

(Translation)

Minutes of Meeting of Islands District Council

Date : 5 September 2022 (Monday)
Time : 2:00 p.m.
Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room,
14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Present

Chairman

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP

Vice-Chairman

Mr WONG Man-hon, MH

Members

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH	
Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS, MH	
Mr CHAN Lin-wai, MH	
Mr HO Chun-fai	(Arrived at around 2:05 p.m.)
Mr HO Siu-kei	(Left at around 3:50 p.m.)
Ms WONG Chau-ping	(Arrived at around 2:10 p.m.)
Mr KWOK Ping, Eric	
Mr FONG Lung-fei	

Attendance by Invitation

Ms WONG Siu-fan, Susanna	Senior Architect 12, Housing Department
Mr CHAN Wai-leung, Ivan	Civil Engineer 18, Housing Department
Mr LAU Kar-kay	Planning Officer 11, Housing Department
Ms CHENG Hiu-tung, Stephanie	Architect 62, Housing Department
Ms CHUNG Dip-fun, Sarah	Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands)5, Housing Department
Ms LAM Fong-shing, Florence	Senior School Development Officer (Wan Chai & Islands), Education Bureau
Mr LEUNG Chui-choi, Dennis	Principal Regulatory Affairs Manager (Regulatory 13), Office of the Communications Authority
Mr WOO Pak-ming	Senior Controller of Telecommunications (Enforcement), Office of the Communications Authority
Mr NG Kar-lai, Patrick	Controller of Telecommunications (Monitoring), Office of the Communications Authority

Mr MUI Lam-sang, Roger	Chief Tobacco and Alcohol Control Inspector 2, Department of Health
Ms FONG Long-hei, Chloe	Executive Officer (Prosecution and Support)1, Department of Health
Mr TSAI King-hang	Divisional Commander (Revenue Investigation)3, Customs and Excise Department
Mr Eddie HO	Senior Manager, Hutchison Telecommunications (Hong Kong) Limited
Mr Andy CHUNG	Assistant Manager, Hutchison Telecommunications (Hong Kong) Limited
Mr Adrian LEE	Vice President, Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited
Mr John YAN	Assistant Vice President, Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited
Mr TSE Sik-lun, Leo	Coverage Planning Manager, China Mobile Hong Kong Company Limited
Ms HO Wing-sze, Angel	Senior Leasing Officer, China Mobile Hong Kong Company Limited
Mr LEE Ying-chung	Senior Manager, SmarTone Telecommunications Holdings Limited
Mr KWOK Sai-ming, Simon	Manager, SmarTone Telecommunications Holdings Limited

In Attendance

Ms YEUNG Wai-sum, Amy, JP	District Officer (Islands), Islands District Office
Mr LI Ho, Thomas	Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office
Ms WONG Ka-ming, Grace	Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office
Mr CHAN Yat-kin, Kaiser	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Islands District Office
Mr LEE Sun-fu, Joe	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Islands District Office
Mr LAM Wai-chuen, Eddie	Senior Engineer/17 (Lantau) Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms TANG Tsui-yee, Caroline	District Planning Officer/Sai Kung & Islands, Planning Department
Ms YAN Lai-ming, Jenny	District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/Southern/ Islands), Social Welfare Department
Mr LING Ka-fai	District Lands Officer/Islands (District Lands Office, Islands), Lands Department
Mr TSANG Wai-man	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Islands), Lands Department
Ms KWAN Ka-mun, Karen	Chief Transport Officer/Islands, Transport Department
Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan	District Commander (Lantau), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms LI Ka-chai, Denise	Police Community Relations Officer (Lantau District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr CHAN Sheung-yung, Cyrus	Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District), Hong Kong Police Force

Mr HUI Kar-nung	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric	Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr TO Chak-foo	Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island and Islands), Housing Department
Ms LIM Ting-ting, Sylvia	Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms SIU Kit-ping, Currie	District Leisure Manager (Islands), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Secretary

Ms Kennis CHAN	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Islands District Office
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Absent with Apology

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken
Ms LAU Shun-ting

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**Welcoming Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the Islands District Council (IDC) meeting and introduced the following representatives of departments:

- (a) Mr HUI Kar-nung, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands), who replaced Ms LAI Wing-sau, Winsy, and Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric, Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1 of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD);
- (b) Mr TO Chak-foo, Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island and Islands) of the Housing Department (HD), who replaced Ms LEE Sin-man;
- (c) Mr CHAN Sheung-yung, Cyrus, Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District), who replaced Mr LEONG Seong-iam, and Ms LI Ka-chai, Denise, Police Community Relations Officer (Lantau District), who replaced Mr LO Tim-fat, Frankie of the Hong Kong Police Force; and

- (d) Mr LAM Wai-chuen, Eddie, Senior Engineer/17 (Lantau) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) who stood in for Mr CHENG Yuk-lung, Stanley.

2. Members noted that Mr Ken WONG and Ms LAU Shun-ting were unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

I. Confirmation of the Minutes of Meeting held on 20 June 2022

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

4. Members had no other amendment proposals. The minutes were confirmed unanimously.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Mr Randy YU, the Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Mr Eric KWOK and Mr FONG Lung-fei.)

(Mr HO Chun-fai arrived at around 2:05 p.m.)

II. Public Housing Developments at Tung Chung Area 133  
(Paper IDC 36/2022)

5. The Chairman welcomed Ms WONG Siu-fan, Susanna, Senior Architect 12, Mr CHAN Wai-leung, Ivan, Civil Engineer 18, Mr LAU Kar-kay, Planning Officer 11 and Ms CHENG Hiu-tung, Stephanie, Architect 62 of the HD and Ms LAM Fong-shing, Florence, Senior School Development Officer (Wan Chai & Islands) of the Education Bureau (EDB) to the meeting to present the paper.

6. Ms Susanna WONG briefly presented the paper with the aid of PowerPoint presentation.

7. The Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He was pleased to learn that the reclamation works were progressing well and the construction of public housing could start shortly. He expressed his support for the developments.
- (b) Apart from the construction of public housing, the department should also make a comprehensive plan for transport, so as to provide residents in the area with good transport services.

- (c) After the public housing developments were completed, as there would not be many shops in the district at first, there might be very few choices of commodities in the market and their prices could be high. He hoped the departments concerned could manage the operation of the market properly.
- (d) After the completion of the Tung Chung New Town Extension project, the population of Tung Chung would increase to over 300 000. As there was a lack of venues for large-scale performances in the Islands District, he hoped the departments concerned could reserve land in the district for the construction of a large-scale performance venue, so that different shows such as oldies concerts and Cantonese opera performances could be held.
- (e) The area of the Tung Chung New Town reclamation works was close to the three indigenous villages in Mui Wo, namely Pak Mong Village, Ngau Kwu Long Village and Tai Ho Village, where there were currently no sewage treatment facilities or standard roads. He asked the CEDD whether it would consider reserving sites in Areas 131 and 136 for the construction of sewage pumping stations, so that sewage treatment services could be provided to the three villages in Mui Wo.

8. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The population of Tung Chung Areas 99 to 133 would exceed 100 000 in 2030. He was pleased to learn that the department planned to provide elderly service facilities in the region. He enquired about the number of places to be provided in the proposed residential care homes for the elderly with day care units and the hostels for moderately mentally handicapped persons mentioned in the paper respectively and whether the number of places could meet the demand of the region.
- (b) The paper mentioned that the public housing developments in Area 133 would be completed in 2030. He asked if the population intake of the housing developments concerned started in 2031, whether the public market in Area 133 could be opened by 2031 to serve the residents. He hoped the departments concerned could provide the completion schedule of the public market.
- (c) He supported building various sports facilities in public housing estates, such as basketball courts and badminton courts. However, he was concerned that the selection of locations for the facilities had to follow the criteria of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. He pointed out that there were basketball courts on the rooftops of Carpark Nos. 1 to 3 in the centre of Yat Tung Estate, and there were often young night drifters gathering there, causing noise nuisance. He had sought assistance from the Police and the

Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council, but the problem remained unsolved. He then took the volleyball court adjacent to Luk Yat House as another example. Due to the noise and nuisance generated by the public use of the volleyball court, the court had to be closed at night to avoid group gatherings. In view of such situations, he hoped the department could carefully select the locations for the facilities, so as to reduce the impact on residents.

- (d) He pointed out that most of the young couples in Yat Tung Estate had to go out to work, but the child care services in the district could not meet the demand. He therefore expressed concern about the child care services in the development plan and hoped the relevant departments could increase the provision of full-day child care services in the district.
- (e) He asked whether the primary and secondary schools in the district could cope with the demand arising from the increase in population.
- (f) He asked the departments concerned whether a community hall and an indoor stadium would be built in the development area.
- (g) He asked the department whether any facilities would be built to connect Area 133 with the Tung Chung East MTR Station.

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

- (a) He expressed concern about the greening work. Taking Yat Tung Estate as an example, he pointed out that some tree species planted in the estate, such as the Mountain Fig and the Chinese Banyan, were invasive. Their roots would grow to lift the surface of the pathways, posing dangers to pedestrians. Many elderly people had fallen and been injured due to such problems and he had called the Police for them. He hoped the department would make careful selection of greening plants during the course of planning and avoid choosing invasive trees that would cause damage to roads. He said although the relevant departments had erected fences for the trees in Mun Tung Estate, the tree species planted in the estate were invasive. Taking Yat Tung Estate as another example, he pointed out that since the planting pits were not deep enough, the roots of the trees would be exposed as the trees grew, resulting in the collapse of trees under strong winds. He suggested that the relevant departments should choose small-sized trees that were not invasive and with deep roots, so as not to obstruct the sight of pedestrians and ventilation or foster the breeding of mosquitoes around the exposed roots.
- (b) He agreed with Mr Eric KWOK that the problem of noise nuisance should be taken into account in the selection of sites for sports venues.

- (c) He pointed out that the badminton court in Yat Tung Estate was located at a windy position, therefore the public were not able to play badminton there, and the venue was used for other purposes or even left unused, which was wasteful of resources. He hoped the department would take the said factor into consideration when selecting the sites for badminton courts.

10. Ms Susanna WONG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) With regard to transport planning, the department agreed that consideration must be given to whether the demand of the entire population of the district could be coped with. As for pedestrian traffic, it only took about 5 to 10 minutes to walk from Area 133 to the Tung Chung East MTR Station. In addition, the Tung Chung East Extension Area had an extensive cycle track network. The cycle tracks of nine kilometres long connected the entire extension area with the Tung Chung Town Centre. Details would be provided by the relevant departments.
- (b) The Tung Chung East MTR Station would commence operation in 2029 and become an important project supporting the transport of Tung Chung East. Apart from railways, the Government would also provide road transport services in the area. In addition, a sizeable public transport interchange covering an area of not less than 3 000 square metres would be built in Area 133B to provide pick-up/drop-off points and stands for buses and minibuses. According to a preliminary study conducted by the CEDD, the bus stops would be able to meet the needs of the population in the area. As for the bus routes in the district, supplement would be made by the Transport Department (TD) in due course.
- (c) The department noted Members' concerns on noise nuisance, greening, site selection for ball courts and other aspects. Greening of environment was very important to the physical and mental health of residents in the district. In this connection, the department would carefully select the tree species by taking into account the growth conditions of trees and the needs of different locations. The department would, after the meeting, convey Members' views to the tree team for its consideration in the design phase. An internal assessment meeting within the department would also be held to give consideration to various factors and prudently select the tree species for greening.
- (d) The department noted the issue concerning the noise from ball courts. During the planning stage, the department had to determine the number of ball courts in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards

and Guidelines. Due to the limited area of the estate, the department would try to locate the ball courts away from residential buildings in order to reduce the nuisance to residents. The department would also take into account Members' comments and try to locate the badminton courts in locations that were less exposed to wind.

- (e) The departments concerned would respond to the other questions raised by Members.

11. Ms Currie SIU gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) In response to the Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon's proposal to build a large-scale performance venue, performance venues such as civic centres under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) were different from the sports centres and other facilities that were provided according to the population of each district. Sports centres were district facilities, while performance venues like civic centres were planned on a territory-wide basis. When planning new performance venues, the department would take into account for various factors such as the distribution of the relevant facilities throughout the territory, the usage rates, the views of the culture sector and the overall demand. According to the Draft Tung Chung Town Centre Area Outline Zoning Plan, a site had been reserved in Area 1 for the construction of a civic centre. As there was no development plan for the site in the near future, it was temporarily used as a community garden. The department noted Members' views and would review the development of cultural facilities in the district having regard to the afore-mentioned factors.
- (b) With regard to sports facilities in the Tung Chung East Extension Area, it was planned that a sports ground would be built in Area 138 and sites were also reserved in Areas 140A and 102 for the construction of sports centres. Therefore, there would be two sports centres and one sports ground in the Tung Chung East Extension Area.

12. Mr HUI Kar-nung said the department had started the preliminary planning for the public market to be built in Area 133A of the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area, with a view to aligning with the in-take schedule of the housing developments in the area. After the completion of the preliminary planning, the department would report the progress to the District Council in a timely manner. He would relay Members' views to the department's dedicated unit responsible for large-scale public market projects.

13. The Chairman said that the public market was very important to residents of the district. He asked the FEHD when the exact timetable for the completion of the public market would be available for Members to relay to residents of the district.



14. Mr HUI Kar-nung said that since the department was conducting the preliminary planning, the timetable was unavailable for the time being. He would convey Members' concerns to the dedicated unit responsible for large-scale public market projects after the meeting, so that the timetable could be provided to Members the soonest possible.

15. With regard to the franchised bus services, Ms Karen KWAN said the department would review the bus routes in the area in the annual "Bus Route Planning Programme" and take appropriate measures in a timely manner in the light of the population growth of Area 133 and the completion of facilities in the area, in order to meet Tung Chung residents' demand for bus services. The department would also consult the District Council on the "Bus Route Planning Programme" in a timely manner.

16. The Chairman hoped the TD would inform the District Council later when the information on the "Bus Route Planning Programme" would be available.

