(Translation)

Minutes of Meeting of Islands District Council

Date : 14 July 2026 (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 MOK Mong-chan, JP

Members
Mr HO Siu-kei
Mr HO Chun-fai
Mr YU Hon-kwan, BBS, MH, JP
Mr NG Man-kit
Mr NG Choi-wah, MH
Mr CHOW Yuen-kuk, Jonathan
Ms CHOW Suet-yan
Mr HUI Chun-lung, MH
Ms KWOK Wai-man, Mealoha
Mr WAN Yeung-kin
Mr WONG Man-hon, MH
Ms WONG Chau-ping, MH
Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken
Mr YIP Pui-kei
Mr LAU Chin-pang
Ms LAU Suk-han, MH
Ms LAU Shun-ting
Mr LUO Chenghuan, MH

Attendance by Invitation

Mr CHOW Yat-ming, Joe, PDSM, PMSM	Commissioner of Police, Hong Kong Police Force

In Attendance

Mr IP Cheuk-man, Ryerson	Assistant District Officer (Islands)1 (Acting)/ Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office
Mr LEE Sun-fu, Joe	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Islands District Office
Mr CHAO Ka-man, Stanley	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Islands District Office
Ms LIU Pui-shan, Lis	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Islands District Office

Mr YEUNG Che-yuen, Patrick	Senior Engineer/15 (South and Sustainable Lantau), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms LAM Bun-ngee	District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western, Southern and Islands), Social Welfare Department
Mr NG Chi-shing	Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island and Islands), Housing Department
Mr FUNG Wai-nok	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms NGO Mei-ling	Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr LEE Cho-ming, Joe	District Commander (Lantau District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr Clive WALTON	District Commander (Marine Port District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LO Kwok-on	Police Community Relations Officer (Lantau District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr TANG Wan-kin	Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms LAU Sze-hong	Senior Town Planner/Islands 1, Planning Department
Ms MAN Yuen-ling, Rachel	Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LAI Kit-ching, Maureen	District Leisure Manager (Islands), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr AU Siu-fung, Kelvin	Chief Transport Officer/Islands, Transport Department

Secretary

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

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Welcome Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the meeting of the Islands District Council (IsDC). He said that he was honoured to preside over the IsDC meeting as the District Officer for the first time, and looked forward to working with attendees to strive for the well-being of the Islands District. In addition, he introduced the following representatives of departments:

(a) Mr CHOW Yat-ming, Joe, Commissioner of Police; and

(b) Ms LAU Sze-hong, Senior Town Planner/Islands 1, Planning Department, who stood in for Mr FUNG Chi-man, Ernest.

2. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHOW Suet-yan to her first IsDC meeting as a Member.

I. Visit of the Commissioner of Police to Islands District Council

3. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHOW Yat-ming, Joe, Commissioner of Police to the meeting to exchange views with Members, and welcomed the accompanying officials, namely Mr LEE Cho-ming, Joe, District Commander (Lantau District) (LTDIST), Mr Clive WALTON, District Commander (Marine Port District), Mr LO Kwok-on, Police Community Relations Officer (LTDIST), and Mr TANG Wan-kin, Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District).

4. Mr Joe CHOW briefly introduced the work of the Police Force as follows:

Overview of the crime situation in Hong Kong

(a) A total of 35 219 crimes were recorded in Hong Kong in the first five months of 2026, a decrease of 1.9% compared with the corresponding period last year. Of this total, 3 460 were cases of violent crime, representing a drop of 3.9%. The vast majority of major crimes (including homicide, burglary, serious drug offences, theft, criminal damage, blackmail, triad-related crimes, and deception) recorded decreases, yet the numbers of cases relating to wounding and serious assault, indecent assault, rape, and youths recorded increases.

Deception

(b) A total of 16 682 deception cases were recorded in the first five months of 2026, accounting for about 48% of the overall crime figure and representing a decrease of 395 cases, i.e. 2.3%, compared with the corresponding period last year. The amount of loss involved reached $2.94 billion, representing a year-on-year increase of 2.4%. E-shopping fraud was still the most prevalent among the various types of deception, accounting for about 25% of all deception cases, with 30% of the cases involving concert tickets. E-shopping fraud decreased by 30%, primarily because of the Police's reclassification of deception categories by separating payment link fraud from e-shopping fraud for statistical tracking.

(c) Payment link fraud was a new type of fraud that emerged this year. In the past, fraudsters would pose as sellers and disappear upon receipt of payment. At present, they would pose as buyers and induce sellers to enter fraudulent bank websites via fake links, with a view to obtaining the information and passwords of the sellers' e-banking accounts and subsequently taking full control of the bank accounts concerned. In the first five months of 2026, a total of 1 026 cases of payment link fraud were recorded, involving a loss of $100 million.

