

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the
6th Term Kwun Tong District Council (Full Council)**

Date: 3 January 2023 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:08 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.	12.08 p.m.
Mr LUI Tung-hai, MH (Vice-chairman)	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr CHAN Yiu-hung Jimmy, MH	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Ms FU Pik-chun, MH	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr HSU Yau-wai	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr KAN Ming-tung, MH	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr LAM Wai	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr LEUNG Tang-fung	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr SO Koon-chung Kevin	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mr TAM Siu-cheuk	9:37 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Ms TSE Suk-chun	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.
Mrs POON YAM Wai-chun Winnie, BBS, MH	9:30 a.m.	12.08 p.m.

In attendance

Mr LAM Siu-hong, Andy, JP	District Officer (Kwun Tong)
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 LEUNG Chi-foon	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 Sandra LIM	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Kwun Tong)1, Social Welfare Department
Ms CHEUNG Wai-ying, Olivia	Chief Leisure Manager (Kowloon), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr LUI Chi-chung	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

Secretary

Miss HUI Po-yu, Bowie	Executive Officer I (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office
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Attendance by Invitation

Mr MAK Kin-ming, George	Chief Engineer/East 5, Civil Engineering and Development Department	Item II
Mr CHOI Chung-keung	Senior Engineer/9(East), Civil Engineering and Development Department	
Mr TSOY Man-kit, David	Engineer/14(East), Civil Engineering and Development Department	
Ms SIU Sau-king, Michelle	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Kwun Tong, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Ms CHAN Lai-ching, Connie	Senior Executive Officer (Planning)31, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	

Ms LEUNG Suet-ying, Cherry	Executive Officer (Planning)12B, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Mr Sean WONG	Project Manager, Atkins (China) Limited	
Ms Nicole LA	Deputy Project Manager, Atkins (China) Limited	
Mr Alex SUNG	Project Engineer, Atkins (China) Limited	
Ms CHING Ka-wai	Senior Project Manager 323, Architectural Services Department	Item III
Ms CHAN Lok-yin	Project Manager 355, Architectural Services Department	
Ms YIP Shuk-han, Hannah	Senior Manager (East Kowloon Cultural Centre) Project Co-ordination, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Mr WONG Kin-kwok, Thomas	Manager (East Kowloon Cultural Centre)1, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Ms CHAN Lai-ching, Connie	Senior Executive Officer (Planning)31, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Mr Herbert HUNG	Associate Director, Rocco Design Architects Limited	
Mr Derek TSANG	Associate, Rocco Design Architects Limited	

Absent

Ms LAI Po-kwai
Dr NGAN Man-yu
Mr PANG Chi-sang

The Chairman welcomed all the Members and government representatives to the 20th meeting of the Full Council (“FC”) under the 6th Term Kwun Tong District Council (“KTDC”). Dr NGAN Man-yu and Mr PANG Chi-sang informed the Secretary that they could not attend the meeting due to other commitment. The meeting noted this matter.

Item I — Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

2. Members raised no other comments. The minutes of the 19th meeting were confirmed.

Item II – GreenWay of Kai Tak Development – Enhancement Works at Kwun Tong Promenade Gardens
(KTDC Paper No. 1/2023)

3. The Chairman reported that the Culture, Recreation, Sports and Youth Development Committee (“CRSYDC”) under KTDC had discussed in the meeting of the committee held on 8 November 2022 the enhancement works at the section of the GreenWay of Kai Tak Development (“the GreenWay Project”) at Kwun Tong Promenade and subsequently suggested inviting representatives of the relevant departments to the present FC meeting of KTDC for responding in a focused manner to the concerns raised by Members in the meeting of CRSYDC.
4. The Secretariat had written to the Director of Civil Engineering and Development and the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services respectively on 29 November 2022 regarding the suggestions and enquiries about the GreenWay Project to voice the views. The letter had also invited the departments concerned to the FC meeting of KTDC to be held in January 2023.
5. The Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”) and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) had given a consolidated reply to CRSYDC on 13 December 2022. The Secretariat had forwarded the reply letter to Members for their information.
6. The Chairman welcomed the following officers to the meeting: Chief Engineer/East 5, Senior Engineer/9(East) and Engineer/14(East) of CEDD, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Kwun Tong, Senior Executive Officer (Planning)31 and Executive Officer (Planning)12B of LCSD, and Project Manager, Deputy Project Manager and Project Engineer of Atkins (China) Limited (“Atkins”).
7. The representatives of CEDD presented the paper.
8. Members raised follow-up views and enquiries as follows:
 - 8.1 Mr KAN Ming-tung (i) said that he had monitored the Pilot Project of GreenWay for Cyclists and Pedestrians at Kwun Tong Promenade (“the Pilot Project”) conducted several years ago. He recalled that one of the concepts of the Pilot Project had been, as mentioned by CEDD just now, to commission the entire GreenWay. Nevertheless, he was disappointed about the timetable of the project submitted in the present meeting by CEDD, and said that he did not understand the decision by CEDD of opening the section at Kwun Tong Promenade first when the works at the sections of Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling were behind schedule; (ii) had reservations about engaging a community organisation to operate some of the lockers under the bridge, worrying that problems

with transition between the new and the old operators might arise when the operation contract ended. Therefore, he hoped that CEDD could carefully reconsider the operation approach of the locker; and (iii) suggested CEDD complete the works at the sections of Cha Kwo Ling and Kai Tak as soon as possible insofar as the conditions permitted instead of only opening the section at Kwun Tong Promenade.

8.2 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk (i) opined that the questionnaire survey in 2018 had become outdated now. He thought that having gone through the epidemic, the public's habits of using Kwun Tong Promenade had changed when compared to those five years ago. For example, there were more youngsters playing music and more families enjoying leisure time at that place now. Therefore, he doubted that the questionnaire survey conducted by CEDD five years ago could not reflect the latest public opinion and hoped that CEDD could review if the public's habits of using Kwun Tong Promenade had changed; and (ii) stressed that the GreenWay was not a cycle park and Kwun Tong Promenade had originally been designed for leisure use only but not for cyclists' use. From users' perspective, the design of allowing cyclists to just tour round Kwun Tong Promenade would not be quite suitable. Thus, he believed that commissioning the entire GreenWay for cyclists to ride through smoothly would be more desirable.

