

**Minutes of the 11th Meeting of  
the Social Services, Housing and Development Planning Committee of  
the Kowloon City District Council**

Date: 25 September 2025 (Thursday)  
Time: 2:30 p.m.  
Venue: Conference Room, Kowloon City District Office

Present:

Chairman: Mr NG Po-keung, MH  
Vice-chairman: Ms FUNG Mo-kwan  
Members: Mr TING Kin-wa, MH  
Mr CHO Wui-hung, MH  
Mr LEE Chiu-yu  
Mr NG Fan-kam, MH  
Dr Rizwan ULLAH, MH, JP  
Mr HE Huahan, MH  
Mr LAM Pok  
Mr LAM Tak-shing, MH  
Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting  
Mr CHAN Chi-wah  
Mr CHEUNG King-fan  
Mr WONG Man-kong  
Ms LAU Yuen-yin  
Mr PUN Kwok-wah, JP  
Mr KWAN Ho-yeung, MH

Co-opted Members: Mr SIU Tin-hung  
Mr CHAN Hing-tat, Rudy

Absent: Ms WONG Man-lei, Vivian  
Mr WU Ming-tai

Secretary: Mr CHIU Tai-wai, David Executive Officer I (District Council), Kowloon City District Office

In Attendance: Miss MAK Wai-man, Sandy Senior Liaison Officer (Building Management), Kowloon City District Office

Ms YAU Lai-shan, Carol	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer 2, Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong District, Social Welfare Department
Mr KWOK Man-hin, Ryan	Town Planner / Kowloon 1, Planning Department
Mr CHAN Wai-wa	Senior Housing Manager / Kowloon West and Sai Kung 1, Housing Department
Ms YUNG Po-king, Carol	Housing Manager / Kowloon West and Sai Kung 1, Housing Department

\* \* \*

### **Opening Remarks by the Chairman**

1. **The Chairman** of the Social Services, Housing and Development Planning Committee (SSHDPC) welcomed all Members and representatives of departments to the eleventh meeting of the SSHDPC.
  
2. **The Chairman** reminded Members to register their interests in accordance with the stipulation of Order 22 of the Kowloon City District Council Standing Orders (the Standing Orders). If the matters to be discussed had any connection or potential conflict of interests with Members' personal interests such as property rights, profession or investment, Members should make a declaration proactively at the meeting so that he could make a decision in accordance with the Standing Orders.
  
3. **The Chairman** stated that in accordance with Order 80(1) of the Standing Orders, the quorum at any meeting of a committee should be half of the total number of members of the committee provided that District Council members must constitute half or more of the members attending the meeting. If the quorum was not present at the commencement of the meeting or in the course of the meeting, he would direct the Secretary to summon the absentees. If the quorum was still not present 15 minutes thereafter, he would adjourn the meeting. According to the stipulation of Order 13 of the Standing Orders, he then set out that each attendee was allowed to make a maximum of three speeches during a discussion on the same agenda item and the time limit for each speech was two minutes. He also reminded the attendees to switch off their mobile phones or to turn the ringers to vibration notification to avoid causing disturbances to the meeting.

4. **The Chairman** stated that the Secretariat received notifications of absence from meeting from Ms WONG Man-lei, Vivian and Mr WU Ming-tai before the commencement of the meeting. The grounds for their absence were “to attend an important meeting of the United Nations” and “sickness” respectively. The Committee approved the applications of absence of Ms WONG and Mr WU on the grounds that they were in compliance with Order 64(1) of the Standing Orders.

### **Item 1**

#### **Confirmation of Minutes of the 10th Meeting**

5. **The Chairman** announced that the minutes of the tenth meeting were unanimously endorsed by the committee without amendments.

### **Item 2**

#### **Proposal concerning Facilities at Oi Man Plaza and at the Sitting-out Area between Chiu Man House and Chung Man House of Oi Man Estate**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 18/2025)

### **Item 3**

#### **Follow-up to Complaints about Problems of Mosquito and Rodent Infestation in Oi Man Estate**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 19/2025)

### **Item 4**

#### **Concern over Problems of Rodent Sighting in Residential Flats of Oi Man Estate and Mosquito Breeding in the Lawn at Oi Man Plaza**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 20/2025)

6. **The Chairman** stated that since Item 2 to Item 4 were all relevant to mosquito and rodent infestation in Oi Man Estate and the lawn facilities at Oi Man Plaza, these items would be discussed together. **Members** introduced Paper No. 18/2025, Paper No. 19/2025 and Paper No. 20/2025

7. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written replies furnished by the Housing Department (HD), i.e. Documents No. 9 to 11 tabled.

