the names of the companies, continuing to operate with the same staff in the same way. She enquired whether precautionary measures against such situation would be in place.

- (e) The PMSA expected that the subsidiary legislation of the PMSO would come into operation on 31 January 2020, and that there would be a transition period of two to three years for the licensing regime. She enquired whether the PMSO would govern PMPs or PMCs that would be or had been licensed but did not comply with the requirements during or prior to the transition period, and whether the relevant legislation would have retrospective effect.
- (f) She welcomed that, as proposed by the PMSA, PMCs would be required to disclose their interests to the clients. The provisions regarding “conflict of interest” in the PMSO were guidelines rather than requirements. It was common that PMCs were subsidiary companies of real estate developers (developers), but many matters dealt with by PMCs involved the benefit-sharing between developers and owners, such as the apportionment of management fee, electricity tariff or cost of lift most of which were related to property management. She enquired how the PMSA, being a regulator, would handle the issues related to the conduct of PMCs.
- (g) As regards cases of property management involving criminal offences, disciplinary sanctions would be imposed according to the PMSO in addition to the administration of other relevant legislations. She enquired how the PMSA would deal with the problematic conduct of PMCs or PMPs especially the problems related to wilful negligence.
- (h) She hoped that the PMSO might facilitate the formation of OCs by OComms which were currently responsible for the management of most of the buildings in Hong Kong. However, deed of mutual covenants (DMCs) were signed between developers as well as their subsidiary companies, PMCs and/or property owners who had purchased first-hand residential properties. The clauses of DMCs, especially those having become effective prior to the amendment of the PMSO, were generally tilted in favour of developers. For example, some developers possessing an undivided share of a lot up to eighty percent only needed to pay ten percent of the management fee. In her opinion, since PMCs were not separate legal persons, owners needed to pay for lawyers themselves for suing or initiating legal action against PMCs which, on the contrary, might litigate with the management fee paid by owners, thereby making owners step back from taking action. As she also learnt, OCs were not regulated by the PMSA. She therefore enquired whether the PMSA would reflect the situation to the Home Affairs Department (HAD). She also enquired how the PMSA could protect the rights and interests of owners against the phased development of developers to monopolise the market.

8. Mr Bill TANG expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Although he was a Member belonging to a constituency of District Council election where there were many public housing blocks, he would still from time to time encounter some problems raised about management of private housing estates which might involve the regulation of OCs. In his understanding, one of the goals of proceeding with the legislative process was to enhance the transparency of the property management profession and enhance public confidence. For example, to enhance the professional quality of property management when conducting re-election of OCs and tender exercise for maintenance or large-scale works, as well as to lodge complaints about irregularities in accordance with the PMSO.
- (b) He had once involved in property management service which required the staff to spend much time and patience to get the job done. At present, the public had greater demand for property management service including enhanced transparency and channels of conducting regulation. He enquired whether the PMSA would collaborate with academic institutions, Education Bureau or qualifications certification authorities, facilitating the licence holders, clerical and related staff to obtain professional qualifications and consequently enhancing the professionalism of the industry. In his opinion, PMPs were not only monitored by concerned owners and various government departments but also governed by the PMSO implementing a “mechanism of revocation of licence”. Therefore, the PMSA should correspondingly operate in coordination in the aspects of welfare provision or career development, so as to enhance the professionalism and professional status of the industry without lifting the entry requirement to the industry. As the Vice-chairperson of the PMSA Mr WONG Kwok-hing was a former Legislative Council Member in respect of the Labour Functional Constituency, he hoped that the representative of the PMSA would relay his viewpoints to the PMSA, and that the PMSA would initiate discussion on the development of the Qualifications Framework and the improvement of the salary of practitioners in the industry.
- (c) He raised enquiries based on two scenarios. In scenario one, there were 5 000 flats under one single residential development. He asked how many licensed PMPs, namely PMPs holding PMP (Tier 1) and PMP (Tier 2) licences, would be required to engage on a full-time basis for the management of these flats. In scenario two, there was one single residential development to be developed in two phases each of which would form a separate OC and would comprise not more than 1 000 flats. He asked whether the two OCs could jointly engage a full-time PMPs to save salary expenses.
- (d) Regarding property management service, he opined that it would be difficult to implement Category 7, namely legal services relating to the management of a property. He had consulted the HAD on legal matters concerning property management, but the staff advised him to refer the

