

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 16th Meeting of the
6th Term Kwun Tong District Council (Full Council)**

Date: 3 May 2022 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:35 p.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 OR Chong-shing Wilson, MH (Chairman)	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr LUI Tung-hai, MH (Vice-chairman)	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr CHAN Yiu-hung Jimmy, MH	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Ms FU Pik-chun, MH	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr HSU Yau-wai	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr KAN Ming-tung, MH	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Ms LAI Po-kwai	9:34 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr LAM Wai	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr LEUNG Tang-fung	9:32 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr NGAN Man-yu	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr PANG Chi-sang	9:32 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr SO Koon-chung Kevin	9:44 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr TAM Siu-cheuk	9:50 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Ms TSE Suk-chun	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mrs POON YAM Wai-chun Winnie, BBS, MH	9:30 a.m.	12:35 p.m.

In attendance

Mr TSE Ling-chun, Steve, JP	District Officer (Kwun Tong)
Miss SUM Sze-wing, Cherry	Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)2
Ms CHIN Tsang-lo, Jennifer	District Commander (Kwun Tong), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms TSE Tsui-yan	District Commander (Sau Mau Ping), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms WONG So-fan	Police Community Relations Officer, Kwun Tong District, Hong Kong Police Force

Mr TAM Man-hoi, Jack	Police Community Relations Officer, Sau Mau Ping District, Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LAM Sai-wing, Sam	Chief Engineer/East 2, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr LIU Kin-wai, Rick	Chief Transport Officer/Kowloon 2, Transport Department
Mr YIM Ka-ho	Chief Manager/Management (Kowloon East), Housing Department
Mr PAU Chung-on	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwun Tong), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr SO Yeung-fung	Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing and Pest Control) Kwun Tong 2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Miss KOO Kwok-lai, Rebecca	District Social Welfare Officer (Kwun Tong), Social Welfare Department
Ms CHEUNG Wai-ying, Olivia	Chief Leisure Manager (Kowloon), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms TANG Wing-sze, Maria	District Leisure Manager (Kwun Tong), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Miss IP Wai-ming, Phoebe	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Kwun Tong District Office
Ms WONG Yuet-ngo, Joey	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr CHAN Hoi-ming, Peter	Senior Liaison Officer (3), Kwun Tong District Office
Miss CHOW Tak-sum, Amy	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr CHAN Long-hin, Ivans	Executive Officer I (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office

Secretary

Mr CHOW Lap-kan, Douglas	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office
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Attendance by Invitation

Miss WONG Tin-yu, Agnes, JP	Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)/Director of Housing	Item II
Ms LAM Yuk-ching, Connie	Head (Central Support Unit), Housing Department	
Mr CHAN Hak-keung	Senior Engineer/Mainland South 4, Drainage Services Department	Item III
Ms LEE Ching-man	Senior Engineer/Climate Change, Drainage Services Department	
Miss POON Nga-man, Amy	Engineer/Kowloon 6, Drainage Services Department	

The Chairman welcomed all the Members and government representatives to the 16th meeting of the Full Council (“FC”) under the 6th Term Kwun Tong District Council (“KTDC”).

Item I – Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

- Members raised no other comments. The minutes of the 15th meeting were confirmed.

Item II – Meeting with the Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing) / Director of Housing

3. The Chairman welcomed the following officers to the meeting with Members to exchange views on and discuss work related to housing matters: Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)/Director of Housing (“PS/T&H(H)/D of H”), Head (Central Support Unit) of the Housing Department (“HD”) and Chief Manager/Management (Kowloon East) of HD (“CM/M(KE)/HD”).

4. PS/T&H(H)/D of H introduced the Government’s major activities in respect of housing matters, including the following work priorities: the 10-year housing demand and supply target under the Long Term Housing Strategy, process and challenges of public housing development, planning and construction of public housing and related ancillary facilities, transitional housing, redevelopment of individual aged public housing estates, public housing estate management, and restriction-testing declaration operations conducted at public housing estates amid COVID-19.

- Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

5.1 Ms TSE Suk-chun (i) suggested relaunching the Tenants Purchase Scheme (“TPS”) so that residents could buy their own flats; (ii) hoped that the construction of public housing could be expedited in order to reach the target of allocating public housing units to applicants within three years so that people waiting for public housing could be allocated with public housing units as soon as possible; (iii) suggested combining the management work of Ko Cheung Court, Yau Tong by engaging one management company only. She said that Ko Cheung Court had all along been managed by two management companies, and each of them was respectively designated for property management and leasing management. In terms of actual operation, the two management companies often had conflicts due to follow-up work of the housing estate. She suggested combining the management work of Ko Cheung Court after the expiry of the contracts of the management companies and engaging only one company for management to avoid inconvenience and raise the service quality; (iv) the Government had all along been promoting environmental protection and encouraging the public to use electric vehicles (“EVs”). However, chargers at car parks could not meet the demand. For instance, there was only one 13A charger for EVs at the car park of Ko Cheung Court, and the effectiveness of that charger could not satisfy residents’ aspirations. She hoped that HD would provide quick chargers at car parks under its purview; (v) concerning the shortage of parking spaces at Lei Yue Mun Estate Car Park, she pointed out that the Hongkong Post currently occupied 51 private car parking spaces to serve as a distribution centre and 16 light goods vehicle parking spaces and two private car parking spaces were given to the Speedpost Operations Centre to use. Yet, there was a serious shortage of parking spaces at Yau Tong and therefore she hoped that the Hongkong Post could free some of the parking spaces for public use; (vi) suggested holding a ballot for allocation of light goods vehicle and private car vehicle parking spaces at the same time. She said that both types of parking spaces had been allocated by one ballot at the same time, but the practice had changed recently and the ballot for allocation of private car parking spaces was held before that for allocation of light goods vehicles was held. She had earlier enquired of HD about the matter. HD had remarked that the above arrangement had been implemented at the request of the Lands Department (“LandsD”). After that, she had asked LandsD about that and got the reply that the venue had been handed over to HD for management. She believed that the current arrangement made it difficult for light goods vehicles to be successfully drawn and be able to rent parking spaces; (vii) was concerned about the parking space problem with the rehabuses of the Yau Lai Day Care Centre for the Elderly at Yau Lai Estate. The Social Welfare Department (“SWD”) allowed an organisation to provide the day care centre at Yung Lai House, Yau Lai Estate, and had arranged two rehabuses for the organisation. The rehabuses were light goods vehicles registered in the name of a company. Therefore,

they could not be regarded as vehicles carrying people with disabilities. As a result, HD had handled the organisation as an ordinary tenant in the ballot for allocation of parking spaces. Although that organisation had been successfully drawn for one of its rehabuses and allowed to rent one parking space, the organisation had not been successfully drawn for the other rehabus, which could only be parked at another open car park at Kwun Tong District. Staff of that organisation had to drive the rehabus back to the day care centre from Kwun Tong in the morning, which was very inconvenient. Thus, she hoped that HD could give two fixed parking spaces to that organisation; (viii) reflected the mosquito and rodent infestation problems at public housing estates; and (ix) hoped that transport services could resume normal operation as the epidemic subsided. She suggested enhancing frequencies of bus and minibus routes, especially that of minibus route no. 76B, which plied to United Christian Hospital.

