

(Translation)

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

Date : 3 May 2021 (Monday)
Time : 10:30 a.m.
Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room

Present

Mr WONG Man-hon (Chairman)	
Ms LAU Shun-ting (Vice-Chairman)	
Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP	
Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH	(Left at around 12:50 p.m.)
Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS, MH	(Left at around 12:45 p.m.)
Mr HO Chun-fai	(Left at around 1:20 p.m.)
Mr HO Siu-kei	
Ms WONG Chau-ping	
Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy	
Mr KWOK Ping, Eric	
Mr TSUI Sang-hung, Sammy	(Arrived at around 10:35 a.m.)
Mr FONG Lung-fei	
Mr LEE Ka-ho	
Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho	

Attendance by Invitation

Ms CHUNG Lai-tuen, Lily	Regional Officer/Hong Kong Island, Independent Commission Against Corruption
Ms TAI Yuet-sheung, Diana	Liaison Officer in-charge (Tung Chung South/Building Management), Islands District Office
Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold	Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands) 4, Housing Department

In Attendance

Mr LI Ho, Thomas	Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office
Ms CHOW Yuen-on, Alice	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHU Po-yee, Polly	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
Ms LAM Fong-shing, Florence	Senior School Development Officer (Wan chai & Islands), Education Bureau
Mr WONG Chi-leung	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/Southern/Islands) 2, Social Welfare Department
Mr LAM Kit-sing	Chairman, Islands District Sports Association

Secretary

Mr YEUNG Chiu-cheong, Mark	Executive Officer (District Council)1, Islands District Office
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Absent with Apologies

Mr CHAN Lin-wai
Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken
Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine

Absent

Mr WONG Chun-yeung

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Welcoming Remarks

The Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon welcomed representatives of the government departments, organisations and Members to the meeting.

2. Members noted Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Ken WONG, Ms YUEN Wai-kwan and Ms CHOI Kwok-por were unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

I. **Confirmation of the Minutes of Meeting held on 8.3.2021**

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

4. Members did not proposed any further amendment. The captioned minutes were confirmed unanimously.

II. Social Welfare Department Central Western, Southern and Islands District Social Welfare Office 2021-22 Annual Work Plan
(Paper CACRC 14/2021)

5. The Chairman welcomed Mr WONG Chi-leung, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/Southern/Islands) 2 of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to the meeting to present the paper.

6. Mr WONG Chi-leung briefly presented the paper.

7. Mr Randy YU enquired about the progress of the works for the conversion of the home for the aged of Tai O into a centre for the elderly.

8. Ms LAU Shun-ting noted that the SWD often organised activities jointly with different bodies and organisations. Currently, there were organisations providing services in the Lamma Island (including Sok Kwu Wan). As there were many demented elderly on the island, she asked whether the SWD would allocate more resources to enhance its outreaching services.

9. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He thanked the SWD for providing services in Tung Chung. He had repeatedly reflected during the last term of the District Council (DC) that there were many young night drifters (YNDs) in Tung Chung and had met with the Police, social workers of the Neighbourhood Advice Action Council (NAAC) and staff of the SWD to discuss the issue. However, the residents of Tung Chung were still disturbed by the YND problem. He opined that if the relevant departments and organisations continued to take a perfunctory attitude, the YND problem would never be solved. He urged the SWD to deal with the problem squarely.
- (b) It was learnt that six elderly residents living alone in the area had passed away this year as a result of untimely rescue. The problem was severe. At the meeting of the Estate Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) held early this year, he had requested the Housing Department (HD) to provide information of the elderly living alone to the SWD for follow-up. It was learnt that the SWD had allocated a lot of resources to the NAAC for solving the problem regarding the “hidden” elderly in Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate. He opined that the SWD was responsible for approving the funding applications and should therefore have the responsibility to step up monitoring of the performance of the relevant organisations.
- (c) DC Members had to handle cases of domestic violence and divorce, and even had to seek accommodation in other districts for some residents due to insufficient resources in the district. The SWD had the responsibility to support the disadvantaged.

- (d) According to the Government press release dated 30 April, the SWD had awarded a three-year service contract for the District Health Centre to the NAAC. He urged the SWD not to focus on individual organisations and suggested inviting the NAAC to report to the DC on the use of the SWD resources.

10. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) There were many people with special needs in the estate, but no adequate support was provided to them. Most of these people were unemployed. There was a family with a child with special needs, the parents still had to work at the age of about 70 while their child aged over 40 always followed the mother to work for a long time. He said that many families with members with special needs faced the same problems. However, they did not know that they could apply for residential care home placement for their children and leave them to be taken care of by professional staff. He proposed that the SWD should enhance publicity on the relevant programme.
- (b) As for the youth problem, he said that there were no recreational facilities such as skateboard grounds in the district. He enquired whether there were any non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that could provide overnight gathering venues for the YNDs and disseminate positive messages to them, so as to prevent them from loitering around or creating troubles.
- (c) There were often cases of elderly living alone who died at home due to untimely rescue and such cases would not be discovered until there was foul smell. He hoped that the SWD and the social welfare organisations would pay heed to the needs of the elderly.

11. Mr LEE Ka-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Due to the epidemic, some members of the public were laid off and classes in some schools were suspended. Therefore, conflicts among family members were more prone to occur and the noise would affect the neighbours. Some people had lost their source of income after being laid off and it was thus hard for them to sustain their livelihood. He was pleased to learn that the work targets of the SWD in the future were in line with the needs of the district, including addressing the mental health problems of families, the elderly and the youth caused by the epidemic.
- (b) There were many ethnic minority people living in Tung Chung. He found that they did not know or understand the anti-epidemic measures such as compulsory testing in a timely manner as there were delays in their receipt of the relevant messages. As the epidemic persisted, it was hoped that the SWD would formulate its work plan in the light of the epidemic situation.

- (c) Close contacts had to be quarantined at quarantine centres for 21 days, during which they had to be suspended from work and school. Although the Department of Health and the Civil Aid Service would send their staff to the centres to provide assistance, the service provided was insufficient. He hoped the SWD would send social workers to provide support.

12. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He had helped the mentally ill to seek assistance from the NGO(s), but the NGO(s) concerned adopted an ambiguous attitude and refused to comment whether the mentally ill were their service recipients, making it difficult for the DC Members to refer cases to them.
- (b) As for the cases where people needed to seek temporary accommodation because of domestic disputes, some organisations required the DC Members to arrange for interviews and assessments, but then said that the cases needed to be referred to organisations in other districts as the services needed were unavailable in the district. It was time consuming and inefficient. He opined that the NGOs should work with other groups in the district to provide temporary accommodation service.
- (c) As for the support to the elderly living alone and people with chronic illness in the district, the SWD could obtain their information from the HD, estate management offices and organisations in the district and provide services that addressed their needs. He said that many local residents did not know what types of service were provided in the district. He hoped that improvements would be made by organisations in the district.

13. Ms Amy YUNG expressed her views as follows:

- (a) There were many mobility-handicapped elderly living alone in the district. It was difficult for them to leave their residences. She proposed that the SWD and the Transport Department (TD) should cooperate with the social welfare organisations providing conveyance services to facilitate the travelling of such persons.
- (b) There were two social welfare organisations in Discovery Bay, including the NAAC which had been serving the district for years. She had invited the organisations to send representatives to the DC meeting to introduce their work, their future plans, service recipients and how the SWD funding was utilised, so that the DC Members would be able to assess whether their services met the needs of the community.

14. Mr WONG Chi-leung made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Funding for the refurbishment of the Tai O sub-office of the Tung Chung Integrated Services Centre had been granted by the department. During the

works period, services on limited scale would continue to be provided to the residents, including drop-in service which would be started when the epidemic situation subsided.

- (b) Currently, the elderly centres in the district would arrange volunteers to visit the elderly of Lamma Island. With regard to the strengthening of support for the elderly with dementia as proposed by Members, the department would convey the proposal to the relevant organisations.
- (c) The department would arrange social workers to provide counselling to the young people in need and follow up on their welfare needs. As for the noise nuisance to the nearby residents caused when the young people gathered at night, the social workers would convey Members' concern to them and remind them to be mindful of the issue. It was understood that apart from the counselling service, the social workers would also organise various activities for the young people. For example, they had borrowed the venues of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) for holding activities at night before the epidemic.
- (d) With regard to the cases of elderly living alone found dead at home, as medical issues were involved, the SWD did not have the detailed information on hand. However, in respect of the community support services to the elderly living alone, the Integrated Services Centre had been maintaining communication with the HD. It had also issued letters to about 200 elderly living alone in Yat Tung Estate in December last year via the HD to introduce the relevant services and had successfully got into contact with about 70 of them.
- (e) Residents could contact the social workers of the Integrated Services Centre for assistance if they faced family relationship problems. Social workers would refer domestic violence cases to refuge centres when necessary. To avoid nuisance by the abusers, the addresses of all the refuge centres were kept confidential and would not be disclosed to the public.
- (f) The District Health Centres were not under the purview of the department and thus no relevant information could be provided.
- (g) Regarding the support to persons with disabilities, there was a District Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities in Tung Chung for organising and providing various activities and support for them. The department would reflect Members' views to the centre and remind it to step up publicity work.
- (h) The department had briefly presented the support offered to the ethnic minorities at a full council meeting of the DC. It was understood that the Islands District Office (IsDO) would assist in follow-ups.

- (i) The department was providing two services for persons under compulsory quarantine. One was the provision of supplies reasonably needed to people undergoing home quarantine through referrals from the District Offices. The other service was targeted at people staying at the quarantine centres. Upon receipt of referrals, the SWD would provide feasible assistance to them in areas of welfare service to meet their needs.
- (j) As for the support for persons with suspected mental health problems, people in need could contact and seek assistance from the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness directly. He also welcomed the referral of cases in need of assistance by Members. The department had copied the case referral forms to Members earlier. On receipt of a completed referral form, the department would forward the case to the appropriate unit for follow-up. If necessary, the social workers would refer the persons concerned to the psychiatric clinics of the Hospital Authority (HA) for treatment after assessment.
- (k) Generally speaking, the elderly with mobility impairment could apply for the Rehabus service for transport. If they needed to attend a follow-up consultation, they could contact the hospital for arranging non-emergency ambulance transfer service. In addition, he would convey Members' views on the Integrated Services Centres to the operators concerned.

15. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) According to the investigations by the Police, many elderly living alone died at home because they did not receive timely rescue after falling. He proposed that the NGOs should hire social workers to call the elderly living alone on a daily basis. If any elderly living alone could not be reached, support should be provided as quickly as possible.
- (b) Recently, there were residents seeking assistance from him, saying that some persons with mental illness often yelled late at night and sometimes even threw dangerous objects out of the window, thereby causing serious nuisance. If the patients had an inclination to violence, assistance from the Police was necessary. He had asked the rehabilitation centres whether referrals could be made for the patients, but was told that the patients had to sign certain documents before any follow-up actions could be taken. He criticised that the system was defective. DC Members were not able to deal with the cases further because of the concern of patient privacy, and the patients' families were unable to help. He urged the SWD to intervene.

16. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Currently, the social welfare organisations were not able to offer appropriate assistance to the victims of family violence. There had been a case of a household applying for transfer due to dispute with neighbours. When

assistance was sought from the social workers, several interviews were required for the handling of the case. He understood that the department needed to scrutinise the applicant's eligibility, but the procedures were too complicated. Subsequently, the household's application for transfer was approved, but the new residence was far away from the community where they used to live. He criticised that such service failed to take into consideration the needs of the residents. He hoped that improvements would be made by the department.

- (b) The relevant departments failed to take follow-up actions in a timely manner after referrals were made by social workers. He urged the departments to allocate more resources and optimise the use of resources, and not to pass the buck to each other.

