

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 2nd and 3rd Meeting of
Security and Constitutional Affairs Committee
the 6th Term Kwun Tong District Council**

Date: 29 May 2020 (Thursday)

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Kwun Tong District Office,
Unit 05-07, 20/F Millennium City 6, 392 Kwun Tong Road,
Kwun Tong, Kowloon

<u>Present</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Leaving Time</u>
Mr HUNG Chun-hin (Chairman)	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr TANG Wai-man Raymond (Vice-chairman)	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr BUX Sheik Anthony	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr CHAN Chris Ka-yin	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr CHAN Man-kin	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr CHAN Yik-shun Eason	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr CHENG Keng-ieong	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr CHEUNG Man-fung	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr CHOY Chak-hung	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr FUNG Ka-lung	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr IP Tsz-kit	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr KUNG Chun-ki	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Ms LAI Po-kwai	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr LEE Kwan-chak	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Ms LEUNG Jannelle Rosalynne	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Ms LEUNG Yik-ting Edith	9:45 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Mr LI Ka-tat	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr LI Wai-lam William	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Ms LI Wing-shan	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr MOK Kin-shing	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mrs POON YAM Wai-chun Winnie, BBS, MH	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr SO Koon-chung Kevin	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Ms TSE Suk-chun	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr WAN Ka-him	10:00 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr WANG Wai-lun	11:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr WONG Chi-ken	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.

Ms WONG Ka-ying	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.
Mr WONG Kai-ming	9:30 a.m.	1:10 p.m.

In Attendance

Mr TSE Ling-chun, Steve, JP	District Officer (Kwun Tong)
Miss CHOI Gi-lam, Britney	Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)1
Mr KO Choar-que, Keith	Acting Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr LEE Chi-ho	Chief Health Inspector (Kwun Tong)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Miss SZETO Hau-yan, Esther	Senior Property Service Manager/Kowloon East, Housing Department
Ms YUEN Yuet-yan	Social Work Officer 1 (Planning and Coordinating Team), Social Welfare Department
Mr CHAN Kit-ming	Outreaching Social Worker, Kwun Tong District Youth Outreaching Social Work Team Young Night Drifters Service (Kowloon East), The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Mr WONG Wing-yin	Outreaching Social Worker, Kwun Tong District Youth Outreaching Social Work Team Young Night Drifters Service (Kowloon East), The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Miss CHAN Ka-ying, Candy (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)(5), Kwun Tong District Office

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members of the Security and Constitutional Affairs Committee (SCAC) and government representatives to the meeting.

2. The Chairman remarked that the Secretariat had not received any absence notice from Members before the meeting.

I. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

3. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

4. The Chairman expressed regret over the Police's failure in assigning representatives to the meeting. He hoped the Secretariat could express the SCAC's regret to the Police after the meeting. He enquired whether the Police would assign representatives to meetings of the SCAC in the future to assist with discussion related to people's livelihood issues.

II. Follow-up Matters and Figures on Face Mask Scams and Counterfeit Face Mask Cases
(KTDC SCAC paper No. 1/2020)

5. The Chairman remarked that a letter from Mr KUNG Chun-ki had been received before the meeting.

6. Mr KUNG Chun-ki presented the letter.

7. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

7.1 Mr CHENG Keng-ieong suggested passing the agenda item without the assistance of the Police's representatives with discussion at the present meeting to meetings of the Full Council (FC). He welcomed the Police to assign representatives to the SCAC's meetings in the future.

7.2 Mr MOK Kin-shing suggested Members first express their views at the present meeting so that the Secretariat could reflect those views to relevant departments for follow-up actions. He thanked the government representatives present at the present meeting for their assistance with discussion.

8. As the Police had not assigned representatives to the present meeting, the Chairman stated that the relevant agenda items would be passed to the FC for discussion.

9. Members noted the paper.

III. Problems about Enforcement Actions against Traffic Offences in the District
(KTDC SCAC paper No. 2/2020)

10. The Chairman remarked that the agenda item had been discussed in the meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee on 28 May 2020.

IV. Enforcement of the Prohibition on Group Gatherings in the District
(KTDC SCAC paper No. 3/2020)

11. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEE Chi-ho, Chief Health Inspector (Kwun Tong)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), to the meeting.

12. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

12.1 Mr CHENG Keng-ieong enquired how to delineate the responsibilities of enforcing the prohibition on group gatherings.