- 5.2 Mr NGAN Man-yu stated that the number of parking spaces at Kowloon East was insufficient. He had communicated with the Transport Department (“TD”) and LandsD for provision of more parking spaces during intakes of residents of new public housing estates. He thought that such a method could not solve the problem of accumulation of cases waiting for allocation of parking spaces in public housing estates of Kowloon East. At present, there were more than ten or even more than a hundred applications waiting for allocation of parking spaces in each public housing estate. Up till then, no feasible ways for handling the matter had been given by HD. Therefore, he had three suggestions which he hoped PS/T&H(H)/D of H would discuss with the department: (i) adopting a floating parking space system: he said that HD had the above system and standards in place, but it had not handled the matter according to the standards concerned the previous several years. He opined that a floating parking space system could change parking spaces between hourly and monthly rental parking spaces more flexibly. For example, when there was a large number of monthly rental parking spaces left vacant in the daytime, they could be used as hourly rental parking spaces; and when there was a large number of hourly rental parking spaces left vacant in the nighttime, they could be used as monthly rental parking spaces; (ii) suggested providing an overnight parking system. He suggested making good use of loading/unloading areas of public housing estates and allowing “business vehicles” that went out early and came back late to be parked at those hourly rental parking spaces left vacant at night; and (iii) suggested HD draw reference from SWD’s practice, which was purchasing parking spaces from private car parks nearby and subsequently renting the parking spaces to vehicle owners of public housing estates, thereby solving the serious parking space shortage problem of public housing estates.

- 5.3 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk reflected that during the epidemic, there had been delays in HD's regular works and services. For instance, management offices had remained closed most of the time, causing difficulties to elderly people when they had sought help. The Total Maintenance Scheme of HD had currently been delayed for three months to half a year for epidemic prevention reasons, resulting in damage in some of the facilities, such as window frames. That might cause accidents. He opined that even during the epidemic, works and maintenance work could not be excessively delayed. Otherwise, residents' safety and life quality would be affected. He hoped that HD would maintain regular services to minimise the impacts; and (ii) was concerned about cleaning workers and security guards of public housing estate management companies. These people, who could not work from home and had relatively low incomes, were responsible for the cleaning work for buildings where positive cases were found. He was aware that the turnover rate of frontline staff was high. He hoped that HD could pay attention and give appreciation to them.
- 5.4 Mr HSU Yau-wai (i) commended CM/M(KE)/HD and his team for conducting quarantine work in person in the district during the epidemic; (ii) reflected that the problem of throwing objects from height often appeared at public housing estates. He said that HD had only installed two falling object video-recorders in each public housing estate. There were 11 blocks in total in On Tat Estate, and two video-recorders were not enough. Thus, he suggested providing additional video-recorders. He also hoped that HD would consider introducing high technology systems, such as mobile monitoring systems that would give alerts when detecting throwing objects from height, so as to raise the law enforcement efficiency; (iii) regarding the problem with the enforcement of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G), he asked which department should be held responsible for law enforcement and whether HD was empowered to enforce the law when irregularities, such as when residents were found wearing no masks or smoking, were found within public housing estates; and (iv) as regards situations of elderly singletons, he hoped that HD would consider installing home monitoring systems in new public housing estates to monitor situations of elderly singletons to avoid the situation that an elderly singleton passed away with no one knowing it.
- 5.5 The Vice-chairman (i) pointed out that according to a paper of the Hong Kong Housing Society, the redevelopment of Cha Kwo Ling Squatter Area, which had started two years ago, could not be completed until 2029 to 2030. He thought that it took too long to complete the project. He hoped that HD could compress the related procedures, such as registration, allocation of public housing units and demolition for redevelopment; (ii) in regard to the Yau Tong Bay Development Project, it had been

put forward as early as in the 90's of the previous century. It had later been suspended halfway through its implementation and shelved for nearly 20 years since then. He understood that the above situation might be caused by problems such as the private developer's own considerations or the Government's procedures, but the housing supply was intense presently and therefore the Government should think of ways to speed up the development concerned; (iii) regarding the public housing estate management problem, HD at present engaged contractors chosen by way of "awarding contracts to the lowest bidders", leading to the result that workers recruited were relatively old with comparatively low working ability. During these two to three years of epidemic, the public had become more demanding on services. However, the relevant staff's ability could not catch up with the demand, resulting in many complaints from the public. Yet, contractors could not sack workers easily, or else it would be difficult to maintain sufficient manpower. He hoped that HD would review the system for choosing contractors and see if the way of "awarding contracts to the lowest bidders" should be kept; and (iv) was concerned about the water dripping problem of air-conditioners. He had heard from residents that the water dripping problem of air-conditioners had continued for a year and still remained unsolved, and elderly singletons or families with weakened capabilities could not deal with the problem. He asked if HD had a relevant policy to help people in need.

- 5.6 Mr KAN Ming-tung (i) was concerned about the two blocks at Lam Tin under construction. The construction site was situated at the centre of Lam Tin with many residential buildings nearby. He understood that the Government should identify sites to address the housing needs, but he hoped that HD could pay attention to existing residents' living environment and facilities reduced at the same time so that the works concerned could add value to facilities in the vicinity and minimise nuisance caused to existing residents; (ii) concerning the explanation about expedition of housing construction given by PS/T&H(H)/D of H just then, he believed that it was easier to handle such matters in new buildings or new sites. However, to existing residents, construction works affected them substantially. The Government should pay attention; (iii) regarding the problem of insufficient space of car parks, there had been no car parks for private cars at Lam Tin Estate. After the intake of residents, since there had been not enough space in car parks of public housing estates nearby, the illegal parking problem had emerged. He hoped that car parks of new public housing estates could take care of other public housing estates that lacked parking spaces, such as Lam Tin Estate; (iv) believed that hourly rental parking spaces should be maintained because there were usually long queues at car parks when the public went to public housing estates to visit their families during special festivals. He hoped that HD could formulate a more comprehensive and long-term plan for the above situation; (v)

thought that the promotion of EVs was the Government's major policy instead of only an issue that HD was held responsible for. He had noticed that Grade A office buildings in commercial areas were now equipped with EV parking spaces with chargers with specifications of at least medium chargers or above. He asked HD if there were similar arrangements for car parks of new public housing estates constructed since longer space for charging had to be reserved for an EV parking space. Besides, the voltage requirement was also a concern. He hoped that HD could tie in with the Government's plan of promoting EVs when constructing new buildings; and (vi) in regard to the public housing estate management problem, he was aware that the work-from-home arrangement implemented when the epidemic had been severe had delayed the maintenance works. At that time, enquiry calls had been answered by security guards, but the security guards could not answer the enquiries on behalf of the management companies and HD. Problems reflected by the public to HD had been left unattended, which had substantially reduced the overall service quality of HD. He pointed out that many facilities of public housing were worn out and required replacement. However, the Total Maintenance Scheme had been suspended on the contrary, worsening the dilapidation situation of facilities such as pipes. He hoped that PS/T&H(H)/D of H could tackle the problem with her staff.