17. Ms Jenny YAN gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Regarding the elderly services, in view of the serious population ageing of Hong Kong, the department anticipated that the demand for such services in Tung Chung District would increase in the future. The department would provide around 100 residential care home places for the elderly in Area 133 and would also set up more residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) in other areas of the Tung Chung New Town Extension, such as Area 42, which could provide 150 residential care home places.
- (b) The department set up RCHEs in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, providing 21.3 subsidised beds for every 1 000 elderly persons aged 65 or above. The demand for the services of individual areas would be taken into account in the planning stage. The planning of RCHEs for the Islands District was included in that for the Hong Kong Island. Therefore, when there were new developments in Tung Chung, the department would take into account the overall supply of RCHE places in the Hong Kong Island to decide whether to increase the number of RCHE beds. There were currently more than 5 000 RCHE places in the Hong Kong Island, of which about 500 were in the Islands District. The department would continue to set up RCHEs across the district to meet the local needs.
- (c) With regard to the services for persons with disabilities, the department planned to provide different types of residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) in Area 133. In general, each hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons, severely mentally handicapped persons and severely disabled persons could provide

about 50 places. The department understood that there was a keen demand and planned to increase the provision of the relevant services in the development areas.

- (d) With regard to child care services, there were currently eight kindergarten-cum-child care centres in Tung Chung, of which three provided full-day child care services and the rest provided full-day or half-day child care services on demand. As the demand for these services would increase in the future, the department would set up an aided standalone child care centre that could accommodate 100 children in Area 133, together with child care centres in Areas 42, 107, 114 and 117, each of which could provide 100 aided places. The department would continue to monitor the situations in other development areas, including the upcoming Areas 119 and 122, and provide facilities accordingly.

18. Ms Florence LAM gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The EDB had reserved in the Tung Chung New Town Extension Area seven sites for the development of primary schools and three sites for the development of secondary schools to meet the needs of the development areas in Tung Chung.
- (b) There were currently seven public primary schools and seven public secondary schools in Tung Chung, which were located in Areas 10, 17 and 40, Fu Tung Estate and Yat Tung Estate.
- (c) When planning the construction of primary and secondary schools, the EDB would take into account the future development of the relevant districts, the projected school-age population, the actual number of students and school places at each level, the current education policies and other factors affecting the supply and demand of school places, so as to decide whether to set up a new school or to reprovision an existing school and when to commence the construction work.
- (d) Based on the latest projected supply and demand of school places and the current supply and demand of places in public schools, the Government expected that the places in public primary and secondary schools in the Islands District (including Tung Chung) could satisfy the demand brought by the large-scale residential developments to be completed in the next five years. As the population was expected to increase constantly, the EDB had already started the preliminary work for the construction of an aided primary school and an aided secondary school in Area 89. The primary and secondary schools would start operation in the 2026/27 and 2027/28 school years respectively to align with the completion of the first public housing developments in the reclamation area. The specific development timetables would depend

on factors such as the progress of technical works and the funding. The EDB believed that when the two new schools started operation, the supply of school places in Tung Chung would be more abundant. The EDB would continue to review the school construction plan for the Tung Chung East reclamation area based on the actual enrolment situation and the education policies, so as to ensure that there were sufficient school places to meet the demand in the district.

- (e) With regard to child care services, the EDB had nothing to add to the response of the Social Welfare Department (SWD).

19. Mr Eddie LAM responded as follows:

- (a) A police station and a fire station would be built in Areas 131 and 136 of the Tung Chung Extension Area respectively, and a sewage pumping station was located on the west side of Area 131.
- (b) The department noted Members' requests for the construction of additional sewage disposal facilities for the three villages in Mui Wo. The department had maintained liaison with the District Council, the Drainage Services Department (DSD) and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), and had taken into account the needs of the three villages in Mui Wo when designing the capacity of the sewage pumping station in order to ensure that the facility could meet the needs.

20. The Chairman said that the three villages in Mui Wo had been in lack of sewage treatment facilities for many years. The estuary and the entire stream course were sites of special scientific interest. If the sewage of the three villages was not treated, it would cause pollution and damage to the environment. Therefore, sewage treatment facilities were very important to the conservation of the environment in the area. Since the DSD had indicated that the capacity of the sewage pumping station was sufficient to meet the needs of the three villages, and the Director of the CEDD had promised to conduct a study together with the DSD, he hoped the department could proceed with the project initiation in phases, for example, pipelines could be built at the entrances of the three villages first and then be extended to the villages. He hoped the department could meet with the District Council as soon as possible to report the progress.

21. Mr Eddie LAM said the views of Members were noted and would be conveyed to the DSD and the EPD for follow-ups.

22. The Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon learned that the CEDD would use Tung Chung Area 136 for the construction of a fire station. Since Area 136 was adjacent to the three villages in Mui Wo, he suggested that the CEDD should build an access road to connect the fire station with the three villages for the improvement of rescue services.

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

- (a) Regarding the trees planted for greening, he pointed out that the trees in Yat Tung Estate were surrounded by metal railings, as a result, the roots of the trees grew round the metal bars.
- (b) He suggested that an appropriate distance should be maintained amongst trees. If the trees were only one metre apart from each other, when one tree collapsed, the neighbouring trees could be crushed. There were originally four banyan trees behind Mun Yat House in Yat Tung Estate, but only one remained because of the reason said above.
- (c) He suggested that after trees were planted, the relevant departments should set up concrete benches round the trees, which could not only allow the public to take a break but also beautify the environment. If braces were to be installed as the trees grew bigger in the future, the aesthetic appearance would not be affected. In addition, he also suggested that deeper planting pits should be provided to prevent the roots of the trees from protruding from the ground. He pointed out that concrete benches had been provided round some of the trees in Yat Tung Estate, but the benches were too low for people to sit down or to provide any support to the trees.
- (d) He suggested that the relevant departments might consider planting Madagascar Almonds, which were beautiful and looked like Christmas trees. Madagascar Almonds would not grow too tall. As long as a consolidated foundation was provided, they would continue to grow. Moreover, since the growing period of Madagascar Almonds was not long, the trees would be easy to remove when they needed to be replaced by other species in the future. If the large banyan trees were planted, they were more prone to tilt and there would be the risk of tree collapse. In addition, banyan trees were huge in size, therefore it was very difficult to remove them.

24. Mr HO Siu-kei said that there a facility that looked like a typhoon shelter in the waterfront park in Area 144. He asked the CEDD what services the facility would provide and which department was responsible for its management.

25. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Regarding the community hall, as far as he could recall, it was stipulated in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines that the provision of a community hall would be warranted if the population of a district reached 30 000 to 50 000. He hoped the departments concerned could provide more information.

- (b) The principal approach for the Tung Chung New Town Extension project was to build a low-carbon smart city. The HD had mentioned just now that a cycle track network would be constructed in the district. He had repeatedly proposed to the District Council that cycle tracks connecting the bus station and the MTR station should be built. He asked the department whether it had planned to build a cycle track to the Tung Chung East Station. If so, whether space would be reserved for setting up bicycle parking spaces so as to encourage residents to use bicycles and adopt a low-carbon city lifestyle.
- (c) He thanked the EDB for its comprehensive response on the education facilities in the district. He pointed out that many children of ethnic minority families in Tung Chung could not obtain a place in primary and secondary schools in the district, which was upsetting to them. He asked the EDB whether special arrangements would be made for them and whether explanations would be made to them.
- (d) He asked the SWD whether full-day child care services were provided in the district. If yes, he requested for the relevant information; if not, he asked the department whether it would consider providing such services.
- (e) He said that different development projects would be launched in Tung Chung and the population was expected to increase constantly, but the paper did not mention how the Police would make manpower deployment to tie in with the development of the district. He hoped the Police would provide the information and timetable of the relevant arrangements.