12.2 Ms LI Wing-shan enquired how to delineate the responsibilities of enforcing the prohibition on group gatherings. She reflected that individual restaurants were inspected frequently. She asked the FEHD whether investigations were carried out randomly or based on public complaints. In addition, she reflected that individual organisations had been treated unfairly when running street counters. On the contrary, other organisations had neither been investigated nor advised by the Police although their numbers of participants had exceeded the limit at that time.

12.3 Mr Kevin SO understood that community halls under the Kwun Tong District Office (KTDO) were allowed to be open subject to the limit on the number of persons allowed in group gatherings. However, he found that some users had ignored the number of persons allowed in group gatherings and advice made by frontline staff. He opined that the prohibition on group gatherings was an important regulation for epidemic control. He could not understand why such breaches had occurred in facilities under the purview of the KTDO. He opined that the penalty, which was allotting penalty points to offenders, was too lenient. He suggested the KTDO consider rejecting applications

submitted by relevant organisations and establishing a mechanism to handle the problem as soon as possible.

12.4 Mr CHEUNG Man-fung pointed out that a meeting of an owners' corporation with more than eight participants had been held within a housing estate by some residents. At that time, the Police had gone to the scene and pointed out that the gathering might violate the law. However, the Police had not taken enforcement actions. He enquired how relevant departments would handle relevant situations under the prohibition on group gatherings.

13. The representative of the FEHD responded to Members' enquiries as follows:

13.1 The Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) restricted the operation of catering business and specified that designated premises had to be closed. The Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) also prohibited group gatherings with more than eight people at public places until 4 June 2020. The FEHD was one of the authorised departments that could enforce Cap. 599F and Cap. 599G. The FEHD's main duty was arranging staff to carry out inspections at restaurants with licences issued by the FEHD and public markets under the purview of the FEHD. According to Cap. 599F, the FEHD would arrange staff to see whether restaurants were in compliance with the regulations, such as whether there was a distance of at least 1.5 metres between one table and another table at catering premises, whether the number of people seated together were within the limit, whether people in the catering premises were wearing masks, whether temperature screenings were conducted, whether hand sanitisers were provided at catering premises, etc. If breaches were found by the FEHD's staff, the FEHD's staff would give advice and request improvement. If no improvement was made, the FEHD's staff would take enforcement actions. In regard to the non-compliance in relation to the distance between tables or partitions, the FEHD had initiated eight prosecutions in total.

13.2 According to Cap. 599G, the FEHD was mainly responsible for inspecting the situation of gatherings of crowds at public markets under the purview of the FEHD. Based on the FEHD's observations, people

who gathered were mainly customers and would leave after being advised by staff. Therefore, no prosecution had been made at public markets up till then.

14. The representative of the KTDO responded that the KTDO was aware of the matters and investigation was underway. It would handle the matter by proper means, such as imposing penalties, as and when necessary.

15. Members raised follow-up enquiries as follows:

15.1 Mr CHENG Keng-ieong enquired how to delineate responsibilities among departments in regard to enforcement work against licensed restaurants. He also enquired how the FEHD would handle malicious complaints targeting individual restaurants.

15.2 Mr MOK Kin-shing enquired how to delineate responsibilities among departments in regard to enforcement work against licensed restaurants. He also enquired whether the FEHD had mounted any joint operations with the Police. He reflected that some restaurants had been prosecuted by the FEHD and the Police respectively on the same days. He could not understand the situation concerned.

15.3 Mr William LI enquired about the FEHD's interpretation of the regulations. He remarked that the definition of the word "Authority" stated in Part 1 of Cap. 599G included the commissioners or directors of seven departments. He enquired based on the provisions related to liability disputes in Part 4, with which department a person should lodge a dispute if he/she wished to do so.

15.4 Ms WONG Ka-ying pointed out that free newspapers were distributed at Kai Tin Road during morning peak hours, resulting in gatherings of crowds. The footpath at Kai Tin Road was even narrower than usual due to the recent large-scale maintenance works near Kai Tin Shopping Centre, affecting the picking up and dropping off of bus passengers. She hoped that relevant departments could follow up on that.

15.5 Mr CHAN Man-kin enquired about the measurement standard of maintaining a distance of 1.5 metres between tables. He remarked that enforcement actions should not target at individual restaurants.

15.6 Mr Eason CHAN reflected that some members of the public had been prosecuted for violating the gathering ban unreasonably. However, it was usually difficult to call the Prosecution and Licensing Office to lodge disputes. Therefore, he enquired about the methods and procedure for lodging disputes related to penalty tickets issued under the gathering ban. In regard to the hindrance to the pick-ups and drop-offs of bus passengers caused by gatherings of crowds at Kai Tin Road, he mentioned that he had reflected the problem to relevant departments at meetings of the FC of the Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC). He opined that the delineation of roles and responsibilities between the Police and the FEHD in regard to street obstruction matters was unclear.

