

**(Translation)**

**Minutes of Meeting of Islands District Council**

Date : 20 June 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 WONG Hon-kuen, Ken (Left at around 3:45 p.m.)  
Mr HO Chun-fai  
Mr HO Siu-kei  
Ms WONG Chau-ping  
Mr KWOK Ping, Eric  
Mr FONG Lung-fei  
Ms LAU Shun-ting

**Attendance by Invitation**

Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold	Senior Property Service Manager/Hong Kong Island and Islands, Housing Department
Mr YAN Man-chi, Robin	Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island and Islands)3, Housing Department

**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 MOK Sui-hung	Senior Liaison Officer (1), 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 CHOW Siu-hong, Vincent	Senior Engineer/15 (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
Mr Clive WALTON	District Commander (Marine Port District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LO Tim-fat, Frankie	Police Community Relations Officer (Lantau District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LEONG Seong-iam	Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms LAI Wing-sau, Winsy	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms LEE Sin-man	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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## Welcoming Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the meeting of the Islands District Council (IDC), and introduced the representative of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD), Mr CHOW Siu-hong, Vincent, Senior Engineer/15 (Lantau), who stood in for Mr CHENG Yuk-lung, Stanley.

### I. Confirmation of the Minutes of Meeting held on 25 April 2022

2. 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.

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

(Members 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 Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Ms LAU Shun-ting.)

### II. Question on Hospital Authority's opening of Chui Kwan Drive in Tung Chung for use (Paper IDC 25/2022)

4. The Chairman said that the written reply of the Hospital Authority (HA) had been provided to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.

5. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question, and said that Yu Tung Road was a major road in Tung Chung. Whenever there were traffic accidents, the traffic of the entire South Lantau would be affected. The opening of Chui Kwan Drive in Tung Chung could ease the traffic load. However, HA rejected the proposal on grounds of the epidemic and keeping Chui Kwan Drive unobstructed to ensure the transportation of patients with urgent needs. He opined that the HA's explanation was perplexing. Given that Chui Kwan Drive was not long, the opening of the road section could ease the traffic load of South Lantau and Tung Chung West. In particular, it could help minimise the occurrence of traffic congestion and ease the traffic load of Yu Tung Road when there were serious traffic accidents in South Lantau. He opined that as a government department, HA should respect local views. He reflected the views on behalf of about 20 000, i.e. 1% of residents. However, HA had not sent representatives to the meeting, no further questions could be raised. Although HA was busy, it seemed to show disrespect to the District Council (DC) and public opinions as no representatives were sent to the meeting to respond to Members' questions. He requested the Secretariat to write to HA to relay the issue.

6. The Chairman expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He understood the dissatisfaction of Mr FONG Lung-fei, and said that HA was not a government department. Instead, it was subject to the regulation of the Hospital Authority Ordinance and was funded by the Government with its organisation structure and operation different from those of government organisations. In light of this, the practice of sending representatives to DC meetings was not the same as that of government departments. Nevertheless, the North Lantau Hospital had sent representatives to meetings upon invitation in the past, he reckoned that HA representatives had not attended this meeting probably because of the increase in the number of confirmed cases recently. He was not making an excuse for HA, but opined that evasion of Members' questions was not the reason why HA and the North Lantau Hospital had not sent representatives to the meeting.
- (b) Regarding the opening of Chui Kwan Drive, Members of different terms had raised and discussed the matter for over ten years, but every time HA had given reasons or excuses to reject the proposal. He hoped that Mr LAM Sai-hung, Secretary for Transport and Logistics (designate) of the new Transport and Logistics Bureau set up in the next term of the Government, would keep an open mind to gauge views. He gave an undertaking to Mr FONG Lung-fei that should there be the chance, he would relay the views on transport issues such as the traffic and ferry service in Lantau to the Secretary (designate), and it was believed that the issues would certainly be addressed with greater flexibility.

7. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that HA should still fulfill its social responsibility even though it was not a government department. Moreover, the opening of the road section involved the public interest and the traffic of South Lantau and Tung Chung West. HA should send representatives to discuss the issue with the DC or take the proposal into consideration to show its respect to the Council. It was understood that Chui Kwan Drive was open for use in 2017 and had been used for not more than ten years. It was impossible that the issue had been discussed for over ten years as stated by the Chairman.

8. Mr Eric KWOK said that with the opening of Chui Kwan Drive, the traffic demand arising from the future increase in population in Tung Chung West and South Lantau residents would be met. In this connection, he had discussed the relevant proposal with CEDD. He said that the issue had been discussed at the Council meetings in 2007 during the planning of Chui Kwan Drive. At that time, the local residents were worried that, with the provision of mortuary at the North Lantau Hospital, coffin vans might drive past Yat Tung Estate. Therefore, under HA's arrangement, coffin vans would use Chui Kwan Drive instead of Chung Yan Road to avoid causing nuisances to residents. However, it was eventually decided that no mortuary would be provided at the hospital. As such, he supported the proposal made by Mr FONG Lung-fei on the opening of Chui Kwan Drive, and hoped that the Secretariat would schedule a meeting with HA staff, Mr LAM Sai-hung, the Secretary

(designate), representatives of CEDD and other relevant departments on behalf of IDC for discussion, with the aim of improving the transport policy in Tung Chung. Given that the healthcare system was involved, he hoped that HA would send representatives to DC meetings for discussion.

9. The Chairman thanked Mr Eric KWOK for providing supplementary background information.

III. Question on the upgrading of the medical services and facilities of the North Lantau Hospital for meeting the needs of the rapid development of North Lantau  
(Paper IDC 26/2022)

10. The Chairman said that the consolidated reply of the Food and Health Bureau and HA had been provided to Members for perusal. The question was raised by Mr Eric KWOK. He asked Mr KWOK to briefly present the question.

11. Mr Eric KWOK briefly presented the question.

12. Mr Eric KWOK showed his understanding towards the absence of HA representatives from this meeting due to their busy work schedule in fighting the epidemic. He relayed that the residents in Tung Chung West and South Lantau had a high expectation on the services and facilities of the North Lantau Hospital, therefore he had spent great efforts in collecting information and preparing questions every time and hoped HA would attach importance to the fundamental rights of residents for medical treatment. According to the report submitted by CEDD at an IDC meeting earlier, he learnt that a number of works projects were in the pipeline in Tung Chung over the next ten years with an anticipated growth in population in the district, together with population ageing in old housing estates, residents would have a keen demand for medical services of various types. He was particularly concerned with the demand for obstetrics and gynaecology services and said that many pregnant women had asked him why there was no obstetrics and gynaecology department in the North Lantau Hospital. He said that HA had responded to the issue before, and stated that it would proactively consider the provision of obstetrics and gynaecology services with ancillary facilities for infant care if resources permitted. However, HA had evaded the issue in its written reply this time. In this connection, he requested HA to send representatives to have a meeting with Members to discuss the long-term plan for the healthcare policy concerned, and emphasised that the plan should meet the varying needs arising from population growth in the district, instead of introducing improvements as a means of remedy, in order not to waste resources and affect the effectiveness of the plan. He hoped that HA would make improvements to the healthcare policy and facilities of the North Lantau Hospital in the next five to six years as far as possible.

