

(Translation)

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

Date : 9 April 2024 (Tuesday)
Time : 2:30 p.m.
Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room,
14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Present

Chairman

Mr WONG Man-hon, MH

Vice-Chairman

Mr HUI Chun-lung, MH

Members

Mr NG Man-kit
Mr HO Siu-kei
Mr YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP
Mr CHOW Yuen-kuk, Jonathan
Ms KWOK Wai-man, Mealoha
Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken
Mr YIP Pui-kei
Mr LAU Chin-pang
Ms LAU Suk-han
Ms LAU Shun-ting

Attendance by Invitation

Mr WONG Hoi-man	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western, Southern and Islands District)2, Social Welfare Department
Mr CHENG Kei, Freely	Head of External Affairs, The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Ms LAI Shuk-ching, Susanna	General Manager, External Affairs, The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Ms TONG Wai-lee, Winnie	Executive Manager, Retail Planning and Control, The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Mr WONG Ting-wai, Ryan	Deputy Executive Manager, Retail, The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Ms CHUNG Po-may, Ada	Executive Manager, Property Design Management, The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Mr AU Ho-yin, Gary	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Islands District Office
Ms LIU Pui-shan, Lis	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Islands District Office

In Attendance

Ms TSE Yik-ting, Ellie	Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office
Ms CHOW Yuen-on, Alice	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHUNG Chi-yuen, Candy	Senior Librarian (Islands) (Acting), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LEUNG Wai-nga, Viola	Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LAM Fong-shing, Florence	Senior School Development Officer (Wanchai & Islands), Education Bureau

Secretary

Ms CHAN Ying-tung, Shadow	Executive Officer (District Council)1, Islands District Office
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Absent with Apology

Mr HO Chun-fai
Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH

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### **Welcoming Remarks**

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

2. Members agreed to accept the applications for absence from the meeting submitted by Mr CHOW Yuk-tong and Mr HO Chun-fai.

#### **I. Confirmation of Minutes of Special Meeting held on 29 January 2024**

3. The Chairman said that the captioned minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by government departments and Members and had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. The captioned minutes were confirmed unanimously without further amendments proposed by Members.

#### **II. Annual Programme Plan of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in the Islands District for 2024-25**

##### **(i) Performing Arts Programme** (CICRC Paper No. 2/2024)

4. The Chairman welcomed Ms LEUNG Wai-nga, Viola, Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion, Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) to the meeting to present the paper.

5. Ms Viola LEUNG briefly presented the paper.
- (ii) Extension Activities of Public Libraries  
(CICRC Paper No. 3/2024)
6. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHUNG Chi-yuen, Candy, Senior Librarian (Islands) (Acting), LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
7. Ms Candy CHUNG briefly presented the paper.
- (iii) Recreation and Sports Activities  
(CICRC Paper No. 4/2024)
8. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHOW Yuen-on, Alice, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands, LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
9. Ms Alice CHOW briefly presented the paper.
10. Members made the following comments:
- (a) In 2023-24, the LCSD had organised 28 activities under the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme in the Islands District, with approximately 2 000 participants. However, the Department planned to hold only nine such activities in 2024-25, for only 900 participants. In this connection, Members enquired about the reasons for the drastic reduction in the number of activities.
  - (b) Members considered that activities themed around “China’s War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression” were very suitable for the Islands District. Apart from organising photograph exhibitions, Members suggested that the Department should collaborate with relevant groups to organise guided tours in places such as Mui Wo and Tong Fuk, to enable participants to learn more about the history and culture of the Islands District.
  - (c) The Department planned to organise 3-on-3 basketball activities but not 3-on-3 basketball competitions. In this regard, Members enquired about the difference between “activity” and “competition”. In addition, as 3-on-3 basketball had become an official Olympic sport in recent years, Members suggested that the Department should include 3-on-3 basketball competitions in the activity plan.
  - (d) The Government had successfully acquired the television broadcasting rights for the 2024 Paris Olympics for the games to be televised in Hong Kong. In this regard, Members asked whether the Department would organise related recreation and sports activities to leverage the Olympic

hype to enhance public interest in such activities.

11. Ms Viola LEUNG said that the number of activities to be held in 2024-25 had been adjusted in the light of resource consolidation and the needs of the district. If the response of participants was favourable, the Department would consider further adjusting the number of activities.