6. The response given by PS/T&H(H)/D of H regarding Members' enquiries and views was as follows:

6.1 Maintenance Work for Public Housing Estates: during the epidemic, since HD had to deploy manpower to take part in anti-epidemic work while many staff members had been infected, the daily work of public housing estate management had been unavoidably affected. Although the Total Maintenance Scheme had been suspended due to the epidemic, emergency maintenance work had not been suspended. Regarding the Total Maintenance Scheme, officers of HD had to enter residents' flats for examination. However, during the epidemic, many residents had been unwilling to allow officers of HD to enter their flats. Following the easing of the epidemic situation, the services concerned would resume normal operation as soon as possible.

6.2 Problems with Chargers for EVs: in newly constructed public housing estates, 30% of the parking spaces were equipped with medium chargers for EVs while the other 70% were equipped with basic charging facilities for EVs which made it possible to install chargers for EVs anytime. Since new generations of chargers were rolled out one after another rapidly, if all the private car parking spaces used the same type of chargers, the chargers would easily become outdated. HD had also observed that the present utilisation rate of chargers for EVs at car parks was relatively low. Concerning

existing public housing estates, particularly those old public housing estates, HD was actively reviewing the situation at present. It would first assess whether the power supply installations could support chargers. HD would improve the basic power supply installations when the need arose. When a comprehensive plan was available, the department would submit it to the Hong Kong Housing Authority (“HA”) for discussion.

- 6.3 Frontline Staff of Public Housing Estate Management: HD held a recognition ceremony for frontline staff annually. This year’s recognition ceremony was under preparation presently. When inviting tenders from cleaning and security companies, apart from prices, HD would also consider their remuneration packages for their frontline staff. The weighting of the marks concerned had already been raised. HD understood that there were comparatively few young frontline staff and hoped that more young staff would join in the future.
- 6.4 Shortage Problem of Parking Spaces: HD would provide parking spaces according to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and requirements of TD. Regarding the supply of parking spaces at old public housing estates, HD would actively consider Members’ suggestions. Yet, purchasing parking spaces from private housing estates would involve certain difficulties since private parking spaces could be fairly expensive.
- 6.5 Redevelopment of Cha Kwo Ling Squatter Area: redevelopment processes usually took a long time. The hardest part was not constructing buildings but how to rehouse people affected. It took time for the Government to conduct the preliminary work, including identifying suitable places to rehouse people affected.
- 6.6 Concern over Elderly Singletons: at present, after conducting restriction-testing declaration operations, HD’s staff would phone elderly singletons to see if they had any special needs. Although many of them were service recipients of SWD, HD would provide relevant services to take care of the elderly in HD’s daily work as far as possible.
- 6.7 Enforcement of Cap. 599G of the Law: there were different prevention and control of disease regulations at present, including measures of wearing masks and maintaining social distancing. Among the regulations, some of them empowered HD to enforce the law. HD’s staff would first give advice or warning regarding situations involving irregularities before issuing penalty tickets.

7. The supplementary response given by CM/M(KE)/HD regarding Members' enquiries and views are as follows:

- 7.1 Matters about Contracts of Management Companies of Ko Cheung Court: the two existing management companies of Ko Cheung Court were responsible for dealing with daily matters of the housing estate, including follow-up work for rental units and public places. There was room for improvement in respect of coordination or communication. As for whether the two companies would be merged, the Contracts Unit of HD would conduct further discussion. To solve the existing problem, HD would definitely enhance the monitoring over the communication between the two companies and their follow-up work. In the long run, HD did not exclude the possibility of combing their contracts in the hope of bringing positive impacts to HA and residents.
- 7.2 Rodent and Mosquito Infestation Problems: in the past few months, although HD had been busy with restriction-testing declaration operations, rodent and mosquito control work had not stopped. When the epidemic had slightly subsided, HD had conducted the work concerned even more intensely. Concerning anti-rodent work, HD had anti-rodent meetings with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD"). HD was responsible for supervisory work and giving strategic directions. As for the frontline area, HD adopted a multi-pronged approach to conduct anti-rodent work. HD had held many joint operations in the past, such as collaboration with FEHD, which had provided professional advice. Moreover, in respect of education, HD would also conduct related publicity to residents. HD would continue to conduct publicity and education work in the future and hoped that residents could also cooperate.
- 7.3 Total Maintenance Scheme: if residents had opinions about facilities of their flats, or were worried that the facilities were damaged, they might go to estate offices to seek help. Even though the Total Maintenance Scheme had been suspended due to the epidemic, maintenance services would not stop just like that. If residents had any needs, HD's staff would make appointments with residents for maintenance work. He called on Members to share the above message with residents and ask residents not to worry.
- 7.4 Arrangements for Parking Spaces: the ballot arrangements for parking spaces of public housing estates had operated for many years. Regarding the problem about Ko Cheung Court mentioned just then, the problem had arisen because of limits imposed by the land lease, and HD could not go beyond the requirements of the limits

imposed by the land lease. The arrangements for the numbers of parking spaces, as well as the queueing details for various vehicle types, had to be dealt with according to the land lease. HD would discuss in detail with Members individual parking needs of Ko Cheung Court and the day care elderly centre after the meeting and discuss with the organisation concerned and Members how to improve the relevant situation.

8. The supplementary response given by PS/T&H(H)/D of H regarding Members' enquiries and views are as follows:

8.1 Expedition of Housing Construction: she understood that society hoped that the housing supply could be expedited and therefore HA would spare no efforts no matter in streamlining the procedure of housing construction or making use of resources of the private market.

8.2 Relaunching TPS: the model of "combining renting and purchasing a flat" had given rise to quite a number of management problems. At present, there were 39 TPS housing estates. HD had always hoped to sell the flats as many as possible. Around 800 TPS flats had been rolled out under the Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme earlier on and the sales had been satisfactory. People waiting for public rental housing could consider buying flats within those 39 TPS estates through the "green form" eligibility if they intended to buy TPS flats. As for relaunching TPS, this should be handled carefully because recovered units were important resources for the public rental housing supply. Presently, the average annual net number of recovered units was around 8 000 and they could be allocated to people waiting for public rental housing.

9. The supplementary response given by CM/M(KE)/HD regarding Members' enquiries and views are as follows:

9.1 Falling Object Monitoring Systems: HD had provided falling object monitoring systems in many public housing estates to address the problem of throwing objects from height. Apart from allocating more resources to the systems, HD would also enhance publicity and education in public housing estates. In respect of new technology, HD had adopted real-time systems. When throwing objects from height occurred at certain locations, the video-recorders would be activated to capture the situations of throwing objects. Although not every public housing estate or building could be equipped with that kind of advanced systems at present, HD would review the situations of various areas and make use of resources flexibly. It would also

purchase additional equipment according to the situations, or even reuse the equipment in different public housing estates. On the other hand, HD would purchase and provide falling object monitoring systems as far as possible. Yet, it was very difficult to provide monitoring systems in every public housing estate since different building orientation and needs were involved. Nevertheless, HD was willing to hear different views and communicate, and make purchases and allocate resources to handle the problem of throwing objects from height regarding individual locations or black spots.