In this connection, the Police had immediately stepped up publicity and collaborated closely with online trading platforms to block suspicious users. Following the implementation of the above measures, the number of relevant deception cases dropped from a peak of 300 in April to 191 in May, demonstrating that the anti-deception work concerned had achieved quick results. The Police would closely monitor the relevant trend and continue to combat the aforementioned type of deception stringently.

(d) As for online investment fraud, the number of cases and the amount of loss involved dropped by 15% and 9%, respectively. However, the amount of monetary loss involved remained the highest among all deception categories, reaching $1.13 billion and accounting for 38% of the total monetary loss incurred from deception cases.

(e) A total of 3 766 cases of telephone deception were recorded, representing an increase of over 45%. In such cases, impersonating customer services and "Guess Who" were the two most prevalent modi operandi of deception, with the victims mostly being elderly persons.

(f) A total of 1 009 cases of phishing SMS message scams were recorded, representing an increase of over 80%. 83% of the cases involved the impersonation of staff of the Water Supplies Department, with losses reaching $16.8 million. In this regard, the Police mounted a total of three operations between March and June and arrested 13 persons in Hong Kong. As the Police discovered that most phishing SMS messages originated from the Mainland through digital forensics, they exchanged intelligence with the Mainland law enforcement agencies and arrested two Mainlanders locally, who were the masterminds of a phishing scam syndicate and had stolen the information of 4 000 credit cards. During their investigation, the Police worked closely with the telecommunications operators to identify and intercept over 1 000 SMS messages sent by suspicious persons. As a result, the number of relevant scams dropped from a peak of 23 to one per day.

(g) After reviewing the results and strategies in combatting deception over the past few years, the Police rescheduled their work programme and categorised their work into four major anti-deception strategies listed as follows:

<u>Combatting fraud industry chains</u>

i. Fraud industry chains involved stooge accounts and SMS messages sent via pre-paid SIM cards. Given that crime syndicates manipulated youths to open stooge accounts, the Police, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and The Hong Kong Association of Banks, launched the "Anti-Money Laundering Think Tank" programme in June

this year and appointed 40 youths as "Anti-Money Laundering Ambassadors". Through training, education and diversified activities, the Police widely promoted the concept of "don't rent, don't lend, don't sell bank accounts" in schools and communities, with a view to helping members of the public to identify money laundering pitfalls.

Intensifying the promotion of "Scameter+"

ii. The Police upgraded the "Scameter+" in late October last year. The mobile phone application leveraged artificial intelligence (AI) technology for analysis and proactively identified domain names which resembled fraudulent webpages. The Police had identified and blocked over 3 200 relevant domain names to date, successfully intercepting scam syndicates from using the websites concerned for fraudulent purposes. Following the enhancement of the application, the numbers of suspicious phone numbers and webpages that could be added to the database per day increased by 20% and 1.7 times, respectively. The number of alerts issued by the system surged by over 55% as a result.

iii. The application recorded cumulative downloads of about 1.2 million. Given that Hong Kong's current population was about 7 million and that many citizens owned more than one mobile phone, the penetration rate of the application was actually not high. The Police aspired to encourage more citizens to download and use the application through district communities.

iv. The Police carried out substantial publicity work for "Scameter+" overseas this year and maintained liaison with various overseas law enforcement agencies. The application, which was free for public use, would only collect data to protect citizens from scams and would not request any personal information from them. Regarding the relevant publicity work, the Police had recently invited Mr Jackson WANG to film a promotional video for the upgraded "Scameter+" to attract more citizens to download the application.

Targeted publicity

v. Over the past few years, the Police carried out anti-deception publicity work in different areas. However, upon review of the relevant work, they considered that targeted publicity could put resources to more effective use. Information showed that the majority of deception victims were elderly persons, with the number of victims and the amount of monetary loss increasing

by about 16% and 40%, respectively on a year-on-year basis. Of the 3 766 telephone deception cases which occurred in the first five months of 2026, about 40% of the victims were elderly persons, 62% of whom were victims of "Guess Who" scams. Furthermore, the amount of monetary loss incurred from investment fraud accounted for about 40% of the total monetary loss, with many elderly persons and retirees being swindled out of their life savings and pensions.

vi. The Police conducted a survey a month ago and found that most elderly victims had investment experience and wished to invest their pensions for quick returns, thereby falling for investment fraud. In this connection, the Police would continue to carry out publicity work targeting the elderly group, such as launching and organising retro-themed anti-deception promotional trucks and Cantonese opera performances, as well as disseminating anti-deception messages through the activities of the Senior Police Call (SPC). In addition, the Police actively collaborated with telecommunications operators to guide elderly persons to use their mobile phones in a safe way, with a view to reducing their digital footprints.

vii. In combatting investment fraud, the Police were conducting research with the Securities and Futures Commission on the use of big data to identify and block advertisements and accounts associated with online investment fraud. In addition, the Police collaborated with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the banking industry to promote the deposit protection measure "Money Safe", and strengthened monitoring of accounts with newly-arranged pension payments through banks. The Police would co-operate with various stakeholders to step up anti-deception publicity targeting new pensioners.