cases to a lawyer on grounds of being unqualified to give legal advice. Therefore, he was concerned about whether property managers would be able to provide legal services. Some owners would from time to time enquire the OCs about the validity of the written authorisations during general elections, and chairpersons of OCs would usually shirk the responsibility to property managers who was only responsible for signing the authorisations or giving verbal advice in the matters. He expected that the PMSA would elaborate on the coverage of legal services under Category 7.

- (e) Property services might involve outsourced cleansing, security, horticultural and maintenance services. He enquired whether the PMSO would provide any means of complaint if some PMCs harshly treated or exploited outsourced staff.

9. Mr Holden CHOW believed that the original intent of the PMSA to amend the PMSO was to improve property management. As set out in the report, PMCs being non-compliant with the legislation would be subject to disciplinary hearing or disciplinary sanctions. They might be fined for an amount of not exceeding \$300,000 and the highest level of penalty was revocation of licence. He enquired whether there were any other measures that would impose suspension or revocation of licence as penalty on PMCs. It was a difficult task to revoke the licence of a PMC at present, and some PMCs fined after adjudication might charge additional fees from owners for payment of fines. He therefore suggested that the PMSA should correspondingly provide additional measures by introducing suspension or revocation of licence as penalty in addition to disciplinary hearing and disciplinary sanctions.

10. Mr Kevin CHEUNG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The PMSA would provide Ms YUNG with an English version of the slide presentation after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The PMSA had provided Ms YUNG with an English version of the slide presentation after the meeting.)

- (b) The PMSA would consult OCs and owners in addition to the industry. The PMSA was ready to attend public forums in this respect at the invitation of owners' organisations or District Council Members to listen to public opinion. The PMSA had held public forums in North Point and many owners' organisations had participated in the evening sessions.

- (c) The PMSA confirmed that the transition period would be three years.

- (d) As regards the enquiry about whether the management of a PMC, which was adjudicated to suspension or revocation of licence as disciplinary sanction, could start a new business providing property management service, according to the primary legislation or the PMSO, the PMSA

would, irrespective of an application for a PMC licence by a company or an application for a PMP licence of any tier by an individual, consider whether the applicant was a suitable person to hold the licence under application in addition to other considerations including academic qualification, work experience and professional qualification. Application for licence by an applicant who was considered to be ineligible could be rejected. The primary legislation had set out the considerations for issuance of licence. For example, an applicant was required to declare whether one had assumed the post of the management or senior staff of a licenced PMC the licence of which was revoked during one's service in the company concerned. The PMSA would deliberate about the issuance of a licence to such applicant to prevent the original management of a PMC the licence of which had been revoked by the PMSA from operating another company under a new name.

- (e) Regarding non-compliance or misconduct committed by an applicant prior to implementation of the licensing regime by the PMSA, he stated that the primary legislation did not authorise the PMSA to consider applications in a retroactive manner. In this connection, the PMSA could only follow up on cases of misconduct or non-compliance committed after the licensing regime had been implemented by the PMSA. With a three-year transition period, any company or person would be under regulation only after a licence had been issued to such applicant within the transition period. In case some persons did not apply to the PMSA for licence within the transition period and submitted applications to the PMSA at the last moment, the PMSA would be unable to regulate them in the first three years. The PMSA wanted to expeditiously implement the licensing regime to facilitate a more comprehensive regulation of PMCs and PMPs.
- (f) On conflict of interest, the PMSA added that the scope required for declaration of interest was wide. For example, if a PMC of a housing estate was a subsidiary company of the developer of the above housing estate, and such developer participated in a tender exercise for or had an interest in service provision to the same housing estate, the PMC was required to declare interest.
- (g) The disciplinary offences prescribed by the PMSO included misconduct or negligence, but did not further classify them as "with intent" or "without intent". Therefore, any misconduct or negligence of a person concerned, irrespective of the intention, was under the scope of investigation by the PMSA. The PMSA was authorised to take disciplinary action against a person concerned once the misconduct or negligence of such person was ascertained.
- (h) Persons managing the buildings in accordance with the DMCs (DMC managers) were required to apply for a PMC licence and would be