12. Ms Candy CHUNG said that the Department would consider organising talks and guided tours, where appropriate, on topics such as China's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, history and culture.

13. Ms Alice CHOW responded as follows:

(a) The recreation and sports activities of the LCSD covered training courses, recreation activities and competitions. Currently, the Department had no plans to organise 3-on-3 basketball competitions in the Islands District. She took note of the suggestion of Members and would consider it subject to the availability of resources.

(b) In the past, the Department had set up Olympics Focal Site in sports centres across the 18 districts. However, since the Olympic Games would be held in Paris this year and there was a time difference between Paris and Hong Kong, the Department would need to make arrangements accordingly in the light of the actual situation. To celebrate the Olympic events, the Department would organise a series of large-scale activities to enable the public to watch the events in an enthusiastic atmosphere.

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

(i) Arts and Cultural Activities  
(CICRC Paper No. 5/2024)

14. The Chairman welcomed Ms Viola LEUNG, Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion, LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

15. Ms Viola LEUNG briefly presented the paper.

(ii) Extension Activities of Public Libraries  
(CICRC Paper No. 6/2024)

16. The Chairman welcomed Ms Candy CHUNG, Senior Librarian (Islands) (Acting), LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

17. Ms Candy CHUNG briefly presented the paper.

(iii) Recreation and Sports Activities  
(CICRC Paper No. 7/2024)

18. The Chairman welcomed Ms Alice CHOW, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands, LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

19. Ms Alice CHOW briefly presented the paper.

20. Members made the following comments:

- (a) Members considered that the Department could organise more cultural activities in Cheung Chau and suggested organising such activities at the Cheung Chau Sports Centre and the Praya Street Sports Centre.
- (b) Members inquired about the usage of mobile libraries in Discovery Bay.
- (c) The conference room of the Discovery Bay Community Hall was opened for use as a study room during vacant periods, but the utilisation rate was very low. Members believed that local facilities should be better utilised and suggested that the Department should consider opening the conference room for reading purposes.

21. Ms Viola LEUNG noted the views of Members.

22. Ms Candy CHUNG responded as follows:

- (a) The utilisation rate of the mobile library at the Discovery Bay was high, and the information on the usage of it had been reported at the meetings of the District Facilities and Works Committee.
- (b) The Department took note of Members' suggestion and would examine the feasibility of organising reading related activities in the conference room of the Discovery Bay Community Hall.

IV. Social Welfare Department Central Western, Southern and Islands District Social Welfare Office 2024-25 Annual Work Plan  
(CICRC Paper No. 8/2024)

23. The Chairman welcomed Mr WONG Hoi-man, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western, Southern and Islands District)<sup>2</sup>, Social Welfare Department to the meeting to present the paper.

24. Mr WONG Hoi-man briefly presented the paper.

25. Members made the following comments:

- (a) Members remarked that based on past experience, it had been very difficult to find foster care services in the district, and enquired about the current supply and demand of foster care services in the Islands District.
- (b) Regarding the “Support for Carers Project”, Members pointed out that as frontline property management personnel could only receive training during shift handover time, and a number of elderly centres had separately discussed with property management companies on training matters, it was difficult for the companies to arrange the training schedules. Therefore, Members suggested that the Department to coordinate with all parties concerned to arrange for the relevant training for the staff.
- (c) Members hoped that the Department could provide additional information on the social welfare planning for the Tung Chung area.
- (d) Based on past experience, social welfare organisations in new housing estates generally started providing services one to two years after residents had moved in. Members enquired about the measures taken by the Department to support new residents during this interim period.
- (e) As new residents would include many young parents, there would be a strong demand for child care service under the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (“NSCCP”). Furthermore, it had been mentioned in the Policy Address that the NSCCP service would be strengthened and the number of service places would be increased. In this regard, Members enquired about the number of additional service places to be provided for the Islands District and how the service would be enhanced.
- (f) Regarding the programmes to support young people, Members enquired about the types of internship opportunities that the Department had previously provided for young people in the district. In addition, Members suggested that the Department should collaborate with local organisations to provide internship opportunities for young people, in order to enhance their sense of belonging to the Islands District.
- (g) With the increasing population in Tung Chung, which included many young parents, Members asked whether the existing services provided by the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness (“ICCMW”) would be sufficient to meet the needs of the district, and how the Department would increase the resources for mental health services.