Collaboration with international communities

viii. Cross-border collaboration was vital to combatting deception. He attended the Global Fraud Summit co-organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) in Austria in March this year. As a guest speaker, he shared Hong Kong's efforts and achievements in combatting deception through public-private partnerships with participants from around the world.

ix. At another panel discussion of the aforementioned summit, the Chief Superintendent of the Commercial Crime Bureau shared Hong Kong's experience in establishing the 24-hour Anti-Deception Coordination Centre, with a view to

strengthening co-operation with various countries and regions in combatting deception.

x. The Hong Kong Police and their Singaporean counterpart established "FRONTIER+", a cross-boundary collaboration platform against deception whose membership comprised over a dozen countries and regions at present, including Thailand, South Korea, and the United Kingdom. The Police participated in their first joint operation last year and carried out the second joint operation with the other nine platform members between March and May this year, arresting a total of over 3 000 persons involved in 130 000 deception cases, freezing 100 000 bank accounts and intercepting US$160 million in fraudulent funds.

xi. Given the significant efficacy of their work in intercepting fraudulent funds, implementing publicity and education programmes, and handling requests for assistance, the Hong Kong Police were invited by INTERPOL to share their experience in establishing the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre with Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, and Vietnam, among others, in February and May this year, with a view to encouraging such places to set up anti-deception centres and become FRONTIER+ members. This was to facilitate intelligence exchange and strengthen the combat against deception.

Homicide

(h) There were a total of four homicide cases in the first five months of 2026, representing a year-on-year decrease of one case. All cases were related to domestic violence and had been detected.

Robberies

(i) A total of 24 robbery cases were recorded in the first five months of 2026, on par with the figure for the corresponding period last year and remaining at a low level. Of the aforementioned cases, 23 were detected and the stolen money involved was recovered within a short period of time with the aid of the "SmartView" system. The Police would continue to make good use of the system to combat crime.

(j) Some cases had attracted relatively greater public attention, including the two bank robbery cases that occurred earlier, as well as cases in which victims were robbed after bringing large quantities of cash and gold bars into Hong Kong from overseas. These cases had been detected. Hong Kong upheld free-market and free-trade principles. Although travellers bringing a large quantity of cash or gold bars were

required to make a declaration upon their entry into Hong Kong, they were not subject to any tax when buying or selling in general. Trading in Hong Kong was therefore appealing to traders to a certain degree. Some individuals would bring a large quantity of cash or gold bars to Hong Kong and convert the transaction proceeds into cryptocurrencies. Regarding the aforementioned robbery cases, the Police discovered during their investigation that the suspects had advance knowledge of the victims' whereabouts. In 2025, robbery cases totalled 66, which was a remarkably low figure for a place with a population of about 7.5 million. The Police would continue to strive to maintain law and order as well as stability of Hong Kong.

Burglary

(k) There were a total of 286 burglary cases in the first five months of 2026, a decrease of 100 cases (i.e. 26%) compared with the corresponding period last year. During long holidays, many citizens travelled abroad with their families and left their homes unattended, giving unruly elements opportunities to break in. In this connection, starting from the Easter holidays this year, the Police deployed drones to strengthen patrols in low-density and secluded areas and villages, conducted high-altitude patrols in collaboration with the Government Flying Service, set up roadblocks at strategic locations, and combatted burglary syndicates through intelligence. Following the implementation of the above anti-burglary measures, the number of burglary cases occurring during the Easter holidays this year decreased by 60% compared with the corresponding period last year, demonstrating the remarkable effectiveness of the work concerned. The Police would continue to adopt the above measures during the summer holidays, with a view to further curbing burglary and enabling citizens to travel abroad without any worries.

Wounding and serious assault

(l) There were a total of 1 375 cases of wounding and serious assault in the first five months of 2026, an increase of 51 cases compared with the corresponding period last year. Nearly 80% of the cases were related to various types of disputes, while cases involving triad societies accounted for less than 10% of the total.

Thefts

(m) There were a total of 8 303 theft cases in the first five months of 2026, a decrease of 2% compared with the corresponding period last year; 87 pickpocketing cases, a decrease of 21%; ten snatching cases, a decrease of 56%; and 150 cases of theft from vehicles, a decrease of 34%. The number of shop theft and miscellaneous theft cases was similar to that of the corresponding period last year.