regulated by the PMSA in future. Disciplinary offences, code of conduct and disciplinary prescribed under the PMSO were also applicable to DMC managers and would also be regulated by the PMSA. Moreover, although the contents of DMCs were not under the regulation of the PMSA, some members of the public would from time to time raise enquiries to the PMSA concerning DMCs, including complaints about the unfair DMC contents to them and about the excessive powers of PMCs or developers, etc. On the promotion of the property management service industry and the related professionalism, the PMSA did not only implement regulatory measures of PMCs and DMC managers but also wanted to further promote consumer education, aiming to provide assistance to the public as far as practicable.

- (i) As to whether the PMSA would cooperate with the institutions, he indicated that the PMSA was performing the function of promoting the industry of property service management apart from assuming the statutory regulatory role. As mentioned in the report, education was not so popular as it was at present when some people started working in the industry. Therefore, the PMSO had proposed to consider accepting persons who possessed the relevant experience of property management only. Under the proposal, PMPs who had worked in the property management industry for many years without receiving the formal education and training in the relevant aspects were permitted to obtain the recognised qualification through the Recognition of Prior Learning Mechanism under Hong Kong Qualifications Framework, and promote to different levels of recognition with Level 4 being the highest level (that is, diploma or equivalent academic qualification), thereby meeting the requirement for academic qualification of the licensing criteria of PMP (Tier 2). Moreover, the PMSA would also consider collaborating with various institutions for provision of courses specified by the PMSA. The PMSA also encouraged course contractors to operate the courses according to the mechanism of Continuing Education Fund, facilitating practitioners taking these courses to claim an allowance of \$20,000 under the Continuing Education Fund.
- (j) The terms of reference of the PMSA were applicable to properties with DMCs only. Regulation of the PMSA was not applicable to PMCs if the properties under their management were flats in public housing and properties without DMCs or flats for sale. For PMCs currently assisting the Housing Authority (HA) in providing property management services, they might need to be regulated by the PMSA even if the flats of the HA managed by them were properties without DMCs because these PMCs might operate other business involving properties with DMCs.
- (k) Regarding Mr TANG's scenarios, for a development project having 5000 flats, the property management company had to hire two licensed PMPs (Tier 1) and 4 licensed PMPs (Tier 2) while all PMPs were full-

time employees. The PMSA's licensing criteria for PMCs was that there was a licensed PMP (Tier 1) who had effective control of the provision of property management service by the PMC. If the above PMP was engaged on a full-time basis, the PMSA would include such person as one of the six full-time employees, so as not to increase the PMC's financial burden or pass the costs onto the consumers. Regarding the enquiry of whether PMPs could concurrently be hired by the OCs in a large-scale property developed in two phases, the purview of the PMSA was to regulate PMCs. Since OCs were generally not their targets of regulation, the PMSA would not interfere with the recruitment of employees by OCs. The PMSA would take into consideration the total number of flats managed by a PMC in Hong Kong for calculating the numbers of licensed PMPs to be engaged by the PMC, and would not regulate whether any licensees were concurrently engaged by some OCs. Nevertheless, the PMSA encouraged OCs to hire licensees possessing professional qualifications to effectively assist chairpersons of OComms or OCs in providing proper property management.