8.3 Mr Jimmy CHAN (i) directly pointed out that there was nothing new in the content presented by CEDD; (ii) believed that there was a problem with the timing of commissioning the section at Kwun Tong Promenade. When CEDD had implemented the Pilot Project in 2018, there had still been no music fountain at Kwun Tong Promenade, and the utilisation of the promenade had not been as high as now. At present, the number of users of Kwun Tong Promenade was especially high on weekends and holidays. He thought that it was impractical for CEDD to draw reference only from the experience gained in the Pilot Project in 2018; (iii) enquired about details of the questionnaire survey by CEDD in 2018. He remarked that 16% of the respondents had said they had been "dissatisfied". He wished to know if CEDD had examined the details of the dissatisfaction of the members of the public and made improvement; and (iv) was concerned about safety problems with the section at Kwun Tong Promenade. He was of the view that since the present project would open only the around one-kilometre-long section at Kwun Tong Promenade without connecting it with the sections at Kai Tak and Yau Tong, the meaning of the GreenWay would be drastically weakened, or even safety problems would arise. Although CEDD would re-provision some of the walkways in the section to be opened and pave narrower locations with speed reduction tiles, he thought that many people used Kwun Tong Promenade, and the so-called GreenWay was only a cycle track with unclear boundaries. In addition, according to CEDD's information, that GreenWay was

about six metres wide, but the paper did not indicate the width of the narrowest part. On the other hand, he said that the metal poles at the spectator stands within the GreenWay would be prone to danger, but CEDD had only provided protective padding on the poles there, which seemed not enough to minimise the risks of accidents. He hoped that CEDD could provide more safety facilities at the GreenWay to make it safer and reduce public worries.

- 8.4 The Vice-chairman (i) said that Members had expressed their worries and doubts over the GreenWay to CEDD in the previous meeting of CRSYDC. After that, CEDD had arranged Members to have a visit to the Pilot Project of the Shared Path for Pedestrians and Cyclists (“the Shared Path”) at Central to Wan Chai Promenade. According his observation, there were not many pedestrians and cyclists using that section of the Shared Path, and they could share the path in harmony. That place was good for people to relax and have fun. He hoped that the GreenWay of Kwun Tong could achieve such a satisfactory result as well; (ii) appreciated the supplementary information provided by CEDD in the paper submitted for the present meeting and the careful design of the relevant ancillary facilities. He opined that the harbourfront of Kowloon East and Kwun Tong, which was as long as 10 kilometres, was a valuable resource. All the previous terms of KTDC had been striving to foster a nice harbourfront environment for the public to enjoy. Unfortunately, affected by social factors later on, the progress of the GreenWay Project had slowed down. Currently, there were many visitors at Kwun Tong Promenade whenever it was a festive holiday. He believed that when the sections at Kai Tak, Cha Kwo Ling and Yau Tong Bay were completed, not only people of Kowloon East but also people of other regions would be attracted to go there; (iii) thought that it was necessary to squarely face and solve the potential problems to be brought by the share use of the path at Kwun Tong Promenade. He remarked that although the concept of shared paths was good, he was worried that the objective of fostering harmony between pedestrians and cyclists could not be achieved. He said that Kwun Tong Promenade was different from the harbourfront promenade between Central and Wan Chai. There were not many residential buildings around Central, and it was not that convenient for the public to go to that Shared Path. Therefore, the flow of people there was lower. On the contrary, the flow of people at Kwun Tong Promenade was higher. There were already many people congregating there on weekdays. If bicycles were also allowed to run there as well, even if the management and road signs within the GreenWay were good enough, he still worried that safety of visitors could not be guaranteed. He opined that the flow of people could be diverted after the commissioning of the sections of the GreenWay at Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling. It would be more suitable to launch the entire GreenWay by that time. As a result, he had reservations over

CEDD's decision of opening only the section at Kwun Tong Promenade at the current stage. He urged CEDD to actively consider commissioning the section at Kwun Tong Promenade simultaneously with the sections at Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling when the latter were completed.

- 8.5 Ms FU Pik-chun (i) said that the main users of Kwun Tong Promenade at present were residents of Kwun Tong and the surrounding areas. If the section at Kwun Tong Promenade was opened when the sections at Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling were still in progress, this would result in an over-concentration of members of the public and cycling lovers on the section at Kwun Tong Promenade, possibly leading to safety problems. She urged CEDD to commission the section at Kwun Tong Promenade together with the sections at Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling when the latter were completed to ensure the connectivity of the GreenWay.

9. The representatives of CEDD and Atkins responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

- 9.1 Commissioning time of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade: CEDD said that the works of the two sections at Kwun Tong Action Area and Cha Kwo Ling of the GreenWay would be completed at later stages. Besides, the around one-kilometre-long section at Kwun Tong Promenade was similar to the length of the path during the implementation of the Pilot Project in 2018. CEDD stated that during the Pilot Project, although the music fountain had not been built yet, the flow of people at the promenade had already been high on weekends. The Pilot Project had been well received by the public. CEDD continued to say that according to the result of the questionnaire survey in 2018, the public in general welcomed the implementation of the GreenWay. Moreover, in report of the Feasibility Study on the Cycle Track Network in Kai Tak Development had already proposed including the section of the GreenWay at Kwun Tong Promenade into the first phase of the GreenWay Project. Considering the enthusiastic response from the public in the Pilot Project conducted in 2018, as well as the satisfactory situation of renting of bicycles, CEDD thought that it was a suitable arrangement to first open the around one-kilometre-long section at Kwun Tong Promenade. Furthermore, the public already had the experience of using a shared path. CEDD opined after assessments that the opening of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade would not involve high safety risks. In view of different objective factors, CEDD proposed first opening the section at Kwun Tong Promenade for public use.

- 9.2 Safety problems about the section at Kwun Tong Promenade: CEDD understood that Members were concerned about the safety of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade. The department also added that the present improvement works mainly aimed at widening the footpath to around six metres wide on average. It pointed out that the average width of six metres, having been set with reference to the international standard, was a suitable width. In addition, CEDD would test the feasibility of using an artificial intelligence detective system. If a bicycle was found to be speeding, the system would automatically issue a warning. For example, through a siren or a display panel, pedestrians and cyclists would be reminded to be considerate to each other and cyclists would be reminded to slow down. Besides, concerning the safety problems of the iconic tiles, CEDD said that those tiles were rectangular and only protruded by two to three millimetres above the ground level. The department had drawn reference from overseas experience of using those tiles, and believed that there was no problem with their safety.
- 9.3 Result of the questionnaire survey in 2018: CEDD explained that the question of that questionnaire survey had been “are you satisfied/dissatisfied with the arrangements for the ‘shared-use’ of the path?” The result showed that 84% of the respondents had been satisfied with or had had no comments on the “share-use” arrangements. Only 16% of the respondents had been dissatisfied with the relevant arrangements.
- 9.4 Crowding problem arising from the opening of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade: CEDD remarked that between 2023 and 2024, a total of 7.5 kilometres of sections of the GreenWay at Kai Tai Development and Kwun Tong Promenade would be completed. Apart from the section at Kwun Tong Promenade, there would also be sections at Kai Tak Station Square, Kai Tak Sports Park and the promenade on both sides of the former runway. There would be a total of 6.5 kilometres of sections of the greenway available for public use. CEDD believed that this could effectively divert cyclists to different road sections.
- 9.5 Safety problems about the footpath below the spectator stands at Kwun Tong Promenade: Atkins stated that the improvement works included removal of the non-structural part at the entrance of the spectator stands at Kwun Tong Promenade for widening of that section so that the metal poles could be kept 3.5 metres apart from one another. Moreover, CEDD would remove the greening plants next to the metal poles to widen the footpath to around two metres wide. Therefore, the footpath below the spectator stands would be around 5.5 metres wide. Atkins would also provide additional signs or ground markings at the narrower parts of that section to raise the safety awareness among users.