26. Ms Susanna WONG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) She thanked Members for their suggestions on trees for greening. She said the department would take into account the suggestions in the course of planning. She said when the department was planning to plant trees for greening, it would decide on the depth of the planting pits depending on the tree species so as to ensure sufficient space for the roots to grow downward, and suitable tree species would be selected.
- (b) The department noted the issue of tree collapse in Yat Tung Estate and would take follow-up actions.
- (c) The department noted Members' concerns about the transportation network. With regard to the pedestrian walkway network in Area 133, she said according to the Pedestrian and Cycling Network Concept in the explanatory statement of the Approved Tung Chung Extension Area Outline Zoning Plan No. S/I-TCE/2, the Tung Chung

East MTR Station would be connected to Tung Chung Area 113 with footbridges, and through Area 113 to Area 129, which was opposite the market in Area 133. In addition to the two footbridges mentioned above, the department was considering building a footbridge to connect the podium level of Area 133A with Areas 133B and 133C, so as to facilitate the public's access to the market and shops from the bus stop. The department would continue its study on the relevant plans and keep in touch with the relevant departments.

27. Ms Caroline TANG said that the area near the waterfront park in Area 144 was proposed for marina development, providing about 95 berthing spaces. According to the current plan, marina club, boat repairing, eating place and shops, etc. were allowed to be provided onshore in order to tie in with the waterfront development. As the reclamation works of the relevant sites would be completed at a later stage, there was still some time prior to the implementation of the above plan. Therefore, the specific use, design and management arrangements were yet to be finalised. Concerned government departments would consult the District Council, when appropriate.

28. Mr Thomas LI said that in addition to the existing Tung Chung Community Hall, a government complex would be built in Tung Chung Area 107, in which a community hall would be included as previously planned.

29. Mr Eddie LAM said that footpaths and cycle tracks would be provided on most of the streets in the Tung Chung East Extension Area, including the vicinity of the Tung Chung East Station, forming an extensive network. Moreover, the Highways Department would, in collaboration with the MTR Corporation, set up bicycle parking spaces near the Tung Chung East Station in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, so as to facilitate members of the public who would travel to and from the station by bicycle.

30. The Chairman hoped the CEDD could provide the District Council with a map showing the cycle tracks and bicycle parking spaces in the Tung Chung East Extension Area after the meeting for Members' perusal.

(Post-meeting note: A map of the cycle track network in the Tung Chung East Expansion Area provided by the CEDD was forwarded to Members for perusal on 11 October this year.)

31. Ms Florence LAM said if non-Chinese speaking ethnic minority children encountered any difficulties in getting a school place in the district, their parents could contact the Islands District School Development Section of the EDB. The staff of the EDB would try their best to assist them in obtaining a public school place in the district.

32. Ms Jenny YAN made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The department published the report of the Consultancy Study on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services in 2019. In 2020, aided standalone child care centres were included in the scope of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, which required that an aided standalone child care centre with 100 places should be provided for every 25 000 persons in the population. In addition, a child care centre could be attached to a kindergarten.
- (b) The child care centres mainly aimed to provide care services for children under 3 years old and foster their development in a safe environment. They also provided support to parents who were unable to look after their children.
- (c) At present, there were eight child care centres attached to kindergartens in Tung Chung, among which three were aided full-day child care centres located at Caribbean Coast, Yat Tung Estate and Fu Tung Estate respectively.
- (d) There was currently no aided standalone child care centre in the district. The department would set up one aided standalone child care centre with 100 aided places in each of Area 133 and other four Tung Chung new development areas. The department would continue to monitor the changes in population and the actual situation of the district and provide more services.
- (e) Child care services covered a wide range. In order to meet different needs, the department had launched the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project. Taking the Islands District as an example, there were 88 home-based child carers in the district. In the past financial year, child care services had been provided for about 500 children aged under nine under the Project. There was also a centre-based care group under the Project and its utilisation rate was slightly higher than that of the child care centres attached to kindergartens.

33. Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan said that the Police had reported to the District Council in early 2022 the arrangements on the upgrade of the Lantau Police District. Based on the projected population of the Tung Chung new development areas, the total population of Lantau would reach 200 000 in 2026, meeting the requirement for the establishment of a standard police district. Some departments had mentioned just now that space would be reserved in Area 131 for the construction of a police station. The Police had started preparations for the upgrade of the police district and hoped to complete it in 2026.

34. The Chairman said that the Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon proposed widening the existing access road to the three villages in Mui Wo for the proposed fire station in Area 136. According to what he had preliminarily learnt from the representative of the CEDD, the department had no such plan at the moment, except

that the fire station was expected to be completed in 2026. He requested the Secretariat to write to the department after the meeting to follow up and ask the relevant departments to explain in the District Council what follow-up actions would be taken after the completion of the fire station in Area 136, so as to improve the fire and ambulance services for the three villages in Mui Wo.

(Ms WONG Chau-ping arrived at around 2:10 p.m.)

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat wrote to the Fire Services Department on 25 October this year.)

III. Question on the reception problems of telecommunications network  
(Paper IDC 38/2022)

35. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEUNG Chui-choi, Dennis, Principal Regulatory Affairs Manager (Regulatory 13), Mr WOO Pak-ming, Senior Controller of Telecommunications (Enforcement) and Mr NG Kar-lai, Patrick, Controller of Telecommunications (Monitoring) of the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA); Mr Eddie HO, Senior Manager and Mr Andy CHUNG, Assistant Manager of Hutchison Telecommunications (Hong Kong) Limited; Mr Adrian LEE, Vice President and Mr John YAN, Assistant Vice President of Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited; Mr TSE Sik-lun, Leo, Coverage Planning Manager and Ms HO Wing-sze, Angel, Senior Leasing Officer of China Mobile Hong Kong Company Limited; and Mr LEE Ying-chung, Senior Manager and Mr KWOK Sai-ming, Simon, Manager of SmarTone Telecommunications Holdings Limited (SmarTone) to the meeting to respond to the question.

36. The Chairman invited Mr HO Siu-kei to briefly present the question.

37. Mr HO Siu-kei briefly presented the question.

38. Mr Dennis LEUNG responded as follows:

- (a) The mobile telecommunications market in Hong Kong had been open to competition all along. There were no conditions under the existing telecommunications licences requiring mobile network operators to provide mobile network coverage at specific locations. An operator could decide to establish radio base stations (base stations) at individual locations to cover relevant areas having regard to its commercial considerations and operational strategies. When choosing the location to establish a base station, the operator would in general take into account various factors, including technical factors (such as whether antennae and equipment could be installed at the location concerned, whether transmission links and electricity supplying facilities were available, etc.), business costs, whether consent of the responsible person of the premises could be obtained and the views of



nearby residents. OFCA had been encouraging the operators to keep abreast of market developments and respond to the customers' needs actively to further improve their mobile network coverage and service quality.