13. The Chairman said that while Members had perused the written replies of HA for agenda items II and III, no HA representatives had been sent to the meeting for answering questions, ending up that the issue could not be fully discussed at the meeting. In this connection, he asked the Secretariat to write to the Hospital Chief

Executive of the North Lantau Hospital under HA to send representatives to meet with Members for an in-depth discussion of the issue subject to anti-epidemic workload.

IV. Question on the means of application for student financial assistance  
(Paper IDC 27/2022)

14. The Chairman said that the written reply of the Student Finance Office (SFO) had been provided to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.

15. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question. Since SFO had not sent any representatives to the meeting but only provided a written reply, he said that he could not raise in-depth questions to address the enquiries of residents.

16. The Chairman said that Mr FONG Lung-fei could consider writing to SFO to request a more detailed reply if the written reply was not comprehensive enough.

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

- (a) He agreed to the suggestion of the Chairman, but considered that the questions raised by Members would remain unanswered if no representatives were sent to the meeting, which made it difficult for him to give explanations to parents. Despite technological advancement at present, many parents were not conversant with the use of smart phones or online system, and the applicants for student financial assistance were mostly low-income earners and people with low education levels, they would have difficulty in using the online application system.
- (b) Regarding the lack of paper-based application forms, he understood the importance of environmental protection, but SFO had to consider the applicants' needs, in particular those with low education levels who would even encounter difficulty in scanning and uploading documents and files. He asked SFO to note the comments and adopt improvement measures accordingly. Furthermore, he reiterated that SFO should show respect to the Council and send representatives to the meeting, so as to allow Members to raise questions in detail. If communication was done merely by written correspondence, it was not necessary to hold DC meetings at all.

18. Mr Eric KWOK said that the ward offices of DC Members were similar to a Secretariat all over the years to assist parents in submitting the applications for student financial assistance and photocopying the documents concerned, such as income and employment proofs. It was one of the major tasks of the ward offices of DC Members. As a DC Member, he would make an effort to assist members of the public in submitting applications, yet he would like to take the opportunity at this meeting to urge SFO to simplify the design of the application system and reduce the information required for submission to make the system more user-friendly.

19. The Chairman opined that the submission of paper-based applications had been replaced by online submission gradually with the change of times. He noted that the ward offices of DC Members had made every effort to assist members of the public. Citing the example of the switch to i-Teller services in lieu of counter services proposed by the Tai O branch of the Bank of East Asia (BEA), he clearly understood the difficulties faced by the elderly and the grassroots in the district who would take time to learn and adapt to the change. He urged Members to provide ongoing assistance to residents as far as possible. He noted Members' comments and would convey them to the departments concerned in a timely manner.

V. Question on the introduction of voice reminders on call queuing status for the hotlines of the Housing Department and the Student Finance Office  
(Paper IDC 28/2022)

20. The Chairman welcomed Mr YAN Man-chi, Robin, Property Service Manager/Service (Hong Kong Island and Islands)<sup>3</sup> of the Housing Department (HD) to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of SFO had been provided to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.

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

22. Mr Robin YAN responded as follows:

- (a) 1823 was managed by the Efficiency Office, which was under the purview of the Innovation and Technology Bureau of the HKSAR Government. At present, apart from answering hotlines for 23 participating departments, 1823 also provided additional support to the Department of Health COVID-19 hotline, the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme hotline, the Return2hk and Come2hk hotline and the Hong Kong Health Code hotline. Amid the epidemic, 1823 focused on handling epidemic-related calls. Due to the fifth wave of the epidemic, as well as the third stage of the Vaccine Pass and other anti-epidemic measures implemented by the Government, the number of epidemic-related calls had been persistently at a high level. That was why the calls of some members of the public might not be answered immediately. 1823 had received over 3.9 million calls during the first five months of this year, representing a rise of more than one-fold from the previous year.
- (b) Regarding the suggestion of introducing voice reminders on call queuing status for the hotlines, in addition to the number of calls, the time required for handling each case was also a factor affecting the length of queuing time. Thus, the call queuing status might not be able to accurately reflect the length of queuing time. Besides, calls might not be answered due to busy lines. To avoid unnecessary misunderstanding, there was currently no voice reminder on call queuing status for 1823. The department thanked Members for their

invaluable opinions and would continue to improve the arrangement in case of a surge of calls. Different channels such as email and mobile applications were also available to facilitate members of the public to contact 1823.

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

- (a) He said that a resident had visited his ward office to seek assistance in respect of matters on public housing application. Having failed to contact HD to acquire the relevant information by calling the 1823 hotline, the resident burst into tears on the spot, and he was at a loss. As many members of the public called 1823 amid the epidemic, he hoped that voice reminders on call queuing status could be provided for the HD hotline. To his knowledge, the said function was provided for the “StayHomeSafe” hotline of the Home Affairs Department to inform members of the public of their call queuing status so that they could estimate the queuing time. This arrangement could help enhance the quality of service provided for the users. He said that at present, calls from members of the public would be transferred to 1823 if the HD hotline was busy. The calls which were still not yet answered would be hung up.
- (b) He said that voice reminders on call queuing status could enable members of the public to decide whether to wait or call again later according to their status, rather than making repeated phone calls without knowing whether their calls would be picked up or not. He said that quite a number of enquiries were related to public housing application. Given the large number of public housing applicants at present, the introduction of voice reminders on call queuing status could prevent the public from feeling that they had nowhere to turn to for assistance. He urged the department to think over the suggestion again.

24. Mr Robin YAN responded as follows:

- (a) He said that the HD hotline 2712 2712 was set up for general public enquiries. Furthermore, HD had also set up other hotlines with different numbers to answer various types of enquiries, e.g. the Housing Authority Sales and White Form Secondary Market Scheme hotline, other enquiry hotlines related to housing estate management, etc. He could provide relevant online information after the meeting for the convenience of members of the public to call 1823 or the staff of HD.
- (b) Regarding the suggestion for the enhancement of the 1823 hotline, HD would relay Members’ opinions. As there had been a surge in the number of calls amid the epidemic, various enhancement measures had been implemented from March to May this year for the 1823 hotline, e.g. internal redeployment of staff members for the hotline and



deployment of staff from other government departments for increasing manpower to cope with public demand.

VI. Question on the service reform of the branch of the Bank of East Asia in Lantau and the strong objection to the evacuation of the Mui Wo Branch of the Bank of East Asia in Lantau  
(Paper IDC 29/2022)

25. The Chairman said that the written reply of BEA had been provided to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.

26. Mr WONG Man-hon briefly presented the question and thanked BEA for understanding the local needs. The representative of BEA paid a visit to the Mui Wo Rural Committee on 27 May this year to introduce the bank services provided for South Lantau and discuss with the chairmen of four rural committees of Lantau. He praised BEA for its high efficiency in putting up notices and visiting the district, and said that he had received the replies from BEA and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority on 9 and 15 June respectively, stating that the Mui Wo Branch would extend its operation for one year in response to the community's demand for bank services. Local residents were glad about this arrangement. He hoped that BEA could enhance communication with the members of the local community and put up notices as early as possible to notify residents of the detailed arrangements if it decided to cease the operation of the branch after one year, so as to allay the residents' concerns that no bank services would be available to them in the future.