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

10.1 Mr Kevin SO (i) said that CEDD had drawn reference from other oversea and local experience of using shared paths when making the plan of opening the section at Kwun Tong Promenade. He emphasised that there was a high concentration of visitors at Kwun Tong Promenade during holidays and therefore he was worried that safety problems might arise. In his opinion, CEDD should put forward remedial measures regarding the potential safety risks raised by Members, such as provision of a first-aid station. Yet, CEDD only repeatedly stressed that there was no problem with the safety of the GreenWay, which made him disappointed and dissatisfied; (ii) doubted the necessity of opening the around one-kilometre long section at Kwun Tong Promenade at the current stage. He said that the section at Kwun Tong Promenade was the middle part connecting the sections at Cha Kwo Ling and Kai Tak. CEDD currently anticipated that the section at Kai Tak would be completed between 2023 and 2024 while the section at Cha Kwo Ling would be completed in 2026. In addition, he had doubts over the plan for connection between the sections at Kwun Tong Promenade and Kai Tak. According to information, the section at Kwun Tong Promenade had to go through the industrial area before reaching the section at Kai Tak. Therefore, he suggested CEDD consider commissioning the entire GreenWay in one go when the sections at Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling were completed. He believed that CEDD should understand that the current usage situation of Kwun Tong Promenade was different from the one several years ago. There were more people congregating and viewing the music fountain at that place now. He emphasised that he did not intend to stop the department from implementing the GreenWay Project. Instead, he intended to ask CEDD to review if it was necessary to open the section at Kwun Tong Promenade at the present stage; and (iii) was aware that there were other works such as a flood storage scheme at Kwun Tong Promenade. CEDD had also amended the route of the GreenWay having regard to the works concerned. Taking the above several point into account, he urged CEDD to put forward grounds other than the result of the questionnaire survey in 2018 to support the implementation of the project by CEDD as scheduled and to squarely address Members' enquiries.

10.2 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong (i) said that he had written to related departments to lodge the enquiries raised by Members in the meeting of CRSYDC. In the present meeting, CEDD had only responded to some of the enquiries, and it was a matter of opinion as to whether CEDD's response could dispel Members' concerns; (ii) reflected that quite a number of Members were concerned about the safety of the GreenWay. In this connection, CEDD had responded that the GreenWay had been paved with speed reduction tiles and the metal poles had been covered with padding. Members had

suggested CEDD provide places for storage of first-aid supplies and provide first-aid training for relevant staff members so that injured members of the public could receive treatment on the spot. Furthermore, Members had suggested CEDD provide additional facilities at that section, such as changing rooms, drinking fountains and lockers. Yet, CEDD had not addressed any of the above suggestions; and (iii) reflected that some Members were aware that it had already been several years ago when the questionnaire survey had been conducted in 2018, and believed that the public might have changed their views already. He was not sure if CEDD had conducted a survey again and therefore asked for clarification from CEDD.

10.3 Mr Jimmy CHAN (i) directly said that CEDD's response had not been enough, especially as to CEDD's inability to show its resolution to relieve the safety problems of the GreenWay. He stressed that cycling on the GreenWay was in fact as dangerous as cycling on a cycle track. For instance, there had been an accident in the Mainland in which a child who was cycling in a community hit and killed another child. The GreenWay was different from a usual cycle track since road users around a cycle track would expect speedy bicycles to pass by and would be alert as a result. Therefore, he thought that when implementing the GreenWay, CEDD should take sufficient safety precautions instead of simply trying to convince Members to support the arrangements with other countries' statistics; (ii) was concerned about the safety problems of the location at the spectator stands. He opined that cyclists on the GreenWay might not be skillful enough to avoid potential danger at that place. Besides, he thought that the speed reduction devices mentioned by CEDD was puzzling and doubted how CEDD set the standard of speeding; and (iii) was concerned about the works for a flood storage scheme to be conducted by the Drainage Services Department ("DSD") at Kwun Tong Promenade. If CEDD insisted on opening the section at Kwun Tong Promenade when it was yet to be able to connect that section with the sections at Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling, there would be risks of conflicts with the works of the flood storage scheme and other works to be carried out. Consequently, he asked CEDD to consider postponing the commissioning of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade when the timing was premature and the safety facilities were insufficient.

10.4 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk (i) expressed his helplessness about CEDD's refusal to conduct a survey again and use of data collected in the survey conducted five years ago to implement the project; (ii) remarked that CEDD would only move some of the lamp posts and doubted if the GreenWay would not be really widened; and (iii) enquired about the power and responsibility and the manpower problem of frontline officers of LCSD. For example, when the artificial intelligence smart detective system emitted a siren, whether staff of LCSD had the power to request speeding cyclists to

get off their bicycles or slow down. Moreover, he enquired if staff of LCSD had received first-aid training to cope with possible accidents. He was also concerned about if LCSD had planned to strengthen its manpower for the commissioning of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade. Since the works departments in the past had been responsible for works only but not management issues, he intended to learn more about the relevant power and responsibility. He suggested CEDD commission the entire GreenWay when all the sections were completed so that LCSD could have sufficient time to deploy its manpower for the new arrangements.

11. The representative of CEDD responded to Members' enquiries and views as follows:

- 11.1 Safety problems with the section at Kwun Tong Promenade: CEDD planned to arrange etiquette ambassadors to be stationed at that place when the section of the GreenWay at Kwun Tong Promenade was newly opened to educate the public about the proper manner for using the GreenWay and the spirit of being considerate to one another. As for first-aid facilities, CEDD said that such facilities were already available at Kwun Tong Promenade presently.
- 11.2 Problems with works of the flood storage scheme at Kwun Tong Promenade: CEDD said that it had been maintaining close communication with DSD, and knew that the works were still at the design stage currently and no specific implementation timetable was available. As far as CEDD knew, DSD would implement diversion arrangements during the works so that Kwun Tong Promenade and the footpath could remain open, and would try its utmost to minimise the impact of the works. CEDD said that the public could use the boardwalk near the harbourfront of Kwun Tong Promenade to enjoy the facilities of the promenade.
- 11.3 Result of the questionnaire survey in 2018: CEDD understood that it had been several years already since the questionnaire survey in 2018. However, with reference to some of the present survey data of the pilot project of the Shared Path, the public in general welcomed the concept of shared paths. CEDD said that the day of Members' visit to the Shared Path had not been a holiday or a weekend and therefore the flow of people had been relatively low. Nonetheless, as far as CEDD knew, many visitors and foreign domestic helpers congregated at that area every weekend. Therefore, CEDD anticipated that the situation of the flow of people at Kwun Tong Promenade and that at the harbourfront promenade between Central and Wan Chai would be similar during weekends.