16. The representative of the FEHD followed up on the enquires and pointed out that the FEHD's staff were mainly responsible for checking during inspections whether licensed restaurants under the purview of the FEHD were in compliance with Cap. 599F. The FEHD's staff would measure the distance between tables or partitions to see whether the distance was in compliance with the regulation. The FEHD remarked that the Police and the FEHD had not carried out any joint operations in Kwun Tong in regard to the gathering ban. The FEHD would arrange investigations based on its manpower upon receipt of complaints. If members of the public had to lodge disputes related to penalty tickets issued under the gathering ban, they could write to the relevant departments for follow-up actions. In addition, street obstruction caused by gatherings of crowds had to be handled by the Police.

17. Mr FUNG Ka-lung enquired whether the distance of 1.5 metres between tables was judged by the closest sides of the tables or the farthest sides of the tables. He also enquired how members of the public could make complaints about the enforcement work carried out by the departments.

18. The representative of the FEHD remarked that the distance of 1.5 metres referred to the distance between the outer sides of tables. He added that members of the public could call 1823 or contact relevant departments, such as the FEHD, to make complaints.

19. Members noted the paper.

**V. Group Gambling Problems at Public Housing Estates and Parks
(KTDC SCAC paper No. 4/2020)**

20. The Chairman welcomed Miss Esther SZETO, Senior Property Service Manager/Kowloon East, Housing Department (HD), to the meeting.

21. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

21.1 Mr WONG Chi-ken remarked that he had repeatedly reflected the problem of group gambling at public housing estates. He opined that the HD was duty-bound to manage public housing estates. He also considered the enforcement of the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement in Public Housing Estates (Marking Scheme) ineffective. He suggested the HD install closed circuit televisions (CCTVs). He also suggested the HD draw reference from the methods of handling smoking at public housing estates and pigeon feeding activities and establish a special team to collect evidence of group gambling so as to combat group gambling and protect frontline security staff. In addition, the HD should provide estate offices with clear guidelines on handling the problem of group gambling.

21.2 Mr WAN Ka-him pointed out that the HD and the Police were shifting their responsibility for the group gambling problem to each other. He pointed out that although footages had been available as evidence in some cases related to group gambling, the HD had not requested police intervention, or had failed to give any penalty points on the ground that the Police had not taken any prosecution action. He hoped that the HD could explain the arrangements for enforcing the Marking Scheme.

21.3 Ms LAI Po-kwai pointed out that the HD and the Police were shifting their responsibility for the group gambling problem to each other. She pointed out that although some of the gambling black spots were cordoned off due to the gathering ban, some members of the public still ignored the arrangement and continued to gamble at those cordoned-off black spots while security staff did not stop those members of the public. She opined that relevant departments should take enforcement actions actively.

- 21.4 Mr FUNG Ka-lung pointed out that group gambling was common in the district. He enquired whether the HD had provided frontline staff and estate offices with guidelines on handling group gambling, such as how many verbal warnings should be given before asking the Police to intervene. Also, he noticed that some chess tables in Po Tat Estate were cordoned off with plastic tapes while some other chess tables were cordoned off with iron chains. He enquired whether the HD had a uniform standard for cordoning off an area. He mentioned that he had reported cases of group gambling to the Police. However, the Police had only given verbal warnings and prosecuted gamblers for violating the gathering ban. He would like to know under what circumstances the Police would initiate prosecutions against group gambling.
- 21.5 Ms TSE Suk-chun pointed out that there was a group gambling problem at Yau Tong Estate too. She reflected that although the gambling spots were cordoned off, some members of the public ignored the measure and continued to gamble there. However, the HD's staff turned a blind eye to that situation. Also, she had suggested the HD install CCTVs before. However, officers in charge had pointed out that the installation involved personal data privacy problems. She opined that the HD should handle the problem actively.
- 21.6 Mr Raymond TANG pointed out that the group gambling problem also occurred at Sau Mau Ping North and people gambling illegally at public places could be given five penalty points. He enquired under what circumstances the HD would allot penalty points. Also, he suggested the HD cordon off gambling spots temporarily until improvement was made so as to combat the group gambling problem.
- 21.7 Mr Eason CHAN opined that the enforcement actions taken by the Police and the HD were ineffective. He also pointed out that the group gambling problem had also given rise to a smoking problem, affecting environmental hygiene in the district.
- 21.8 Mr CHENG Keng-ieong remarked that the HD's Marking Scheme only existed in name. He hoped the HD could review the mechanism. Also, he, together with chairmen of mutual aid committees, had repeatedly called the Police to request for enforcement actions.