- (b) In April this year, after receiving an enquiry from Tai O Rural Committee (RC) about the mobile network in Tai O, OFCA contacted four local mobile network operators to gain an understanding of the situation. According to the information provided by the operators, they had established base stations at several locations in Tai O to provide mobile network coverage. However, since mobile services used radio technology, the signals would be weakened due to blockage and reflection of the geographical environment and building structures, causing the mobile network coverage at certain locations (such as indoor ones) to be unsatisfactory.
- (c) Various operators had reported to OFCA earlier that the service of their base stations in Tai O had been affected by harmful radio interference. OFCA had taken follow-up action and learnt that the operators had not found any similar interference since then. If Members were aware of any location without mobile network coverage, they could provide detailed information to the operators for further review.

39. Mr HO Siu-kei said that network connections had been unstable in the villages under the jurisdiction of Tai O RC, Tai O town centre, Tai Long Wan in Shek Pik and San Tau Village. Many residents said that network signals were weak at home and they often experienced disconnection indoors. He did not understand why such a situation would happen on the highly developed Lantau Island. Weak network signals would cause delays in emergency services and seriously affect visiting tourists. He disagreed that commercial considerations should be of prime concern to the operators just because they were private organisations. OFCA had the responsibility to help improve the quality of network services. He pointed out that there was crucial infrastructure near Lantau Island, which was also one of the main places tourists visited, so ensuring network stability was of paramount importance. He did not accept OFCA's explanation for the problem of telecommunications network reception and suggested that a base station should be set up at Lantau Peak to broaden the coverage.

40. The Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon said the network reception was unstable in many places on Lantau Island as well. Many families reported that they were unable to connect to the Internet during the high usage hours from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. It had affected their daily lives especially during the epidemic, for example when they were having classes or shopping online. He had raised the issue for many years, but the situation had not improved. He asked whether the network service fee for Lantau Island was aligned with that for urban areas, and if the prices were similar, why the services differed so much in stability. Due to the limited coverage of certain operators, Mui Wo residents experiencing network reception problems were unable to

switch to other operators for better network speed or stability. A resident who ran an online company had to reluctantly spend almost \$100,000 to have the telecommunications company build a fibre-based network. He opined that it was unreasonable for residents to install a fibre-based network at their own expense to ensure network stability. He reiterated that not only individual villages but the entire Lantau Island had experienced unstable network. He hoped that OFCA would face up to the problem.

41. Mr HO Chun-fai agreed with Mr HO Siu-kei's views and said that the communication problem of Lantau Island would seriously affect the need for tourists to call for help if they were injured. Besides, the villages in South Lantau were using networks owned by different operators. He opined that OFCA had the responsibility to take up the coordinating role and provide better network services for residents. He had proposed establishing a base station at the peak of Chi Man Wan in order to cover the entire South Lantau, but his proposal had not been considered, resulting in frequently poor signal reception in San Shek Wan Village, South Lantau Road and Tung Chung Road. Besides, the operators did not offer service for villages with few residents because they deemed it unprofitable. He considered such practice undesirable.

42. Mr Dennis LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) OFCA understood the importance of mobile communications services to the public and had always been encouraging operators to enhance the quality of their networks. He thanked Members for their suggestions, but he hoped they would understand that there were many factors to consider when it came to the setting up of base stations, and it was also subject to the requirements in relation to land use planning and environmental protection. In addition, as far as OFCA understood it, the unsatisfactory mobile network services in certain villages might be mainly due to the lack of suitable locations or opposition from residents against the setting up of base stations. Members were welcomed to suggest suitable locations for setting up base stations, which would be conveyed to the operators for consideration.
- (b) As for the issue Members mentioned about seeking emergency assistance on phone, he reminded Members that the public could get access to the 999 emergency call centre by dialing 112, as long as they were located within the coverage of any local mobile network. Besides, people could also use fixed telephony service to summon emergency assistance.
- (c) As for the issue of fees, he said the discussion mainly focused on mobile network services. It was his understanding that access to mobile network services was normally not limited to specific locations, and operators would determine the fees based on their commercial

considerations.

43. The Chairman said the question was mainly to discuss wireless telecommunications networks. Regarding the fees for fixed network service that the Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon mentioned, he believed that HKT was the main service provider and asked whether the representatives of HKT could respond to the question.

44. Mr John YAN said the representatives invited to the meeting were in charge of mobile phone services, so they were unable to respond to the question about fees for fixed network service. He said HKT always wanted to improve its network service across Hong Kong, but as Mr Dennis LEUNG said, there were many factors to consider when setting up base stations. He said HKT had hoped to construct a transmitting station in San Shek Wan Village many years ago, but the works were stopped due to opposition from local residents. HKT would favourably consider setting up transmitting stations if Members could provide suitable locations.

45. The Chairman suggested that the Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon ask the Secretariat to write to OFCA and HKT after the meeting to enquire about the fees and the speed of fixed network services.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had written to OFCA and HKT respectively on 25 October this year.)

46. Mr Eric KWOK was dissatisfied with HKT's 5G service in Islands District. He invited the representatives of SmarTone to introduce the microwave transmission service that it was promoting in South Lantau to Members. He said he had suggested locations for constructing mobile phone base stations and opined that Shek Kwu Chau was a suitable location given the electricity supply equipment in place. When the base station was completed, the network would be able to cover the entire South Lantau, including Pui O, Shan Shek Wan, Cheung Sha, Tong Fuk, Shek Pik, Yi Long Wan, etc. He did not understand why the relevant departments still said it was not technically feasible. He hoped OFCA would give a response.

47. The Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon agreed with Mr Eric KWOK's dissatisfaction with the 5G service currently provided by HKT. He said given that the Council always discussed smart rural development, raising the level of information technology services in rural areas was of paramount importance. He said there had been a proposal to build a cable connecting Hong Kong Island to Lamma Island, but it had eventually fizzled out. He opined that OFCA had to be more proactive in developing information technology so as to improve the communications services across Hong Kong.

48. Mr Dennis LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) 5G networks were launched in the second quarter of 2020. He hoped Members would understand that expansion of networks would be a

gradual process. OFCA had introduced different measures to facilitate the operators to expand their networks, including opening up government premises for the operators to apply for the installation of base stations through a streamlined process.

- (b) Regarding Members' comments on the weak reception of the mobile network signals and the proposal on the locations for installing base stations, OFCA would be happy to contact the operators for follow-up after receiving the relevant information.