9.2 Concern over Elderly Singletons: HD had already adopted new arrangements. It would pay special attention to situations of the elderly when conducting restriction-testing declaration operations and contact them after the operations to follow up on their needs. Besides, HD had recruited short-term staff to be responsible for the work of liaising with public housing estates. One of the duties was to care about the elderly, with the aim of taking care of and keeping in touch with the elderly.

9.3 Water Dripping Problem of Air-conditioners: HD had a demerit point system against water dripping at present. Firstly, HD had always been conducting publicity and education to residents continuously. In addition, since water dripping of air-conditioners was one of the items of the demerit point system, HD would deploy frontline staff to a complained location to appraise the situation and conduct home follow-up work in a “giving advice first” approach. He said that many residents in public housing estates did not create water dripping situations intentionally. The problem might have just arisen from occasional blockage of pipes and could be solved after repair. As for cases that required long-term follow-up actions, HD would deploy staff of various ranks to contact the tenants to make them understand the nuisance and problems caused by the situations concerned. The demerit point system would be used as and when necessary.

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

10.1 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong agreed very much to the “result-oriented” policy concept of the candidate for the office of the Chief Executive, Mr John LEE Ka-chiu. He believed that Hong Kong had been wasting time in the past. He took Sau Mau Ping Estate as an example. He said that as a public housing estate under the management of Link Asset Management Limited (“Link”), the bridge at the slope outside Sau Wai House and Sau Yue House could not be connected to the shopping centre and no lift could be provided there despite the fact that residents had been striving for such facilities more than a decade. He had contacted different government departments. HD had been unwilling to provide the facility concerned earlier on. Besides, when

the Civil and Engineering Development Department (“CEDD”) had to construct pedestrian linkage facilities for development of Anderson Area, he had raised the suggestion of providing a lift at that location, but CEDD had also been unwilling to do so. Later, when the improved “Universal Accessibility (“UA”) Programme” of the Highways Department (“HyD”) had been introduced, bridges of places involving private ownership in public housing estates could also be provided with lifts. Yet, when he had invited HyD to go to the above location for a site visit, HyD had responded that improvement works at slope areas required discussion with TD since TD had the Hillside Escalator Links Project. Nonetheless, TD had responded that that location was a public housing estate area and HD should be held responsible for it. In recent years, HD had on the other hand responded that consent from another land owner, Link, had to be obtained before the works could be conducted. Link had responded verbally that it had never opposed the project. In the end, a preliminary study jointly funded by HD and Link and lasting for more than three years had been conducted. The study had stated in 2020 that the works were technically feasible. However, since the project had to be further studied, it had not been implemented yet. The two studies had cost more than \$1 million, but there were still no confirmed plans. He said that if HD continued to adopt such a working attitude, the department would be unable to catch up with the policy concept of the prospective Chief Executive. He understood that there were difficulties for public housing estates involving Link to have large-scale works, but it was not unsolvable. The UA Programme mentioned just then was a policy of the Transport and Housing Bureau and had not covered public housing estates in the beginning. Later, the improved version had covered public housing estates involving private ownership. He hoped that PS/T&H(H)/D of H could roll out under HD a programme similar to the improved UA Programme to handle works involving private ownership.

- 10.2 Ms FU Pik-chun (i) was concerned about the increasingly serious nuisance caused by feral pigeons to residents. She said that since many people fed feral pigeons, that resulted in large-scale breeding of feral pigeons. HD should step up law enforcement; (ii) commended CM/M(KE)/HD and his team for solving the problem with the width of the cover of the small bridge at Shun Chi Court for the sake of residents. She pointed out that the width of the cover of the small bridge at Shun Chi Court was two-thirds of that of the bridge itself. The cover could not perform the function of a shelter during typhoons and rain. She, who had served Sze Shun Area for 20 years, had all along been reflecting the problem to managers of HD, but all the responses given had been widening the cover was not structurally safe due to the loading problem. She especially commended the incumbent Senior Property Service Manager/Kowloon East of HD, Miss SZETO Hau-yan, who had raised the idea of enhancing the sheltering

function at the two sides of the cover with canvas. She appreciated HD's staff for carefully dealing with problems and believed that there was always a way out for any difficulty; and (iii) said that under HyD's improved UA Programme, the small bridge at Shun Chi Court would be retrofitted with a lift in the future. It was one of the footbridges benefited by the programme. One of the sides of that bridge was a location under HD's management and was equipped with a ramp, but there had been no similar works at the side towards Shun Chi Court. She had recently been there with HD's staff for a site visit. Users of that bridge included residents of Shun Lee Estate and Shun Chi Court, two secondary schools nearby, Shun Lee Estate Community Centre and non-governmental organisations nearby. She asked if HD could "remove red tape to bring convenience" procedure-wise instead of only rigidly seeing if the location fell within the boundary of Shun Chi Court. She hoped that HD could handle facilities benefiting residents all together so that residents could truly enjoy the use of the facilities and problems could be solved.

- 10.3 Mr Jimmy CHAN (i) agreed to speed up the construction of public housing, but he reminded that the demand for the quality of public housing should also be given attention. He had observed that the appearances and facilities of public housing constructed in recent years had been drastically enhanced compared to those old public housing estates, but the quality was still unstable. He took Sau Mau Ping South Estate as an example. Since its intake of residents in 2009, more than a decade had passed. Although it had been given an environmental protection award, the estate had lacked maintenance and repair for its environmental protection facilities in the past, especially for waterproof gaskets at windows. The gaskets had been coming off continuously after it had been installed for four or five years. What was worse was when the gaskets came off and dropped on the floors paved with red tiles, it was difficult to clean the stains concerned. He thought that HD should rate contractors according to the quality of their works when HD constructed public housing in the future. For instance, in tendering procedures, contractors should be required to guarantee their works would be up to certain standards; (ii) enquired whether new public housing estates would accord importance to environmental protection facilities. Apart from Sau Mau Ping South Estate, he had not noticed any environmental protection concepts adopted in other new public housing estates. He hoped that HD could expand the use of elements of environmental protection when constructing public housing estates in order to strengthen people's sense of environmental protection; and (iii) was concerned about the problem of parking spaces at Sau Mau Ping South Estate. There were no parking spaces at Sau Mau Ping South Estate at present. The estate had to rely on allocation of parking spaces from the surrounding public housing estates. Yet, the other public housing estates usually did not have

sufficient parking spaces to be allocated to their own residents and therefore residents of Sau Mau Ping South Estate had not been allocated with any parking spaces at all. He enquired if HD would consider studying provision of temporary parking spaces at Sau Mau Ping South Estate and stressed that temporary parking spaces were very important to public housing estates.