- 11.4 Problems with facilities at the section at Kwun Tong Promenade: CEDD stated that there were already shower and changing facilities at Hoi Bun Road Park opposite Kwun Tong Promenade at present while there were also lockers for rent under Kwun Tong Bypass. Concerning the situation after the expiry of the contract with the operator concerned, CEDD said that there was room for review on the feasibility of provision of additional lockers by the Government if there was a need. As for the spectator stands, CEDD said that the road surface at that place had already been widened after the removal of some of the plants. In addition, the narrower part of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade would be designed, with reference to the situation of the Shared Path, to have markings on the ground for soft separation in the hope of separating pedestrians and cyclists at the narrow part of the road to minimise risks.
- 11.5 Manpower problems of LCSD: CEDD said that after the opening of the section of the GreenWay at Kwun Tong Promenade, LCSD would review and coordinate its manpower arrangements having regard to the result of CEDD's later study on the management approach.
12. The representative of LCSD responded to Members' follow-up enquiries and views as follows:
- 12.1 Safety problems about the section of Kwun Tong Promenade: LCSD said that it was highly concerned about the safety problems of the GreenWay. Therefore, it had all along been providing views on the design of the GreenWay for CEDD. Apart from the shared space for pedestrians and cyclists on the GreenWay, there would also be a secondary path for pedestrians' exclusive use next to the GreenWay so that people in need (e.g. people pushing prams, wheelchair users, etc.) could use the secondary path for their own safety. As for the use of an artificial intelligence smart detective system, LCSD was currently discussing with CEDD now. LCSD stressed that it had been maintaining communication with CEDD all along to ensure smooth handover of work.
- 12.2 Management problems about the section of Kwun Tong Promenade: LCSD said that frontline officers would definitely provide assistance for the public in case minor incidents happened. Besides, etiquette ambassadors arranged by LCSD would remind or advise users of the GreenWay in a timely manner to pay attention to relevant safety matters. There were many family users at Kwun Tong Promenade. Etiquette ambassadors would remind parents to take good care of their children. According to the current practice, frontline officers would report serious accidents to the police when they happened.

12.3 Manpower problems of LCSD: LCS

D said that CEDD would arrange etiquette ambassadors for the GreenWay when it was newly opened, and had requested CEDD to conduct a study on the management approach. LCS

D would review and coordinate manpower arrangements according to the study result.

13. The Chairman asked the representative of CEDD to squarely respond if CEDD would conduct a questionnaire survey that was similar to the one in 2018 on the opening of the section of the GreenWay at Kwun Tong Promenade at the request of Members and for the concern of the public.

14. The representative of CEDD responded that CEDD was currently conducting a questionnaire survey on the pilot project of the Shared Path. Although the Shared Path was not located in Kai Tak Development, CEDD believed that the Shared Path was of certain referential value. Moreover, the result of the survey conducted at Kwun Tong Promenade in 2018 could reflect the true feelings of the public after they had experienced the use of the GreenWay in person. If a survey was conducted again before the commencement of the operation of the section at Kwun Tong Promenade, the public would not be able to use the GreenWay in person first and CEDD was worried that such a survey would not be able to completely reflect public opinion. At present, the questionnaire survey on the pilot project of the Shared Path was still in progress. CEDD would draw reference from the data obtained after the completion of the survey.

15. Members raised supplementary views and enquiries as follows:

15.1 Mr LAM Wai (i) considered the GreenWay a good facility. He was also concerned about the communication among related departments. The improvement works of the section of the GreenWay at Kwun Tong Promenade were scheduled for completion within this year while the works of the flood storage scheme of DSD at Kwun Tong Promenade were about to commence. He was worried that there would be conflicts between the two; (ii) was concerned about where the existing facilities that would be removed due to the improvement works would go. He asked CEDD if the existing facilities removed would be reused at the original locations after the completion of the improvement works to avoid wasting public money; and (iii) intended to know if related departments had communicated with one another on the implementation schedules of different works to ensure public money was used appropriately.

15.2 Mr KAN Ming-tung intended to know if there were sufficient close-circuit televisions (“CCTVs”) at Kwun Tong Promenade at present for provision of proof in case of accidents. According to his observation, there were not many security guards on-site. He queried whether there were sufficient CCTVs and manpower to deal with accidents if no additional manpower was provided in the future.

15.3 Mr Kevin SO (i) opined that LCSD's reply that accidents would be "reported to the police for assistance" reflected that there were no first-aid facilities at Kwun Tong Promenade or frontline officers there did not know how to use first-aid supplies. That was why the officers would report accidents to the police for assistance in case accidents happened. He requested LCSD to consider providing a first-aid station at Kwun Tong Promenade; (ii) said that DSD was going to commence the works of the flood storage scheme. The works would simultaneously affect Kwun Tong Promenade, Hoi Bun Road Park, and the football pitch and its shower facilities at Hoi Bun Road. In addition to the long duration of the works, he was worried that the section at Kwun Tong Promenade would be affected by the works of the flood storage scheme after the commissioning of that section. Therefore, he urged CEDD, LCSD and DSD to ensure that they maintained good communication; and (iii) emphasised that it was not the best timing to open the section of the GreenWay at Kwun Tong Promenade now. He said that he did not understand why CEDD still insisted on opening that section of the GreenWay at the current stage when it was already known that there would be works of the flood storage scheme at Kwun Tong Promenade in the future. He directly pointed out that the current situation could not provide the best environment for integration of pedestrians and cyclists. In his opinion, the GreenWay should not be opened until all the works were completed.

16. The representative of CEDD responded that CEDD had all along been maintaining close communication with DSD. According to CEDD's understanding, the flood storage scheme at Kwun Tong Promenade was still at the design stage and DSD was still seeking resources to implement the scheme. Therefore, there was no actual works timetable yet. Although there would be works of the flood storage scheme at Kwun Tong Promenade in the future, the GreenWay was in a north-south running design while the works of the flood storage scheme were in an east-west running design. CEDD believed that only some of the sections of the GreenWay would be affected by the works. Besides, DSD would try to minimise the impact of the relevant works on users of Kwun Tong Promenade when the works were in progress. For instance, the works would be divided into phases, and the existing footpaths or facilities would be adjusted having regard to the works.

17. The representative of LCSD responded that there was a first-aid room at Kwun Tong Promenade at present. It was located downstairs of the office. In addition, there were simple first-aid supplies at the security stations at other locations within the promenade. Frontline officers would provide assistance in case of special occurrences. As for CCTVs, LCSD would maintain close communication with CEDD to examine the need of installing additional CCTVs.