8. **The representative of the HD** replied with the main points as follows:
- (i) in accordance with the housing policy of “enhancing quantity, speed, efficiency and quality” set out in the “Chief Executive’s 2022 Policy Address”, enhancement in the quality of public spaces and housing estate environments was an important part of “quality enhancement”. To this end, a task force chaired by the Secretary for Housing, together with the HD and professional consultancy teams, launched a programme named “Well•Being”. The pilot programme was implemented in existing housing estates, with landscape improvement works (“Happy Green Family”) as one of the key projects. By planting a variety of plants and laying lawns in housing estates, comfortable open spaces were provided to residents where they could enjoy shade, get closer to nature and foster social interactions. The overall sense of happiness was enhanced from visual, social and psychological perspectives. Oi Man Estate had also been selected for the implementation of the landscape improvement works;
  - (ii) the lawn at the sitting-out area of Oi Man Plaza provided residents a space to interact and socialise, encouraged them to contact with nature and promoted community cohesion. The lawn laying works had now been completed. Additional trees would be planted to provide shade. Other facilities, such as seats with shelters, would also be installed at a later stage so that residents could have a more comfortable leisure experience while enjoying the green space;
  - (iii) with regard to residents’ concerns about hygiene problems, the office had conducted a comprehensive inspection of the lawn area upon its completion. Situation of rodent infestation was not found. However, the office had proactively contacted officers of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to conduct joint inspections and provide advice. The office would continue to monitor the situation of the said area and take appropriate preventive measures as necessary to ensure good environmental hygiene. In addition, the lawn had undergone multiple tests during the construction period and had successfully withstood several Black Rainstorm events, during which situation of stagnant water was not found. Therefore, it would not pose additional risk to mosquito

infestation. Nevertheless, the office would regularly carry out mosquito prevention measures, such as applying temephos sand granules and spraying mosquito repellent, with a view to reducing mosquito infestation and maintaining environmental hygiene. The office would continue to closely monitor the cleanliness and hygiene conditions of the newly laid lawn at Oi Man Plaza, as well as take appropriate mosquito and rodent prevention / control measures;

- (iv) regarding suggestions on the space between the boundary of the lawn and the walkway at Oi Man Plaza, the staff of the Department reviewed the conditions of the relevant walkway again and confirmed the compliance of the related regulations. Nevertheless, following a recent site inspection with staff of District Council members' ward offices, it was noted that the space between the entrance / exit of the subway and the corner of the lawn was relatively narrow. To enhance access safety, the Department would install additional safety warning signs and signage at the related location, reminding residents to pay attention while passing through and be aware of the location of the lawn; and
- (v) the office had installed five Ekomille traps at appropriate locations in the estate to strengthen rodent control work. A professional pest control company had also been engaged to provide professional rodent control services in the estate twice a month, including inspecting the locations of rodent activities and movement routes, providing effective rodent control recommendations and applying rodenticides. The office and various service contractors would review the effectiveness of various measures in a timely manner and make appropriate adjustments as needed. Meanwhile, the office had also conducted multiple joint operations with the Link and the FEHD to properly perform rodent prevention / control work in a comprehensive manner.

9. **Members** raised the following views:

- (i) supported the launch of the "Well•Being" programme by the HD, under which diversified planting and lawns laying were carried out in housing estates. While the objective of the programme was to provide residents with comfortable open spaces, the lawn currently

occupied a significant portion of the plaza. Some seats had also been removed. To alleviate the problem of insufficient shading and enhance comfort, the Department was therefore requested to install additional seats and facilities with canopies;

- (ii) there were several sharp corners along the boundary of the lawn, which could easily pose a danger to pedestrians; and
- (iii) stagnant water was found on the lawn during rainy days, which could easily lead to mosquito breeding and posing health risks. The Department was suggested to improve the drainage design of the lawn.

10. **The representative of the HD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the seats installed under the programme were equipped with canopies with a shading function. They were not placed on the lawn itself, but along the periphery of the lawn;
- (ii) the Department inspected flooding black spots in the area after typhoons. The problem on stagnant water was not found. However, the Department would continue to monitor the drainage conditions of the lawn;
- (iii) the Department would take appropriate measures to safeguard residents' safety and avoid safety hazards; and
- (iv) the Department would consider coordinating with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the area when organising activities in the housing estate. The overall environment had also been taken into account for site selection. For example, the decision to carry out the landscape improvement works of "Happy Green Family" at the said location was only made after considering the surrounding environment of Oi Man Estate.