- (l) Regarding the legal services relating to the management of a property under Category 7, Members were concerned that PMPs might not give correct response or did not dare give response to enquiries raised by OCs. The PMSA clarified that the objective of prescribing seven categories of property management services was to ascertain whether PMCs were required to apply for licence, and the categories of service had no direct relationship with the handling of legal enquiries by OCs. In short, PMCs providing more than one category of the property management services, such as providing maintenance service of a property and providing legal services (e.g. assisting OCs to recover management fees in arrears), were required to hold a licence. As regards wrong messages provided by staff of PMCs during annual general meetings of OCs or meetings of OComms as well as non-compliance or disciplinary offences involving such staff, they had no direct relationship with the prescribed categories of property management services.
- (m) On outsourced services, some PMCs might on the one hand charge owners with expensive management fees and on the other, reduce the salary of cleaners. The PMSA was not authorised to directly exercise control over this area. As a matter of fact, the level of remuneration provided by PMCs to contractors through outsourcing was subject to market conditions or contract terms. If such act might bring the industry of property management service into disrepute and had contravened the code of conduct originally prescribed by the PMSA, the PMSA might exercise regulation on grounds of misconduct. However, it did not mean that the PMSA could exercise regulation over PMCs whenever they harshly treated the employees. If the harsh treatment of a PMC had contravened criminal legislations, it had

become one of the disciplinary offences provided in the primary legislation. After the court had sentenced that the PMC's act had brought the industry of property management service into disrepute, the PMSA would take disciplinary sanctions against the convicted PMC.

- (n) As regards whether the PMSA would implement other disciplinary sanctions in addition to revocation of licence, the PMSA might implement verbal warning or written reprimand having regard to the seriousness of the non-compliance. A fine would be imposed on serious cases, but the amount of penalty might not be as high as \$300,000 every time. In case a fine was imposed on a PMC, the PMSA might implement a higher amount as penalty for enhanced warning purpose. When the disciplinary committee deliberated about the imposition of disciplinary sanctions, it would take various factors of the incident into consideration, including the seriousness, the losses caused, whether the incident being a repeated case, and whether the PMC or the management being liable, etc. Moreover, the PMSA might grant licence to the applicants with additional licensing conditions. In the case of applications for licence submitted by individuals, the PMSA might require the licensees to take some courses recognised by the Continuing Education Fund. For applications involving the consideration of conduct, the PMSA might require the licensees to take some professional courses on work ethics for a specified number of hours. For licensees having involved improper handling of management fee, the PMSA might prohibit such persons from handling cash. The PMSA stressed that revocation of licence was extremely serious disciplinary sanctions. It was an offence if a PMC continued its operation after its licence had been revoked. Revocation of licence would have impact on the property and owners concerned, while owners needed to conduct a tender exercise for engaging another PMC. For this reason, the PMSA would first determine whether the management or PMC should be held accountable to the incident concerned before considering the revocation of licence. The PMSA would not preclude the possibility of imposing revocation of licence for cases involving serious mistakes. Under such circumstances, the PMSA would consider the impact of the penalty on concerned residents and would reserve time for the residents to conduct tendering as far as practicable.

11. Ms Amy YUNG thanked Mr CHEUNG for his response. She also pointed out that many company directors of the developers in Hong Kong were concurrently directors of PMCs who might involve in conflict of interest. She enquired whether the PMSA would require developers to conduct a tender exercise for property management every three years with a view to engaging different PMCs to take up the management. As regards multiple identities of persons concurrently being developers and company directors of the developers, she enquired what the PMSA's attitude towards the issue was.