(n) The number of cases involving missing motor vehicles recorded an increase last year. The Police discovered, upon analysis, that a higher proportion of such cases occurred in the New Territories. Therefore, the "SmartView" system had been adopted and drones had been deployed for high-altitude patrols since last year to enhance deterrence. Following the implementation of the measures concerned, the number of missing motor vehicles in the first five months of 2026 dropped by 40% compared with the corresponding period last year.

Blackmail

(o) A total of 469 blackmail cases were recorded in the first five months of 2026, a decrease of 40% compared with the corresponding period last year. Of these cases, 318 were related to "naked chat", accounting for about 67% of the overall figure and representing a drop of 313 cases compared with the corresponding period last year.

Sexual offences

(p) There were a total of 551 cases of indecent assault in the first five months of 2026, representing an increase of 101 cases over the corresponding period last year, with a detection rate of about 75% and no specific trend observed. The number of rape cases exhibited an upward trend. A total of 32 cases (with one undetected) were recorded, which represented an increase of six cases compared with the corresponding period last year. There were two cases in which the victims and suspects were unacquainted: one involved a sex worker being raped by a client, and another one involved an individual who, after getting drunk at a bar, was taken to a hotel and raped by another customer. The Police discovered, upon analysis, that the victims of eight rape cases had met the suspects through the Internet and were raped on the day of their first meeting, which contrasted with the corresponding period last year when no similar cases occurred. Of the aforementioned eight cases, three involved victims who were minors, and another three involved victims who were assaulted after getting drunk. Some cases involved different dating applications.

(q) The Police were highly concerned about cases involving "online child sexual grooming" (i.e. offenders getting to know child victims through friend-finding applications or online games, subsequently arranging face-to-face meetings and eventually sexually assaulting them). The "online child sexual grooming" was a global phenomenon; in Hong Kong, a total of 49 related cases were recorded during the first five months of 2026. The Police had conducted two large-scale questionnaire surveys in 2024 and 2026 and published the results. In addition, in order to further raise public awareness of the situation, the Police conducted a seminar in March, with nearly 1 000 teachers,

social workers and child care workers in attendance.

Serious drug offences

(r) There were a total of 448 serious drug cases in the first five months of 2026, a drop of 10% compared with the corresponding period last year. The Government listed etomidate as a dangerous drug on 14 February last year. As of the end of May, a total of 1 230 cases involving etomidate were recorded and 1 570 persons were arrested (including 284 youths). In the first five months of 2026, the number of persons arrested for etomidate-related cases accounted for about 20% of the total number of persons arrested for crime, representing a drop of about 2%.

(s) Etomidate remained the drug most commonly abused by youths, yet the abuse situation was showing signs of subsiding. The Police mounted a territory-wide operation against online drug trafficking Between March and April, shutting down three etomidate manufacturing centres and arresting a total of 120 persons (including 14 youths), among whom 63 were involved in etomidate-related cases.

(t) Education and publicity was the first line of defence against drugs. Over the past three years, the Police had organised over 120 interactive anti-drug drama performances, conveying anti-drug messages to 18 000 primary students through a lively approach, thereby enhancing their understanding of the harms of drugs and raising their awareness of drug traps.

Triad-related crimes

(u) There were a total of 630 cases of triad-related crimes in the first five months of 2026, representing a drop of 5.5% compared with the corresponding period last year. The situation remained manageable for the time being.

Youth crimes

(v) A total of 1 256 youths were arrested for criminal offences in the first five months of 2026, representing an increase of 14.6% over the corresponding period last year. The cases were mainly related to wounding and serious assault, deception, money laundering, and miscellaneous thefts.

INTERPOL General Assembly

(w) INTERPOL was the world's largest police organisation, and the INTERPOL General Assembly (General Assembly) was held in a different place every year. Following its successful organisation of

the event in Beijing in 1995 and 2017, China secured winning bid to host the General Assembly again this year and selected Hong Kong as the host city, fully demonstrating the Central Government's trust and support for Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Police. The Police would take this opportunity to tell good stories of China, Hong Kong, and the Force as well as elaborate on Hong Kong's successful implementation of and achievements made under "one country, two systems" to about 1 000 representatives from 196 member countries. Regarding the preparatory work for this major event, the Chief Secretary for Administration and the Secretary for Security had established a steering committee and chaired inter-departmental co-ordination meetings over a year ago. The Police had also conducted two counter-terrorism exercises: one was conducted in collaboration with other INTERPOL member countries, and the other one took place at the airport from the evening of 16 June to the early hours of 17 June, simulating the reception of foreign guests to Hong Kong. Given the Government's comprehensive and meticulous preparations, the Police believed the General Assembly scheduled for late November to early December would run smoothly.