18. The Chairman concluded that Members supported the implementation of the GreenWay Project, but (i) they were concerned about the potential safety problems of the section at Kwun Tong

Promenade, i.e. competition over the use of the road between pedestrians and cyclists and occurrence of accidents; (ii) they were of the view that comprehensive development should not only hinge on the section at Kwun Tong Promenade, but also comprehensive matching between that section with the sections as Kai Tak and Cha Kwo Ling and other different works. However, the relevant departments had not provided any comprehensive planning in the present meeting. Conversely, the departments insisted on opening the around one-kilometre-long section at Kwun Tong Promenade, which might lead to crises; (iii) they were concerned about CEDD's use of outdated data. They had reservations over CEDD's use of survey data obtained in 2018, and hoped that CEDD could provide more reasonable grounds and data to convince the public and KTDC; and (iv) said that the improvement works of Kwun Tong Promenade could not address Members' concerns. In particular, there was much potential danger at the location of the spectator stands. The Chairman quoted a news report entitled "Poor publicity of the shared use of the path for pedestrians and cyclists - People worry about potential accidents - They state they may visit the harbourfront less often" published in a newspaper on 3 January. The article relayed that the interviewees were worried that the arrangements of the shared use of the path for pedestrians and cyclists would lead to accidents easily. They were particularly concerned about safety of children. The Chairman thought that the public opinion was very clear. He stressed that KTDC was not opposed to the implementation of the GreenWay, but KTDC only requested the relevant departments to be people-oriented and plan the project in detail. Therefore, he urged the relevant departments to conduct a comprehensive review on the urgency of the opening of the section of the GreenWay at Kwun Tong Promenade and provide more grounds to convince KTDC so that Members and the public's worries could be dispelled.

19. The Chairman said that he had received an extempore motion moved by the Vice-chairman, Mr Jimmy CHAN, Ms FU Pik-chun, Mr KAN Ming-tung, Mr LAM Wai, Mr TAM Siu-cheuk, Mr LEUNG Tang-fung, Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong and Mr HSU Yau-wai as follows:

"To improve the safety measures and open the entire cycle track in a timely manner"

20. The Chairman approved the handling of the above extempore motion in accordance with Order 17 of the KTDC Standing Orders.

21. Mr TAM Siu-cheuk presented the extempore motion.

22. Mr Kevin SO reminded the motion mover that there was an error in the choice of a Chinese character in the paper of the extempore motion and asked the mover to amend it.

23. After voting, the extempore motion was carried with 11 votes in favour, zero vote against and zero abstention.

24. The Chairman urged the relevant departments again to listen to the views raised by Members in the present meeting and appropriately handle the GreenWay Project to solve the problems that were of Members' concern in a timely manner.

**Item III — Progress Report on Works of East Kowloon Cultural Centre
(KTDC Paper No. 2/2023)**

25. The Chairman welcomed the following officers to the meeting for reporting to KTDC on the progress of the works of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre: Senior Project Manager 323 and Project Manager 355 of the Architectural Services Department ("ASD"), Associate Director and Associate of Rocco Design Architects Limited ("Rocco Design"), and Senior Manager (East Kowloon Cultural Centre) Project Co-ordination, Manager (East Kowloon Cultural Centre)1 and Senior Executive Officer (Planning)31 of LCSD.

26. The representatives of ASD and Rocco Design presented the paper.

27. Member raised views and enquiries as follows:

27.1 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk said that as the district councilor of Choi Tak Area, he had felt excited when witnessing the works of the dismantling of the tower crane. He said that it was the common wish of residents of Kwun Tong for the East Kowloon Cultural Centre ("EKCC") to be commissioned. He said that the works concerned had gone through several terms of KTDC over more than a decade, but the present paper said that EKCC could commence operation in phases between 2023 and 2024, which was different from the version given in past papers that EKCC would commence operation in 2023. He stated that residents wanted to use facilities of EKCC as early as possible. Therefore, he requested the department to explain due to what obstacles in inspections or which obstacles caused by officers had the progress of the works been delayed. He hoped that the works could be completed in time within this year. He asked the department to respond to his enquiry on the reasons for the postponement of the opening of EKCC.

27.2 Mr Kevin SO remarked that the information at the beginning had shown that ASD would partially hand over EKCC in 2022 to LCSD for installation of sound equipment and sound-proof fittings. However, the information had been changed and ASD would hand EKCC over to LCSD progressively from 2023 onwards. He said that LCSD had replied to KTDC that when ASD handed over the venue to LCSD for installation of sound equipment and sound-proof fittings of indoor performance venues,

a passage could first be opened for residents' use insofar as the works would not be affected. Residents would be able to reach Kowloon Bay MTR Station directly through the passage at EKCC. He hoped that LCSD could tell KTDC that LCSD would accord priority to allowing residents to use the passage first.

28. The representative of ASD responded to Members' views as follows:

28.1 Follow-up to the works progress: ASD said that the last time for the department to report the progress to KTDC had been the end of 2022, the time when the works had been completed and the handover of EKCC to LCSD in phases had started. ASD explained that since EKCC involved a theatre and some spaces with high ceilings, the procedure of the acceptance inspections was relatively complicated. Testing of fire service equipment with the Fire Services Department for the project had commenced in November 2022 and had substantially been completed in December 2022. The rest of the system testing would also be progressively completed. She said that although the progress of the works was different from the anticipation, ASD was still striving to hand over the venue to LCSD from 2023 onwards. As for the enquiry about the opening arrangements of EKCC, LCSD would provide a response.

28.2 Opening the passage for use: ASD said that the department had opened some of the space at the location commonly known as a triangular park (former "Ngau Tau Kok Road Flyover Rest Garden") within the works area as a passage for public use. As for the enquiry about the future opening time of the podium of the building, LCSD would provide a response.

29. The representative of LCSD said that the department would pay close attention to the works progress and the venue inspection situation. Meanwhile, LCSD needed to see the progress of work such as installation and testing of various equipment, devices and systems before formulating the specific commissioning timetables for various facilities after taking over EKCC. LCSD said that it had noted Members' views, and would consider the views when planning for the phased opening of the venue.

30. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

30.1 The Vice-chairman (i) said that he agreed to Members' enquiries and concerns about the works progress problems. He stated that Kwun Tong and Kowloon East, having waited for years, were longing for using the venue. In his opinion, residents might feel inconvenient when using EKCC if it was opened in phases. He asked the department to adopt new thinking to minimise limitations imposed by the framework

to expedite the completion progress; (ii) remarked that the flag-raising ceremonies in Kwun Tong District every year, such as the flag-raising activities on 1 July (the anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“HKSAR”)) and 1 October (the National Day), were held at schools borrowed in the district. There was no large-scale venue in the district for the ceremonies. Therefore, KTDC had in the past expressed its concern and repeatedly requested provision of a venue for the flag-raising ceremonies at EKCC, but the specific situation was unknown. He thought that the flag-raising ceremonies were solemn occasions with related standards. In view of this, he asked the department about the feasibility of conducting a march at the venue, the size of the audience that could be accommodated, etc.

30.2 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk added that ASD would now delay the handover of the venue to LCSD for a quarter and therefore LCSD would reasonably need to postpone the commencement of its work only for a quarter. He hoped that LCSD would clearly state in the paper of the next meeting the opening time and content of each phase after taking over the venue. In addition, he also suggested LCSD consider arranging to open the podium park of EKCC first for the flag-raising ceremonies to be held.