26. Mr WONG Hoi-man responded as follows:

- (a) The Department did not keep statistical information on the number of

foster homes in individual districts. The Department had conducted in-depth discussions on foster care service at the Committee on Review of Residential Child Care and Related Services, gathered views from different stakeholders and introduced a series of enhancement measures, with a view to encouraging more families to join the foster care service through implementation of new initiatives and publicity. In addition, foster care workers would strive to match children with suitable foster homes based on their school locations and residential areas.

(Post-meeting note: Foster care service provides residential family care for children whose parents cannot adequately take care of them due to special family circumstances.)

- (b) Regarding the “Support for Carers Project”, he understood that the frontline personnel of property management companies had high turnover rate and new personnel might not be familiar with the support services provided by the elderly centres and rehabilitation service units for the elderly and persons with disabilities in the district. In this connection, the Department would continue to coordinate with the elderly centres and rehabilitation service units to jointly implement the “Support for Carers Project” to provide suitable training for property management personnel.
- (c) Regarding the planning of welfare services in Tung Chung New Town Extension, the Department planned to set up an ICCMW, a Day Care Centre for the Elderly, a Neighbourhood Elderly Centre and an Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre in Tung Chung Area 100. Generally, the Department would invite non-governmental organisations (“NGOs”) to submit service proposals before the completion of new public rental housing (“PRH”) estates concerned, so as to speed up the process of selecting suitable service providers and facilitate early commencement of preparatory work. Upon the receipt of occupation permit for the welfare premises in newly completed PRH estates, the service units concerned could start the fitting-out works as soon as possible. Furthermore, NGOs would incorporate in service proposals their plans to provide services for new residents before securing the permanent premises, such as borrowing venues from neighbouring facilities or providing outreaching services, so that timely support services could be provided for the residents. The Department had also reserved a site in another development area in Tung Chung to set up an additional Integrated Family Service Centre, and would consider providing services during the transitional period.
- (d) The Government had announced in the Policy Address that the number of service places under the NSCCP would be doubled. To encourage more suitable individuals in the district to participate in the Project, the incentive payment for the home-based child carers of the Project would

be increased from the standard rate of \$25 per hour to \$40 or \$60 per hour, depending on the age and needs of the children under care. As regards the specific number of additional service places in individual districts, he did not have the relevant information for the time being. He would report the relevant information to Members when such information was available.

(Post-meeting note: As mentioned in the 2023 Policy Address, the number of service places under the NSCCP for the whole territory would be doubled to approximately 2 000 starting from the fourth quarter of this year.)

- (e) He said that information on youth employment training would be provided to Members after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: To assist young people in career planning and development, the two integrated services centres in the Islands District had organised a total of 175 related activities between January and December 2023, including vocational training and workplace internship opportunities, for over 7 700 attendance of youth participants. The types of vocational training/internship included interview skills workshops, vocational training workshops (for instance, barista, bakery apprentice, accounting assistant, music live broadcast assistant, online shop assistant, aviation education assistant and event assistant for NGOs), business start-up workshops, etc.)

- (f) As regards the mental health support services, the Department has taken various approaches in the promotion of ICCMW services. Stakeholders in various districts, such as district council members, property management personnel, social service units and care teams, might refer individuals with identified mental health service needs to ICCMWs with the consent of the individuals concerned, so that professional staff of ICCMWs could reach out and provide support services for them. In addition, a referral mechanism between ICCMWs and the Community Psychiatric Services of the Hospital Authority has been in place, which could facilitate prompt medical treatment for urgent cases.

(Post-meeting note: To strengthen the support for persons in mental recovery and their carers, the Department would enhance the services of ICCMWs in 2024, including strengthening early identification of persons with mental health needs and early intervention and scaling up the training of social workers in relevant service units to raise their ability in handling complicated cases. Peer support services would also be enhanced, and four additional Parents/Relatives Resource Centres for carers of persons in mental recovery would be set up in 2025.)



V. Regarding the Application for Operating New Off-course Betting Branch at 11 SKIES, Hong Kong International Airport, Lantau Island, by The Hong Kong Jockey Club (CICRC Paper No. 9/2024)

27. The Chairman welcomed Mr Freely CHENG, Head of External Affairs; Ms Susanna LAI, General Manager, External Affairs; Ms Winnie TONG, Executive Manager, Retail Planning and Control; Mr Ryan WONG, Deputy Executive Manager, Retail; and Ms Ada CHUNG, Executive Manager, Property Design Management, The Hong Kong Jockey Club (“HKJC”) to the meeting to present the paper.