"Smart policing"

(x) Under the "SmartView" programme, the Police had set up 5 000 CCTV cameras in Hong Kong, with the total number of cameras expected to reach about 60 000 by 2028. In addition to the "SmartView" programme, the concept of "smart policing" had also been put into practice through other measures. In the past, citizens who wished to be issued with a Certificate of No Criminal Conviction had to apply online and subsequently visit the relevant office or a designated police station to submit their fingerprints, which lengthened the application process. At present, applicants' identities were verified by "iAM Smart" under the "smart policing" work pattern, thus obviating the need to submit fingerprints.

(y) In May, the Police signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Cyberport to jointly establish the "Smart Policing Joint AI Lab" and set up an office. Ten officers of the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau were deployed to the office concerned and collaborated with start-ups in Cyberport to formulate proposals by leveraging the computing power of Cyberport's AI, with a view to enhancing the Police's efficiency in combatting crime and their public services. Meanwhile, the Police were exploring co-operation with the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation under a similar collaboration model.

(z) In April, he visited Singapore and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chief Executive of the country's Home Team Science and Technology Agency to strength co-operation in leveraging

innovative technologies to advance public safety, covering areas such as capability development, knowledge exchange, anti-scam measures, training systems and exploration of emerging technologies.

(aa) In June, he visited Switzerland and met with a representative of the Swiss Federal Police to exchange views on issues such as the combat of cross-border money laundering activities and the tracking of virtual assets. He also visited the local Police Department in Antwerp, Belgium, in order to learn about the application of technology (particularly AI) in policing. In addition, he attended an international conference in the Netherlands, where he discussed the future development of policing with over 20 law enforcement leaders from different countries, regions and organisations.

Law and order situation in the Islands District

(bb) A total of 716 crimes were recorded in the Islands District in the first five months of 2026, a decrease of 25 cases compared with the corresponding period last year, which was in line with the overall situation in Hong Kong. Theft cases decreased by 179; case of wounding and serious assault decreased by 22; blackmail cases decreased by 12; serious drug cases decreased by eight; and deception cases fell by 6.3% to 340, of which 30% involved e-shopping fraud. Crimes involving criminal damage, indecent assault, criminal intimidation and youth crime, etc. recorded increases, with all criminal damage and criminal intimidation cases relating to illegal debt collection. In this connection, the LTDIST had strengthened liaison with property management companies and provided a 24-hour hotline for security guards stationed at four major public housing estates in Tung Chung to facilitate their case reporting to the Police.

(cc) Given the Islands District's vast geographical coverage and rugged terrain in some areas, the Police had stepped up the use of drones for patrols to cover places that were difficult for patrol officers to access and to enhance the efficiency of search and rescue operations.

(dd) As regards community engagement, the LTDIST and the Marine Port District strengthened liaison with district stakeholders through the "Lantau Eyes" project, the "Lantau SKY" project and the Marine Society, etc. to jointly fight crimes.

(ee) The overall law and order situation in Hong Kong remained stable. He thanked all sectors of the community for their unfailing support for the Police's work, and hoped that the Police's co-operation with the local stakeholders would persist to take forward various measures and operations.

5. The Chairman thanked the Commissioner for his sharing and invited

Members to express their views.

6. Mr YU Hon-kwan gave the following views:

(a) He affirmed the Police's contributions to maintaining law and order in society and economic stability, and was pleased to note that the Police's work was widely recognised by the country and international community, including INTERPOL. Citing a recent case of chain burglary in Cheung Sha as an example, he noted that the Police swiftly worked with members of the local community to launch anti-burglary publicity campaigns, and deployed the Police Tactical Unit from the New Territories South Region for reinforcement. Furthermore, he considered the Police's flexible deployment of launches to transport police officers ashore for conducting patrols in remote villages to be effective in crime prevention. In this regard, he highly commended the Airport District and the Marine West Division for flexibly deploying resources and manpower for policing despite limited resources.

(b) Given the limited resources of the LTDIST and the projected substantial population growth in the Islands District (especially Tung Chung) in the coming years, he enquired with the Police about their long-term development plans for policing in the Islands District, as well as their manpower deployment arrangements for coping with the population growth in the district.

7. Mr NG Man-kit commended the Police for maintaining good law and order on Cheung Chau effectively and ensuring the smooth implementation of the activities held under the annual Cheung Chau *Jiao* Festival. In view of the limited police resources in the Islands District, he suggested that the Police should optimise resource utilisation by leveraging technology, such as installing CCTV systems on Cheung Chau and other outlying islands.