12. Mr Kevin CHEUNG responded as follows:

- (a) He stressed that the PMSA was of grave concern over the problem of conflict of interest and had received a lot of enquiries from the public. Therefore, the subsidiary legislation had required PMCs to promptly provide information on conflict of interest. As regards the concern over the issue of a company director of a developer concurrently assuming the post of company director of a subsidiary company of the developer, when the PMSA processed an application for PMC licence, it would not only request the management but also all directors of the applicant to declare that they were appropriate persons who had met the licensing criteria. If the PMSA considered that the directors were not appropriate persons, it would not issue a PMC licence to the applicant.
- (b) Regarding Members' enquiries about whether it was stipulated that developers needed to conduct re-tendering for PMCs at an interval of a few years, he replied that regulating developers and formulation of DMCs were not under the purview of the PMSA. However, the PMSA noted that, as stipulated in the guidelines on DMCs laid down by the Lands Department, the tenure of a developer's PMC was two years. In other words, the contract entered into with a DMC manager could not be cancelled within two years unless the cancellation was in line with the terms and conditions of the DMC concerned and the requirement prescribed by the "Building Management Ordinance", that is, the cancellation was supported by owners possessing at least fifty percent of the ownership of the property concerned. However, as understood, it would be very difficult to make such cancellation. The viable measure to be taken by the PMSA at this stage was strengthening of consumer education. Moreover, the PMSO administered by the PMSA also provided that PMCs under DMC managers were also required to apply for a licence, so as to ensure the service level to a certain extent in this way. If the service provided did not meet a certain level, it might involve non-compliance and might be punished by the PMSA. Furthermore, the PMSA might compulsorily require PMPs to provide specific information, including clear details of accounts, information of outsourcing and declaration of interest, for enhanced regulation of owners on PMCs. However, the formulation of policy concerning DMC was outside the purview of the PMSA.

13. The Chairman thanked the PMSA for its detailed explanation of the PMSO. Pointing out that Discovery Bay had always received private property management service, he hoped that the PMSA would strengthen publicity and civic education, provide more information to and implement comprehensive regulation of the private PMCs, as well as enhance consumer education. Members who wanted to obtain more information on the PMSO might approach the PMSA for it.

14. Ms Amy YUNG remarked that being high-quality citizens, residents in Discovery Bay clearly understood the contents of the PMSO and had raised a lot of views during the consultation exercise of the PMSO. At present, residents hoped that the PMSA would properly administer the PMSO, so as to facilitate PMCs to clearly understand their rights and responsibilities.

15. The Chairman thanked the PMSA once more for its report and urged the PMSA to step up its regulation of private PMCs.

(Mr Holden CHOW left the meeting at around 3:15 p.m.)

III. Proposed Community Arts Scheme in the Islands District by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department
(Paper CACRC 45/2019)

16. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHU Ching-han, Heidi, Chief Manager (Festivals and Audience Development) and Ms WONG Kit-yi, Pat, Senior Manager (Community Programmes) of Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to the meeting to present the paper.

17. Ms Heidi CHU briefly presented the paper.

18. The Committee supported the proposed Community Arts Scheme and endorsed in principle an allocation of \$650,000 for implementing the scheme.

19. The Chairman said that the arrangement of allocation was subject to the endorsement of the next term Islands District Council (IDC).

IV. Recreation and Sports Activities organized by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Islands District from April to July 2020
(Paper CACRC 44/2019)

20. The Chairman welcomed Ms Cherry CHAN, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands of LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

21. Ms Cherry CHAN briefly presented the paper. She also requested Members to support the activities in principle, so as to facilitate LCSD to expeditiously launch the organisation as planned. She supplemented that LCSD would submit the funding applications for activities to be organised from April to July 2020 and that from August 2020 to March 2021 to the next term IDC in early 2020.

22. The Committee supported the proposed recreation and sports activities organised by LCSD in Islands District from April to July 2020, and endorsed in principle an allocation of \$5,335,271 for implementing the scheme.

23. The Chairman said that the arrangement of allocation was subject to the endorsement of the next term IDC.

(Mr WONG Hoi-yu left the meeting at around 3:30 p.m.)

V. Reports by Working Groups

(i) CACRC Vetting Group

24. The Chairman reported as follows:

- (a) At the meeting on 23 July this year, the Vetting Group processed 31 funding applications for the Community Involvement Projects to be held in November to December this year. Funding proposals were submitted to the Committee for endorsement by circulation of paper.
- (b) At the meeting on 27 August this year, the Vetting Group processed 34 funding applications for the Community Involvement Projects to be held in January to March 2020. Funding proposals would be submitted to the Committee for endorsement by circulation of paper and were subject to the endorsement of the next term IDC in due course.