31. The representative of LCSD said that (i) she had noted Members’ views on the works progress arrangements, and LCSD would provide information about the specific arrangements for the phased opening in due course; (ii) concerning the flagstaff facilities, EKCC had reserved a place for provision of a flag-raising platform and a flagstaff. The location of that place had been endorsed by KTDC early in 2017. As for the actual arrangements, LCSD would announce them in due course having regard to the situation after taking over the venue.

32. The Chairman urged ASD and LCSD to note Members’ concerns, and hoped that EKCC could be opened for public use in phases in an orderly manner within a short period of time. He especially hoped that the flag-raising facilities could be completed before 1 July this year (the anniversary of the establishment of HKSAR).

Item IV — Request to Discuss and Review the Effectiveness of the “Tackling Hygiene Black Spots Programme”
(KTDC Paper No. 3/2023)

33. The Chairman received on 23 December 2022 a paper submitted by the Vice-chairman, Ms FU Pik-chun, Mr Jimmy CHAN, Mr KAN Ming-tung, Mr TAM Siu-cheuk, Mr NGAN Man-yu, Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong, Mr HSU Yau-wai, Mr LEUNG Tang-fung, Mr PANG Chi-sang and Mr LAM

Wai requesting the meeting to discuss and review the effectiveness of the “Government Programme on Tackling Hygiene Black Spots”. He said that since the paper was related to affairs of this district, he approved discussion on the above issue in the present meeting.

34. Mr Jimmy CHAN presented the paper.

35. The representatives of government departments responded as follows:

35.1. District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwun Tong), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”) (“DEHS(KT)/FEHD”) (i) responded that the “Government Programme on Tackling Hygiene Black Spots” (“Cleaning Programme”) was related to many government departments. FEHD had all along been conducting related work at hygiene black spots before the Cleaning Programme. He said that concerning the rodent infestation problems in Kwun Tong District, which was involved in the Cleaning Programme, FEHD had all along been working with the Housing Department (“HD”) to conduct rodent control and prevention work. The situation had improved now. At present, FEHD was studying another type of rodent control work that had been successful in some districts (e.g. Wong Tai Sin District). FEHD would consider if the control method would be introduced to other districts, but Kwun Tong District would use the existing method for the time being. As for the other hygiene black spots in the district, the focus was on Shui Wo Street. FEHD thought that the situation concerned had improved to a great extent already. Earlier on, several relatively stubborn shop owners would place their goods at unauthorised areas again after FEHD’s operations. After FEHD had changed its law enforcement strategy, it could be seen that shop owners did not place their goods outside their shops throughout the day even until the time when they closed their shops at night. Therefore, he thanked the Lands Department (“LandsD”), the Highways Department (“HyD”) and the Buildings Department (“BD”) for removing the concrete platforms at Shui Wo Street during the joint operation conducted earlier, leaving the person-in-charge of the shop with no more excuse to use the unauthorised platforms to place his/her goods, thereby putting the situation of Shui Wo Street under control. In addition, he said that FEHD had deployed resources in mid-December last year to launch with the police an operation which was similar to the one at Shui Wo Street in areas around On Wah Street, Ngau Tau Kok. Although that location was not a black spot, there had been a significant result after FEHD had extended the operation there. FEHD said that it would continue to conduct similar joint operations; and (ii) remarked that the Cleaning Programme would continue to proceed so that local hygiene problems would not happen again, and FEHD would provide work reports afterwards at the request of KTDC.

35.2 District Officer (Kwun Tong) (“DO(KT)”) (i) said that the District Management Committee (“DMC”), responsible for coordinating various departments to give responses in a timely manner in the Cleaning programme, played an important role in that programme. At the central level, the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration (“DCS”) had convened a meeting of the District Matters Co-ordination Task Force on 14 November 2022, i.e. three months after the commencement of the Cleaning Programme, to comprehensively review the effectiveness of the work of cleaning Hong Kong in all the 18 districts. Moreover, the Government had set clear objectives in this year’s policy address for various departments, requesting them to remove at least 75% of confirmed environmental hygiene black spots and reduce the number of priority rodent black spots at least by 50% by end-2023. He said that the cleaning work would keep going for a long term. The Kwun Tong District Office (“KTDO”) would continue to fully collaborate with various departments to combat hygiene black spots. Different departments would step up the work in their scope while work that required inter-departmental coordination would also continue. He briefly introduced the inter-departmental work coordinated by KTDO. Firstly, since August 2022, relevant departments had conducted six joint operations regarding handling of abandoned vehicles, involving 66 hygiene black spots and 100 confiscated vehicles, including 98 motorcycles and two vehicles other than motorcycles. The joint operations had mainly involved KTDO, the Transport Department (“TD”) and the Police Force. As for cleaning of “three-nil” buildings, he said that KTDO had increased the frequency of the clearing operations and conducted four operations in three months, involving 17 buildings. He had inspected the operations in person on-site and considered the situations satisfactory. He said that there were not many “three-nil” buildings in this district, and the clearing operations concerned would continue. As for some hygiene black spots where it was unclear who was responsible for the management, he said that KTDO would make use of resources to coordinate the cleaning work, and had completed three cleaning operations involving around 30 hygiene black spots; (ii) remarked that he agreed to FEHD’s view on the joint operations against unauthorised shop front extensions, opining that the situation had significantly improved. He related that he had conducted a site visit at Shui Wo Street Market around 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. the previous week and observed that shops there had only placed their goods at and occupied the road for a short period of time when the shops had been closed for cleaning. After that, the road had turned back to be smooth. Overall, the street hygiene situation of Shui Wo Street Market was satisfactory; (iii) said that the work of district publicity and education was still on-going. Since the commencement of the Cleaning Programme in August the previous year, KTDO had conducted strengthened publicity and education work jointly with district organisations for several times one after another at various hygiene black spots.

Lately, they had conducted the work at Ngau Tau Kok. He welcomed persistent joint efforts between Members and KTDO and relevant departments in terms of publicity and education work; (iv) as for unauthorised shop front extensions, DMC would closely monitor the situation and set it out in DMC's report. In the meeting held in mid-December 2022, he had been happy to see removal works for 57 unauthorised platforms completed in the middle of the previous month after issuance of 59 statutory notices in a joint operation requesting relevant shops to have their unauthorised platforms removed. KTDO would conduct a joint operation with HyD again to complete removal of two remaining platforms. He believed that the effectiveness of the joint operations was obvious to everyone. He said that he, as DO(KT) and the Chairman of DMC, would continue to review the relevant situation with various government departments and regularly report it to DCS for DCS's completion of work under his purview in terms of coordination and supervision at the high level. KTDO would also be happy to provide KTDC with related information at the request of Members.