- 10.4 Mr LAM Wai (i) was happy to see that HD intended to develop different modes of parking spaces jointly with TD and LandsD. He pointed out that although Anderson Development Area had won an architectural award recently, he thought that HD had to be more humane in respect of designs. Regarding parking spaces, there had been wide related news coverage in the past, and he had been communicating with officers of TD and LandsD all the way. According to the data he had acquired, the 260 parking spaces of the temporary car park had all been full while over 100 vehicles were waiting for parking spaces at On Tai Estate. This showed that regulations of allocation of parking spaces had not been updated with the times over the years. He continued to say that Mr NGAN Man-yu had just mentioned that he had noticed that there were many vacant parking spaces in Sze Shun Area or public housing estates nearby, asking if “red tape could be removed to bring convenience” regarding the allocation regulations. The Government had all along been emphasising development of smart car parks. He said that ceilings of new public housing estates such as On Tai Estate were high enough. He hoped that HD could actively consider providing a smart car park at that public housing estate; (ii) concerning hygiene, in the past, many staff members of cleaning companies had been absent from work after they had been tested positive during the epidemic. Due to insufficient manpower, cleaning companies could not conduct regular cleaning and disinfecting work promptly. He opined that HD should take the initiative to discuss deployment of manpower for provision of services with cleaning companies to flexibly handle environmental hygiene problems in public housing estates to avoid delaying cleaning work of the estates for two months or having insufficient manpower to conduct the cleaning work. He believed that the situation concerned was unsatisfactory, and particular attention should be given to cleaning and disinfection during the epidemic. At present, the Government outsourced some of the public housing estate management work, such as the management of shopping centres and markets. He thought that the Government could deal with quite a number of problems as long as it was willing to spend money. He hoped that HD, as the major land owner, could flexibly deploy manpower, particularly when handling emergencies or major incidents, so as to do a better job of conducting regular cleaning and managing the environment; and (iii) as regards falling object monitoring systems, he understood that a high cost would be involved. Yet, with well-developed technology nowadays, he doubted if it would be enough for each

public housing estate to have only one or two video-recorders. He remarked that it would be acceptable if there were six video-recorders for 11 blocks and the locations were changed regularly. He hoped that HD could take KTDC's opinions and allocate more resources to tackle the problems from various aspects such as education and prosecution.

10.5 Mrs Winnie POON, as a district councilor responsible for a private housing estate, she opined that the Government had not evenly allocated resources to middle-class residents, making people feel that allocation of resources was “lopsided” to public housing residents. Residents of private housing estates often reflected to her that resources of private buildings were worse than those of public housing estates. She opined that it was not feasible for the Government to purchase parking spaces from private buildings for public housing residents to use. She took her housing estate as an example, saying that people had to wait for six to seven years for allocation of parking spaces. She stressed that the Government had to consider how to take care of needs of different sectors in the housing policy and evenly allocate land resources. She said that the public housing population in Kwun Tong District was fairly high. She hoped that the Government could be more far-sighted regarding how to allocate resources such as local medical and ancillary transport facilities. In various districts all over Hong Kong, the Government should consider providing more private housing in places with more public housing, and constructing more public housing in places without any public housing. She hoped that the Government would take private buildings into consideration instead of only focusing on public housing in the overall housing policy.

10.6 Mr Kevin SO (i) related that during the epidemic, HD's staff had worked from home for a period of time and instructed frontline contract staff over the phone to deal with problems of public housing estates. There were three pillars for public housing estate management, namely security, cleaning, and maintenance and repair workers. Yet, quite a number of workers had been infected during the epidemic, resulting in a manpower shortage problem. CM/M(KE)/HD had mentioned just then that residents could still go to estate offices to report emergency repair items for the moment under the Total Maintenance Scheme. However, during unusual times, various frontline departments also lacked manpower. Residents were unable to contact officers-in-charge after making reports and their reports could only be recorded by security guards and handed over to the repair department for further actions. As far as he knew, HD did not provide much support for its frontline staff. He opined that the use of the recognition ceremony was insignificant and suggested HD provide infection subsidies to frontline staff if they were infected due to work;

(ii) concerning outsourcing contracts, under cleaning and security contracts, a “non-skilled worker” would have a contract gratuity of 6%, but a supervisor under the same contract was regarded as a “skilled worker” and no contract gratuity was given. The Government had not made any amendment after a report in 2019 had revealed the situation concerned. He hoped that HD would conduct study amending the relevant contracts as soon as possible so that all workers under such contracts could have contract gratuities; and (iii) thanked HD’s staff of the estate office of Lok Wah South Estate for providing their private phone numbers for easy contact during the epidemic.

10.7 Mr LEUNG Tang-fung quoted “no innovation and technology, no future” from the election manifesto of the candidate for the office of the Chief Executive, Mr John LEE Ka-chiu. He said that the whole world was focusing on development of innovation and technology. In respect of security management, he suggested HD consider providing smart door cards. At present, HD had equipped every block of public housing estates with multiple layers of security measures, namely password locks, security guards, closed-circuit televisions and metal gates at doors of tenants’ flats. However, burglaries still often happened at units of public housing estates. Residents had reflected that advertisement leaflets were placed at doors of flats, such as those about illicit cigarettes or public entertainment information. According to figures provided by the police, burglaries of public housing estates had accounted for over 10% of cases all over Hong Kong. If the security of the main doors only relied on security guards and password locks, residents of public housing estates would have verbal conflicts with security guards easily. He suggested HD consider providing smart door cards, hoping that the security management could be enhanced by such a way, improving the security facilities.

10.8 Mr PANG Chi-sang (i) was concerned about the problem with arrangements of vehicles of social welfare organisations. At present, due to the “integration” design, many public housing estates were designed to include lower floors that were planned to serve as day care centres of social welfare organisations. Originally, such an organisation was given a parking space, but this type of organisations would have other vehicles that went to other public housing estates to pick up service users because they did not only serve residents in the respective estates of the centres. This made them need more than one parking space, and extra vehicles had to be parked at other areas. He believed that the above situation did not only trouble Yau Tong. It was also not possible for HD to allocate too many parking spaces to social welfare organisations. Otherwise, other residents would be affected. He hoped that HD could be far-sighted enough to solve the parking space shortage problem when other new public housing estates were completed in the future. He also said that HD should have kept figures

related to the shortfall of parking spaces for social welfare organisations; and (ii) regarding the problem with maintenance of Yau Lai Estate, he had all along been following up on that with HD. During the epidemic, there had been delay in the daily repair progress since HD's staff had to take part in anti-epidemic work. Yet, he knew that HD had used various ways to tackle such a problem. Further to the issue mentioned by Mr Jimmy CHAN, he said that there had been no problem in the beginning for many newly constructed public housing estates. However, for example, some of the buildings of Yau Lai Estate were aged 16 only, but the stains on the floors already looked like those at old public housing estates. He opined that HD should take its work a little further in terms of material choice and maintenance so that residents could have a better living environment.

11. The response given by PS/T&H(H)/D of H regarding Members' follow-up enquiries and views was as follows:

- 11.1 Building Quality: while expediting housing construction, HD had also been keeping up the quality and safety of buildings. If a contractor was found to have any problem, HD would reflect that accordingly in the tender marking scheme.
- 11.2 Environmental Protection Concept of Housing: HD had always accorded importance to environmental protection. For instance, there was a zero irrigation system at On Tai Estate that made use of rainwater collected to irrigate plants of the estate. Natural light was also made use of to minimise use of general illumination equipment as far as possible.
- 11.3 Provision of Facilities such as Lifts: the problem concerned involved different stakeholders. HD had to deal with it from various aspects, including land ownership, maintenance and repair. HD would serve the best interests of residents and enhance liaison and communication with various stakeholders.
- 11.4 Problem of Insufficient Cleaning and Security Manpower: the epidemic was a big challenge to HD, and money might not be able to solve the problem of insufficient manpower. She took Kwai Chung Estate as an example, saying that there had earlier been 40 cleaning workers who needed to be quarantined. HD had to invite tenders immediately. However, after issuing a number of invitations, only one tender had been received. HD would learn from this experience and deploy manpower more properly in the future.