25. The Vetting Group noted the content of 1 activity evaluation report.

(ii) CACRC Activities Working Group

1. Islands District Cultural Festival 2019

- (a) “‘Show Time!’ Islands District Youth Musical Talent Show ”
 - “‘Show Time!’ Islands District Youth Musical Talent Show” was successfully held at the Concert Hall of Hong Kong City Hall on 16 July this year with an audience of about 600.
- (b) “Islands District Cantonese Opera Show in Celebration of the National Day” and “Islands District Cantonese Opera Show Celebrating the Chinese New Year”
 - The Islands District would stage two Cantonese opera shows, including “Islands District Cantonese Opera Show in Celebration of the National Day” and “Islands District Cantonese Opera Show Celebrating the Chinese New Year”, which would be held at the Concert Hall of Hong Kong City Hall on 9 September 2019 and 3 February 2020 respectively. Free tickets of the “Islands District Cantonese Opera Show in Celebration of the National Day” would be distributed by balloting. Free tickets were available at ward offices of various IDC Members and offices of various rural

committees and were also available for the public at Hong Kong City Hall since 28 August this year.

(c) “Islands District Council Presents – Golden Oldies Concert”

- The “Islands District Council Presents – Golden Oldies Concert” would be held at the Auditorium of Tsuen Wan Town Hall on 26 September this year. After consideration, the Working Group decided to commission One Points Marketing and PR Company Limited as the service contractor.

2. “Crossover Lab Initiative”

- The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCD) had invited IDC to co-organise the “Crossover Lab Initiative” by organising arts and cultural activities at the Art Park in West Kowloon Cultural District. The Working Group had completed the processing procedure and commissioned 1a Space as the organiser of the activities. The Secretariat of the Working Group and the organiser had attended a vetting meeting of WKCD on 30 August this year.

26. Members noted and endorsed the reports of the above two working groups.

VI. Reports on the work of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Islands District

(i) Cultural Activities

(Paper CACRC 41/2019)

27. The Chairman welcomed Ms WONG Fan-ni, Jasmine, Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion of LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

28. Ms Jasmine WONG briefly presented the paper.

29. Members noted the paper.

(ii) Extension Activities held in Public Libraries

(Paper CACRC 42/2019)

30. The Chairman welcomed Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Elaine, Senior Librarian (Islands) of LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

31. Ms Elaine KWOK briefly presented the paper.

32. Members noted the paper.

(iii) Sports and Recreational Activities
(Paper CACRC 43/2019)

33. The Chairman welcomed Ms Cherry CHAN, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands of LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

34. Ms Cherry CHAN briefly presented the paper.

35. Members noted the paper.

VII. Any Other Business

(i) On replacement of smart identity card for the elderly

36. Mr YUNG Chi-ming said that Members agreed to write to request the Immigration Department (Imm D) to provide assistance to the elderly residing in various areas of Islands District to replace smart identity card. He enquired about the progress so far.

37. The Chairman replied that the IDC Secretariat had previously reflected Members' view to Imm D in writing and the Imm D indicated that it would give response in due course. The Secretariat would distribute the reply to Members for perusal once available.

38. Mr YUNG Chi-ming enquired when Imm D would give the reply.

39. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to ask Imm D about the progress by telephone.

(Post-meeting note: On 2 September 2019, the Secretariat had written to reflect Members' views to Imm D which had given a written reply on 20 September 2019.)

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

40. The Chairman said that, as published in the Gazette, the Director of Home Affairs announced the suspension of the District Councils' operation from 4 October 2019 to 31 December 2019 to facilitate the holding of the ordinary election of the sixth term of District Councils. During the period of suspension of operation, meetings of District Councils and their committees and working groups, as well as the activities and schemes they organised or co-organised had to be suspended. In this connection, the meetings of the Committee and its working groups originally scheduled for 4 October 2019 and afterwards would be cancelled.

41. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

-END-