27. The Chairman thanked Mr WONG Man-hon for taking the lead in reflecting the issue to BEA, and also expressed gratitude to BEA for its empathy with the public by extending the branch's operation for one year, which demonstrated corporate citizenship. He said it was noteworthy that BEA would arrange for service ambassadors to teach the residents how to use new facilities and planned to switch to i-Teller services after closing the service counters one year later. In his opinion, attention must be paid to whether the new facilities would give convenience to the grassroots and the elderly, and he might have to meet with the representative of BEA together with Mr WONG Man-hon six to nine months later to discuss the progress of the switch and the latest developments.

VII. Lantau District Action Plan 2022  
(Paper IDC 19/2022)

28. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan, District Commander (Lantau) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) to the meeting to present the paper.

29. Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan briefly presented the key points of the Lantau District Action Plan 2022 as follows:

- (a) The paper mainly set out the operational priorities of the Lantau Police

District. The operational priorities were a continuation of those identified last year with refinements to reflect the current operating environment and the key challenges of the police district in 2022. The successful implementation of each operational priority would help strengthen its ability to sustain efforts for maintaining a safe and stable district.

- (b) The operational priorities of 2022 would include:
  - (i) Safeguarding national security and engaging the whole community to counter terrorism;
  - (ii) Focusing on crime prevention and fighting, and dealing with livelihood and law and order issues of public concern, particularly combating deception, technology crimes and serious drug offences; and
  - (iii) To strengthen community engagement, the Police District would adopt proactive and extensive approach in public relations strategy to readily, timely and swiftly respond to policing issues through different media and channels.
- (c) With the rapid development of social media, connections between people and flow of information were made convenient. However, fake information was prevalent on the Internet against which the public would have difficulty in taking precautions in order not to fall into the traps of fraudsters inadvertently. Apart from monetary loss, victims might face the risk of their personal privacy being made public.
- (d) An increase in the number of deception cases across the territory and in the New Territories South Region had been recorded in 2020 and 2021, representing an increase of 23.8% and 32.5% respectively, while the number of deception cases recorded in Lantau Police District was 263 and 319 in 2020 and 2021 respectively, representing an increase of 21.3%.
- (e) In view of the increasing number of deception cases year by year, the Lantau Police District conducted a detailed analysis of the modus operandi of fraudsters and the victims in order to formulate targeted publicity strategies. The preliminary analysis results of the Police were as follows:
  - (i) In 2021, the deception cases recorded in the Lantau Police District involved 319 victims, 265 of them (83.1% of the total) were residents of the district. The remaining 54 victims (16.9% of the total) were not residents of the district;
  - (ii) Among the victims who were residents of the district, most were

residents of Yat Tung Estate (84 victims; 26.3% of the total), followed by residents of Mun Tung Estate (21 victims) and Discovery Bay (19 victims); among the non-residents of the district, the working population and tourists accounted for half of the number of victims respectively;

- (iii) The victims going to Lantau Island for sightseeing, travelling and shopping met the fraudsters for the first time mostly at Hong Kong Disneyland, followed by Citygate and Yat Tung Estate;
  - (iv) In terms of the victims' occupations, most were clerical personnel, engineering personnel, salespersons and students;
  - (v) Those victims who worked on Lantau Island but were non-residents of the district. The most common places of work were Citygate and Discovery Bay, followed by Hong Kong Disneyland;
  - (vi) In terms of the types of deception, 137 cases involved online shopping, accounting for 42.9% of the total deception cases, followed by credit card scams and compensated dating scams. Online romance scams and loan scams accounted for 7.8% and 7.5% of the total number of deception cases respectively; and
  - (vii) In terms of the victims' age, online shopping scams covered all age groups; while the age of victims of online dating frauds, investment frauds and employment frauds ranged from 18 to 50.
- (f) The Lantau Police District had stepped up anti-deception publicity in Yat Tung Estate, Mun Tung Estate, Discovery Bay, Citygate and Hong Kong Disneyland based on the above analysis results. The Police also broadcasted Announcements of Public Interests at relevant places in different times of the day to raise the public's anti-deception awareness.
- (g) The Lantau Police District would continue to keep a close watch on the changes of deception cases and the community development to adjust publicity strategies promptly. For example, many people had to be quarantined in the first quarter of 2022. In response to the situation, the Police displayed anti-deception publicity banners in community isolation facilities and included anti-deception leaflets and relevant information in the anti-epidemic kits for quarantined persons.
- (h) Raising the public's awareness of deception was the most effective way to prevent crime. The Police would continue to adjust strategy and step up publicity and education to raise the public's anti-deception awareness. The Police hoped that Members would provide assistance by promoting the social media used by the Police to residents, such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, so that the public could receive latest crime prevention information to combat deception together.

30. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He thanked the Police for explaining in detail the actions taken in Tung Chung to address the issues concerned. He also thanked the Lantau Police District for setting up check points in Shek Mun Kap to intercept vehicles entering Lantau Island.
- (b) He learnt that agency service for the application for the Lantau Closed Road Permit was available in the market. He asked if the Police could provide relevant information at the meeting and if they would take follow-up actions.
- (c) The quotas for the Driving on Lantau Island Scheme would be increased from 25 to 50 starting from 1 July 2022. He enquired about the number of traffic accidents arising from the Scheme.
- (d) Based on his understanding, smuggling activities were rampant at the areas adjoining the Mainland border outside the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and in the waters of Tai O. The Police had included combating smuggling in its Action Plan without giving an account of the details of smuggling activities in the district. He hoped that the Police could provide the details and relevant figures.
- (e) On combating street gambling, he thanked the Police for cracking down on the illegal gambling dens in the district.
- (f) He pointed out that the illegal parking problem was serious in Mui Wo. Many road junctions were occupied time and again which led to obstruction. He requested the Police to step up efforts in following up this issue.
- (g) He thought that the Police spared no effort in combating illegal electric mobility devices and hoped that the Police could sustain its efforts to take enforcement actions in Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate.
- (h) The population of Tung Chung would increase from 110 000 to about 250 000 in the coming decade. As mentioned in the paper, the Lantau Police District might be upgraded to cater for the population growth. He hoped to know the details and asked if the Police would establish the Tung Chung District of Police to cope with the population growth.

31. Mr WONG Man-hon expressed his concerns over road safety. Many members of the public cycled on carriageways on Lantau Island during holidays. He had seen the dangerous situation that a child under ten years old and his father cycled at high speed on South Lantau Road. He asked if children under ten years old accompanied by parents were allowed to cycle on carriageways under the prevailing legislation. In addition, he had seen a group of more than ten people cycling side by

side on Cheung Tung Road and caused danger to other road users. He hoped that the Police would enhance the regulatory work. If necessary, traffic police officers should be deployed to step up law enforcement actions, and banners should be put up to enhance publicity by urging parents not to allow children to cycle on carriageways.