8. Mr LAU Chin-pang gave the following views:

(a) The LTDIST's work was widely recognised by residents. By way of illustration, he said that in response to the significant increase in the number of deception cases and the emergence of new modi operandi of deception in the district, the Police swiftly appointed over 20 anti-deception ambassadors at community level to carry out anti-deception publicity activities at various locations in the district, and posted anti-deception information in the lift lobbies of public housing estates. He was of the view that the work concerned was effective in raising residents' anti-deception awareness.

(b) He thanked the Police for their close collaboration with the communities in carrying out publicity and education work, which had prevented etomidate from spreading widely in the communities or

schools in the Islands District and posing adverse effects on the young people.

(c) He affirmed the effectiveness of the "SmartView" programme. Citing a case of burglary and vehicle theft which occurred on 23 March this year as an example, he pointed out that the Police successfully detected the case on 3 April with the aid of the CCTV system. Given their limited manpower and that the Islands District was a vast, geographically dispersed district with numerous rural areas, the Police should consider installing more CCTV cameras to strengthen community security and create a safe living environment for residents. In addition, he agreed that the Police should actively review their manpower deployment arrangements in response to the future population growth in Tung Chung.

9. Ms WONG Chau-ping gave the following views:

(a) A series of burglaries occurred in the rural areas in Tung Chung in May this year, causing great concern among the residents. In this connection, the Police immediately stepped up patrols in various villages at different times of the day (including during the early hours), deployed officers to multi-storey car parks nearby for remote surveillance of the villages, and utilised drones for detective and patrol work. She considered that the measures concerned were effective in preventing burglaries.

(b) She commended the Police Community Relations Office for maintaining close collaboration with Members and district stakeholders consistently to provide round-the-clock assistance in handling various unforeseen incidents.

10. Mr Joe CHOW thanked Members for their affirmation of the Police's work and gave a consolidated response as follows:

(a) In response to societal development (e.g. the development of the Northern Metropolis and the shift in the population centres) and changes in the policing model, the Police would regularly review their deployment of resources and manpower to take forward various priority tasks, including combatting different types of crimes (in particular those related to deception and drugs).

(b) To optimise the use of resources and enhance their overall operational efficiency, the Police were actively promoting "smart policing", which included the use of technology to streamline work processes (e.g. the "SmartView" programme, drones, and AI technologies). Taking patrol work as an example, the Police leveraged big data to analyse crime black spots and stepped up patrols at such locations, with a view to significantly enhancing the effectiveness of crime prevention and

detection.

(c) The Police had been closely monitoring the population growth in Tung Chung. Citing the previous upgrade of the Tseung Kwan O District from a Division into an independent District as an example, he explained that the Police would take into account various indicators, including the population of each district, the scale of community facilities, and the distribution of crimes, in making resource and manpower arrangements. If necessary, they would consult Members on the relevant arrangements in a timely manner.

(d) The Police had installed about 5 000 CCTV cameras, with the total number of cameras expected to increase to about 60 000 by 2028. Although the current number of CCTV cameras in Hong Kong lagged behind that of other places such as Macao and Singapore, the cameras had a high coverage rate in urban areas and were equipped with pan-tilt-zoom functionality, enabling 360-degree all-round surveillance. The Police would prioritise the installation of CCTV cameras at crime black spots at this stage, and assess the local demands with various Districts before deciding on the priority locations for camera installation in the next stage, with the ultimate goal of gradually increasing the number of CCTV cameras in urban and rural areas. He stressed that even if crime scenes were not covered by such equipment, the Police could still track the offenders' escape routes, gather evidence and detect cases through the territory-wide camera network.

(e) The Police had launched the second phase of the Pilot Scheme for "Operational Deployment of Drones", under which high-altitude patrols by drones were conducted in selected Districts of various Regions (with the scope of operation covering areas including Cheung Chau and Lamma Island). As the scheme had achieved significant results in crime prevention and detection as well as evidence collection since its implementation, the Police would continue to allocate resources in this regard to further curb and combat crime.

(f) The Police Community Relations Office of the LTDIST would continue to maintain good relations with local residents and disseminate information relating to crime prevention to them from time to time. He hoped that residents would continue to support and put forward their views on the Police's work.

11. Mr LUO Chenghuan commended the Police for their tireless efforts in safeguarding national security, combatting deception and fighting various types of crimes, that their work led to a decline in the overall crime figure and the results were evident to all. He particularly commended the LTDIST for teaming up with the Islands District Office and members of the local community to promote the Hong Kong National Security Law at venues such as schools and public housing estates,

which had significantly enhanced public awareness of national security and law-abidingness. He urged the Police to continue to take stringent action against acts that jeopardised national security so as to safeguard the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong.