17. Mr Eric KWOK said that there was a structural problem in Tung Chung. All cases were handled by the same NGO regardless of whether the service recipients were children, young people, middle-aged, elderly, families, ethnic minorities or victims of family violence. He proposed to bring in other organisations to increase competition, so that the services would be improved. He said that the problem had existed for years and was deteriorating in the absence of a solution. As a result, members of the public had lost their confidence in NGOs. With the development of Tung Chung, there were more and more housing developments and population. Hence, it was impossible for one single organisation to deal with all the problems in the district. He urged the department to enhance monitoring efforts and report to the Islands District Council (IDC) regularly.

18. Ms Amy YUNG said that a commercial organisation had donated to Discovery Bay a bus worth \$600,000 for the physically handicapped a few years ago. Afterwards, a group formed by local residents renovated the bus at their own expense to serve the disadvantaged groups. However, as no coordination was offered by the management office and the owners' committee, the group had no choice but to terminate the service and the bus was then donated to the Hong Kong PHAB Association. She opined that the NAAC, with its abundant resources, should provide bus service for the physically-handicapped in Discovery Bay. She enquired of the SWD how this issue should be dealt with.

19. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that she had called the relevant departments and government clinics on behalf of a mental ill person to seek assistance, but was replied that the patient was an adult and hence should make the application by phone on his/her own out of privacy concern. She said such requirements were stringent and were making things difficult. She proposed that the department should set up a "special task" unit to specially arrange social workers to follow up on such cases, and to provide on-site services to the mentally ill in need to prevent their conditions from deteriorating.

20. Mr WONG Chi-leung made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Currently, the emergency alarm system could perform various functions, including showing care and concern for the elderly by making phone calls to

them regularly and on special days, automatically detecting the active status of the elderly and notifying their family members when necessary.

- (b) As for Members' criticism over the department's neglect of the needs of the mentally ill persons, he believed that there were misunderstandings. When cases were reported, the social workers would actively take follow-up actions to understand the needs of the patients. Support and referral would also be provided and made in the light of their situations. However, the social workers could not force the mentally ill persons to receive treatment unless the situations met the criteria of the Mental Health Ordinance.
- (c) As for the proposal of bringing in more organisations to enhance competition, he would reflect it to the headquarters.
- (d) As for Members' views on the services of the NGOs, he would reflect them to the organisations concerned.
- (e) The Rehabus would provide transport support service to persons with disabilities in need. He noted Members' concerns on the transport service for persons with disabilities.

21. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that an investigation showed a chairperson of a NGO could claim administrative expenses as much as two to three million dollars a year. However, their daily work was just attending banquets, which was seemingly a waste of public funds. He pointed out that the frontline social workers had to face many difficulties and great pressure at work, but the salaries they received were low. He urged the department to monitor the use of administrative expenses and to allocate more resources to the frontline staff.

22. Mr WONG Chi-leung said he would reflect the relevant views to the headquarters.

(Mr Sammy TSUI arrived at the meeting at around 10:35 a.m.)

III. Work Plan 2021/22 of the ICAC Regional Office (Hong Kong West/Islands) (Paper CACRC 15/2021)

23. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHUNG Lai-tuen, Lily, Regional Officer (Hong Kong Island), Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) to the meeting to present the paper.

24. Ms Lily CHUNG briefly presented the paper with the aid of PowerPoint presentation.

25. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He supported the anti-corruption work of the ICAC, but he had learnt that some senior staff members of the ICAC were subject to investigation after attending banquets held by NGOs. He proposed that the ICAC should formulate guidelines on public officers attending banquets hosted by NGOs.
- (b) The ICAC should monitor the election activities of the Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) of public housing estates. If a MAC gave out gifts in cooperation with other organisations, the ICAC was advised to look into the situation and send representatives to the EMAC meetings to deliver anti-corruption messages.
- (c) When the members of some trade unions or political parties entered the buildings of public housing estates, some security guards did not ask these visitors to do the registration. It was later found that these security guards had participated in the activities organised by the political parties for a small fee. He asked whether they would commit any corruption offences.

26. Mr Sammy TSUI pointed out that the Police received donations from many organisations every year. He asked whether the acceptance of such welfare services and financial support would involve corruption if it affected the law enforcement by the Police.

27. Ms Amy YUNG expressed her views as follows:

- (a) There were cases about the ICAC staff members receiving gifts. She opined that the staff of the ICAC should set a good example in order to promote the message of integrity to the general public.
- (b) She was glad to see that the young people of Hong Kong had taken integrity as one of their core values. She opined that apart from the young people, people working in the business sector and the political sector should also attach importance to integrity. It was mentioned that the ICAC received 1 924 corruption complaints last year, representing a drop of 16%. However, she was not sure whether it was the result of the decrease in business activities amid the epidemic as explained by the ICAC.
- (c) She opined that apart from monitoring the corruption situation in the business sector, the property management and construction industries, the ICAC should also look into corruption risks in the government departments and major infrastructure works such as the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the MTR projects.
- (d) As for the public opinion survey on the performance satisfaction of government departments, she enquired about the rankings of the ICAC in the past 5 years in order to understand the change of public recognition for the work of the Commission.

- (e) There was a three-year transitional period after the implementation of the licensing regime by the Property Management Services Authority. During this period, unlicensed property management companies would not be prosecuted. As a result, many companies had not yet submitted their applications. She enquired whether it was a mandatory requirement for a property management company to obtain a license under the licensing regime for providing property management services.

28. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Recently, it was reported that staff members of a contractor of the Third Runway Project of the Hong Kong International Airport had accepted illegal rebates from workers. As many of the workers lived in Tung Chung, he suggested that the ICAC should educate the residents to report the corrupt practices of the contractors (including works contractors of the Airport Authority).
- (b) It was learnt that the Government would allow Hong Kong residents living in the Greater Bay Area to vote in the coming election. He invited the ICAC to elaborate on the relevant arrangement.

29. Mr Randy YU expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He first thanked the ICAC for making its efforts for almost 50 years in the past, which had contributed to a corruption-free society in Hong Kong. He supported the ICAC to actively deliver anti-corruption messages to different age groups of the general public via various channels. As mentioned in the paper, it promoted the three core values of “integrity”, “law-abidingness” and “rule-abidingness” among the young people.
- (b) He fully supported the “Shine with Integrity” Youth Integrity Project and appreciated the exquisite production of the “Reading for Integrity” picture books. He believed that children would be attracted to read those books and he also looked forward to the publication of picture books in English by the ICAC.