49. Mr LEE Ying-chung responded as follows:

- (a) SmarTone endeavoured to promote microwave transmission. The company had set up microwave transmitting stations in Hei Ling Chau and Shek Kwu Chau, and the one in Shek Kwu Chau could cover some of the areas in South Lantau. Given the limited area of Shek Kwu Chau, other operators were unable to install their equipment there to provide microwave transmission services. Nevertheless, the operators would continue to study the joint construction of transmitting stations.
- (b) Due to technical issues, the operators were unable to set up a transmitting station in Chi Ma Wan to cover the entire South Lantau. The reason was that signal transmission would be affected by the distance between a mobile phone and the transmitting station. If the distance was too far, the signal would not be able to reach the transmitting station. If Chi Ma Wan satisfied the requirements of electricity supply and transmission, the company could further explore the feasibility of the proposal. Moreover, all operators had set up transmitting stations in Mui Wo, Tong Fuk, Pui O, Shui Hau Village and Tai O. Therefore, the weak signals might be that there were more winding mountain roads at the above locations which prevented smooth transmission of radio waves.
- (c) All operators were working actively with OFCA and considering to set up transmitting stations at locations that met the electricity and transmission requirements, so as to improvement the network coverage across Lantau Island and even the entire territory.

50. Mr Eric KWOK reiterated that the location he had just proposed was Shek Kwu Chau and opined that the area of Shek Kwu Chau should be large enough for constructing a base station to transmit signals to South Lantau. As far as he knew, the CLP Power Hong Kong Limited was building a pier for its liquefied natural gas terminal. He suggested that the operators should discuss with the company whether there was any space at the pier for setting up a base station.

51. The Chairman suggested that Mr HO Siu-kei and Mr HO Chun-fai should

collect information about the locations where mobile signals were weak. The Secretariat could then pass the locations on to OFCA for follow-up.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had passed the relevant locations on to OFCA for follow-up on 27 September 2022.)

IV. Question on the frequent distribution of illicit cigarette leaflets in Mun Tung Estate  
(Paper IDC 39/2022)

52. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHUNG Dip-fun, Sarah, Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island & Islands)<sup>5</sup> of the HD; Mr MUI Lam-sang, Roger, Chief Tobacco and Alcohol Control Inspector 2 and Ms FONG Long-hei, Chloe, Executive Officer (Prosecution and Support)<sup>1</sup> of the Department of Health (DH); Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan, District Commander (Lantau) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) and Mr TSAI King-hang, Divisional Commander (Revenue Investigation)<sup>3</sup> of the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) to respond to the question. The HD, the DH and the C&ED had submitted written replies for Members' perusal before the meeting.

53. Mr Eric KWOK briefly presented the question.

54. Ms Sarah CHUNG said she had nothing to add to the HD's written reply.

55. Mr Roger MUI provided supplementary information as follows:

- (a) Some criminals hired teenagers and women to distribute leaflets advertising the sale of illicit cigarettes in public housing estates. With graphics and texts explicitly illustrated, these leaflets listed the illicit cigarettes for sale with contact numbers. He opined that the criminals who peddled illicit cigarettes flagrantly showed no regard for the law.
- (b) He opined that such acts had caused significant nuisance to the residents. The security guards of the buildings were also aware of the situation. The DH enforced sections 12 and 14 of the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance (Cap. 371). Any act of promoting smoking products would constitute an offence. The DH might institute prosecutions against the relevant persons by way of summons.
- (c) Starting from last year, the DH had cooperated with the C&ED in enforcement operations against the promotion of the sale of illicit cigarettes. The departments had successfully prosecuted a number of cases, and the experience could serve as the basis of law enforcement in the future.
- (d) After learning that some people distributed illicit cigarette leaflets illegally in the housing estate, the DH contacted the HKPF and the HD.

Mr MUI gave a brief account of the incident: within about an hour and a half from around 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on 7 July this year, different residents noticed that some people were going door-to-door to distribute illicit cigarette leaflets, and so they informed the estate management office. The security guards intercepted the people involved on the spot, brought them to the management office and called the Police to deal with the incident, which involved four people in three cases. The DH had obtained the preliminary information of the cases and was making its best efforts to gather evidence. It was hoped that the people involved would be prosecuted successfully.

- (e) The DH strongly supported the proposal of inter-departmental joint operations and would fully support the HKPF and the C&ED to combat the peddling of illicit cigarettes. The DH learnt from its contact with the HD's security guards that they had very positive attitude towards eradicating the peddling of illicit cigarettes.

56. Mr TSAI King-hang supplemented on the C&ED's law enforcement against illicit cigarettes. According to the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance (Cap. 109), anyone involved in dealing with, possession of, selling or buying illicit cigarettes committed an offence. The C&ED would take law enforcement action accordingly. The distribution of illicit cigarette leaflets was governed by the Smoking (Public Health) Ordinance. When the C&ED received a complaint about distribution of illicit cigarette leaflets, it would carry out a follow-up investigation according to the information listed on the leaflets, such as telephone numbers, in addition to referring the case to the Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office (TACO). If there was sufficient evidence to prove that the people involved had dealt with, possessed, sold or bought illicit cigarettes, the C&ED would take law enforcement action accordingly.

57. Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan provided supplementary information as follows:

- (a) She believed that the DH, the HD and the C&ED had answered most of the questions. Lantau Police District would continue to maintain good partnership with relevant stakeholders and spare no effort in combating illicit cigarettes through multi-agencies enforcement strategy.
- (b) According to the Police's record, the Police received a report from a man at 8:52 p.m. on 7 July 2022 that two men and a woman distributed leaflets about duty-not-paid cigarettes in Mun Tung Estate, Tung Chung, and quarrelled on the ground floor of Mun Wo House. Police officers attended the scene and intercepted the said persons but did not find any leaflets or other suspicious items. After investigation, the Police did not have sufficient evidence to establish that the case involved any criminal elements. The case was classified as a "Dispute".

- (c) The Police hoped to continue to work closely with the security guards in the district and reminded them to keep an eye on strangers. If a non-resident was found acting suspiciously and refused to leave his/her personal particulars, security guards were encouraged to call the Police for assistance immediately.

58. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He thanked the HD's management company and the security guards for contacting the Police immediately after noticing that some people were distributing illicit cigarette leaflets so that the Police could attend the scene and record the suspects' information. As for whether the suspects could be successfully prosecuted, he opined that there might be difficulties because the police officers did not search their bags on the spot. There was not enough evidence to prove that the suspects had distributed illicit cigarette leaflets. He therefore hoped that the Police could be more meticulous in handling similar incidents in the future.
- (b) Every time suspicious persons were seen distributing illicit cigarettes leaflets in Mun Tung Estate and Yat Tung Estate, he would write to TACO. TACO was very proactive, prompt and detailed in its response this time. The department had also explained to him how to contact the C&ED and the Police. He commended Mr MUI for his work attitude.
- (c) The sale of illicit cigarettes not only resulted in the loss of Hong Kong's tax revenue but also had an impact on the city's rule of law. As the C&ED representative had said, criminals printed their telephone numbers and contact information on the illicit cigarette leaflets as if they were engaging in an honest business. They operated in such a rampant way with no regard for the law. He hoped the C&ED would arrest the criminals by carrying out decoy operations, so as to avoid damage to Hong Kong people's health and the loss of significant tax revenue to the Government.
- (d) He thanked the Police for attending the scene immediately to deal with the incident and hoped that the departments could carry out joint operations in the future. At present, there were tremendous difficulties with prosecution because the distribution of illicit cigarette leaflets or the buying and selling of illicit cigarettes usually took place at night when the C&ED and TACO were unable to attend the scene immediately. He therefore hoped that the three professional departments would consider how joint operations could be carried out.