- 35.3 Chief Manager/Management (Kowloon East), HD (“CM/M(KE)/HD”) (i) said that the Hong Kong Housing Authority (“HA”) had all along been attaching importance to the environmental hygiene situation of public housing estates and actively accommodating the Cleaning Programme and pest control work of the Government. In the past several months, HD had conducted joint operations with FEHD to inspect public housing estates in Kowloon East and listen to FEHD's professional advice on pest control. In addition, he said that there were many stakeholders in public housing estates, including shop owners of shopping centres and markets, as well as other owners such as The Link Real Estate Investment Trust. He understood that if cleaning or pest control work only relied on a single unit, the effectiveness might not be satisfactory. He stated that HD had listened to Members' views and invited stakeholders such as owners and non-governmental organisations to participate in the past joint operations to strengthen cleaning and pest control work together. On the other hand, he said that HD had enhanced publicity and education work at public housing estates for the Cleaning Programme. HD would also continue with the cleaning and pest control work of public housing estates; (ii) reported on the “Cross-sectoral Territory-wide Anti-rodent Action” (“Anti-rodent Action”), which had been launched by the Government. HA had conducted the “Year-end Clean-up Campaign” between 28 December 2022 and 17 January 2023 to enhance the cleaning work at public housing estates before the Chinese New Year.

36. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

36.1 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk (i) recognised the effectiveness of the Cleaning Programme and commended KTDO for its excellent coordination ability and various departments for their ability to take action. He suggested this beautiful result report should be publicised, including the number of hygiene black spots inspected during the operations and the number of abandoned vehicles handled to enhance the public's recognition for the Government and various departments. He also hoped that departments could continue to update information about the Cleaning Programme in the follow-up work; (ii) concerning pest control, he remarked that he knew the pilot area mentioned by FEHD was Tai Shing Street Market. He had noticed that there had been a news report saying that the number of rodents caught had increased from several dozens to more than 700 each time, which had been a very amazing result. He hoped that FEHD could report the new rodent control method to its headquarters and study as soon as possible to arrange the adoption of such a method at markets of this district. He suggested FEHD share the new method with HD to minimise rodent infestation problems at eateries under HD's purview. He hoped that FEHD would bring this new style to all the districts for the betterment of cleaning work.

36.2 Mr Jimmy CHAN (i) commended government departments, such as KTDO, FEHD, HyD and LandsD, for collaborating with one another to conduct large-scale joint operations. He said that since the introduction of the Cleaning Programme, he had participated in those large-scale joint operations together with other Members many times. The Police had also rendered assistance in the operations. He remarked that FEHD had been prone to conflicts with shop owners when enforcing the law in the past. The assistance provided by the Police now was very helpful to FEHD's operations. He was happy to see that a large number of abandoned vehicles had been handled in the present operation so that the black spots of abandoned vehicles in the constituency he belonged to had been improved and many motorcycle parking spaces had been freed for motorists' use. He hoped that the measure concerned could be sustained; (ii) regarding the effectiveness indicators, he was pleased to know that DCS had mentioned in the review meeting in November 2022 that the Government would keep on combating more than 20 hygiene black spots all over the territory, including Kwun Tong. He hoped that KTDO could progressively publicise figures about the effectiveness of the operations. He said that it had been ineffective for departments to combat hygiene black spots at individual locations in the past. He hoped that the inter-departmental joint operations under the coordination of KTDO could be strengthened and be effective. He also hope that the operations could be continued.

36.3 The Vice-chairman (i) in general agreed very much that various departments had done a large quantity of work in these three months and brought a significant result to the improvement of the hygiene situation of the district. He said that the main aim for Members to have submitted the discussion paper was to follow up on the sustainability of the work of the Cleaning Programme. Moreover, the public were also concerned about the relevant follow-up work. He thought that cleaning work should not be done only for a short period of time. Instead, it should be a continuous action. Therefore, he was happy to hear the departments say that the Cleaning Programme would continue to be conducted; (ii) as for rodent control, he said that many members of the public still reflected to him that rodent infestation problems were serious, which showed that there was still room for improvement in rodent control work. He opined that traditional rodent control methods, such as placing of rodent baits, could only lead to insignificant results. On the contrary, folk methods, such as placing of water tanks or glue traps, could bear fruit. He had also noticed that statistical figures about rodent infestation in private buildings were lower than those in public housing estates, showing that the effectiveness of rodent control work could be improved as long as departments thought about more ways to deal with rodent infestation; (iii) believed that the mosquito infestation situation in 2022 had still been serious. He hoped that departments could enhance prevention and control work at public places and public housing estates in 2023. All in all, he thanked various departments for their efforts and accomplishments in the Cleaning Programme and called on other Members to spare no efforts to work with various departments together to improve the environmental hygiene of the district to minimise the number of hygiene black spots.

36.4 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong (i) commended that the Cleaning Programme had led to a fair result and publicly commended KTDO, HD, LCSD and FEHD. He said that he had earlier reflected to relevant departments places with rodent infestation or hygiene problems and those problems had been dealt with promptly; (ii) remarked that according to his observation, the amount of rubbish in the community would be relatively large before and after the Chinese New Year. Moreover, given that the number of confirmed cases of the epidemic had still been rising, he guessed many cleaning workers would be confirmed to be infected with the virus one after another. In addition to the reopening of the border rumoured widely recently, he believed that many cleaning workers would take leave and return to the Mainland to visit their families. Therefore, he urged FEHD and HD to ensure that there were sufficient frontline cleaning workers working during the Chinese New Year to maintain normal operation of cleaning work of the community.

36.5 Ms FU Pik-chun complimented DEHS(KT)/FEHD's team, including Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing and Pest Control) Kwun Tong 2, Mr SO Yeung-fung, for combating hygiene black spots and rodent infestation problems. She said that there had been a newspaper report in November saying that the rodent infestation problems at Shun Lee Disciplined Services Quarters, 32 Lee On Road had been very serious. Rodents there had been moving around day and night. She remarked that with Mr SO's assistance, the management company of the housing estate had been made to pay attention to the problems. FEHD's work had been particularly effective in terms of the clear stipulation of the possible further prosecution action on the statutory notice issued by FEHD, which had impelled the management company to actively deal with the relevant problems. She said that with the significant alleviation of the rodent infestation problems, she did not receive relevant complaints anymore. She looked forward to seeing FEHD continue to handle the follow-up work of the Anti-rodent Action with dedication.

36.6 Mr Kevin SO (i) thanked DEHS(KT)/FEHD and his team. He said that he had compared the hygiene situation of Kwun Tong District with those in other districts in the previous meeting. There had been obvious improvement in the hygiene situation of Kwun Tong District in recent two months. He hoped that departments could continue to pay efforts; (ii) appreciated DO(KT)'s paying site visits in person apart from his listening to reports in meetings of DMC. In Mr SO's opinion, effective combating of hygiene black spots required assigning of officers for inspections of those black spots, especially during the Chinese New Year, when it was very common to see illegal hawking of New Year flowers at Shui Wo Street. He opined that departments should regularly follow up on the illegal hawking problem of merchants; (iii) related that there had been improvement to the unauthorised shop front extension situation next to Ngau Tau Kok Market after a series of law enforcement actions. Yet, some of the large-scale chain shops still placed their goods on and occupying the road late at night. He believed that departments should follow up on this problem; and (iv) he hoped that FEHD would step up efforts in cleaning markets and footpaths in the surroundings of local construction site areas when the Chinese New Year was approaching.