11. **The Chairman** stated that given a large population of elders in Oi Man Estate, problems regarding facilities and environmental hygiene were of particular concern. The HD was requested to continuously follow up on these matters.

**Item 5****Proposal to Re-plan the Children's Play Equipment on the Ground Floor of Tak Man House of Oi Man Estate**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 21/2025)

12. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 21/2025.
13. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the HD, i.e. Document No. 13 tabled.
14. **The representative of the HD** replied with the main points as follows:
  - (i) the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) had been committed to providing safe, inspiring and age-appropriate play equipment for the use of children of different ages in public housing estates under its purview;
  - (ii) the Department would deploy staff to inspect various recreational facilities on a daily basis and arrange for engineering staff for regular inspections. Independent safety consultants would also be engaged to carry out inspections once every two years, as well as submit reports and recommendations to ensure that the facilities could be safely used by residents. Facilities, if found to be damaged, would be temporarily enclosed. Maintenance contractors would be arranged for repairs. The Department had recently deployed staff to inspect the children's play equipment on the ground floor of Tak Man House again. The said equipment was currently in good conditions and there were no plans at present for renewal. However, the Department would continue to collect views from residents, District Council Members and related stakeholders. To enhance the safety and comfort of equipment, as well as cater for the needs of children of different ages, the existing equipment would be enhanced and more inclusive elements would be introduced in a timely manner; and
  - (iii) when renewing or improving play equipment, the Department would comprehensively consider multiple factors, including changes in the demographic structure of housing estates, usage patterns of the equipment, spatial and environmental constraints, future repair and maintenance arrangements, as well as taking reference to the views

from various stakeholders, so as to set up the most suitable equipment to meet residents' needs. At the same time, the Department would also take reference to the established Well-being Design Guide. The Department would optimise the design of children's playgrounds in line with design principles and actual conditions, thereby further enhancing the creativity and fun factors of recreational spaces in housing estates.

15. There being no enquiries from Members on the item, **the Chairman** declared the agenda item closed.

### **Item 6**

#### **Focus on the Problem of Rodent Control Work in Tak Long Estate**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 22/2025)

16. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 22/2025.

17. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the HD, i.e. Document No. 6 tabled.

18. **The representative of the HD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the Department had strengthened daily cleansing and pest control measures in Tak Long Estate. Targeting hygiene black spots in the estate, the Department adopted a multi-pronged approach to enhance cleansing. A night time patrol team had been set up to carry out intensive rodent control operations. The Department targeted the three survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages, as well as tackled the problem by elimination of food sources, removal of hiding places and blockage of the dispersal routes of rodents;
- (ii) to further enhance the effectiveness of rodent control, the Department had placed additional rodenticides and installed rodent meshes and rodent guards at locations in the estate where rodent infestation was more severe. Staff would also be arranged to regularly inspect locations where baits were placed, as well as replace and replenish baits. At the same time, the Department would engage professional pest control companies to provide professional rodent control

services, including inspecting the locations of rodent activities and movement routes, providing effective rodent control recommendations and applying rodenticides. The Department had installed three Ekomille traps at appropriate locations in the estate to strengthen rodent control work. The installation of additional devices would be considered having regard to the situation;

- (iii) the Department invited the FEHD to inspect the housing estate together from time to time and coordinated with the cleansing operations of the said Department, with a view to jointly strengthening cleansing and rodent control work in the housing estate and its surroundings. The HD would participate in the meetings of the pest control task force organised by the FEHD to keep abreast of the latest pest control situation in the area and enhance exchange of information, thereby further enhancing environmental hygiene and the effectiveness of pest control in the area; and
- (iv) the Department would, through various channels, promote cleaning operations in the housing estate to residents and merchants, appeal them to jointly maintain hygiene in the housing estate and raise their awareness of rodent control. These channels included the Estate Management Advisory Committee newsletter, the Housing Channel, banners, posters and publicity leaflets, as well as invitations to participate in the Operation Tai Ping Tei activities and rodent control talks. This could remind residents and merchants the importance of maintaining environmental hygiene in public housing estates and working together to keep the environment clean.

19. **A Member** enquired about the expiry dates of Ekomille traps and suggested increasing its number where appropriate.

20. There being no enquiries from Members on the item, **the Chairman** declared the agenda item closed.

[Post-meeting note: The Kowloon City District Office replied and stated that the service contract related to the Ekomille traps would remain in effect until 28 February 2026. The Office would consider increasing the number of Ekomille traps to be installed when preparing the next contract.]