59. Mr Roger MUI thanked Mr KWOK for his commendation. The DH would seriously deal with criminals who flagrantly peddled prohibited items, such as illicit

cigarettes or other goods. He thanked Mr KWOK for reporting the incidents to the DH so that the department could carry out investigations. He opined that after the incident in question, the security guards of Mun Tung Estate or other nearby housing estates had learnt how to deal with similar incidents. There should be a greater chance of prosecuting the persons involved successfully in the future.

60. The Chairman thanked the HKPF, the HD and the DH for assisting in handling the incident and carrying out inter-departmental operations when necessary to stamp out the crimes.

(Mr HO Siu-kei left at around 3:50 p.m.)

V. Question on the labour welfare for persons with disabilities  
(Paper IDC 40/2022)

61. The Chairman welcomed Ms YAN Lai-ming, Jenny, District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/Southern/Islands) of the SWD to respond to the question. The written replies of the SWD and the Labour Department had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

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

63. Ms Jenny YAN thanked the Member for his question. She clarified that sheltered workshop was a social service that aimed at providing persons with disabilities who were unable to enter into open employment because of their physical or mental limitations with vocational rehabilitation training, developing their social and interpersonal skills and preparing them for supported or open employment wherever possible. Sheltered workshops offered an incentive payment to encourage persons with disabilities to attend vocational rehabilitation training programmes every day. The incentive payments were not wages. A trainee could receive an incentive payment of around \$500-600 for 22 days of attendance in a month. The sheltered workshop mentioned in the question was operated by the Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council. It was located in the Excelsior Integrated Employment Service Centre in Mun Tung Estate, Tung Chung, which comprised a sheltered workshop and a supported employment centre. If the persons with disabilities showed improvement in the sheltered workshop, they would have the opportunity to take up supported employment in the same service unit. Besides, the centre also provided training allowance based on the revenue generated from the kind of job training and the trainees' participation. .

64. Mr FONG Lung-fei said he had received enquiries from parents of persons with disabilities on the matter. He believed the parents were not aware that sheltered workshop service was pre-employment training. They thought their children would receive corresponding wage under the protection of the Employment Ordinance. He thanked Ms YAN for her response and said he would explain to the parents. He



believed that the parents would have a better understanding of the sheltered workshop service.

VI. Question on the hawking activities and the barrier-free facilities at the Citygate bus terminus

(Paper IDC 41/2022)

65. The Chairman welcomed Ms KWAN Ka-mun, Karen, Chief Transport Officer/Islands of the TD, Mr HUI Kar-nung, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands) and Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric, Chief Health Inspector (Islands) of the FEHD to the meeting to respond to the question. The written replies of the TD, the FEHD and Swire Properties Limited (Swire) had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

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

67. Ms Karen KWAN said she had nothing to add to the TD's written reply.

68. Mr HUI Kar-nung said even though the hawkers had itinerant hawker licences, they should observe the licensing conditions and the relevant requirements. For example, the facilities of the stalls should meet the safety standards; the hawkers should maintain environmental hygiene during business hours and, most importantly, ensure that their stalls would not cause obstruction to vehicular traffic and pedestrian flow. The FEHD carried out inspections at Citygate and found that pedestrians were affected by the trading activities of the licensed itinerant hawkers. During the inspections, the FEHD also received complaints about the stalls. As a result, the department issued verbal warnings to the stall owners and drove them away. He emphasised that if the stalls still caused obstruction to the access of vehicles and pedestrians after being moved to other locations, the FEHD would issue summons to the licensed hawkers concerned. The FEHD had issued 25 verbal warnings and five summons in the past year. During its recent inspection, the FEHD found that the relevant stalls were moved inward on the street to minimise their impact on pedestrians. The FEHD was aware that before inspections were carried out, sometimes the stall owners would move their stalls back to where they used to trade. The Hawker Control Team would step up inspection to ensure that the pavement was free from obstruction.

69. The Chairman made a declaration of interests, saying that the company by which he was employed was a shareholder of Citygate but did not take part in its property management which was responsible by Swire.

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

- (a) He said there were more than one hawker stall trading at Citygate. When a stall was in operation, it would attract other hawkers to set up their stalls on its both sides. He knew those hawkers had itinerant

hawker licences, but he opined that their use of tools like stands and chairs virtually made them fixed pitch hawkers rather than itinerant hawkers. It appeared that they had contravened their itinerant hawker licences. Besides, he was not sure whether the people working at the stalls rented the licences from the licensees or were members of the licensees' families.

- (b) The pavements near Citygate would be clogged up from 12 noon to 1 p.m. every day. Pedestrians stopping at the stalls would cause serious obstruction to the pavements, and some pedestrians had to walk on the carriageways as a result, which was dangerous. Even if the stalls were moved inward on the streets, the pavements would still be obstructed. He hoped that the departments would advise the hawkers to trade from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. outside the peak commuting hours so as to avoid causing obstruction to the pavements and avoid accidents caused by the stalls occupying the pavements.
- (c) He worried that when the temporary market on Yat Tung Street came into operation, some licensees would rent their stalls out in contravention of the requirement of operating their stalls personally. He opined that the departments should exercise supervision to prevent itinerant hawker licences being abused by people who rented their licences out to make money.

71. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He was dismayed that Swire did not send any representatives to attend the meeting.
- (b) According to his record, he sent a letter to Swire to raise his request on 15 January 2018. The company replied on 16 March 2018 that the works for installing automatic doors at the main entrance of Citygate Outlets on ground floor leading to the Town Square were anticipated to be completed in the third quarter of 2019. He had followed up on the works multiple times since then. However, there had not been any substantive responses from Swire, and the works had not yet commenced. He was dissatisfied that Swire did not send representatives to respond to Mr FONG Lung-fei's question and the said letter.
- (c) Regarding the request for installing automatic doors, Swire suggested in its written reply that the public should take a detour through exits B and C of MTR Tung Chung Station. The main entrance of Citygate facing the bus terminus was supposed to be the most convenient access. He criticised Swire for neglecting the needs of elderly people with limited mobility, pregnant women, wheelchair users, persons with disabilities and baby carriage users, thereby seemingly discriminating

against them. It was not the proper way to treat customers. It was laughable that Swire mentioned in its written reply that it was unable to install the automatic doors due to technical problems caused by wind load. Taking Yat Tung Shopping Centre as an example, it was originally not possible to install automatic doors at the entrance, but the technical problems were solved by simply adopting a design with double doors. He found it puzzling that Swire, a renowned company in the construction industry, refused to carry out works that were technically feasible on grounds of technical difficulties. He urged Swire to install automatic doors for the main entrance of Citygate.

72. Mr HUI Kar-nung said the holders of itinerant hawker licences were required to attend to their stalls in person when their stalls were in operation. They were not allowed to outsource the operation to other people. The FEHD noted Members' views and would arrange the Hawker Control Team to step up inspection from 12 noon to 1 p.m. when there were more pedestrians to ensure the pavement concerned was clear.

VII. Transport Department Traffic and Transport Working Plan 2022-23  
(Paper IDC 37/2022)

73. The Chairman welcomed Ms KWAN Ka-mun, Karen, Chief Transport Officer/Islands of the TD to the meeting to present the paper.