32. Mr HO Siu-kei said that residents had relayed to him that there were a lot of cyclists on Tung Chung Road, South Lantau Road and Keung Shan Road. The cyclists often caused obstruction to the narrow roads. However, drivers trying to overtake would be recorded by the dashcam and received penalty tickets from the Police. Although members of the public were allowed to cycle on carriageways by law, the said road obstruction problem had become increasingly serious and persistent day by day. He asked how the Police and the Transport Department (TD) would protect the rights of other road users by ensuring smooth traffic flow on roads without obstruction by cyclists for a long time, with a view to creating harmony among different road users.

33. Ms WONG Chau-ping expressed her views as follows:

- (a) The problems caused by cyclists on the carriageways of Lantau Island had been discussed by the Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC). For example, some cyclists cycled quickly on steep roads, which might easily cause accidents endangering the safety of other road users. Thus, she urged the relevant department to follow up the matter. The department replied that cyclists had the right of way, for which she expressed her understanding. Nevertheless, she considered that the department should regulate the use of roads by cyclists as it was very dangerous for them to weave in and out of traffic. She said that the Police had promised to step up publicity by producing publicity banners to remind cyclists to “ride in a single file and keep to the left”. She considered that these banners served as a reminder and hoped that they could be displayed along major carriageways on Lantau Island to maximise the publicity impact. Besides, she hoped that the Police could take enforcement actions.
- (b) Regarding the closed road permit, she said that some roads on Lantau Island did not conform to the standard. Therefore, she did not hope that the department would allow drivers who were not familiar with the roads on Lantau Island to drive in the district. Besides, she considered that the increase in the quotas for the Driving on Lantau Island Scheme was inappropriate.

34. Mr FONG Lung-fei thanked the guests for attending the meeting to present the Action Plan. He said that he had received requests for assistance from quite a number of residents of Yat Tung Estate, who claimed that they had received unknown calls from time to time, and the callers could provide the personal data of the residents. He said that organisations would distribute gifts to members of the public on the street all the time, and members of the public provided their personal data to the organisations for registration for free gifts. He also said the organisations might sell the personal data of members of the public to crime syndicates. In this light, he suggested that the

Police organise activities in the district to educate members of the public to be aware of personal privacy and not to easily disclose their personal data to a third party. Or else, the consequences could be serious if their personal data fell into the hands of fraudsters, and it was difficult for the Police to take enforcement actions against these cases. In his opinion, Yat Tung Estate Shopping Centre was a suitable venue for the Police to organise the said activities.

35. Mr HO Chun-fai expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He commended the Police for its efforts. He also said that, over the past years, the residents had been striving for a reduction in the speed limit of the road leading to Tong Fuk Village to 30 km/hour to ensure the safety of the residents and animals in the village. However, TD had not been cooperative.
- (b) He said that a resident had recently recorded a speeding vehicle with the dashcam installed in car and reported the case to the Police, resulting in a successful prosecution. He hoped that these examples could alert drivers to drive carefully, and the Police could take the initiative to carry out patrols and step up enforcement to ensure road safety.
- (c) He said that the road condition of Tung Chung Road was dangerous, and hoped that the Police and TD could join hands to prevent cyclists from using that road section in order to reduce accidents.

36. Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) As regards smuggling, the situation was under control after joint operations of the Lantau Police District, the Crime Headquarters of New Territories South, the Marine Police District and the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department (C&ED).
- (b) Regarding the problem of illegal parking in Mui Wo, the Police would take enforcement actions including towing away of vehicles that posed immediate danger or caused serious obstruction to traffic without prior notice. The Police advised Mui Wo residents to make a report to the Police by calling 999 directly when they found illegally parked vehicles, so that the Police could deploy officers to take follow-up actions.
- (c) The Selected Traffic Enforcement Priorities (STEP) 2022 implemented by the Police aimed to reduce the number of casualties caused by traffic accidents, maintain smooth traffic flow and address issues of community concern focused on irresponsible road user behaviour. Two items under STEP 2022 were as follows:
  - (i) Operation AUTOBINDER targeting at pedestrian safety: in recent years, there were concerns over drivers' failing to stop at zebra crossing. In 2021, the number of related traffic accidents had

raised from 9 to 18, representing an increase of 100%. As such, a new offence, i.e. “Failing to give precedence to pedestrians on a zebra crossing”, was included in the Operation AUTOBINDER in 2022. Moreover, more stringent enforcement actions would be taken, and no discretion would be exercised before initiating prosecutions so as to achieve a deterrent effect.

- (ii) Operation GOLDENSUN targeting at bicycles and electric mobility devices: the operation aimed to give emphasis on cycling and motorcycle safety. As a result of the pandemic, the use of bicycles and motorcycles as modes of transport or for leisure became a prevalent trend. According to the statistics of 2021, the number of traffic accidents related to cycling and motorcycles accounted for 35% of the total cases in Hong Kong for the year, whereas the number of deaths of cyclists and motorcyclists even accounted for 46% of the total number of deaths and serious injuries. In view of this, more stringent enforcement actions would be taken by the Police.
- (d) As regards the situation of dangerous use of bicycles in the locations mentioned by Members, the Police considered that the relevant department could evaluate the need for improving road design and consider prohibition of cycling on roads during holidays.
- (e) The Police would enhance road safety publicity such as putting up banners and undertaking proactive enforcement actions to complement the efforts.
- (f) The Police thanked IDC for its support to the proposal on the upgrade of the Lantau Police District at an earlier time. As it was anticipated that the population in the Lantau Police District would reach 200 000 in 2026, which would meet the requirements for the establishment of a standard police district, a request for upgrading had been made to the Police management at this stage. An officer at the rank of Chief Superintendent of Police would serve as the District Commander. The Police would report the progress to the Council in due course.
- (g) Regarding privacy issues, members of the public might not be aware of privacy leakage most of the time. In this connection, the Police hoped that Members would assist in inviting residents to browse the Police’s social media so as to take note of the latest modi operandi of fraudsters and expedite their access to anti-crime messages.
- (h) As regards the closed road permit, the Police intercepted vehicles every day and would undertake proactive enforcement actions on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. As the details of enforcement actions were confidential information, which would not be disclosed at the meeting. The policy and application for the closed road permit were

under TD's purview.

37. Mr HO Siu-kei hoped that the Police could provide the prosecution figures on entry into the prohibited zone on South Lantau without a closed road permit in the vehicle interception operations over the past three months.

38. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The problem of illegal gambling was serious in Yat Tung Estate. He learnt that the Police had earlier succeeded in detecting two relevant cases, and asked whether the Police would sustain its effort in combating the crime.
- (b) He thanked the Police for combating driving without a closed road permit in the prohibited zone by intercepting vehicles frequently. However, he had found that vehicles without a closed road permit displayed on them were parked in the area, he hoped that the Police would continue to monitor the traffic condition of South Lantau and step up enforcement efforts to prevent any cases from slipping through the net.

39. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that he had recently received a complaint from a member of the public who claimed to be intercepted by the Police while smoking within the housing estate area and then body-searched by a police officer without any prior notice. He said that he had a similar experience a few years ago and considered the said practice inappropriate. He would like to know whether the Police had to notify the members of the public concerned before conducting body-search on them in public places.