However, the Police arriving at the scenes had only given verbal warnings. He suggested stepping up enforcement actions.

22. The representatives of the HD responded to Members' enquiries as follows:

22.1 The HD had arranged a special team to handle problems related to objects being thrown from heights and smoking at public housing estates. The HD noted Members' suggestions related to the formation of a special team for handling the group gambling problem at public housing estates. At the moment, the HD would, based on the situations of individual public housing estates, adopt appropriate measures to combat the group gambling problem, such as deploying more staff to inspect gambling black spots, installing/adding/ adjusting CCTVs to step up the monitoring of group gambling activities, as well as maintaining close communication with the Police and requesting the Police to take enforcement actions.

22.2 The HD remarked that although frontline security staff did not have the enforcement power, they could give verbal warnings when carrying out inspections. They could also inform the Police and ask for police intervention as and when necessary. If the person being prosecuted was a resident of a public housing estate, the HD would punish that resident based on the Marking Scheme.

23. Members raised follow-up enquiries as follows:

23.1 Mr CHAN Man-kin opined that the enforcement actions taken by the HD in combating group gambling at public housing estates were ineffective. He pointed out that gamblers were often smokers. He suggested the HD arrange the special team responsible for the smoking problem to follow up on the group gambling problem. He also suggested the HD actively consider establishing a special team for handling the group gambling problem so as to enhance the deterrent effect of law enforcement. Also, he reflected that gamblers often left sundry items such as gambling tools, etc. at public places. He opined that the HD could discourage group gambling activities by enhancing the cleaning frequency. He also opined that the Police should step up enforcement actions.

23.2 Mr WONG Chi-ken opined that all public housing estates should be equipped with CCTVs in order to assist with enforcement. He pointed out that some CCTVs were not movable, limiting the deterrent effect. He hoped the HD could allocate additional resources so that public housing estates could have sufficient equipment to handle the group gambling problem.

23.3 The Chairman pointed out that the delineation of responsibilities between the HD and the Police in regard to the group gambling problem at public housing estates was ambiguous. He enquired if gambling activities were found by the HD's staff, whether they could first handle the cases by giving penalty points or should follow up on the cases after the Police had finished their prosecution work.

24. The representative of the HD responded to the follow-up enquiries as follows:

24.1 The HD noted Members' views on the formation of a special team for handling the group gambling problem. The HD would reflect the views to relevant divisions for their consideration.

24.2 At the moment, the HD mainly used two types of CCTVs: fixed CCTVs and movable CCTVs. Fixed CCTVs were mainly installed at lobbies of buildings, entrances and exits or public places while movable CCTVs were mainly installed at black spots of throwing objects from heights. The HD would explore solutions for improving the CCTVs installed at Lok Wah South Estate and Lok Wah North Estate. The HD would also continue to step up enforcement actions.

24.3 As the HD was not authorised to take enforcement actions against group gambling, the HD had to wait for the Police to take enforcement actions before the HD could allot penalty points based on the Marking Scheme.

24.4 Due to the epidemic, some facilities were cordoned off with materials such as iron chains, mills barriers, water barriers, etc. The HD did not have a uniform standard on materials used for cordoning off facilities. Staff could implement appropriate measures based on actual situations.

25. The Chairman remarked that group gambling at public housing estates was a long-existing problem in the district. He hoped relevant departments could step up enforcement and improve the living environment.

26. Members noted the paper.

**VI. Matters on a Bomb Case at an Abandoned School at Choi Shek Lane, Kowloon Bay
(KTDC SCAC paper No. 5/2020)**

27. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

27.1 Mr WAN Ka-him expressed disappointment over the lack of representatives from the Police at the meeting. He pointed out that the written reply provided by the Police earlier was unable to ease the worries of the public in regard to the bomb case. Also, he mentioned that the vacant school premises had been arranged by the Education Bureau (EDB) for reprovisioning of a school. However, no progress had been made so far. He suggested arranging the reprovisioning of the school as soon as possible so as to make good use of education resources and improve the campus environment. He also suggested relevant departments carry out on-site inspections with Members so that Members could gain an understanding of the actual situation of the campus.

27.2 Mr Eason CHAN pointed out that the written reply provided by the Police earlier was unable to ease the worries of Members. He suggested the SCAC write to the Police and request for detailed information on the implementation of drills in the district and the management of the venues for carrying out drills. He remarked that the venue was close to residential buildings. He enquired whether the Police would notify nearby residents before carrying out drills and enquired where the Police would put up notices.