**Item 7****Matters regarding Problems of Estate and Building Management in Kai Yan Court**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 23/2025)

21. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 23/2025.
22. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the HD, i.e. Document No. 12 tabled.
23. **The representative of the HD** replied with the main points as follows:
  - (i) completed in late 2024, Kai Yan Court was a housing estate sold under the Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) of the HKHA. At present, the HKHA acted as the deed of mutual covenant (DMC) manager of Kai Yan Court and had engaged Modern Living Property Management Limited on behalf of the owners to handle the daily management work of the estate, including cleansing, security, repairs and road management. Upon the establishment of the Owners' Corporation (OC) of the estate, the duties relevant to the DMC manager and all the daily management matters of the estate would be taken over by the OC;
  - (ii) the HKHA had always attached great importance to the building quality of public housing and had a stringent mechanism to monitor workmanship of contractors. This could ensure the works quality and building materials complied with the requirements of the construction contracts. Prior to works completion, contractors were required to complete the works in accordance with approved quality standards, pass all specified tests in accordance with the contract terms and obtain work completion certificates / acceptance documents issued by the related government departments (including the Fire Services Department, Water Supplies Department, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Drainage Services Department, etc.);
  - (iii) the HKHA did not prepare inspection reports for individual flat owners. However, if owners of the HKHA's subsidised sale flats discovered defects in their flats requiring rectification (including

water seepage) at the time of handover, the HD would immediately deploy staff to inspect the flats upon receipt of rectification lists submitted by the owners. After confirming the causes, the Site Supervision Teams of the Department would provide detailed explanations to the owners and arrange for contractors to follow up on the necessary repairs. Upon completion of the works, owners would be arranged to confirm its completion;

- (iv) the Kai Yan Court management office (the Management Office) removed the protective floor mats on each floor after the peak intake period in late July this year and completed the cleansing of common areas on each floor of the two buildings by the end of August. The Management Office had drawn up a monthly cleansing schedule and posted it in the lobbies. The locations and dates of cleansing were set out in detail for owners' information;
- (v) in recent months, the Management Office had installed additional In2Care traps, a new type of mosquito trapping devices, in the estate and had strengthened the work on the application of larvicidal oil and rodenticides. At the same time, the Management Office had also stepped up inspections of covered walkways and gates, as well as arranged for enhancing the clearing frequency of nearby refuse bins. Notices had been posted to remind residents to dispose of household waste in the refuse storage chambers on their respective floors. The situation had now improved;
- (vi) under the terms of the DMC of Kai Yan Court, the provision of visitor parking spaces and loading and unloading spaces were required in the estate for visitors' use. According to observations, among the existing visitor vehicles, many of them were residents of the estate and / or tenants of retail shops who entered the estate for picking up or setting down passengers and loading or unloading goods, including vehicles reserved by residents of the estate. As such, the Management Office found it difficult to identify / ascertain whether such vehicles belonged to residents. The Management Office would continue to strengthen road control operations to avoid the obstruction of passageways by vehicles;

- (vii) regarding the fast rebounding speed of gates of the estate, the Management Office had contacted the contractor to make adjustments. At the same time, notices had been posted to remind residents to securely close the gates when entering or leaving the estate. Residents could contact the Management Office for follow-up if the gates failed to close properly. In addition, the Management Office had issued a notice concerning the suspected leakage of access codes of residential buildings in the estate, solemnly reminding residents not to disclose access codes to non-residents. Contractors had been arranged to change the access codes; and
  
- (viii) having considered the general demand of different types of vehicles for short-term parking for picking up or setting down passengers and loading or unloading goods, the HKHA had exempted parking fees for vehicles parked for not more than 30 minutes at the parking spaces for picking up or setting down passengers and loading or unloading goods in all housing estates managed by the HKHA. This could facilitate the picking up or setting down passengers and loading and unloading of goods by owners / tenants / visitors. The said measure had practical operational needs and would be retained. To strengthen road control, the Management Office had hung warning banners at conspicuous locations along carriageways, reminding drivers that illegally parked vehicles would be impounded. The Management Office would closely monitor road conditions and step up enforcement actions. In addition, the Management Office would also strengthen inspections and road control operations in the estate during the hosting of large-scale mega events at the Kai Tak Sports Park. Regarding the matter of applications for monthly parking spaces in the car park of Kai Yan Court in 2026, the car park office would issue a notice in early October 2025. Residents interested in applying for the parking space could pay attention to the application details.