40. Ms WONG Chau-ping considered that the Action Plan was very comprehensive and commended the Police Community Relations Office (PCRO) under the police district. She said that many rural areas of Lantau Island were remote with low accessibility. Nevertheless, when an accident took place, the PCRO under the police district could swiftly inform the relevant departments so that they could provide assistance as appropriate. The performance of the PCRO was commendable.

41. Ms CHEUNG Hoi-yan made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) After the meeting, the Police would report to IDC the prosecution figures on entry into the prohibited zone without a closed road permit.
- (b) Under the existing legislation, drivers were only required to show their closed road permit when driving within a prohibited zone but were not required to display the permit on their parked vehicles. The Police had been mounting snap check operations on thoroughfares to combat relevant traffic offences more effectively.
- (c) Regarding the illegal gambling problem, the Police had earlier visited



the western side of Yat Tung Estate together with the District Lands Office, Islands, to take enforcement actions against illegal occupation of government land for constructing temporary structures or setting up illegal gambling dens. The Police would continue to carry out patrols at various housing estates and gambling black spots to take stringent enforcement actions.

- (d) The Police would not comment on the individual case mentioned by Mr FONG Lung-fei. Police officers shall comply with the requirements of sections 50 and 54 of the Police Force Ordinance (Cap. 232) when performing duties, and conducting stop and search of persons, including giving an explanation to the person being stopped and searched.

42. The Chairman expressed his views as follows:

- (a) With regard to the individual case mentioned by Mr FONG Lung-fei, if the member of the public thought that the police officer did not act in accordance with the Police Force Ordinance, a complaint could be lodged to the Complaints Against Police Office.
- (b) He thanked the Police for introducing the details of the Lantau District Action Plan 2022 and responding to Members' questions. He said that IDC understood that the Lantau Police District was facing manpower constraints and hoped that the Lantau Police District would be successfully upgraded to tie in with the growth of local population.
- (c) Smuggling activities had been reduced significantly in the district recently and many community problems had been solved. He hoped that the Police could fully implement the STEP 2022 mentioned just now.
- (d) He asked TD to give a preliminary response to the traffic problems mentioned earlier.

43. Ms Karen KWAN made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) TD had always attached great importance to cycling safety. TD also worked with the Police to closely monitor the situation and step up publicity in this regard.
- (b) With regard to the agency service for the application for the closed road permit, if TD received complaints from the public or found on the Internet that the agency service claimed to be provided, it would contact the Police to find out if there was a deception case or suspected use of the closed road permit illegally.
- (c) With regard to the worries and concerns of Members on the second phase of the Driving on Lantau Island Scheme, TD would closely

monitor the local traffic condition after the implementation of the Scheme and report to the Council whenever necessary.

44. The Chairman hoped that TD would maintain communication with the Chairman of TTC under IDC on relevant issues.

VIII. Marine Port District Action Plan 2022  
(Paper IDC 21/2022)

45. The Chairman welcomed Mr Clive WALTON, District Commander (Marine Port District) of HKPF to the meeting to present the paper.

46. Mr Clive WALTON briefly presented the paper.

47. Mr CHAN Lin-wai expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He thanked the District Commander (Marine Port District) for introducing the Action Plan 2022. He said that although no more than ten police officers were stationed on Lamma Island, the Police had all along maintained close communication and good relationship with the community. In this connection, the number of crimes on the island had greatly reduced, ensuring the well-being of the community. He expressed gratitude to the Police for their efforts.
- (b) During the pandemic, the suspect of the murder case of a taxi driver in Western District was arrested on Lamma Island within 48 hours of the murder. It demonstrated the high competence of the police officers on Lamma Island, which had earned high acclaim in the community.
- (c) Lamma Island was one of the major tourist districts in Hong Kong. In recent years, a growing number of people had used electric mobility devices on the roads on the island. He hoped that the Police would give advice to those people and strengthen law enforcement actions when necessary.
- (d) There were a number of incense trees on Lamma Island. After the pandemic, quarantine-free travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland would resume. By then, tree cutting gangs from the Mainland might come to the island to fell the incense trees. He hoped that the Police would step up patrols to prevent tree felling activities.

48. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) During his visit to the waters between Shek Kwu Chau incinerator and Cheung Sha with some green groups to assess the impacts caused by the installation of submarine cables on the Chinese white dolphins and the finless porpoises last year, he witnessed a number of navigating vessels

travelling at high-speed without being intercepted. Since the unfortunate death of a police officer during an anti-smuggling operation last year, the Police had spared no effort in combating smuggling activities so that the situation was under control. To this end, he hoped that the Marine Police would give an account of its anti-smuggling work and provide the figures of vessels in connection with illegal smuggling activities.

- (b) He mentioned in the previous term and this term of IDC that during the fishing moratorium, a number of Mainland fishing vessels would enter Hong Kong waters for illegal fishing, causing serious damage to the marine ecology. He pointed out that there were always good yields of cuttlefish between July and August in Hong Kong. He knew that there were a number of cuttlefish-catching vessels in the waters of Cheung Chau recently. However, according to the fishermen in Cheung Chau, the number of local cuttlefish-catching vessels was small. He queried that some of the vessels were from the Mainland, and hoped that the Police would regularly report to the Council their work on combating illegal fishing of Mainland fishing vessels in Hong Kong.

49. Mr Ken WONG expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He shared the concern about electric mobility devices. He pointed out that many people had used electric mobility devices at a very high speed in Peng Chau recently. Although complaints had been lodged with the Police, the Police replied that as there was no licensing requirement for electric mobility device users under the current legislation, it would be hard to initiate any prosecution by the Police. He opined that the legislation currently in force was outdated as it failed to effectively regulate the use of electric mobility devices, and hoped that TD would consider introducing legislative amendments to facilitate police operations. He considered that the issue should be addressed seriously as it affected the safety of the outlying islands.
- (b) He commended the Marine Port Police District for its work on the outlying islands. For instance, a small number of police officers were stationed in Peng Chau and Lamma Island, but the crime rate was extremely low. The performance of the Police was well recognised. He also thanked the Police for their flexibility in deploying additional marine and uniformed police officers to Peng Chau during the pandemic to assist in solving local problems.

50. Mr YUNG Chi-ming said that due to the epidemic, in order for the Cheung Chau Jiao Festival activities to be held in compliance with anti-epidemic regulations and as scheduled, activities such as the “floating colours” parade and the bun scrambling contest had been cancelled. However, this did not deter the large number of tourists from visiting Cheung Chau. He thanked the Marine Police for their deployment of officers to Cheung Chau to maintain order during the event, which

contributed to its success. In addition, he thanked the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Islands District Office (IsDO) for their assistance in organising the event concerned.