27.3 Mr MOK Kin-shing pointed out that the school premises had been left vacant for many years. He mentioned that Members had discussed its usage at other meetings in the past. Not until recent years had the EDB decided to allocate the site to Ping Shek Estate Catholic Primary School

for reprovisioning purpose. However, no progress had been made so far. He hoped relevant departments could arrange on-site inspections so that Members could gain an understanding of the progress. He also hoped that relevant departments could give an account on their handling methods and the operation of the campus in order to prevent a waste of education resources.

28. The Chairman remarked that the vacant campus was a rare land resource which was close to residential buildings. He opined that relevant departments should inform residents if exercises were to be carried out at that site. He also suggested the Secretariat write to the EDB and the Police after the meeting, requesting the EDB to give an account on the handling method of vacant campuses, asking the Police about the details of the arrangements for exercises and inviting the Police to assign representatives to attend meetings of the SCAC to facilitate discussion.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat wrote to the EDB and the Police on 11 June and forwarded the replies given by the Police and the EDB to Members on 23 June and 6 July respectively.)

29. Members noted the paper.

VII. Problems about On-street Solicitation by Sex Workers in the District **(KTDC SCAC paper No. 6/2020)**

30. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

30.1 Ms Edith LEUNG remarked that many Members had reflected at meetings of various committees that the problem of on-street solicitation by sex workers in the district was serious, especially at areas around Ngau Tau Kok Road and Hong Ning Road. However, departments had not followed up on that. She remarked that she had been writing to the Police since 2018, requesting the Police and the Immigration Department to carry out joint operations. However, relevant work had to be enhanced. Also, she suggested providing forms to Members to collect information on black spots of on-street solicitation and passing collected forms to relevant departments for follow-up actions.

- 30.2 Mr WONG Kai-ming pointed out that the problem of on-street solicitation around the streets and private buildings at Kwun Tong Town Centre was very serious. He opined that on-street solicitation was operated as a syndicate. Although the Police did take actions after receiving complaints, the problem relapsed very soon. He opined that the Police should actively carry out enforcement actions and inspect those black spots regularly and irregularly.
- 30.3 Mr Chris CHAN remarked that he had reflected the problem of on-street solicitation to the Police at meetings of the FC before. He had noticed for a period of time that the Police had carried out patrols in the district and police vehicles had stopped by relevant black spots after that meeting. He hoped that the Police could step up enforcement actions and improve manpower deployment so as to enhance the deterrent effect.
- 30.4 Mr LI Ka-tat noticed the Police on duty turned a blind eye to on-street solicitation. He felt puzzled and angry that the Police had refused to attend the present meeting of the SCAC. He suggested writing to the Police and inviting them to a meeting of the SCAC again to facilitate the discussion on law and order issues and prevent the present meeting from becoming a bad precedent.

31. The Chairman expressed disappointment over the Police's written reply as the reply failed to give detailed explanations on enforcement actions and figures in the past. Also, he suggested the Secretariat provide Members with forms to collect information on black spots of on-street solicitation in the district after the meeting so as to facilitate relevant departments' follow-up actions.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat provided forms to Members by email on 15 June to collect Members' views. The Secretariat relayed the information on black spots of on-street solicitation to the Police on 24 June for their follow-up actions.)

32. Members noted the paper.

VIII. Problems about Juvenile Gangs in the District
(KTDC SCAC paper No. 7/2020)

33. The Chairman welcomed the following officers to the meeting to assist with discussion: Ms YUEN Yuet-yan, Social Work Officer 1 (Planning & Coordinating Team), Social Welfare Department (SWD), Mr CHAN Kit-ming and Mr WONG Wing-yin, Outreaching Social Workers, Kwun Tong District Youth Outreaching Social Work Team Young Night Drifters Service (Kowloon East), the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (Organisation).

34. The Chairman remarked that a letter from Mr Raymond TANG had been received before the meeting.

35. Mr Raymond TANG presented the paper.

36. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

36.1 Mr CHENG Keng-ieong noticed that there were young people wandering in parks within public housing estates, including Tsui Ping Estate, at night. He enquired whether the natures of problems about juvenile gangs varied by groups and regions. He also enquired whether juvenile gangs were related to triads.

36.2 The Chairman enquired about the causes of juvenile gang problems. He enquired whether the SWD and social welfare organisations had any joint operations or youth service schemes to assist local youngsters.