24. **Members** raised the following views:

- (i) the Department was suggested to make good use of technology by introducing licence plate recognition technology to restrict vehicles from repeatedly entering and exiting the estate within a short period of time. In addition, security guards were suggested to raise queries

on drivers who parked their vehicles in the estate. This could avoid the 30-minute free parking service from being abused;

- (ii) the management company was suggested to disclose the findings of the satisfaction survey on the cleansing contractor, allowing residents and the management company to gain a better understanding of the services provided by the cleansing contractor;
- (iii) the In2Care traps, the new type of mosquito trapping devices, yielded satisfactory results. The Department was suggested to increase the provision of relevant mosquito and rodent control facilities;
- (iv) the Department was suggested to improve the problem of fast rebounding speed of gates of the estate to avoid the generation of noise;
- (v) it was found that individuals had posted the access codes of the gates of the estate on social media platforms such as Facebook, posing risks to residents' safety. The Department was suggested to pay attention to the problem of access codes leakage of the gates of the estate; and
- (vi) the Department was suggested to provide water seepage reports when carrying out acceptance tests so as to prevent the problem of water seepage from occurring.

25. **The representative of the HD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the HKHA had engaged a management company and contractors as the managers of Kai Yan Court to handle matters including gate noise and cleanliness, as well as reminded residents to maintain the cleanliness and hygiene of the estate;
- (ii) regarding the problem of water seepage, the Department would not provide individual reports. However, defect rectification would be arranged for flats where problems were identified;
- (iii) regarding parking problems, the Department stated that it was difficult to identify offending vehicles at present. However, the Management Office had been requested to strengthen control and

supervision; and

- (iv) regarding mosquito infestation, the Department stated that mosquito control schedules had been posted and the provision of mosquito control facilities, including In2Care traps, had been increased.

26. There being no enquiries from Members on the item, **the Chairman** declared the agenda item closed.

### **Item 8**

#### **Concern over Problems of Accumulation of Water during Rainy Days on and Safety of the Scaffolding Erected by Contractors of the Buildings Department**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 24/2025)

27. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 24/2025.

28. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the Buildings Department (BD), i.e. Document No. 14 tabled.

29. There being no enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the item closed.

### **Item 9**

#### **Problems about the Reinstatement of Residential Flats of Buildings in the Area**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 25/2025)

30. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 25/2025 and stated that many enquiries and views had been received from the public regarding the reinstatement of residential flats of buildings. It was suggested that the discussion on this item should be continued in the next meeting.

31. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the BD, i.e. Document No. 1 tabled. After consultation with the committee, it was agreed that the discussion on this item would be continued in the next meeting.

**Item 10****Concern over and Proposal for Enhancing the Primary Healthcare Services in Kowloon City District**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 26/2025)

32. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 26/2025.
33. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the Health Bureau (HB), i.e. Document No. 15 tabled.
34. There being no enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the item closed.

**Item 11****Concern over and Request for Strengthening Support for Suicide Cases**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 27/2025)

35. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 27/2025
36. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written replies furnished by the HB and the Social Welfare Department (SWD), i.e. Documents No. 2 and 7 tabled.
37. **The representative of the SWD** replied with the main points as follows:
- (i) the Department established 215 District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs) and Neighbourhood Elderly Centres across the territory to provide a wide range of support services to elders and carers at the district level. These services included educational and developmental activities, volunteer development, social and recreational activities and counselling services. Support Teams for the Elderly were set up in all DECCs. Through outreach and community networks, the teams identified elders with potential service needs, such as those living alone or socially withdrawn at an early stage;
  - (ii) in September 2023, the Department established the 24-hour Designated Hotline for Carer Support 182 183 to provide carers in need with immediate consultation, referral and respite service matching and outreach visits to cases with emergency needs;

- (iii) by connecting the DECCs and the Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness (ICCMWs), the community-based JC JoyAge project sought to improve elderly depression as a social issue, enhance the skillsets of professionals and carers in managing elders' emotional problems and raise the public awareness of elderly mental health. The project also developed a stepped-care model and provided standardised prevention and appropriate intervention services to those with depression or depressive symptoms according to their risk level and symptom severity, etc. Organisations assisting with the project implementation in Kowloon City District included S.K.H. Holy Carpenter Church District Elderly Community Centre, H.K.S.K.H. Lok Man Alice Kwok Integrated Service Centre, Wong Cho Tong District Elderly Community Centre under Tung Wah Group of Hospitals and Vitality Place of the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention;
- (iv) since October 2023, the SWD had expanded the scope of the Support for Carers Project to cover persons with disabilities and their carers and extended the Project for three years. Through elderly centres and rehabilitation service units subvented by the SWD, the project provided training to frontline property management personnel. This helped them to identify and assist elders, persons with disabilities and carers in need and familiarise themselves with welfare services in the community, thereby facilitating early utilisation of community resources when the need arose;
- (v) since 2010, the Department had established 24 ICCMWs in the 18 districts across the territory, providing one-stop, district-based community mental health support services ranging from early prevention to risk management to persons in mental recovery, persons with mental health needs, their families and carers, as well as residents of the districts. At present, the ICCMW serving Kowloon City District was Vitality Place of the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention. The mental health of students was also a matter of concern to the ICCMW. During the period from September 2025 to March 2026, the ICCMW organised sleep hygiene talks surrounding the topic of mental health and booth activities and workshops promoting positive emotions in 19 secondary schools in Kowloon City District. This helped secondary school students to