28. Mr Freely CHENG briefly presented the paper.

29. Members made the following comments:

- (a) Members supported HKJC’s plan of operating an Off-course Betting Branch (“OCBB”) in 11 SKIES and considered that the impact on residents could be minimised as the location of the OCBB would be far away from residential areas and schools.
- (b) Members considered that the entrance to the OCBB was too wide for security personnel to prevent persons under the age of 18 from entering the OCBB, and suggested that the HKJC should consider improving the design.
- (c) Given the significant amount of manpower required to establish the OCBB, members hoped that the HKJC would give priority to employing residents of Tung Chung, so as to improve the employment situation in the district.
- (d) Members suggested incorporating elements with distinct characteristics of the outlying islands into the design of the OCBB, such as the display of murals and posters showcasing tourist attractions of the Islands District, so as to attract visitors to the district.

30. Mr Freely CHENG responded as follows:

- (a) Regarding the measures to restrict the access of underage individuals into the OCBB, the HKJC would, as in the past, arrange for sufficient security staff to strictly enforce the admission control measures. As could be seen from the layout plan, the entrance would be divided into two sides by a pillar at the centre of the entrance, and the HKJC would arrange for security guards to station at both sides of the entrance. In addition, the HKJC would conduct mystery shopper tests (internally) to assess the effectiveness of the security staff in intercepting underage persons at the entrance of the OCBB. According to past experience, the success rate of security staff in intercepting underage persons was very high and had been highly rated by international betting organisations.

- (b) The LED screens at the entrance of the OCBB could display different images according to the design theme of the branch. As regards Members' suggestion of incorporating elements with distinct characteristics of the outlying islands into the design of the OCBB, the HKJC would consider using the screens to showcase relevant images. This could include visuals of local events such as the Cheung Chau Jiao Festival and other local festivals celebrated on Lantau Island.
- (c) The HKJC had always been an active supporter of sports activities, so it was hoped that sports elements could be incorporated into the design of the OCBBs. During the Asian Games in Hangzhou last year, the HKJC had broadcasted sports events on the screens in its OCBBs. In addition, in view of the Government's successful acquisition of the broadcasting rights for the 2024 Paris Olympics in Hong Kong this year, the HKJC planned to broadcast the relevant events on the screens in the OCBBs.
- (d) The HKJC was very concerned about the local employment situation. As the establishment of the OCBB would require a large number of personnel, applications from local residents would be very much welcome.
- (e) In recent years, the HKJC had been renovating its OCBBs across various districts gradually, incorporating new elements to the designs. For example, apart from providing catering services, the OCBB at Stanley Street in Central had also set up a Mark Six Museum to showcase the development of Mark Six lottery. Catering services were also available at OCBBs in Kwun Tong and North Point. In addition, part of the new OCBB at LOHAS Park had been constructed using recycled timber from trees destroyed by a typhoon. The HKJC hoped that the design of each OCBB could reflect its local characteristics. As the OCBB in question would be located on Lantau Island, the HKJC would consider incorporating design elements that highlighted the distinctive features of Lantau Island and the outlying islands.

31. Members made the following comments:

- (a) Members enquired about the number of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) provided in the OCBB.
- (b) Members enquired whether seats would be provided in the OCBB for passengers waiting for their flights to rest and eat.

32. Mr Freely CHENG responded as follows:

- (a) Taking into account the size of the premises, the HKJC would install two AEDs in the OCBB.

- (b) Persons under the age of 18 would not be allowed to enter the catering area of the OCBB.
- (c) About 100 seats would be provided in the catering area of the OCBB and a total of about 50 seats would be provided in other areas of the branch so that customers could enjoy the races in comfort. To cater for the needs of different customers, the HKJC would also provide room reservation service.

VI. Annual Community Involvement Programme Plan of the Islands District Office in 2024-25 (April 2024 to March 2025)  
(CICRC Paper No. 10/2024)

33. The Chairman welcomed Mr AU Ho-yin, Gary, Senior Liaison Officer (1) and Ms LIU Pui-shan, Lis, Senior Liaison Officer (2), Islands District Office to the meeting to give response.

34. Members noted the content of the paper.

VII. Date of Next Meeting

35. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 4 June 2024 (Tuesday).

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