37. The representative of the SWD responded that there were one day-time out-reaching team and one night-time out-reaching team in the district at the moment. These teams were responsible for providing support to youth at risk and young night drifters. These two teams had been maintaining close communication with school social workers and social workers of integrated children and youth services centres. The teams also organised regular meetings for the discussion of out-reaching work so as to carry out discussion on the service needs of young people and cater for those needs. In addition, Kwun Tong District Social Welfare Office had been promoting and organising joint activities every year, providing support for young people. The SWD remarked that more young people were found gathering at streets during night-time recently. That situation might be related to class suspension.

38. The representative of the Organisation responded to Members' enquiries as follows:

38.1 The representative of the Organisation pointed out that they had been providing out-reaching services during both the daytime and nighttime. Due to recent social movements and the epidemic, the Organisation encountered difficulties in stepping up out-reaching services. He pointed out that young people were often found gathering around Sau Mau Ping. Staff of the Organisation had contacted and provided individual counselling services to those young people in the past. Also, they noticed that there was a change in the gathering mode of young people. They often gathered at non-public places nowadays, increasing the difficulties in carrying out out-reaching services. Out-reaching social workers would make adjustments to their service mode accordingly and would focus on the overall situation of young people, including their family, study and career development.

38.2 Parkour had been a prevailing activity among young people in recent years. Some stakeholders of the community had reflected to the Organisation that some young people were carrying out dangerous activities in the district. Social workers of the out-reaching teams had contacted some players. The Organisation would also study whether the environment of the district was suitable for carrying out those activities and explore with young people the feasibility of carrying out them at other locations.

39. Members raised follow-up enquiries as follows:

39.1 Mr MOK Kin-shing noted the youth services provided by the SWD and out-reaching service providers. He understood the difficulties in providing out-reaching services. He pointed out that youth problems in new areas should be handled as soon as possible so as to tackle those problems at the root now. He hoped that the SWD and various social welfare organisations could step up education and publicity in the district to prevent the spread of problems. Also, he pointed out that the conflicts sparked by Parkour originated from cultural differences. If stakeholders of the district could gain an understanding of the activity, it could help to promote social inclusion.

- 39.2 Mr CHEUNG Man-fung pointed out that young people often played Parkour during the nighttime as there were fewer people. He pointed out that other areas also faced the same situation. He hoped that young people could have chances to promote that activity under safe conditions so as to give members of the public an understanding of the activity and foster communication between young people and members of the public, thereby reducing conflicts. Also, he hoped the KTDC could work with various youth service providers so as to provide platforms and space for young people, encourage them to turn their hobbies into skills that they could use in the rest of their life and provide a safe and friendly environment for young people to develop their interests. As space was limited in Hong Kong, young people without support might make friends with bad people and consequently become vulnerable to drug trafficking. If the KTDC worked with the SWD, they could prevent young people from turning to youth at risk.
- 39.3 Mr LI Ka-tat opined that the Government did not provide enough venues for young people to carry out activities, resulting in juvenile gang problems and nuisance. He pointed out that the out-reaching teams of the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups had negotiated with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and had reached a consensus on opening indoor venues in Sai Kung for young people to carry out activities. He opined that they could draw reference from that practice and explore the feasibility of opening the LCSD's venues in the district regularly at meetings of the Social Services and Youth Development Committee. Also, he disagreed to adjust the emotions of young people according to mainstream culture. He opined that the SWD should cater for the needs of the youth and help the youth to find a way out so as to change the mainstream concept of seeing academic qualifications as the main pursuing goal.
- 39.4 Mr CHOY Chak-hung reflected that there had been youth drug trafficking activities in new areas recently. He opined that the enforcement actions taken by relevant departments had loosened because of recent social movements. He enquired about the situation of youth drug trafficking in the district.

40. The representative of the SWD responded to Members' enquiries and pointed out that activities for young people provided in the district had been focusing on providing space

and platforms for youth development. For example, the SWD had organised activities near Kwun Tong Promenade, allowing young people to show off their talents to the public. The theme of joint activities organised by the District Social Welfare Office and local youth service units was career planning. It was hoped that the activities could help young people to understand their career preferences and could help young people to explore the feasibility of diversified development. The District Social Welfare Office had been paying much attention to the welfare needs of residents living in new public housing estates. Besides the existing subvented units, there were also various supporting schemes for public housing estates sponsored by various funds providing services to residents living in new public housing estates. The SWD noted Members' concerns over new public housing estates and youth culture and would discuss these matters with Members in future meetings.