51. Mr Clive WALTON thanked Members for their comments and made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Regarding the shortage of police manpower on Lamma Island, he said that some of the police officers had contracted COVID-19, which led to understaffing in the police district, but the police manpower on Lamma Island had already resumed normal. The Police would continue to mobilise manpower in response to the development of the epidemic.
- (b) Regarding electric mobility devices, the Police had conducted law enforcement operations on a regular basis and issued summonses to a few offenders. The Police would assess the effectiveness of the operations from time to time.
- (c) The “One Village One Cop” policy was a great success in which the Police had arrested a suspect successfully in the operation carried out a month ago under the close cooperation between the Police and the public.
- (d) Regarding the problem of domestic violence, he said that most members of the public were forced to stay at home during the epidemic, which would easily cause family tension and conflicts and lead to domestic violence. The Police had already taken action in regard to the problem.
- (e) The problem of smuggling had already been addressed in the discussion on the Lantau Police District. The inter-departmental operations against smuggling led by C&ED were conducted repeatedly. The Police had conducted a total of 134 inter-departmental operations in 2021 and 47 joint operations from 2022 until now. Both the manpower of the Marine and Land Police was mobilised for the operations which were conducted frequently. Furthermore, the Police also cooperated with the law enforcement authorities of the Mainland and maintained close liaison in the hope of combating smuggling on various fronts.
- (f) Regarding the entry of Mainland fishing vessels into Hong Kong waters to catch cuttlefish, the Police had mounted joint operations with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to combat trawling activities.

52. The Chairman asked TD to respond to the question on electric mobility devices.

53. Ms Karen KWAN said that TD would provide the relevant information after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: TD provided the supplementary information on 13 July 2022.)

54. Mr Eric KWOK asked whether the Marine Police would consider including into its Action Plan the entry of Mainland fishing vessels into Hong Kong waters for fishing during the fishing moratorium and reporting to the Council on a regular basis.

55. Mr Clive WALTON said that the fishing moratorium was not solely applicable to the waters of Hong Kong. Nonetheless, the Police would combat illegal fishing together with AFCD at regular intervals.

56. The Chairman believed that the Marine Port District would strive hard to combat illegal fishing. He would contact AFCD after the meeting to learn more about its cooperation with the Police.

IX. Annual District Plan – 2022 - 2023 - Planning  
(Paper IDC 22/2022)

57. The Chairman welcomed Ms TANG Tsui-yee, Caroline, District Planning Officer/Sai Kung & Islands of the Planning Department (PlanD) to the meeting to present the paper.

58. Ms Caroline TANG said that the annual programme of PlanD for the coming year was set out in the paper. She welcomed Members' views.

59. Mr Eric KWOK said that many outline zoning plans were rather complicated. It was difficult for Members to make enquiries by circulation of papers. Therefore, he hoped that PlanD could arrange a meeting for discussion to answer Members' enquiries.

60. The Chairman said that PlanD would explain the outline zoning plans at DC meetings from time to time. He suggested that PlanD should brief Members on the details before the meeting to facilitate a detailed discussion at the meeting.

X. The Housing Department's Programme of Activities for Estate Management in the Islands District in 2022/23  
(Paper IDC 23/2022)

61. The Chairman welcomed Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold, Senior Property Service Manager/Hong Kong Island and Islands of HD to the meeting to present the paper.

62. Mr Arnold HAU briefly presented the paper.

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

(a) The condensation drain pipes for the air conditioners of the flats in Yat

Tung Estate were not connected properly, leading to a serious water dripping problem. Many residents had relayed to him that the cost of repairing water dripping air-conditioners was not low, which would impose a burden on low-income families. It was not difficult to find that the external walls of the buildings where air conditioners were installed were covered with mould and the drain pipes were blocked. He hoped that HD would deal with the issue in the upcoming large-scale maintenance of Yat Tung Estate.

- (b) There were many Chinese Banyan trees in Yat Tung Estate with overgrown roots protruding out of the ground, which caused pavement upheaving. Pedestrians and the elderly might not be aware of these traps in the community and got tripped and injured. At present, the bulging pavements caused by the tree roots were only fenced off, which failed to solve the problem effectively. He suggested that HD should engage experts to study and select suitable plant species in the planning of greening in housing estates in the future and avoid species with a tendency of overgrown roots such as Chinese Banyan trees or oak trees to reduce the risks.

64. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The population intake of Yat Tung Estate had taken place for over 20 years and major maintenance would be carried out soon. At the previous meetings, he raised questions on the drainage pipes and condensation drain pipes for air-conditioners on the external walls of Yat Tung Estate, after which the department conducted site inspections with him twice. As regards short-term measures, the department had commissioned a contractor to make improvements and pledged to include the issue into the estate maintenance project. He pointed out that apart from the blockage of the condensation drain pipes for air-conditioners of the estate, the practice of connecting the condensation drain pipes of several air-conditioners to a single pipe also aggravated the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners.
- (b) Regarding the promotion of sustainable living, he supported the proactive approach mentioned by the department in encouraging tenants to reduce municipal solid waste. As stated in the paper, all Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) would be dissolved before 1 January 2023. He asked the department how the promotion and education for tenants would be carried out by then to ensure that the tenants would not dispose of refuse improperly to evade charges upon the future implementation of the “Municipal Solid Waste Charging Scheme”.
- (c) As regards greening in the estate, he proposed that reference could be drawn from the practice of some private housing estates in which the root zone of large trees at the estate would be enclosed with wooden fencing and seats would be provided at the external areas for leisure,

which would not only beautify the environment but also prevent residents from tripping over the roots.

65. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that the root system of Chinese Banyan trees caused pavement upheaving and tripped passers-by, which was a difficult problem with hazards. In this connection, she agreed to the proposal of choosing suitable tree species for planting, and opined that the management company and HD should rigorously deal with the problem. Moreover, she expressed that the proposal of fencing off large trees as well as the provision of seats might inhibit root growth. Lastly, she hoped that the relevant departments would also follow up the situation of pavement upheaving caused by the root system of the trees on the road sections near Tung Chung housing estates.

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

- (a) The problem of water dripping from air-conditioners on the external walls of Yat Tung Estate had been discussed at an IDC meeting in 2020. At that time, the department said that the issues raised by Members, including the improvement of condensation drain pipes for air-conditioners, would be dealt with together during the refurbishment of the external walls of Yat Tung Estate. He said that the project was anticipated to commence within the coming few years, during which the repair works to the external walls would be carried out first.
- (b) Studies would be carried out by the Tree Management Units (TMUs) of the department on all newly-completed estates. As such, there was no pavement upheaving caused by root systems at the newly-completed Ying Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate. Moreover, he would refer the proposal of providing seats near large trees to enlarge fenced areas to TMU for consideration in the hope of improving the current situation at Yat Tung Estate, and stressed that the department was very concerned about the safety of residents.
- (c) With the dissolution of MACs at the end of this year, the department would take a proactive role in maintaining good communication with the residents, including the promotion of the “Municipal Solid Waste Charging Scheme” and education for tenants. He understood the concern of Members on whether residents could adapt and tie in with the relevant policy by then. The department was very concerned about the issue and would notify Members of the details in a timely manner when they had been finalised.

67. Mr Eric KWOK said that compared to the colourful and charming flowers in Ying Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate, the grassland in Yat Tung Estate was less attractive. He hoped that HD would consider growing flowers in Yat Tung Estate to add colours to the environment.