cope with stress and reinforce their positive thinking;

- (vi) the Department had always attached great importance to the mental health of students. By pooling efforts from all parties through inter-departmental collaboration, the Department strengthened support provided to schools, students and parents, thereby building a stronger safety net for students. Through inter-departmental collaboration among the Education Bureau (EDB), the HB and the Department, a mechanism had been implemented since December 2023 to pool together the schools' multi-disciplinary teams, the off-campus support network and medical services to facilitate early identification of and support for students with higher suicidal risk. Under the second-tier emergency mechanism, the Department commissioned five NGOs to form "off-campus support network" teams (the Teams) to provide support to schools in need. In Kowloon City District, the service was provided by Nite Cat Online – Cyber Youth Support Team of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong. Upon receiving referrals, the Teams would provide emergency intervention services such as assessment, support and counselling to the students and would refer the students to other services according to their individual needs. These services included Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs), ICCMWs and Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres (ICYSCs). The Teams would also visit secondary schools in need to organise mental health activities to enhance students' awareness of mental health, help them develop positive thinking and strengthen their adaptability and help-seeking awareness. To further support students in need, the "Chief Executive's 2025 Policy Address" announced that the mechanism would be regularised in secondary schools and extended on a trial basis to Primary Four to Primary Six students;
- (vii) the Department subvented five NGOs to set up five support teams to proactively look for and approach the at-risk and hidden youths through online platform commonly used by young people, including those with unstable emotion and suicidal ideation. These young people in need would be provided with timely intervention, support and counselling service in online and offline modes. In addition, the SWD had enhanced the services of the support teams in June 2025. Through the online youth emotional support platform "Open Up", the

support teams provided 24-hour online counselling service to students or young people experiencing emotional distress and immediate crises, allowing them to receive support anytime, anywhere. At present, the support team serving West Kowloon (including Kowloon City District) was Nite Cat Online – Cyber Youth Support Team of the Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association of Hong Kong;

- (viii) the Department subvented the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups to operate the Youthline, a youth hotline service. It provided appropriate counselling and referral services through telephone contact to children and young people who were emotional unstable, had suicidal ideation or suicide attempts;
- (ix) to strengthen mental health support services for young people, the former Food and Health Bureau, in collaboration with the Hospital Authority (HA), the EDB and the SWD, launched the Student Mental Health Support Scheme based on a medical-education-social collaboration model in the 2016/17 school year. In each participating school, a multi-disciplinary team would be formed, comprising a psychiatric nurse from the HA, a designated teacher and a school social worker. The team worked closely with the psychiatric team from the HA, the school-based educational psychologist, related teachers and social workers from social service units to provide appropriate support services to students with mental health needs and their families in the school setting. Under the scheme, social workers / designated teachers in schools would also liaise with case social workers of known cases (including case social workers from the SWD and NGOs) to provide appropriate assistance;
- (x) to step up community education, promote public awareness of mental health and develop positive help-seeking attitudes, the SWD set up the Mobile Van for Publicity Service on Mental Wellness in five regions across the territory, among which the New LIFeStyle of the New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association served Kowloon West (Kowloon City District, Yau Tsim Mong District and Sham Shui Po District). Mental health education was provided through conducting mobile exhibitions, self-assessment, small-scale talks and interactive activities at various venues (such as housing estates,

schools, tertiary education institutions, community facilities and remote areas). In addition, the SWD also promoted the positive messages of treasuring life and positive attitude towards adversities to the society through different activities and media;