41. The representative of the Organisation responded to follow-up enquiries as follows:

41.1 The representative of the Organisation pointed out that there had been many junior secondary students gathering in parks in new areas recently. As summer holiday was around the corner, the Organisation would consider organising activities for young people. The Organisation was carrying out interventions and contacting some service targets at the moment. Also, various social welfare organisations and the SWD had been exploring the feasibility of allocating more resources and fostering inter-organisational cooperation so as to intervene in cases and help young people as soon as possible.

41.2 In regard to the situation that young people were involved in drug-related problems, the representative of the Organisation pointed out that drug dealing and trafficking activities were mainly carried out at private places or on drug-trafficking vehicles. Those activities were seldom carried out at public spaces or public housing estates in the district. The Organisation would continue to pay attention to the situation of young people being involved in drug-related problems in new areas and in Sau Mau Ping at areas near the railway.

42. Members raised follow-up enquiries and views as follows:

42.1 Mr MOK Kin-shing enquired which places and public housing estates suffered relatively serious problems of juvenile gangs in the district,

hoping that he could have a better understanding of the situation and effectively handle the problem of juvenile gangs.

- 42.2 Mr CHEUNG Man-fung hoped that the SWD and the Organisation could help to gather young people so that Members could reflect the views of young people at meetings and provide views and suggestions through the youth council. Also, he hoped to gain an understanding of the needs of young people in the district and the work of the Organisation so that Members could explore the feasibility of working together.
- 42.3 Mr LI Ka-tat mentioned that social workers in Taiwan adopted a hands-on approach and a Post-Modernism method to intervene in cases. Taiwan social workers focused on the values, beliefs and principles of young people, catering for the needs of young people in a better way. However, traditional life planning work in Hong Kong handled youth problems from a competency-based aspect. He opined that social workers in Hong Kong could draw reference from the practice of Taiwan when carrying out life planning work as young people receiving their services were mostly young people with no motivation. Also, he suggested the KTDC help social welfare organisations to launch activities, such as exploring with relevant departments the feasibility of opening venues for young people to carry out activities. Also, he pointed out that directions of youth development could vary. For example, as society had given various labels for young people recently, he suggested the SWD and social welfare organisations learn from the experience of the Opportunities for the Elderly Project and implement delabelling activities.
- 42.4 Mr Raymond TANG pointed out that youth at risk often had smoking and alcohol problems and might undertake illegal activities as they had a greater chance of contacting people from triads. Therefore, he expressed concerns over the health of young people. He enquired how departments and the Organisation would help young people to quit smoking and alcohol.
- 42.5 Mr WAN Ka-him asked the departments and the Organisation about the situation of young people getting involved in drug-related activities in the district. He also enquired about the reasons for young people to be

involved in drug-related activities with an aim to tackling the problem precisely.

43. The representative of the SWD responded to Members' enquiries and pointed out that many young people in the district were from underprivileged groups. Therefore, the District Social Welfare Office encouraged relevant organisations/institutions to apply for various funds, such as the Child Development Fund, so as to provide more support to those young people. Joint activities for the youth and youth service units in the district would focus on the needs of young people in the district and carry out various activities accordingly. If service targets were found to have alcohol and smoking problems by social workers, apart from providing counselling services, social workers would refer the cases to relevant organisations for assistance. In regard to the youth drug trafficking problem, the SWD opined that drug-related problems were complicated and the reasons behind those problems were also closely related.

44. The representative of the Organisation responded to Members' follow-up enquiries as follows:

44.1 The views from public housing estate areas and residents received by the Organisation showed that they were in opposition to gatherings of young people to play Parkour. Members could also provide information to the Organisation so that the Organisation could arrange staff to meet with service targets in the district. The Organisation had discovered from recent out-reaching work that there had been more young people gathering at public places recently. In the past two years, the Organisation and the SWD had been organising activities at Kwun Tong Promenade during the night-time for young people to participate in. During daily out-reaching activities, the Organisation would first gain an understanding of the targets' hobbies and would try to arrange suitable activities for the targets, encouraging the targets to give full play to their talents.

44.2 Also, the representative of the Organisation remarked that the drinking problem was commonly found among working youth. As many young people were unemployed and forced to stay at home due to the epidemic and social conditions, the Organisation would pay more attention to the mental health of young people when carrying out counselling work and would refer serious cases to related professionals. Young people might be involved in drug-related activities for different reasons and their

involvement might not necessarily be related to drug addiction. The Organisation was keeping an eye on the situation of psychiatric drug (e.g. methamphetamine) abuse among young people.