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

- (a) He thought that HD had adopted a lenient approach in regulating the misdeeds covered in the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement (Marking Scheme). Verbal warning was given in most cases, rendering the Marking Scheme largely ineffective. He said that although residents were allowed to keep dogs in Yat Tung Estate lawfully, many dog owners let their dogs foul public places without cleaning up, which seriously affected the environmental hygiene in the estate, yet HD did not allot penalty points to the tenants. In addition, some residents had thrown rubbish from windows onto the street. He asked if HD would take follow-up actions if the misdeed was filmed and the footage was submitted to the department as evidence.
- (b) He understood that some misdeeds were committed by the elderly or people with mental disorders. Accordingly, HD experienced difficulty in handling those cases, which in turn condoned the misdeeds. The neighbours of these tenants had no choice but to seek assistance from the Police because of the long-term nuisances. In his opinion, if a medical certificate was provided to prove that a resident in emotional distress had committed acts causing nuisances to family members and neighbours, HD should make arrangement for special transfer where circumstances permitted, so as to effectively solve the problem and avoid tragedy.

69. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that many tree roots had bulged the roads from Ha Ling Pei Village, Tung Chung to the embankment of Wong Lung Hang Channel near Tung Chung Our Lady's Kindergarten. She asked the relevant government departments to take follow-up actions.

70. The Chairman asked Ms WONG Chau-ping to express her views under Item XII.

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

- (a) With regard to the suggestion of growing flowers in Yat Tung Estate, as part of the estate area was shared with the Link Asset Management Limited (the Link), the funding for the Estate Management Advisory Committee under the purview of HD might not be applicable to the greening work of Yat Tung Estate. He would take follow-up actions with the Link on this matter.
- (b) HD clarified that it had all along actively followed up and dealt with the misdeeds in the estate and would strictly implement the Marking Scheme. He explained that penalty points could only be allotted with sufficient evidence. A photo or a video clip alone was not sufficient to determine whether a person had committed a misdeed.
- (c) If a resident applied for transfer due to emotional problems or mental



disorder, medical certificate must be provided to show that, for instance, transfer could help alleviate the illness, or that failing to do so would greatly affect the neighbours or even lead to conflicts. Since every case was different and it was difficult to draw a general conclusion, HD would make a decision depending on actual circumstances.

(Mr Ken WONG left the meeting at around 3:45 p.m.)

XI. Islands District Office 2022/23 Annual Work Plan  
(Paper IDC 24/2022)

72. The Chairman welcomed Ms YEUNG Wai-sum, Amy, District Officer (Islands) of IsDO to the meeting to present the paper.

73. Ms Amy YEUNG briefly presented the paper.

74. Mr WONG Man-hon said that regarding the supporting work related to typhoon under Item 15 of the paper, local resources should be better utilised to boost efficiency. For example, Mui Wo Sports Centre, which was under the purview of LCSD, could be opened during typhoon for residents in need to use the hot shower facilities. As for the clean-up of fallen trees, LCSD also had the professional equipment and manpower. He suggested that departments make good use of resources and cooperate with each other.

75. Mr Eric KWOK said that with regard to stepping up efforts on the removal of shoreline and beach refuse under Item 3(4) of the paper, he was aware of the acute problem of piling up of refuse at the Pui O Beach in the recent one to two weeks. He understood that the removal of beach refuse was mainly the work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and estimated that the poor hygiene condition was caused by the shortage of manpower in FEHD recently. He visited the beach on the morning of the day of the meeting and noticed that two rows of refuse were piled up on the shoreline at the water levels of the last spring tide and the recent neap tide respectively. Apart from general refuse such as styrofoam, plastic beverage containers and plastic shoes, he discovered a lot of wooden sticks, wooden boards, and bamboo scaffold-like refuse. In addition, the two river mouths of the Pui O River were filled with refuse, some of which even floated to the riverbanks. Since the Pui O Beach was famous for its beautiful scenery, he asked IsDO to enquire if FEHD had sufficient manpower and to provide feasible methods to assist in beach refuse removal.

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

- (a) He hoped that the relevant departments could pay attention to the weeding work conducted in the green belt zone at the two sides of Chung Yan Road near Yat Tung Estate because weeding would only be carried out when the weeds had grown very tall or even drooped onto the carriageway. Some pedestrians might not abide by the traffic rules that, instead of using pedestrian crossings, they would walk through the

weeds to cross the road. Traffic accidents would easily take place as the drivers' sightline was obstructed. The problem of overgrown weeds was particularly serious near the street box at Chung Yan Road for left turning to Chui Kwan Drive. Further, as many residents did not obey the traffic rules and crossed the road there, this increased the chances of traffic accident. He said that the increase in the frequency of weeding would reduce the use of chemicals such as larvicidal oil, which could avoid affecting the ecology too. Moreover, it would be easier for street cleaners to remove refuse from weeds, and environmental hygiene would not be affected by the accumulation of stagnant water.

- (b) Although IsDO had already removed more than ten abandoned motorcycles in October last year, several motorcycles were abandoned on Yu Tung Road outside Hong Yat House recently. He suggested that IsDO should discuss with the relevant departments and explore how to find out the owners of the abandoned motorcycles. He understood that some motorcycle owners might have removed the number plates and vehicle licences and thereby increased the difficulty in handling the issue. Even so, he opined that the department should prosecute and impose a fine on the motorcycle owners, so that the public would not abuse on-street motorcycle parking spaces and affect other members of the public in need.

77. Ms Amy YEUNG said that the issues raised by Members involved the collaboration among IsDO and the relevant departments. At present, IsDO had in place an established procedure on the handling of fallen trees. Moreover, the District Office had set up different facilities to provide temporary shelters to people affected by typhoons. She noted the views of Mr WONG Man-hon and would conduct studies with LCSD. As for the refuse problem in the Pui O Beach, IsDO would follow up the issue with FEHD as soon as possible. Regarding the grass cutting and mosquito control at Chung Yan Road, IsDO would carry out site inspections. IsDO had arranged staff to regularly conduct mosquito control and grass cutting work at the black spots of weeds in the district. IsDO had also deployed staff to inspect the situation concerned at regular intervals. As for the abandoned motorcycles, IsDO had been working with relevant departments with a view to instituting prosecutions for the offence concerned where practicable. As what the Members said, motorcycle owners would have destroyed all the evidence for tracing their identities before abandoning the motorcycles, giving rise to difficulties in law enforcement. Nonetheless, IsDO would continue to review the situation and step up efforts to remove abandoned motorcycles whenever necessary. IsDO would also maintain contact with relevant departments to come up with feasible solutions to curb the problem.

(Post-meeting note: IsDO had contacted LCSD and FEHD to follow up on the proposal of opening Mui Wo Sports Centre and the refuse problem in the Pui O Beach respectively. LCSD said that the proposal would be considered, while FEHD had deployed staff to remove the refuse on the beach for several times. As for

grass cutting and mosquito control at Chung Yan Road, after IsDO had a site inspection with Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr FONG said that he would submit an agenda item to the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Environmental Hygiene and Climate Change Committee for discussion.)

78. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that at present, some foreigners would play cricket and some children would play football in On Tung Street Soccer Pitch every Saturday. He had already reflected the situation to the staff in Tung Chung Sub-office under IsDO. He understood that due to the epidemic, Tung Chung Road Soccer Pitch and the 7-a-side hard-surfaced soccer pitch in Tung Chung North Park were temporarily closed. On the other hand, the site in Area 104 which was reserved for the provision of a library had been vacant and overgrown with weed, affecting the environmental hygiene in the surrounding areas. In view of this, he suggested that a temporary sitting-out area with simple facilities to be provided for residents can be set up in the said site in order to optimise the use of land. He suggested that IsDO discuss the feasibility of the proposal with Ms WONG Chau-ping.

79. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that many tree roots had bulged the roads from Ha Ling Pei Village, Tung Chung to the embankment of Wong Lung Hang Channel near Tung Chung Our Lady's Kindergarten. In this connection, she asked the relevant departments to take follow-up actions. In addition, there were abandoned vehicles in the entrance of almost every old village. No vehicle licences could be found on those vehicles, which had upset the village representatives. She asked the department what measures were put in place in response.

80. Ms Amy YEUNG said that the department had to carefully review the suggestion of the provision of temporary recreational facilities on the vacant site. It was due to the fact that even though the land was not currently in use, the relevant land lot might not be allocated for other purposes due to some existing development plans.

81. Mr Thomas LI said that with regard to the disposal of abandoned vehicles, since 2021, the 18 district offices in the territory had coordinated with the relevant departments to carry out a pilot scheme to jointly remove the private cars and motorcycles abandoned in the district. IsDO had identified different black spots of abandoned vehicles based on the complaints received and the information from Members. A total of three rounds of clearance operations had been conducted so far. IsDO welcomed Members to provide information on the black spots of abandoned vehicles for its consideration and arrangement for clearance operations as soon as possible. As joint operations had been going on for more than one year, the participating departments had accumulated experience and adopted different approaches in handling abandoned vehicles which were unclaimed or whose owners could not be identified.

82. The Chairman said that the removal of abandoned vehicles would involve IsDO, TD and HKPF. The departments would put up notices at prominent locations of the abandoned vehicles and remove the abandoned vehicles if they remained unclaimed after three months. Ms WONG Chau-ping was advised to raise the two

issues mentioned earlier under Item XII.

XII. Report on the Work of the Islands District Management Committee (May 2022)  
(Paper IDC 30/2022)

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

84. Ms Amy YEUNG said that regarding the enquiry raised by Mr WONG Man-hon at the last meeting on TD's request for the provision of parking spaces upon residents' applications for the building of village houses, the department had followed up the matter with TD at the Islands District Management Committee (IsDMC). She noted that the department had contacted Mr WONG, the Vice-chairman. Members were welcome to make further enquiries any time.

85. Regarding the issue raised by Ms WONG Chau-ping earlier on the damage to the pavement between Ha Ling Pei Village, Tung Chung and the embankment of Wong Lung Hang Channel at Tung Chung Our Lady's Kindergarten caused by overgrown roots, the Chairman proposed that the IsDO should follow up the matter at the IsDMC and arrange inter-departmental site inspections to explore solutions for the issue.

86. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that feedbacks had been received from residents of Coastal Skyline and Seaview Crescent revealing that there were also damages caused by overgrown roots to the pavements in the vicinity of the New Development Pier and Tung Chung Community Centre. He hoped that action would be taken as soon as possible. Moreover, he pointed out that major works would be carried out on Chung Yan Road near Yat Tung Estate, including lane closure and removal of green belt. He anticipated that the traffic in the vicinity would be very heavy. Therefore, he had repeatedly proposed that the department should consider opening Chui Kwan Drive to divert traffic flow.

87. Mr HO Chun-fai said that he had conducted a site visit with IsDO and TD to the bus stop for Cheung Sha bound between San Wai Tsuen and Lo Wai Tsuen, Pui O two years ago. The *Acacia confusa* planted on the pavement of about 2.5 feet wide at the location was tilted at an angle of 45 degrees due to the adjacent slope, and its root system had seriously damaged the concrete pavement, causing partial pavement upheaving. As the pavement there was narrow and the bus stop was in close proximity, it posed danger to the passengers awaiting or chasing buses. He expressed that AFCD had not actively followed up the removal or pruning of trees, and hoped that the department would look into the problem instead of taking remedial actions only after accidents had happened.

88. Ms Amy YEUNG thanked Members for their views on the impact of overgrown roots on the safety of pavements. She said that follow-up actions with the relevant departments would be taken as soon as possible to ensure the safety of pedestrians and road users.

(Post-meeting note: IsDO had liaised with LCSD and the Highways Department on the situation of the growth of tree roots at the said locations. Site visits had been conducted and follow-up actions on the cases were underway.)

XIII. Reports on the Work of the IDC Committees  
(Papers IDC 31-34/2022)

89. The Chairman asked the committee chairmen and the working group convenors if they had anything to add to or any other views regarding the reports.

90. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that there were occasional incidents of clothes or even hangers falling from heights at Mun Tung Estate to the windscreens of moving vehicles at the road bend on Tung Chung Road near Lung Tseng Tau, affecting the safety of road users. She proposed that a gentle reminder on the issue be given to the tenants of Mun Tung Estate.

91. Ms LEE Sin-man said that follow-up actions would be taken.

92. Mr FONG Lung-fei proposed that HD should provide windproof clips to laundry facilities for the tenants of Mun Tung Estate.

93. Ms LEE Sin-man said that Mun Tung Estate was a newly-completed public housing estate in which the flats were installed with laundry racks. The department did not have any plan to provide windproof clips for the tenants. Nevertheless, the department would put up notices to remind residents to ensure that clothes were secured on the rack for laundry drying.

94. Members noted and unanimously endorsed the above papers.

(Members 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, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Ms LAU Shun-ting.)

XIV. Nomination for representative(s) in public organisation

95. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received a letter from the Transport and Housing Bureau inviting Members to join the Selection Panel of the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme and Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme. The invitation letter had been emailed to Members. He asked Members to consider nominating a DC Member to serve on the above panel.

96. Ms WONG Chau-ping nominated Mr HO Chun-fai to serve as the member. The nomination was seconded by Mr WONG Man-hon. Mr HO Chun-fai accepted

the nomination.

97. Members voted by a show of hands. There were 10 votes in favour, none against and 1 abstention. The nomination was endorsed.

(Members 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 Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Ms LAU Shun-ting. Mr HO Chun-fai abstained.)

XV. By-election of Vice-Chairman of Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Environmental Hygiene and Climate Change Committee (2022-2023)

98. The Chairman said that as at 1:00 p.m. on 20 June 2022, i.e. the close of nomination, one nomination for the Vice-chairman of the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Environmental Hygiene and Climate Change Committee (TAFEHCCC) was received. The nomination list had been tabled for Members' consideration. Since only one valid nomination was received and the nominee was Mr CHAN Lin-wai, the Chairman announced that Mr CHAN Lin-wai was elected uncontested as the Vice-chairman of TAFEHCCC.

XVI. Date of Next Meeting

99. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 5 September 2022 (Monday) at 2:00 p.m.

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