12. Mr NG Choi-wah, in his capacities as a Member of the District Fight Crime Committee (Islands District) and the Vice Chairman of both the Lantau District Junior Police Call (JPC) Honorary Presidents Council and the Lantau District SPC Honorary Presidents Council, affirmed the Police's work of maintaining law and order and commended them for effectively keeping the crime rate of the Islands District at a low level. He suggested that the Police should further leverage the strengths of the JPC and the SPC by, for example, conducting anti-deception publicity work for the elderly and hosting anti-etomidate publicity campaigns, so as to disseminate information relating to crime prevention and detection to people from different classes.

13. Mr YIP Pui-kei said that the Islands District, which covered a vast area including the Hong Kong International Airport and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Port, was a key gateway for Hong Kong to connect to the rest of the world and other cities of the Greater Bay Area. At present, the airport had a daily transient population of 60 000 to 70 000, and with the commissioning of Terminal 2, the number of Hong Kong residents and overseas travellers visiting the airport was rising. In addition, large-scale events such as the 15th National Games road cycling event were held in the Islands District from time to time, which resulted in a large number of local residents and overseas travellers visiting and leaving the district every day. Despite all these, the crime rate of the Islands District remained at a relatively low level, for which he recognised the Police's effective work. He expected the Police to actively promote "smart policing" in response to the rapid population growth in Tung Chung (including by fully rolling out the "SmartView" programme in the area as soon as possible), in order to create a safe living environment for residents.

14. Mr Joe CHOW gave a consolidated response as follows:

(a) Since the implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law and the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance, the society had gradually returned to stability. Nevertheless, the Police would closely monitor and guard against various potential threats to national security on a continuous basis. He pointed out that national security encompassed 20 major fields (e.g. food security) and was not confined to large-scale enforcement operations. Going forward, the Police would further step up their publicity and education efforts to enhance the citizens' proper understanding of national security and their sense of national identity.

(b) The SPC and the JPC had been established for over ten years and fifty years, respectively. While the two schemes co-organised activities from time to time, their membership and influence on society continued to grow. The Police would continue to foster their collaboration to disseminate messages of crime prevention and

detection in the community.

(c) The Islands District had unique geographical features (including an extensive coastline) and both land-based and marine Districts were set up there. The Police would continue to arrange the Rural Patrol Teams and the Marine Region to conduct regular visits to and patrols at remote villages. He thanked residents of the Islands District for their support to the Police, and welcomed Members to put forward their views to the Police at any time.

15. The Chairman thanked the Commissioner for attending the District Council meeting and sharing the policing in the Islands District in detail.

II. Confirmation of the Minutes of Meeting held on 12 May 2026

16. 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 prior to the meeting. Members had no other amendment proposals and the minutes were confirmed unanimously.

III. Question on medicine delivery by drones to the Islands District
(IsDC Paper No. 30/2026)

17. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IsDC Paper No. 30/2026. The consolidated written reply of the Transport and Logistics Bureau (TLB) and the Civil Aviation Department (CAD) had been distributed to Members for perusal prior to the meeting. The Chairman invited Mr NG Man-kit to briefly present the question.

18. Mr NG Man-kit briefly presented the question.

19. The Chairman said that the TLB and the CAD had provided a written reply prior to the meeting instead of sending representatives. He invited Members to express their views on the above-mentioned question, and said that the Secretariat would convey the views to the departments concerned after the meeting for follow-up or consideration.

20. Ms Mealoha KWOK expressed support for medicine delivery by drones to the Islands District. She pointed out that the Islands District covered Peng Chau, Cheung Chau, Lamma Island and Discovery Bay, that residents had to spend more time travelling, and that the measure concerned would facilitate them in seeking medical consultations and improve hospital operations. She considered that the development of the low-altitude economy (LAE) and the outcomes of the pilot project concerned last year were evident to all, and that various sectors looked forward to the Government's continued implementation of the measure concerned.

21. Mr LUO Chenghuan expressed his views as follows:

(a) The above-mentioned question was worthy of attention and consideration. With "building a vibrant economy" at its core, the Government actively promoted the development of the LAE in response to the new form of economic development, including exploring medicine delivery to remote areas by drones. Such initiative was commendable and well received by residents of the Islands District.

(b) Delivering medicine by drones was an innovative practice that would not only help develop the LAE, but also facilitate patients' speedy access to medication. The pilot project was successfully completed, yet its conclusion should be regarded by all as a springboard rather than a destination. The TLB should consolidate the experience gained, identify deficiencies and make improvements, as well as actively implement the same arrangement on other islands, thereby promoting the development of the LAE while benefitting residents living in remote areas.