30. Ms Lily CHUNG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The ICAC had conducted a comprehensive review a few years ago on its internal governance concerning official entertainment, duty visits and gifts for the ICAC officers, including amending its Standing Orders, restricting the power and responsibility of the approving officers and reviewing the relevant guidelines. The ICAC had also set up an internal audit group to regularly review the compliance of its different units.
- (b) The Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance enforced by the ICAC mainly governed the public elections of Hong Kong, but the elections

of MACs were excluded. Upon receipt of a complaint about bribery in the election of MACs or the routine management of housing estates, the ICAC would act in accordance with the laws and regulations if there was sufficient information. As for the suspected acceptance of advantages by the security guards, the ICAC would not comment on individual cases. According to the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (POBO), any agent soliciting and accepting any advantage (including money, gifts or discounts) as an inducement to or reward for performing, an act in relation to the principal's business might have contravened the POBO. When come across any suspected corruption, members of the public should report it to the ICAC.

- (c) The ICAC had previously sent its officers to attend the EMAC meetings to introduce its work and the POBO to the residents. The officers would attend such meetings in the future if necessary.
- (d) With regard to the management of the staff welfare funds of the government departments, the ICAC would not make comments on individual cases. Generally speaking, the acceptance of donations by the staff welfare funds of the government departments had to meet the requirements of rules and guidelines issued by the Civil Service Bureau (CSB), including the approval procedures and the approving authorities. From the perspective of corruption prevention, the donations should not give rise to any conflict of interest or misunderstanding. Upon receipt of complaints on suspected corrupt practices, the ICAC would take follow-up actions in accordance with the law.
- (e) The ICAC had always attached great importance to the anti-corruption education work provided for different government departments. Since Ethics Officers were appointed in most policy bureaux and government departments, the ICAC had maintained communications with the Ethics Officers to organise integrity-related seminars for personnel at all levels, and had also sent representatives to attend the Corruption Prevention Group meetings of individual departments.
- (f) The number of corruption complaints had dropped in 2020, particularly the figures of the private sector. There were various factors that would contribute to the increase/decrease of the figure such as the decline in economic activities during the epidemic and the public's concerns about other social and economic issues.
- (g) The ICAC Annual Survey mainly gauged the public opinion towards corruption, and their perception on the effectiveness of the ICAC's work and corruption issues in Hong Kong. No ranking was made in the survey in respect of the performance of the ICAC and other government departments.
- (h) There was a three-year transitional period for the implementation of the licensing regime for the property management industry. The property

management staff in service who did not meet the relevant requirements on academic qualification might attend the specified courses in the period. Upon the full implementation of the licensing regime, the property management companies providing more than one of the specified property management services were required to hold a licence. During the transitional period, if a property management company or a practitioner engaged in corrupt conduct, the ICAC would take follow-up actions in accordance with the law regardless of whether the company or the practitioner was licensed or not.

- (i) One of the ICAC's work initiatives for the year was to promote anti-corruption and integrity culture in the construction industry including the construction companies as well as government departments and public bodies which carrying out construction works. In recent years, the ICAC was concerned about some people soliciting advantages from frontline workers for offering job opportunities to them. Some of these cases involved ethnic minority groups and new arrivals to Hong Kong. The Community Relations Department had launched a publicity package titled "Integrity Matters in Everyday Life" in 2018 targeting these people. It included videos with subtitles of different languages, which delivered the messages of "Don't bribe" and "Report Corruption". The ICAC would continue to collaborate with different government departments, NGOs and schools to disseminate anti-corruption messages through various publicity activities such as seminars, distribution of leaflets, visits to ICAC, gatherings, etc.
- (j) As for elections, the ICAC enforced the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance and paid close heed to the Government's arrangements for improving the electoral system and the voting arrangements for electors outside Hong Kong. The ICAC would spare no effort to ensure clean elections under the improved system.
- (k) She reiterated that the cost for the "Shine with Integrity" Youth Integrity Project for Islands District was fully footed by the ICAC and there was no need to seek funding from the DC. It was hoped that the DC would render its support to the dissemination of probity message to the residents of Islands District.

31. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) It was learnt that most NGOs would accept donations and host banquets for civil servants. He hoped that the ICAC would proactively investigate whether such conduct was proper.
- (b) Regarding public servants' attendance at private banquets, he asked whether the ICAC had drawn up any anti-corruption measures or relevant guidelines for them.

- (c) He suggested that the ICAC should cite real cases in promoting the importance of integrity so as to deter members of the public from acting in defiance of the law.

32. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He asked whether the ICAC had formulated any guidelines on the acceptance of donations by government departments. He was worried that the Police Force might not enforce the law impartially after receiving the donations, and the integrity culture promoted by the ICAC would therefore be impaired. If a donor broke the law, the public would cast doubt on the ulterior motives behind the donations.
- (b) As the Government had provided considerable resources to the Police Force, he asked about the purposes of the relevant funds. He opined that the Police Force was a law enforcement agency, therefore there was public concern over it. The ICAC should formulate guidelines and policies in this regard to ease the public concerns.

33. Ms Amy YUNG said a government department had conducted a survey on the public's perception of the recognition of different government departments (including the ICAC), and the DC Members were also invited to give their ratings. She hoped that the ICAC would provide the relevant data for the past five years for Members' information.