74. Ms Karen KWAN briefly presented the paper.

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

- (a) The splitting of Citybus route E21A brought convenience to Tung Chung West residents going to urban areas, but it had affected Tung Chung residents going to the area along Sai Yeung Choi Street to Ho Man Tin. Residents who considered route E21A an intra-district bus route also said they now had one less transport option for going to Tung Chung North. In view of this, Citybus provided fare concession for about ten morning departures on routes E11S and E21X. Besides, as there were three departures on NLB route 37H per hour heading towards Tung Chung North in the morning, residents had not been seriously affected by the bus services from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. The bus services from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., however, had not been able to meet residents' commuting needs. He had carried out on-site inspection at the bus stop every day since 29 August this year. Route 37H was already full of passengers all the time when it arrived at the Tung Chung New Development Pier at 6:30 a.m., so passengers waiting at the North Lantau Hospital, Tung Chung Fire Station or even the Citygate bus stop were unable to board the bus.

- (b) Tung Chung North residents proposed that the TD keep the old routing and frequency of route E21A to facilitate their travelling to Ho Man Tin. They also proposed cancelling route E21B and re-routing E21D via Tung Chung West but not via Tung Chung North so that residents of Tung Chung West could continue to take route E21A to the Tung Chung New Development Pier. It should take a shorter time for buses to go to Tung Chung West than Tung Chung North as there were fewer traffic lights. The proposals therefore would not have any impact on the bus company. Even if the proposals were not feasible, the TD and the bus company should look into ways to increase the service frequencies to address residents' needs as far as possible.
- (c) Traffic accidents happened occasionally in the Citygate bus terminus. Besides, pedestrians were forced to walk on the vehicular access to cross the road during morning peak hours as there was always traffic congestion. He therefore hoped to discuss the issue in depth at the Traffic and Transport Committee meeting.
- (d) He hoped that the works for the provision of a bus bay on Chung Yan Road near Yu Tai Court could be completed as soon as possible to reduce conflicts among residents.

76. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He thanked the TD for responding to Members' requests and splitting route E21A into two routes that directly headed to the urban areas from Tung Chung North and Tung Chung West respectively. To compensate for route E21A not connecting Tung Chung West and Tung Chung North any more, NLB ran three additional departures from Ying Tung Estate on route 37 at 7:42 a.m., 7:52 a.m. and 8:02 a.m. However, as route 37 did not pass through Mun Tung Estate, without route E21A, students living in Mun Tung Estate had no other alternative buses to take for going to school in Tung Chung North. He asked the TD to take follow-up action and said the service frequency of route 37 should be increased for both directions in order to resolve the problems arising from the loss of route E21A.
- (b) Route 37 was originally a route serving the schools within the district. It was later developed into an intra-district route connecting Tung Chung West, Tung Chung North and Tung Chung town centre. He asked the TD to study with the bus company whether it was possible to turn route 37 into an intra-district circular service by routing it via the Tung Chung New Development Pier, so as to solve the transport problem in Tung Chung.
- (c) He did not wish to see route E21A revert back to the previous routing prior to the splitting. Besides, he had written to the TD to suggest

that when the population growth reached the threshold for bus service adjustment after the intake of residents of Yu Nga Court took place, route E21A should be split throughout the day and head directly to the urban areas via Tung Chung town centre. The adjustment should not be limited to departures during certain hours as it was currently.

77. Ms Karen KWAN said the rationalisation of Citybus routes E21 and E21A was mainly to provide the local community with bus services heading towards Kowloon town centre directly from Tung Chung North and Tung Chung West. For the proposal of optimising NLB route 37 and Citybus route E21, the TD would study the relevant data and get in touch with Members directly for follow-up. As for the issue of traffic safety in Tung Chung Bus Terminus, the TD was planning to provide crossing facilities at the location to improve traffic safety.

VIII. Proposed Schedule of Meeting for IDC and its Committees in 2023  
(Paper IDC 42/2022)

78. Members noted and endorsed the paper unanimously.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Mr Randy YU, the Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Eric KWOK and Mr FONG Lung-fei.)

IX. Report on the Work of the Islands District Management Committee (August 2022)  
(Paper IDC 43/2022)

79. The Chairman asked the Islands District Officer (DO) whether she had anything to add to the report.

80. Ms Amy YEUNG said she had nothing to add.

81. Mr CHOW Yuk-tong was concerned about the planning for the ex-Lamma Quarry area in Sok Kwu Wan mentioned in paragraph 6 of the paper as it had not made any progress after almost ten years of delay. He said the project was implemented concurrently with the Home Ownership Scheme development in Mui Wo. While the housing estates were completed several years ago, the quarry was still deserted to this day. He was disappointed with the Development Bureau. The Government always said there was not enough land for development, yet it failed to make proper planning when there was a large piece of land available in the ex-Lamma Quarry. He said local development should be carried out in a balanced manner and queried that the Government had forgotten Lamma Island. He hoped that the DO would follow up the project and said he would seek assistance from Legislative Council members.

82. Mr Eric KWOK asked the LCSD for an update on the latest situation of the new sports centre and amenity complex in Area 107 mentioned in paragraph 5 of the paper, such as when the funding would be secured and when the draft plan would be available. He had proposed opening the site to residents of Mun Tung Estate as a temporary garden rather than letting it lay idle. However, his proposal was not accepted, resulting in overgrown weeds at the site. He frequently wrote to the District Lands Office, Islands to request for weeding, which was costly and a waste of government resources.

83. Ms Amy YEUNG noted Members' views on the issues discussed by the Islands District Management Committee. She said she would follow up with the relevant departments and policy bureaux on the planning progress for the ex-Lamma Quarry area. She also presumed that the CEDD representative present at the meeting would relay Members' views to the department for consideration. In addition, she asked the LCSD representative to provide more information on the works schedule of the new sports centre and amenity complex in Area 107.

84. Ms Currie SIU said the LCSD had reported to the Council earlier that the Architectural Services Department had completed the ground investigation works and the technical feasibility study for the joint-user complex in Area 107. As the amenity complex was equipped with welfare facilities, library, sports centre, community hall and car park, the LCSD was proactively assessing and studying further the details of the facilities with various departments for the overall layout and planning. When the preliminary design was completed, the LCSD would consult the Council again.

85. The Chairman agreed with Mr CHOW Yuk-tong's views. He found it puzzling that on the one hand, the Government let its land resources lay idle, but on the other hand, it said there was no land available for housing development. As the CEDD representative had no supplementary information to provide for the time being, he asked him to relay Members' views to the relevant officers and hoped that the CEDD would make good use of the ex-Lamma Quarry site.

X. Reports on the Work of the IDC Committees / Working Group  
(Papers IDC 44-48/2022)

86. Members noted and endorsed the papers unanimously.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Mr Randy YU, the Vice-chairman Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Eric KWOK and Mr FONG Lung-fei.)

XI. Date of Next Meeting

87. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.  
The next meeting would be held on 24 October 2022 (Monday) at 2:00 p.m.

(Post-meeting note: The next meeting would be held on 3 November 2022.)

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