- 11.5 Application of New Technology: HD had always been happy to use new technology. It would review if new technology such as falling object monitoring systems or smart door cards could be introduced.
- 11.6 Demand for Public and Private Housing: at present, the proportion of public housing to private housing was seven to three. If the supply of private housing was insufficient, property prices would also increase. This is an issue about demand and supply. There were demands for both public and private housing in Hong Kong. The Government would not only focus on public housing. In new development areas such as Kai Tak Development Area and Anderson Road Quarry Site, the Government had formulated planning for supplies of public and private housing. The intention was exactly to strike a balance between the two sides without focusing on an individual type of housing. Traditionally, there were many public housing estates in Kwun Tong District. It seemed that the focus was on public rental housing, but the Government in fact had provided different types of subsidised housing as well.
- 11.7 Cleaning and Security Contracts: HA's present cleaning and security contracts were formulated according to the Government's arrangements in order to improve frontline staff's incomes and benefits so that they could have better remuneration packages.

12. The Chairman concluded that Members had raised many issues worth concern for PS/T&H(H)/D of H and her team to take follow-up actions. He hoped that the Government could have close communication in the days to come particularly for items on which Members had spoken just then, including construction of lifts in various areas, as well as adopting corresponding supporting measures in different environmental hygiene work. The Chairman had noticed that PS/T&H(H)/D of H had recorded the problems raised by Members. He hoped that she could maintain close communication with Members.

Item III — Measures for Preventing Flooding Problem in Low-lying Areas at Lei Yue Mun

13. After the discussion on provision of pumping facilities for emergencies and disasters at Lei Yue Mun in the FC meeting on 4 January, KTDC had set preventing the flooding problem in low-lying areas at Lei Yue Mun as a standing item for discussion in order to closely follow up on the relevant development.

14. As a follow-up action for the decision, the Secretariat had written to the Secretary for Development in the name of KTDC on 17 January to express KTDC's concern over the flooding situation in low-lying areas at Lei Yue Mun and request the Drainage Services Department ("DSD")

to actively follow up on the matter. DSD had given KTDC a written reply on 4 February. In the letter, DSD had mentioned that it would roll out short-term and medium-term response measures to further mitigate the impacts brought by typhoons and floods to Lei Yue Mun. The Secretariat had circulated the written reply to Members on 9 February.

15. The Chairman welcomed Senior Engineer/Mainland South 4 of DSD (“SE/MS4/DSD”), Senior Engineer/Climate Change of DSD (“SE/CC/DSD”) and Engineer/Kowloon 6 of DSD to the meeting for discussion on the said agenda item.

16. SE/MS4/DSD reported that DSD and the Kwun Tong District Office (“KTDO”) had jointly met with KTDC on 19 January to have in-depth discussion on the suggestion concerned after the discussion in the FC Meeting on 4 January, and a written reply had been given to KTDC on 4 February. He pointed out that DSD, committed to minimising the impacts brought by floods to residents of Lei Yue Mun, had always been concerned about the flooding situation in low-lying areas at Lei Yue Mun and closely collaborating with relevant departments to implement multiple measures. After the passage of the typhoon “Hato” in 2017, different departments of the Government had completed multiple improvement measures and formulated the “storm alert system for Lei Yue Mun” in order to alleviate the impacts brought by storms to Lei Yue Mun. In light of the passage of the typhoon “Kompasu” on 13 October 2021, DSD would continue to roll out various short-term, medium-term and long-term response measures so as to further mitigate the impacts brought by storms to Lei Yue Mun. He said that (i) the short-term measures proposed had been substantially completed. The measures included installation of non-return valves at main drainage pipes at Lei Yue Mun Praya Road, installation of removable watertight shutters at main public roads near Sam Ka Tsuen at Lei Yue Mun Praya Road, erecting temporary footsteps at the park at Lei Yue Mun Praya Road during storms, erecting a temporary access platform outside Lei Yue Mun Ma Wan Public Toilet, and providing temporary water pumps at Lei Yue Mun Praya Road; (ii) DSD would also implement the medium-term measures in the proposal as soon as possible, including modifying the temporary footsteps at the park at Lei Yue Mun Praya Road into permanent footsteps, and installing non-return valves at main outlets of the public landing facilities under construction at Ma Wan Tsuen to minimise the impacts brought by storms to residents; (iii) regarding the long-term measures, DSD had engaged a consultancy in March 2022 to launch a feasibility study on improvement works for the drainage system of Lei Yue Mun. The feasibility of the proposed provision of automatic pumping facilities would also be covered by the study. The related work was scheduled for completion in 2023.

17. The Vice-chairman pointed out that KTDC had exchanged views with KTDO and DSD in meetings for multiple times on solutions for the flooding problem at Lei Yue Mun. He thanked DSD for actively studying different methods and adopting various short-term and medium-term measures to alleviate the problem. During site visits, the relevant department had explained future works directions in detail and provided construction layout plans for KTDC’s reference. Regarding the

long-term measures, he was happy to know that DSD had commenced a feasibility study in March 2022, and asked if DSD could provide a more specific completion date of the study concerned.

18. SE/CC/DSD responded that the consultancy was currently conducting study work actively, and anticipated that the preliminary results could be reported to KTDC in the first quarter of 2023.

19. The Vice-chairman considered DSD's response acceptable, hoping that DSD could put an emphasis on studying how to provide automatic pumping facilities. He stressed that floods at Lei Yue Mun at present mainly occurred at Lei Yue Mun Praya Road West, i.e. areas around the village entrance. That location was a main means of access for the villagers, as well as the only path that rescuers could take. Therefore, it was very important to have an automatic pumping system. He believed that the flooding level would be drastically reduced and residents' economic losses would be minimised after provision of an automatic pumping system, together with the existing measures.

20. The Chairman asked DSD's representatives to note KTDC's views, and expedite the study progress for the project concerned, so that the study could be completed by the first quarter of 2023.

21. The meeting noted the agenda item.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat arranged KTDC and representatives of DSD to conduct a site visit jointly on 26 May 2022 at the low-laying areas of Lei Yue Mun and exchange views on various short-term, medium-term and long-term measures for addressing the flooding problem of Lei Yue Mun.)

**Item IV – (A) Work Plans for 2022/23 of Kwun Tong District Core Departments
(KTDC Paper No. 4/2022)**

Annex I: CEDD

22. Chief Engineer/East 2 of CEDD (“CE/E2/CEDD”) presented the paper.

23. Regarding the agenda item, Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

23.1 The Vice-chairman said that Trunk Road T2 at Cha Kwo Ling was under construction at Cha Kwo Ling Tsuen. Residents had voiced that the noise emitted by the works was loud. He hoped that CEDD would urge the contractor conducting the works to adopt noise abatement measures and minimise nuisance caused to residents as much as possible. On the other hand, the works of the Lei Yue Mun Waterfront Enhancement was in progress. Since the construction site was close to residential

areas, he hoped that the contractor of the works could enhance communication with the district.