22. Mr YU Hon-kwan expressed his views as follows:

(a) He said that the non-governmental organisation he belonged to had participated in a LAE "regulatory sandbox" pilot project previously, for which he would like to share the relevant information with Members. He pointed out that the "Sandbox", with the relevant projects at a preliminary conceptual stage, aimed at enabling participating organisations to put forward innovative ideas and proposals for trials. He considered that medicine delivery by drones was a benevolent measure, yet he noted that it was merely part of the "regulatory sandbox" pilot project contents.

(b) The TLB and the CAD mentioned in their written reply that the exploration of the LAE application scenarios had to be premised on the principle of ensuring public and aviation safety. Various sectors eagerly looked forward to the Government's speedy implementation of the relevant innovative measure. In this regard, the Secretariat should convey the views concerned to the "Working Group on Developing LAE" and the TLB, so as to facilitate the regular application of the "regulatory sandbox" pilot project and bring benefits to the citizens as early as possible.

23. Mr NG Man-kit said that he had discussed drone services with the SF Express (SF) and learnt that the company could not use the helipad for take-off and landing on a long-term basis. He thus acceded to its request to use the rooftop of the Cheung Chau Rural Committee Integrated Youth Centre as a take-off and landing point. The SF subsequently raised the above arrangement with the CAD, which responded that according to the SF's proposed flight path, the drones might, before

reaching or after leaving the aforementioned rooftop, fly over a beach accessible to members of the public. In this regard, the Department requested the SF to consult the relevant parties in accordance with the established mechanism. He urged the Department to continue to take forward the measure concerned, and said that members of the local community were willing to provide as much assistance as possible to facilitate the implementation of the measure.

24. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to consolidate Members' views after the meeting and convey them to the TLB and the CAD in writing, so that they could give due consideration to such views when formulating policies or promoting the relevant development in the future.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat conveyed Members' views to the TLB and the CAD on 11 August.)

IV. Schedule of Meetings for IsDC and its Committees in 2027
(IsDC Paper No. 31/2026)

25. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IsDC Paper No. 31/2026, which set out the dates and times of meetings to be held in 2027 for Members to be aware of the schedule of meetings for the coming year as early as possible, thereby enabling them to plan their schedules well in advance to ensure that they could reserve time for attending the meetings. He reminded Members that, according to paragraph 15 of the Performance Monitoring Guidelines for Members of the District Councils (DCs), DC Members were obliged to attend the meetings, and that their annual attendance rates at meetings of DCs and those of the committees and working groups under the DCs' purview should not be lower than 80%. The details of their attendance would also be made available for public inspection. If a Member could not attend a meeting, he/she was required to submit an application to the Secretariat before the meeting. For details, please refer to paragraph 16 of the Performance Monitoring Guidelines for Members of the DCs and Order No. 64 of the Islands District Council Standing Orders.

V. Follow-Up on Study Reports on Issues of Community Concern 2026
(IsDC Paper No. 32/2026)

26. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IsDC Paper No. 32/2026. He said that after the last District Council meeting, all Members had conducted research and collected views at district level on the issues of community concern for this year and submitted their reports in June. He thanked Members for collecting public views comprehensively and surveying over 4 100 citizens through questionnaire surveys, interviews, and site inspections, etc., as well as putting forth improvement proposals based on their past experience and personal observations, as well as the latest developments in the district. Regarding the two sub-issues under "Ancillary Transport Facilities in the Islands District" (i.e. (i) "Road Traffic Congestion Problem in Tung Chung Town Centre and Nearby Areas", and (ii)

"Question on the Use and Parking of Bicycles (including Electric Bicycles)"), the Secretariat had categorised the relevant details mentioned by Members, including the latest situations, specific locations, causes, impacts on residents and corresponding improvement recommendations, into Annex I and Annex II, respectively. This was to facilitate detailed discussion and follow-up actions in the future. The Chairman said that, if Members raised no objection, the District Council would refer the issues to the Traffic and Transport Committee under its purview to continue to explore, promote and implement relevant feasible proposals with the departments. In addition, he invited Members to express their views on the paper under discussion and put forward recommendations in this regard, noting that the Secretariat would, depending on their nature, forward them to the respective departments for reference and study.

27. Members did not raise any other views.

28. The Chairman requested the Traffic and Transport Committee to continue following up on the aforementioned two issues of community concern.

VI. Reports on the Work of the IsDC Committees / Working Groups
(IsDC Papers No. 33-39/2026)

29. Members noted and endorsed the above papers unanimously.

VII. Any Other Business

30. Members did not raise any other business.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

31. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 8 September 2026 (Tuesday).

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