34. Ms Lily CHUNG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The ICAC investigated corruption in government departments, public bodies and private sector. NGOs were categorised under private sector. Staff of such organisations were governed by the POBO. If any staff of these organisations involved in corrupt practice, the ICAC would handle the cases in accordance with the Ordinance. The ICAC had been maintaining close contact with the NGOs and had provided integrity trainings for their staff. The Corruption Prevention Department of the ICAC had also provided NGOs with corruption prevention guidelines and advice on the acceptance of donations and the internal operation, and had issued the best practices for their reference. The ICAC would continue to pay heed to the NGOs' needs for corruption prevention services.
- (b) The Civil Service Regulations (CSRs) and guidelines issued by the CSB regulated the acceptance of advantages and entertainment by civil servants (whether acting in a private or an official capacity). The ICAC also provided corruption prevention advice in this respect.
- (c) After an enforcement action was taken, the ICAC would publish a press release for the public's information. Actual cases relating to the participants' trades/sectors would be quoted in the integrity trainings and

seminars to remind them of the common corruption risks and traps. The ICAC had also produced the “ICAC Investigators” TV drama series based on real cases. A new series would be released in the following year.

(Post-meeting note of the ICAC: The ICAC had provided the relevant information to Mr FONG Lung-fei for his reference after the meeting.)

- (d) The ICAC would not comment on the operation of the staff welfare funds of individual law enforcement departments. Government departments had to follow the rules and guidelines issued by the CSB for the acceptance of donations to their welfare funds, including the handling of the donations and the approving procedures.
- (e) Civil servants who accepted advantages for abusing their official positions or performing their duties would contravene the POBO. Civil servants were also required to abide by the Acceptance of Advantages (Chief Executive’s Permission) Notice (AAN) when accepting advantages in private capacity.
- (f) In the ICAC Annual Surveys for 2020 and 2019, 93.2% and 96.3% of the respondents considered that the ICAC deserved their support respectively. This figure had been stood at 90% or above over the past years.

(Post-meeting note of the ICAC: The ICAC had provided the aforesaid data for the past five years to Ms Amy YUNG for her reference after the meeting.)

35. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said large quantities of fruit were presented to the Police by members of the public. He asked whether such acts were lawful and enquired about the guidelines in this regard.

36. Ms Lily CHUNG said that no comments would be made on individual cases, but she pointed out that donations to staff welfare funds should be distinguished from those to individual staff member(s). As for the donations to staff welfare funds, there were established rules and regulations from the CSB, while for the donations offered to individual staff member(s), the officers had to observe the POBO and the AAN. In addition, people might contravene the POBO by offering advantages to civil servants with an intention to affect their execution of duties; or offering advantages to the officers of the departments with which they had official dealings.

37. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that he learnt from newspapers that a society and the Chairman of the Eastern District Council had presented gifts and condolence letters to the North Point Police Station. The recipients were police officers instead of the welfare fund, and the value of the gifts distributed to each officer did not exceed the limit set by AAN. He asked whether such practice was lawful. He hoped that Ms Lily CHUNG would provide the relevant ordinance(s) for Member’s reference after the meeting.

38. Mr HO Siu-kei said that if a person suspected that there was a violation of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance or a conflict of interest, he/she should report it to the ICAC.

39. Ms Lily CHUNG reiterated that she would not comment on individual cases. The ICAC welcomed people making reports of suspected corruption and bribery, and would take follow-up actions stringently. The ICAC could provide the AAN issued by the CSB and the relevant corruption prevention regulations to the Member after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note of the ICAC: The ICAC had provided the relevant information to Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho for his reference after the meeting.)

40. The Chairman invited Members to vote by a show of hands on whether the IDC would be a supporting organisation for the “Shine with Integrity” Youth Integrity Project 2021/22 for the Islands District and whether they would agree to the display of the IDC logo on the project publicity material of the ICAC.

41. Members voted by a show of hands. There were 13 votes in favour, one vote against and zero abstention. The paper was endorsed.

(Members voted in favour included: the Chairman Mr WONG Man-hon; Ms LAU Shun-ting, Mr Randy YU, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Ms Amy YUNG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei, and Mr LEE Ka-ho. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho voted against.)

IV. Question on Yat Tung Estate Mutual Aid Committee re-election
(Paper CACRC 16/2021)

V. Question on progress of formation of Mun Tung Estate Mutual Aid Committees
(Paper CACRC 17/2021)

42. The Chairman suggested discussing agenda items IV and V together as both of them were related to MACs. He welcomed Ms TAI Yuet-sheung, Diana, Liaison Officer in-charge (Tung Chung South/Building Management) of the IsDO and Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold, Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands) 4 of the HD to the meeting to respond to the questions. The consolidated written reply of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) headquarters and the IsDO and the written reply of the HD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

43. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question.

44. Mr Eric KWOK briefly presented the question.

45. Ms Diana TAI briefly presented the written reply.

46. Mr Arnold HAU made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The Housing Authority (HA) established EMACs in the public housing estates under its management, with an aim to provide a forum for the residents' representatives and the elected DC Members whose constituency covered the estate to provide advice on estate management matters to the EMAC chairman and to make proposals on the management of the estate through regular meetings.
- (b) The Members' Manual of EMACs clearly stipulated the composition of an EMAC. The chairmanship would be held by Housing Manager or Property Service Manager, while the members would include the chairman or elected representatives of each MAC of the estate and the elected DC Members whose constituency covered the estate. The term of the EMAC members were two years, commencing on 1 April each year. In case of retirement of a member, the vacancy would be filled by the successor or a nominee from the organisation to which the retired member belonged.
- (c) To ensure an adequate representation of the estate residents in the EMAC, MACs had to be established in no less than half of the residential buildings in an estate, and the chairman or elected representatives of each MAC of the estate should act as the members of the EMAC. As for Mun Tung Estate, the HA could prepare for the formation of an EMAC once two MACs were established.
- (d) The HA would proactively coordinate with the IsDO in this regard, so as to commence the preparation work for setting up the EMAC of Mun Tung Estate as far as practicable.

47. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He enquired whether the chairpersons of the relevant MACs had been consulted on the extension of the term of the MACs. He said that some chairpersons were dissatisfied with the purely voluntary nature of the work of the MACs without salary.
- (b) He enquired whether there was any supervision on the operation of the MACs. If yes, which government department was responsible for it. He noticed that some MAC members often gambled on the MAC premises and allowed non-residents to participate in activities organised by the MACs. For example, there had been a trip for which the registration was open at 8 p.m. The residents queued up at 7 p.m. for the registration but were told that the quota was exhausted. In the end, assistance was sought from the Police. It was learnt that the activity mentioned above was co-organised by a political party and was subsidised with the DC fund. He asked whether it was appropriate to let non-residents register in advance.
- (c) Many residents expressed that they did not know who the MAC members were and their contact information. Residents had sought his assistance in

respect of problems such as poor hygiene of the refuse collection rooms, the long-standing piles of garbage and the leakage of water pipes, but most of the cases should be handled by the MACs. Although the lists of MAC members would be announced in one week after the election, such lists were only posted for a very short time without releasing the contact phone numbers or other information of the members. He asked whether the lists of MAC members could be made open and requested the department to look into ways to publicise the functions of the MACs among the residents.

- (d) The existing MACs were not proactive in handling problems related to the residential buildings. According to his observation, the keys to some MAC offices were kept by non-residents, and those people had free access to the offices and could store the political party propaganda materials in the offices. He asked whether it was a violation of the MAC rules and urged the departments concerned to follow up.

48. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Mun Tung Estate had no MAC or EMAC, and it was in lack of resources for maintenance and cleaning. The estate even could not afford the festive decorations. Some residents had thus complained to him. After he reflected the issue to the property management office, the management office had purchased New Year decorations at its own expense these two years. He thanked the management office for its response to the relevant request.
- (b) Early last year, some parents reflected that from time to time, there were children jumping from the rooftop of JoysMark to the cover of the opposite footbridge and chasing each other there, which was very dangerous. He had arranged a meeting with representatives of the HD and the management office, and suggested the addition of fences to prevent the children from playing at that location. Eventually, the facilities were built by the HD. If any major works needed to be carried out, applications for funding could only be made after the EMAC for Mun Tung Estate was established.
- (c) The IsDO had the obligation to safeguard the interest of the residents of Mun Tung Estate, including ensuring residents' safety and improving environmental hygiene. He understood that the IsDO was busy with anti-epidemic work. However, as the epidemic situation had stabilised, he hoped the IsDO would respond to the residents' request by assisting in the formation of MACs in Mun Tung Estate, so that adequate resources would be secured to address the problems and to avoid deepening public grievance.

49. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He asked that apart from the MAC election, whether the department had temporarily suspended other work due to the epidemic. If other work had

resumed normal, he opined that it was unacceptable to suspend the MAC election.

- (b) There were two public housing estates in Cheung Chau. Some MAC chairpersons of Cheung Kwai Estate were senior in age and wished to retire from the chairmanship. He was worried that the election would not be held until a year later due to the epidemic. He asked whether the election would continue to be postponed and whether the posts would be left vacant in case that the chairpersons or other committee members resigned. He criticised that such arrangements were inappropriate and proposed to hold the election on a normal schedule.

50. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Apart from Mun Tung Estate, Ying Tung Estate also needed to form its MACs as soon as possible in order to deal with the issues of concern to residents, such as environmental hygiene.
- (b) Currently, many government departments had gradually resumed their normal operations. He was of the view that the MAC election should be relaunched. It was believed that not many people would be involved and therefore it should not have much impact on the epidemic situation.
- (c) A Member had just mentioned that MACs should first be established, then the EMAC could be formed and funding applications could be made for building management matters including the holding of festive activities. If the establishment of MACs was delayed, the management companies or the HD would need to allocate additional resources for building management.
- (d) MACs could enhance residents' sense of belonging to the housing estates. Thus he requested the HAD to consider relaunching the MAC election.

51. Ms Amy YUNG expressed her views as follows:

- (a) The epidemic had subsided at present and many listed companies had started to hold meetings again. She asked why the MACs had not yet resumed normal operations.
- (b) The District Offices would assist the housing estates in the election of owner's committee (OC) and management committee members. She asked why the lists of the committee contact persons and the latest information such as the dates of meetings and the attendance by the members were not posted on the notice boards of the buildings.

(Post-meeting note of the IsDO: OCs were formed in accordance with the deeds of mutual covenant of the buildings.)

- (c) Apart from the MACs, there were also problems in the election of OCs in private housing estates: some large housing estates failed to hold meetings, while some small housing estates appointed non-residents and non-owners to the OCs without notifying the residents, and residents attending the meetings were told that such appointments were authorised, rendering the representativeness of the OCs in doubt. Problems in housing estates often needed to be handled by DC Members. When she tried to learn more about the situation from the members, they replied that they were not clear about it. The OCs was practically rendered useless. She urged the HAD to squarely face the problems in respect of the formation of MACs and OCs of the private housing estates.
- (d) Some Members had pointed out that there was abuse of authority by MAC chairpersons. She had witnessed during an event that someone claiming to be an OC volunteer jumped the queue to board the bus and as a result, some elderly persons with tickets were not able to board the bus and had to refund their tickets.
- (e) The HAD had the obligation to ensure adequate representation in the MACs and OCs so that the residents' views could be reflected. Currently, there were many problems in the public and private housing estates. It was hoped that the department would face up to the demands of residents, handle election matters fairly, listen to public views and alleviate the hardship of people.

52. Ms Diana TAI responded as follows:

- (a) The department noted Members' views.
- (b) In view of the rampant outbreak of the epidemic, the HAD had to minimise social contact given expert advice for the sake of public health. Therefore, a temporary suspension arrangement was made.
- (c) Regarding the channels for residents to express their views to the MACs, generally speaking, there was a duty system in place in the MACs. The MACs would meet the residents during specific hours to listen to their views. In view of the epidemic situation, there might be changes in their duty arrangements. In addition, letter boxes were set up at each MAC and residents could raise their views to the MACs in writing.
- (d) As for the non-members' possession of keys to the MAC premises and the improper use of the MAC premises, the IsDO had already referred the matters to the HD for follow-up.
- (e) As for the MACs and residents' request for the prompt resumption of election, the HAD would conduct reviews in due course, having regard to the epidemic situation. Upon the HAD headquarters' announcement of the

end of the temporary suspension, the IsDO would resume the MAC election as soon as possible. The IsDO had confirmed with the HAD headquarters at the end of April that the temporary suspension arrangement was still in force.