23.2 Mr KAN Ming-tung related that CEDD often implemented traffic diversions for the works for connecting Lin Tak Road to the bridge location at Tseung Kwan O Road. He hoped that the department could communicate with HyD properly for rectifying the connection points of junctions and paving uneven ground to avoid affecting traffic.

23.3 CE/E2/CEDD responded that it would liaise with the works team regarding the works of Trunk Road T2 and follow up on the views on the works of Lin Tak Road with officers of the department.

24. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex II: FEHD

25. District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwun Tong) of FEHD presented the paper.

26. Regarding the agenda item, Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

26.1 Ms FU Pik-chun hoped that FEHD would pay attention to the pest problem at the slopes of Lee On Road.

26.2 Mr PANG Chi-sang said that the department had conducted multiple special operations before Lunar New Year to tackle the road occupation problem. Yet, in recent two months, due to logistical problems with the Mainland, there had been foam boxes placed at roadsides at various areas, and the situation of Shui Wo Street had also turned bad. He remarked that he understood the department might not be able to deal with the situation immediately because of transportation problems, but he hoped that it could pay more heed to the situation to prevent the problem from continuing to deteriorate.

26.3 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong related that he had earlier reflected to the department that there had been a hive at the minibus stop at Sau Mau Ping Road, causing nuisance to the neighbourhood and waiting passengers. He commended the department for swiftly handling the problem.

27. FEHD noted the views.

28. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex III: HD

29. CM/M(KE)/HD presented the paper.

30. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex IV: KTDO

31. District Officer (Kwun Tong) (“DO(KT)”) presented the paper.

32. The Vice-chairman said that DO(KT) and Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong) had led colleagues to do a tremendous amount of work during the epidemic and had impressive performance. He expressed his gratitude and appreciation.

33. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex V: Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”)

34. Chief Leisure Manager (Kowloon) of LCSD presented the paper.

35. Regarding the agenda item, Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

35.1 Ms FU Pik-chun said that pest infestation emerged due to the weather. He hoped that LCSD would strengthen mosquito control work, especially at Shun Lee Tsuen Park, Shun Lee Tsuen Playground and Jordan Valley Park.

35.2 The Vice-chairman remarked that there were two fitness facilities for the elderly at the small sitting-out area diagonally opposite Mau Fat Store (“茂發士多” in Chinese) at Cha Kwo Ling. There had been elderly people stumbling over the facilities when walking past that location. Villagers had suggested removing the part of the facilities that was close to the footpath, and removing that part would not affect the use of the facilities while managing to safeguard villagers’ safety.

35.3 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk said that the Government would progressively open leisure and cultural services facilities in three phases. Besides, facility users could take off their masks when exercising. Since LCSD had not arranged any activity in the past five months, he hoped that the department could correspondingly adjust the number of

activities in the rest of this year. In addition, he suggested the department appropriately adjust activity types to meet the public demand for popular sports. For example, the department could increase the number of activities of fencing since Hong Kong had won a gold medal for the said event in the Olympic Games the previous year.

36. LCSD noted the views.

37. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex VI: Social Welfare Department (“SWD”)

38. District Social Welfare Officer (Kwun Tong) of SWD (“DSWO(KT)/SWD”) presented the paper.

39. Regarding the agenda item, Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

39.1 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong related that he had been informed by SWD that the Social Security Field Unit at Sau Mau Ping Shopping Centre might be relocated, but the Government Property Agency had not yet confirmed the relocation location, and the unit might be relocated to Po Tat Estate. He was not opposed to the relocation of the unit to a new location within Sau Mau Ping Area, such as Sau Mau Ping Estate or Po Tat Estate. He understood that the unit had to be relocated due to expansion of services and manpower, hoping that the unit could continue to be located in the original service area, which was Sau Mau Ping Area. He guessed that the unit would be relocated to a place which had originally been a foundation platform at Tat Hei House, Po Tat Estate, but he had seen an advertisement promoting the opening of a 24-hour fitness centre in July at that location. He enquired if SWD had confirmed that the unit would be relocated to that location or if the unit would share that area with the fitness centre. He also asked why SWD did not take over the area of the fitness centre as well, worrying that the department would need to look for another site again when the unit of SWD needed to be expanded in the future.

39.2 Mr Jimmy CHAN said that having the same enquiry as that of Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong, he was also concerned about the site chosen for the relocation of the Sau Mau Ping (East) Social Security Field Unit. He said that there were many elderly people in Sau Mau Ping. The Sau Mau Ping (East) Social Security Field Unit and the Sau Mau Ping (West) Social Security Field Unit had been very cramped. The latter had been relocated to Shun Lee Estate earlier, leaving only the Sau Mau Ping (East) Social

Security Field Unit at Sau Mau Ping Shopping Centre, but its environment was still very cramped. He agreed to the relocation, thinking that officers of SWD needed enough space to work. Yet, considering the demand of the elderly in Sau Mau Ping, he strongly requested the department to give priority to Sau Mau Ping Area when choosing a site for the relocation.

40. DSWO(KT)/SWD responded that a new site had to be identified for the Sau Mau Ping (East) Social Security Field Unit, currently located in Sau Mau Ping Shopping Centre, due to its tenancy situation. SWD had preliminarily identified a suitable place at Po Tat Estate. That place was situated within the service area of the Sau Mau Ping (East) Social Security Field Unit and was convenient to residents as it was accessible by different transport modes. The premises also met the area requirements for a social security field unit. In fact, it was estimated that there was sufficient space for operation at the premises of both the Sau Mau Ping (East) Social Security Field Unit and the Sau Mau Ping (West) Social Security Field Unit.

41. Mr KAN Ming-tung said that many elderly people had opinions about the arrangements for distribution of anti-epidemic packs by elderly centres. He hoped that the department could improve the arrangements and lift the requirement that only members of the centres could collect the anti-epidemic packs.

42. DSWO(KT)/SWD responded that both members and non-members could collect rapid antigen test (“RAT”) kits, but since the public demand for RAT kits was large, the response had been overwhelming and therefore all the kits had been distributed very quickly. She added that those RAT kits had been something that SWD had assisted the Food and Health Bureau (“FHB”) in distributing. FHB had replenished the stock with more kits to satisfy the elderly’s needs.

43. Mr KAN Ming-tung enquired when a member of the public enquired of a District Council member’s ward office on the above matter, whether the ward office could tell them to go to an elderly centre to collect those kits.

44. DSWO(KT)/SWD responded that an elderly centre of SWD would distribute all the kits once it received a stock. At present, each elderly person could collect a set containing a total of five RAT kits and ten masks every day. Apart from elderly centres of SWD, there were also other units of FHB assisting with distribution of such supplies.