45. Members noted the paper.

IX. Establishment of a Working Group under the SCAC

46. The Chairman suggested establishing a “Working Group on Repairing the Relationship Between the Police and Citizens (“警民關係再出發工作小組” in Chinese)”.

47. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

47.1 Mr LI Ka-tat supported the suggestion. He opined that the working group could invite the Police to assign representatives to meetings to join discussion.

47.2 Mr CHEUNG Man-fung hoped that the working group could invite representatives of the Police to join the working group so that the Police could collect Members’ views and improve the relationship between the Police and citizens.

48. The Chairman noted Members’ views. He suggested that the tenure of the working group should end together with the tenure of the SCAC and the Chairman should be the convenor of the working group.

49. Members endorsed the suggestion.

**X. SCAC Financial Statement for 2020 to 2021
(KTDC SCAC paper No. 8/2020)**

50. The Secretary presented the paper.

51. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

51.1 Mr CHOY Chak-hung enquired about the funding amount of the SCAC. In regard to the preparation and promotion work on activities related to a

clean Legislative Council election, as well as a clean election of outstanding disciplined services staff in Kuwn Tong District, he suggested the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) and the SCAC share the work and consider how to implement those activities.

51.2 Mr Eason CHAN believed that he expected that there would be a political reform in Hong Kong in the future. He hoped that the FAC could carry out more discussion about that matter in the community and carry out more studies on the future development of Hong Kong's political system so that members of the public could gain an understanding of the spiritual values and operation of political affairs. Also, he suggested establishing a working group at the next SCAC's meeting to collect and handle residents' complaints against disciplined services staff.

52. The Secretary responded that as at the start of the meeting, the funding amount for 2020/21 was \$46,710.

53. The Chairman noted Members' views. He remarked that the funding arrangement for the SCAC would be discussed at the FAC's meeting on 2 June. He also pointed out the importance of community involvement. He would consider establishing relevant working groups as and when necessary.

54. Members endorsed the paper.

XI. Any Other Business

55. Mr Kevin SO pointed out that Kwun Tong Police District and Sau Mau Ping Police District would submit quarterly reports on crime statistics to the Fight Crime Committee under the Home Affairs Department, and the Fire Services Department would also submit analysis and statistics on trends in fires in the district. He hoped that the SCAC could write to relevant departments and request departments to submit papers to the SCAC and arrange representatives to meetings to facilitate discussion.

56. District Officer (Kwun Tong) (DO) responded that he could reflect Members' views to relevant departments.

57. The Chairman hoped that the Police could assign representatives to the SCAC's meetings and submit papers. He opined that that could foster the relationship between the SCAC and departments.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat wrote to the Police on 11 June to reflect Members' views.)

Extempore Motion

58. The Chairman remarked that he had received an extempore motion proposed by Mr HUNG Chun-hin and Mr Raymond TANG and seconded by Mr Anthony BUX, Mr Chris CHAN, Mr CHAN Man-kin, Mr Eason CHAN, Mr CHENG Keng-ieong, Mr CHEUNG Man-fung, Mr CHOY Chak-hung, Mr FUNG Ka-lung, Mr IP Tsz-kit, Mr KUNG Chun-ki, Ms LAI Po-kwai, Mr LEE Kwan-chak, Ms Rosalynne LEUNG, Ms Edith LEUNG, Mr LI Ka-tat, Mr William LI, Ms LI Wing-shan, Mr MOK Kin-shing, Mrs Winnie POON, Mr Kevin SO, Ms TSE Suk-chun, Mr WAN Ka-him, Mr WANG Wai-lun, Mr WONG Chi-ken, Ms WONG Ka-ying and Mr WONG Kai-ming. The extempore motion was about the opposition to the implementation of the National Security Law in Hong Kong.

59. Mr Raymond TANG presented the extempore motion.

60. DO remarked that the content of the extempore motion was not related to district affairs and reminded the Chairman that he should act in compliance with the District Councils Ordinance and the terms of reference of the SCAC. The terms of reference of the SCAC did not include national security affairs, which were mentioned in the extempore motion. Therefore, he requested the Chairman to refuse to handle the extempore motion. If the Chairman decided to continue to handle the extempore motion, staff of the KTDO would neither be able to participate in the discussion and nor provide secretarial services.

61. The Chairman remarked that the extempore motion had been raised by two Members and seconded by 26 Members. Therefore, he decided to handle the extempore motion.

(DO, the representative of the KTDO and staff of the Secretariat left the meeting.)

XII. Date of Next Meeting

62. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 4 August 2020 (Tuesday).

63. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 1 September 2019.

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat
September 2020