- (xi) the Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong District Social Welfare Office (District Social Welfare Office) was committed to coordinating and actively liaising with various social welfare services units and stakeholders in the districts. Through the platform of the District Task Group on Community Mental Health Support Services, the HA, related government departments and professional sectors, including the Kowloon City District School Principals' Liaison Committee and the Yau Tsim Mong District School Liaison Committee, were united to discuss mental health issues and work out strategies to address the service needs in the districts. In addition, thematic talks were organised to enhance mental health literacy in the sector and to promote mental health messages to the community;
- (xii) the ICYSC in Kowloon City District also organised various programmes to enhance youth mental health. These included the three-year project, LevelMind@JC, launched in 2024 by the H.K.S.K.H. Kowloon City Children and Youth Integrated Service Centre. The project provided early intervention and support services to youths experiencing early-stage emotional distress with a view to enhancing their overall physical and mental well-being. During the period from July 2025 to September 2026, the Jockey Club Fong Shu Chuen Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre under Hong Kong Children and Youth Services organised programmes such as campus activities, stress relief groups, mental health booths to promote youth mental health and relieve stress among young people;
- (xiii) the Department identified and supported persons who were experiencing emotional distress and / or at risk of suicide through the provision of diversified services. IFSCs / Integrated Services Centres operated by the SWD and subvented NGOs provided preventive, supportive and remedial services to families in need. In terms of specialised services, the SWD subvented the Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong to operate the Suicide Crisis Intervention

Centre, which provided outreach, crisis intervention and intensive counselling services for persons beset with suicidal problems. The Centre also provided counselling services to persons who had lost family members or friends to suicide; and

- (xiv) the Department noted Members' proposal to establish a database for welfare support services.

38. There being no further enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the item closed.

### **Item 12**

#### **Concern over the Mental Health of Students in Kowloon City District and Proposal to Strengthen Preventive Measures on Emotional Support**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 28/2025)

39. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 28/2025

40. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written replies furnished by the HB and the SWD, i.e. Documents No. 3 and 8 tabled.

41. **The representative of the SWD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the Department had always attached great importance to the mental health of students. By pooling efforts from all parties through inter-departmental collaboration, the Department strengthened support provided to schools, students and parents, thereby building a stronger safety net for students. Through inter-departmental collaboration among the EDB, the HB and the SWD, a mechanism had been implemented since December 2023 to pool together the schools' multi-disciplinary teams, the off-campus support network and medical services to facilitate early identification of and support for students with higher suicidal risk. Under the second-tier emergency mechanism, the Department commissioned five NGOs to form the Teams to provide support to schools in need. In Kowloon City District, the service was provided by Nite Cat Online – Cyber Youth Support Team of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong. Upon receiving referrals from schools, the Teams would provide emergency intervention services such as assessment, support

and counselling to the students and would refer the students to other services according to their individual needs. These services included IFSCs, ICCMWs and ICYSCs. The Teams would also visit secondary schools in need to organise mental health activities to enhance students' awareness of mental health, help them develop positive thinking and strengthen their adaptability and help-seeking awareness. To further support students in need, the "Chief Executive's 2025 Policy Address" announced that the mechanism would be regularised in secondary schools and extended on a trial basis to Primary Four to Primary Six students;

- (ii) the Department subvented the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups to operate the Youthline, a youth hotline service. It provided appropriate counselling and referral services through telephone contact to children and youths who were emotional unstable, had suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts; and
- (iii) school social work service aimed to help students achieve healthy personal growth, establish harmonious interpersonal relationships and enhance mental health and stress resilience. Since the 2019/20 school year, the Department had implemented the measure of "two school social workers for each school" in more than 460 secondary schools across the territory. To this end, approximately 370 additional school social workers had been deployed (i.e. increasing the provision of school social workers per secondary school from 1.2 to 2). Supervisory support in handling complex cases for school social workers had also been enhanced. Starting from the 2021/22 school year, the Department had further strengthened the supporting manpower for school social work services in secondary schools, enabling school social workers to provide students in need with more intensive counselling and group activities.

42. There being no further enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the item closed.

**Item 13****Proposal to Provide Additional Community Services Centres for Youths in Kowloon City District**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 29/2025)

43. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 29/2025.
44. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the SWD, i.e. Document No. 5 tabled.
45. **The representative of the SWD** replied with the main points as follows:
- (i) the Department would take into account the provisions for welfare facilities set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. Suitable proposals for welfare facilities would be formulated based on factors such as supply and demand of services in the district concerned to cater for the service needs in Hong Kong and across various local communities;
  - (ii) to meet the multifarious needs of children and youth aged 6 to 24 in specific catchment areas, the ICYSCs adopted a holistic and community-based approach and provided them with professional social work intervention (including preventive, developmental, supportive and remedial services). At present, there were three centres in Hung Hom area that catered to the service needs of the youth population in the area, namely Whampoa Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre of the Church of United Brethren in Christ, Jockey Club Fong Shu Chuen Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre of Hong Kong Children and Youth Services, as well as Jockey Club Hung Hom Youth S.P.O.T of Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups. To promote the whole-person development of young people, the ICYSCs organised various programmes to address their needs, including youth creativity programmes, healthy campus activities and positive emotion workshops. In addition, the District Social Welfare Office, in collaboration with 16 social service units operated by NGOs in the district, co-organised the 2025 Tomorrow's Leaders Job-shadowing Programme. The programme recruited professional mentors from various sectors and matched each young person with a professional mentor from a related profession for

apprenticeship based on their career aspirations. The workplace exposure arranged for the young people enabled them to explore careers, helping them establish concrete short-term and long-term goals;