45. Mrs Winnie POON related that the arrangements at present were very chaotic. Earlier on, since 19 April, RAT kits had been distributed to members and service users. She said that she had phoned the Kwun Tong Community Health Centre of United Christian Hospital and the Lam Tin Elderly Health Centre of the Department of Health for enquiries. Both of them had said that non-

members could also collect the kits. Some elderly people had said that they had been in need of RAT kits because children of their families needed to use the kits for going to school, but they had been told that only members could collect the kits when they had arrived at the Lam Tin Elderly Health Centre. Some of the elderly people had also been advised to go to other elderly centres to collect those kits. Then, on the evening of 20 April, she had seen a notice that both members and non-members could collect the kits from 21 April onwards and the logistics would be enhanced. When she had phoned the Lam Ting Elderly Health Centre again for that matter, an officer had still said that only members could collect the kits. Meanwhile, the Chinese Medicine Clinic at On Ting Street, Ngau Tau Kok had still said that people could collect the kits only if they saw a Chinese medicine practitioner. Moreover, she had phoned the Hong Kong Society for the Aged (“SAGE”) on 21 April and SAGE had said that all the kits had been distributed on 19 April and there was no replenishment for the stock afterwards. A relative of hers had tried to collect the kits and managed to collect five in the end. The centre had said that a person could collect the kits on behalf of another person by submitting a copy of the latter’s identity card. She understood the difficulties faced by frontline staff, but she also hoped that they could understand the elderly’s mentality.

46. The Chairman remarked that each elderly person going to an elderly centre had a different situation. He hoped that SWD could review or provide a clear guideline for service organisations under its purview to grasp the actual situation.

47. DSWO(KT)/SWD noted the views and added that each elderly person could collect ten masks and five RAT kits once every day from 5 May onwards.

48. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex VII: TD

49. Chief Transport Officer/Kowloon 2 of TD presented the paper. He also added that most of the bus and minibus routes had gradually resumed original service frequencies following the improving epidemic situation. He welcomed Members to contact TD regarding service situations such as frequency arrangements for individual routes when needed. TD would proactively follow up on the relevant matters.

50. Mr Kevin SO said that operators only issued notices regarding frequency reduction. He also remarked it seemed that frequencies of public transport services had not fully resumed normal operation. However, minibus operators had submitted fare increase applications on the ground of rising costs, which could lead to a poor public perception. He hoped that TD could pay attention.

51. TD noted the views.

52. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex VIII: Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”) – Kwun Tong Police District and Sau Mau Ping Police District

53. District Commander (Kwun Tong) of HKPF presented the paper. She added that the number of technology crimes had risen in recent years. Kwun Tong Police District would deploy manpower to step up investigations of relevant crimes and would boost publicity and education. Also, Kwun Tong Police District would adopt a series of combating measures and implement publicity and education in response to the drug problem.

54. District Commander (Sau Mau Ping) of HKPF presented the paper. She gave a brief introduction on the number and observation of crimes in Sau Mau Ping Police District and the police district’s engagement in community and anti-epidemic works in the past. She hoped that all stakeholders would work together to improve law and order in the district in multiple aspects.

55. The meeting noted the paper.

Item IV – (B) Annual Report of Kwun Tong and Sau Mau Ping Districts Policing Plan 2021 (KTDC Paper No. 5/2022)

56. District Commander (Kwun Tong) and District Commander (Sau Mau Ping) of HKPF presented the paper.

57. The meeting noted the paper.

Item V – Any Other Business

(A) 13th “Quit to Win” Smoke-free Community Campaign

58. The Chairman reported that the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (“COSH”) had earlier written to ask for KTDC’s support for the 13th “Quit to Win” Smoke-free Community Campaign and its consent to COSH’s use of the logo of KTDC on relevant publicity items and in the event. The Secretariat had circulated to Members the relevant letter on 30 March and obtained Members’ consent to continue to support the above-mentioned activity. The Secretariat had replied to COSH that KTDC would continue to accept its invitation and support the relevant activity this year.

59. The meeting noted the relevant matters.

(B) Requests for Discussing Issues about the Concrete Batching Plants (“CBPs”) in Yau Tong

60. The Chairman said that he had received prior to the present meeting a request from the Vice-chairman for discussing issues about the CBPs in Yau Tong. The relevant extempore motion was tabled for Members’ reference. As the matter concerned was an environmental hygiene problem in Kwun Tong District, he agreed to discuss it in the present meeting.

61. The Chairman said that he had received an extempore motion moved by the Vice-chairman and Mr PANG Chi-sang and seconded by Mr Wilson OR, Mr NGAN Man-yu, Mr TAM Siu-cheuk, Mr KAN Ming-tung, Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong, Ms FU Pik-chun, Mr Jimmy CHAN, Mr LEUNG Tang-fung, Mr HSU Yau-wai and Mr LAM Wai. The extempore motion was as follows:

“KTDC supports the relevant government department’s refusal of the applications for renewal of the two licences for the Concrete Batching Plants at 20 and 22 Tung Yuen Street, Yau Tong, and supports the relevant party’s application for an injunction order regarding the unlicensed operation of the Concrete Batching Plant at 22 Tung Yuen Street, Yau Tong. KTDC also supports the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government’s identification of other sites outside Kwun Tong District for the Concrete Batching Plants to continue their operation.”

62. The Vice-chairman presented the extempore motion.

63. Mrs Winnie POON said that the Government had rejected the applications for renewal of licences of the relevant CBPs and it was a unilateral decision by the CBP to continue its unlicensed operation. She opined that KTDC should request the Government to strictly enforce its decisions of refusing the applications for renewal of the licences instead of showing support to the Government by means of a motion.

64. Mr PANG Chi-sang said that he had recently visited to other CBPs in Hong Kong, including the CBP at Ha Pak Nai. He opined that the CBP at Yau Tong had posed greater impacts on the streets nearby when compared to CBPs in other districts. The CBP had once indicated to him that since it had been overloaded, it could not give any guarantee on the impacts on the surrounding environment. At present, the CBP continued to operate during the period of appeal while the environmental hygiene situation worsened. He hoped that Members could support the motion.

65. Mr TAM Siu-cheuk remarked that Members would voice opinions on issues concerning people’s livelihood with perseverance. KTDC should take all the trouble to continue voicing opinions on the unlicensed operation of the CBP at Yau Tong until the issue could be properly resolved.

66. The Vice-chairman agreed to the view of Mrs Winnie POON. He added that despite the Environmental Protection Department's refusal of the application for renewal of the licence of the CBP at 20 Tung Yuen Street on 8 April, the CBP could still operate for a period of time and lodge an appeal. The CBP was planning to file a judicial review in regard to the injunction order by the Department of Justice and the issue had not been fully resolved. Also, he had also received opinions from local groups. He opined that KTDC should continue to represent voices of residents of Yau Tong and express support to the Government.

67. After voting, the extempore motion was carried with 15 votes in favour, zero vote against and one abstention.

68. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to inform relevant policy bureaux and departments in writing of the above-mentioned extempore motion to reflect Members' concern. He also hoped the policy bureaux and departments would provide written responses to Members' enquiries and views.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat wrote to the Development Bureau ("DevB") and the Environment Bureau ("EnB") on 6 May 2022 to relay the above-mentioned extempore motion endorsed by FC and Members' concern on the relevant matters. DevB and EnB responded to the above-mentioned letter in writing. The Secretariat circulated the relevant written responses to Members on 8 June and 24 June respectively.)

Item VI — Date of Next Meeting

69. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 5 July 2022 (Tuesday).

70. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 5 July 2022.

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat
June 2022