- (f) In accordance with the Model Rules for a MAC in a Public Housing Estate (Model Rules), a resident representative had to be a tenant or a person authorised by a tenant. After members were elected at the floor meetings or the general meetings of resident representatives, the IsDO would verify their resident identity with the HD and their membership would only be confirmed after the verification. Only residents' representatives could become MAC members.
- (g) Arrangements for activities organised by the MACs or co-sponsored by the MACs with other organisations should be decided by the organisers.

53. Mr Arnold HAU responded as follows:

- (a) Regarding the suspected gambling activities and meal gatherings on the MAC premises of Yat Tung Estate as mentioned by Mr FONG Lung-fei, since the use of the premises was under the purview of the HD, he would notify the Property Service Manager responsible to contact Mr FONG Lung-fei for follow-up. The HD would investigate whether there was any improper use of the premises. In case that the breach of the tenancy agreement was confirmed, the relevant unit would be surrendered.
- (b) As for the addition of rooftop balustrade proposed by Mr Eric KWOK, the department had already complete a mock up at the said location and had confirmed the extent of the balustrade to be added after discussing with Mr Eric KWOK at a meeting earlier. He also agreed with Mr Eric KWOK that estate management issue could be improved if the funding from the EMAC was available. The HD would follow up on the installation of basic rooftop balustrade.

54. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He enquired whether the postponement was accepted by the MAC members. If they accepted it, they should be well aware of their duties. Being holders of public offices, they should take up their responsibilities of building management and should not complain that no salary was paid.
- (b) The MAC members refused to disclose their contact information to the residents on the ground of privacy. Even if residents in the community called the District Office to ask for the phone numbers of the MAC members, the District Office would also refuse the requests for the same reason. They would only ask the residents to leave their phone numbers and wait for the MACs' replies. As it was easier to contact the DC Members than the MAC

members, residents in the community could only contact him in the end. He asked whether the MAC members were protected under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance because they were not paid, but if they were paid, they had to make their information public. He requested the parties concerned to follow up on it.

- (c) As for the MAC duty system, he had noticed that there was no one on duty before the epidemic outbreak. Letters dropped into the letter boxes were not attended to and the members did not meet residents in the community regularly either. The door locks and the letter boxes of the MACs had rusted. Letters in the letter boxes were exposed to wind and rain. It was not convincing at all to say that there were members on duty. Many residents in the community had discontent about it. As a result, even the very trivial matters had to be handled by the DC Members.
- (d) The MAC members had repeatedly mentioned at meetings that they were not salaried. He hoped that the department would consider paying them salaries.
- (e) He did not understand why the MAC members, knowing the posts were on a voluntary basis, still took up the membership and even asked the community organisers to canvass for them in the MAC chairman elections. He pointed out that the community organisers should have no relation with the MACs. He hoped that the HAD and the HD would investigate why the community organisers could join the electioneering teams for the MAC election. In addition, if residents could only contact the DC Members when facing problems, it would be better to cancel the MACs.

(Post-meeting note of the IsDO: The IsDO's community organisers assisted the MACs in holding floor meetings, general meetings of floor representatives or general meetings of residents' representatives in order to ensure that the election procedures conformed to the Model Rules, but they would not join any electioneering teams.)

55. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He thanked the HD for utilising its resources to assist in the basic security, maintenance, hygiene work of Mun Tung Estate. He knew the discontent among the Mun Tung Estate residents had intensified as they were unable to put forward their views to the HD or the estate property manager in the past two years. He opined that the government departments needed to face up to the problem, otherwise it would get out of hand.
- (b) He hoped the Chairman would write to the HAD in the name of the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee to arrange for the establishment of the Mun Tung Estate Mutual Aid Committee, so as to

safeguard the interest and welfare of the residents. Also, Mun Tung Estate lacked resources due to the absence of an EMAC. As the epidemic had subsided gradually, prompt actions should be taken to establish the MACs as soon as possible, and then the EMAC should be formed to apply for funding for carrying out the work.

56. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The representative of the IsDO had just said that the temporary suspension arrangement was made by the HAD headquarters. He enquired whether representatives of the HAD headquarters had been invited to the meeting. If yes, why they were absent from the meeting. He also pointed out that the IsDO only repeated the written reply of the HAD headquarters when responding to the question, which was no different from being absent from the meeting.
- (b) He enquired again that apart from the election, whether the HAD headquarters and the IsDO had suspended other services as a result of the epidemic. In addition, as the election had been deferred for more than one year, he asked whether the continued operation of the MACs had contravened the law. As mentioned by Mr FONG Lung-fei, it was stipulated in the Model Rules that members of the MACs were appointed for a specified term. However, as the HAD had stopped assisting in the election for the time being, he asked whether the HD and the MAC chairpersons could proceed with the election and then report to the HAD.

57. Mr Thomas LI made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The Model Rules were formulated by the HAD headquarters and the MAC election was temporarily suspended by the HAD due to the epidemic. Thus the HAD would not accuse the MACs of breaching the Model Rules.
- (b) In response to Members' enquiry as to whether any other services were suspended by the IsDO as a result of the epidemic, he cited the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres as an example, saying that services at these Centres had been temporarily suspended when the epidemic was severe.
- (c) The HAD deferred the MAC election in order to avoid group gatherings. For the similar reason, the Government had decided to postpone the Legislative Council election and the District Council by-elections.
- (d) The IsDO had invited representatives of the HAD headquarters to the meeting, yet the HAD headquarters had stated in its consolidated written reply that the IsDO would represent the HAD headquarters in responding to these questions.

58. Mr Arnold HAU said he had no supplementary information.

59. Ms Diana TAI said that at the general meeting of floor representatives and the general meeting of residents' representatives, the IsDO had briefed the attendees on the main duties of the various posts. A letter had also been sent to the MACs on 17 February 2020, indicating that the term of office of the MACs had been extended.

60. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said he understood that due to the epidemic, elections had been deferred across all districts. However, he raised the question because the MAC election had been deferred for a year without any further updates, while for the Legislative Council election, a timetable had been provided. He said it was perplexing that the election was postponed on account of avoiding group gatherings. When compulsory testing was carried out in Cheung Chau and Tung Chung recently, there was gathering of people, but no control measure had been taken. He wished to know whether the department had had internal discussions on the MAC election rather than suspending all election work.

61. Mr FONG Lung-fei enquired whether the department had consulted the chairpersons of the MACs on the extension of their terms of office. In addition, the internal expenditure of a MAC was about \$3,000 every three months. He proposed to provide allowance to the MAC chairpersons for discharging their duties, including attending the IDC meetings or attending banquets on behalf of the MACs.

(Post-meeting note of the IsDO: The MACs could apply to the IsDO for reimbursement on an accountable basis, provided that the reimbursed amount had to be used to run the MAC offices or discharge functions of the MACs. The maximum reimbursable amount was \$2,000 quarterly.)

62. Mr Thomas LI said that Mr FONG Lung-fei's proposal of paying salary to the MAC members would imply additional resources, thus would require the HAD headquarters' consideration. The IsDO would convey to the HAD this proposal as well as Members' request for the prompt relaunching of the MAC election.

63. Ms Diana TAI said that after a letter on the extension of term of office was sent to the MACs by the IsDO on 17 February 2020, no objection was received from the MAC chairpersons.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat of the IDC had written to the HAD headquarters to reflect Members' views.)

(Mr YUNG Chi-ming left the meeting at around 12:45 p.m., Mr CHOW Yuk-tong left the meeting at around 12:50 p.m. and Mr HO Chun-fai left the meeting at around 1:20 p.m.)

VI. Reports by Working Groups

(i) CACRC Vetting Group

64. The Chairman said that at the meeting held on 13 April this year, the Vetting Group had processed 24 funding applications for community involvement projects to be held from June to August this year. The relevant proposals would be submitted to the Committee for approval by circulation.

65. Members unanimously endorsed the above working group report.

VII. Any Other Business

66. Ms Amy YUNG said that two days ago, a foreign domestic helper in Tung Chung was confirmed to have been infected with novel coronavirus, which involved mutant strains. The Government then required all foreign domestic helpers in Hong Kong to undergo compulsory testing. She opined that such an arrangement lacked thorough considerations as members of the public would have to spend a long time queuing for testing. She hoped the department would review the arrangement. It was rather inconvenient for the residents of Discovery Bay to go to Central for testing. Tung Chung was close to Discovery Bay. The IsDO should set up a testing station in Discovery Bay to divert the people flow, so that residents would not need to queue under the scorching sun or pouring rain for testing. She believed that all Members present would agree to the proposal, but the IsDO had not yet made any response. She criticised the Government for its improper response to this unexpected incident. Also there were confusion and a lack of clear guidelines in the check-in arrangement at the Penny's Bay Quarantine Centre, which had led to dissatisfaction among the persons concerned.

67. Mr FONG Lung-fei hoped the IsDO would convey the relevant views to the authorities. The mobile specimen collection station at Fu Tung Estate would only operate till the next day. After that, residents had to go to Tung Chung North for testing, which would be inconvenient. Many people, especially the elderly of the old housing estates in Tung Chung West, considered that testing was necessary. He suggested setting up a testing station in Sheung Ling Pei Village to facilitate the residents of Yat Tung Estate, Mun Tung Estate and Yu Tai Court.

68. Mr LEE Ka-ho expressed his views as follows:

- (a) After a confirmed case was found in Tung Chung, residents were required to have testing on the 7th, 14th and 21st days. He agreed that there were not enough mobile specimen collection stations. He said that the current mobile specimen collection stations at Fu Tung Estate and other locations were temporary stations, and he was worried that the one at the soccer pitch in the Tung Chung North Park might not be able to meet the demand of the entire district. He enquired whether any long-term measures would be introduced.
- (b) Some Members expressed their wish to discuss with the relevant departments the testing arrangements for the general public (including the

foreign domestic helpers). He proposed to convene a special meeting to reflect the residents' requests and to follow up on it.

69. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Regarding the confirmed case at Caribbean Coast, he opined that the department had made arrangements hastily. He added that the Government's approach in the current anti-epidemic work was very different from that during the outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome. The Government used to have communications with persons from local communities, but now the DC Members were placed in a passive position, in which they always had to wait for the HAD or other government departments' announcement of the relevant arrangements, rendering it difficult for the general public to keep abreast of the latest situation.
- (b) Many testing contractors were under-staffed and there was confusion in their arrangements. There had been an incident where more than a thousand people were queueing for testing at a station, which had led to dissatisfaction among the people. He opined that the epidemic had persisted for over one year, the Government therefore should have accumulated sufficient experience. However, the performance of the Government was deteriorating and it even passed the buck to the contractors. He proposed that the Government should consider appointing more part-time staff to assist in the testing work.

70. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Last week's case was unexpected. He thanked the staff of the IsDO for their immediate communication with the DC Members via communications software, which enabled Members to disseminate the most updated information to residents. He also expressed understanding for the inadequacy of the arrangement.
- (b) He proposed to set up additional testing centres at the Man Tung Road Park and the Tat Tung Road Garden next to the Tung Chung Cable Car Station respectively to facilitate testing for the residents of the Tung Chung Town Centre, Yat Tung Estate and the old villages.

71. Mr Randy YU said that the service of the mobile specimen collection station at Fu Tung Estate had been extended for three more days. Although a 3-day extension might not be sufficient, it could be seen that the departments concerned had rolled out measures in response to the epidemic situation. At present, only 200 specimen collection packs were distributed to Mui Wo daily. He had reflected to the Food and Health Bureau and the HA the inadequacy of specimen collection packs and had requested for more packs to be distributed, but it took time for the relevant arrangements to be made. In addition, he supported Mr LEE Ka-ho's proposal of convening an emergency meeting.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

72. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 5 July 2021 (Monday) at 10:30 a.m.

-END-