- (iii) the Department had always been concerned about the welfare needs of youths at risk. Through the outreaching services of the department-subvented District Youth Outreaching Social Work Teams and Overnight Outreaching Teams for Young Night Drifters, the Department reached out and provided counselling and guidance to high-risk youths who were less inclined to participate in social or youth activities and were susceptible to negative influences. The service targets were those aged 6 to 24. District Youth Outreaching Social Work Teams generally operated from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Overnight Outreaching Teams for Young Night Drifters were attached to Integrated Youth Services Centre. The general service hours were from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. the following day, providing overnight outreach services to the young night drifters. The service providers for the Hung Hom area of Kowloon City District were the Kowloon City District Outreaching Social Service Team and the Kowloon City District Outreaching Social Service Team for Young Night Drifters of Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service, which offered a range of services to young people in disadvantaged circumstances, including crisis intervention, drug abuse prevention and vocational development and training. Outreaching social service teams aimed to enhance young people's problem-solving abilities, develop their personal potential and promote their whole-person development;
- (iv) established by department-subvented NGOs, the Outreaching Teams for Ethnic Minorities (OTEMs) proactively reached out to ethnic minorities (including young people) with welfare needs, helping them connect with and access mainstream welfare services. Through early identification and intervention, the OTEMs provided them with consultation and referral services, whereas those in need but had yet to access mainstream services were offered transitional support, such as support groups and counselling services. In addition, the OTEMs deployed mobile trucks to conduct publicity and provide services in areas where more ethnic minorities gathered. The OTEM serving Kowloon (including Hung Hom area of Kowloon City District) was

Multicultural Outreaching Team for InclusiON of Hong Kong Christian Service; and

- (v) the District Social Welfare Office paid keen attention to the development of youth services in the district and would continue to closely monitor district needs. The District Social Welfare Office also encouraged cross-sector collaboration through SWD-subsidized service units under NGOs and the working groups under the Local Committee on Services for Young People, thereby facilitating early identification of young people in need and the provision of appropriate support.

46. There being no further enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the item closed.

#### **Item 14**

#### **Concern over and Request for Stepping up Visits to and Support for Street Sleepers in Carpenter Road Park**

(SSHDPC Paper No. 30/2025)

47. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 30/2025.

48. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the SWD, i.e. Document No. 4 tabled.

49. **The representative of the SWD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) regarding the two street sleepers in Carpenter Road Park (near Tak Ku Ling Road) in Kowloon City, the Department had been coordinating with the service teams operated by the Salvation Army and social workers from the Medical Social Services Units of the SWD to proactively reach out to the street sleepers at the location concerned during the outreach visits there. The Department provided information on accommodation, financial assistance and welfare services according to their welfare needs, while also advised them to pay attention to environmental hygiene and to avoid the accumulation of miscellaneous articles. Psychiatric nurses from the service team also conducted proactive outreach visits to the street sleepers to see their physical and mental health conditions. The nurses also helped

them access medical treatment, such as providing medical escort services and referring them to appropriate medical and support services, thereby enhancing their willingness to accept assistance and encouraging them to leave the streets as soon as possible; and

- (ii) with regard to the welfare needs of the street sleepers, the Department would pay close attention to the follow-ups by the service teams and maintain communication and collaboration with related service units and district stakeholders. Appropriate welfare support services would be provided to the street sleepers based on their actual needs and willingness to help them leave the streets and reintegrate into the community.

50. **The Chairman** noted the increased pedestrian flow at Carpenter Road Park and suggested that the Department to deploy additional manpower to handle the street sleepers.

#### **Item 15**

##### **Any Other Business**

51. No further items were raised by **Members**.

#### **Item 16**

##### **Date of Next Meeting**

52. **The Chairman** announced that the next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 4 December 2025 and the closing date for submission of papers would be 19 November 2025.

53. **The Chairman** announced the adjournment of the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 4 December 2025.

---

The Chairman

---

The Secretary