37. The representatives of government departments responded to Members' views as follows:

37.1 DO(KT) (i) thanked Members for their recognition of various government departments' work. He said that every time he discussed the relevant problems in meetings of DMC, he felt that all the departments pushed forward their work in earnest, which made the efforts twice as effective. He remarked that apart from

individual departments that Members had praised, some other departments that might not have taken part in every operation had paid efforts in the operations too, including LandsD and BD. He would like to take this opportunity to give recognition to the departments concerned; and (ii) would seriously study the suggestion raised by Members to departments of publicising the work results. He asked the Secretariat to obtain relevant figures from various departments and subsequently set them out in meeting papers for meeting attendees to gain an understanding of the results of the operations.

- 37.2 DEHS(KT)/FEHD (i) remarked that FEHD had all along been committed to alleviating the hygiene problems of Kwun Tong District. He said that after FEHD had used glue traps to control rodents at Tai Shing Street Market, Wong Tai Sin, the effectiveness of catching rodents had indeed been raised. He would strive to arrange trial areas in Kwun Tong District as soon as possible; (ii) said that Members could rest assured that the number of frontline cleaning workers, stipulated by contracts, could not be reduced casually; (iii) said that FEHD was concerned about the hawking of New Year flowers at streets during the Chinese New Year. The department had reminded shops concerned that the department would firmly enforce the law if irregularities were found, and no unlicensed hawking would be allowed. As for arrangements for law enforcement officers, he explained that since the flower market would be held again this year, and the Hawker Control Teams would be responsible for keeping the order of the venues, there might be manpower deployment problems. He promised that he would try his best to properly deal with the illegal hawking problems outside the flower market; (iv) remarked that when arranging cleaning of streets, FEHD would deploy water wagons to go to construction site areas in the district to clean the road surfaces. The road surfaces would be cleaned and washed as far as possible to minimise the impact brought by sand and gravel on motorists and pedestrians; and (v) stated that FEHD would follow up on the rodent infestation problems of Shun Lee Disciplined Services Quarters and continue to work with the management company of the housing estate to prevent the problems from deteriorating.

38. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

- 38.1 Mr KAN Ming-tung (i) said that DO(KT), as the Chairman of DMC, was very important to the district management work. DO(KT)'s good leadership helped the collaboration among departments and district administration very much, and the efforts had already born fruit in terms of dealing with hygiene problems. He had been to Lam Tin and Yau Tong for site visits together with DO(KT) and officers of

departments. He said that the situations had been poor, but good results could already be seen after the departments and KTDO had paid efforts in recent months. He opined that apart from conducting site visits in person, Members could know the situations from the number of complaints received. As the number of complaints had decreased now, it showed that the problem had been alleviated. Therefore, he duly recognised the effectiveness of the operations; (ii) remarked that there had been a news report saying that there had been a large amount of rubbish at Kwun Tong Promenade before the New Year. Therefore, he suggested KTDO coordinate various departments' work, such as LCSD's distribution of publicity leaflets to enhance the publicity of the idea "Take your Litter Home", and FEHD's placement of large rubbish bins at footpaths to facilitate disposal of rubbish when the public left certain venues and education of the public to use venue facilities carefully when celebrating festivals at the venues.

- 38.2 Mr LAM Wai (i) thanked DO(KT) for leading various departments to handle the environmental hygiene problems at hillsides in the district under his purview. He said that various departments, including LandsD, HyD, DH and FEHD, had all conducted site visits in the district, and that the departments had seriously handled the locations under their purview. He thanked the various departments for making concerted efforts to handle the problems; (ii) raised suggestions regarding throwing objects from heights and improving facilities. Firstly, about prosecutions against throwing objects from heights, he was aware that there were surveillance points in the district. Yet, the effectiveness was not satisfactory, and the problem of throwing objects from heights still existed. Thus, he suggested HD strengthen the combating of the problem of throwing objects from heights. Secondly, he asked contractors to enhance supervision and management of environmental hygiene facilities for improvement. Taking rat guards as an example, he said that before providing comprehensive facilities, contractors had chosen to use rat guards with a very careless design. Those rat guards had even allowed rats to climb more easily. Therefore, he suggested HD enhance supervision of contractors' work and works quality to ensure that contractors properly provided temporary facilities to avoid encouraging pest to enter premises by exploiting weak spots. He believed that the better method was to improve relevant facilities in one go so that public money could be spent properly.
- 38.3 Mrs Winnie POON said that there were private rural markets at Ngau Tau Kok Market opposite Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate and at areas around Ngau Tau Kok Road at present. There were elderly people and environmental protection workers collecting items that could be resold and hawking those items at housing estates and

footpaths. She believed that the relevant situations would exacerbate when the Chinese New Year approached. She knew that departments had difficulties in handling such situations, or would be misunderstood as depriving the elderly of chances to be self-reliant. However, she thought that departments should pay attention to such a problem and discuss improvement methods when the Chinese New Year approached. She said that there had been people hawking as early as before 8:30 a.m. at areas around Hip Wo Street in the past. There was a similar problem at other districts. Overall, these acts were illegal hawking and those places were hygiene black spots. She hoped that various departments, especially HD, would pay more attention.

- 38.4 Mr Jimmy CHAN (i) said that although there were many Members praising in the present meeting FEHD' team for its past work performance, but such work could not be completed within a short period of time, opining that FEHD should not be complacent. He said that he had conducted publicity work in the district for several times together with FEHD's team, thinking that apart from enhancing publicity, FEHD should enhance prosecution, advice and education work. He said that whenever district figures such as representatives of government departments and Members of KTDC conducted site visits, there were quite positive responses, and many shop owners were happy to see improvement to the local environmental hygiene. He opined that such work could not rely on a single department, and rodent control work should be done regularly. He hoped that FEHD could make use of its professional knowledge to maintain communication with other departments while other departments, such as HD, should not stand still. In the past, there had been many hygiene problems at public housing estates. KTDC hoped that the rodent infestation problems at public housing estates could be rectified with FEHD's professional advice; and (ii) apart from the problem of hygiene black spots, he suggested FEHD review the operation of refuse collection vehicles on an on-going basis. He said that he had recently received complaints from many residents recently. They had complained that there were refuse collection vehicles in the district leaking wastewater when running on roads, causing road safety problems. He had reflected the situation concerned to FEHD and been informed that there were two kinds of refuse collection vehicles, namely a refuse collection vehicle fleet under FEHD's purview and contractors' refuse collection vehicle fleets. It was very difficult to monitor the operation of contractors' fleets, and therefore the road surfaces of many locations in Kwun Tong District were full of wastewater, which might even cause traffic accidents, particularly motorcycle accidents. He hoped that FEHD would arrange water wagons to more frequently clean stains on road surfaces apart from enhancing review of the situation.

39. DEHS(KT)/FEHD responded to Members' views as follows:

39.1 Handling of the private rural market problem: FEHD knew that there were many elderly people hawking in early hours for a short period of time, and said that there were internal guidelines for dealing with such situations, including giving advice, driving those hawkers away and instituting prosecutions. FEHD would pay close attention to related situations when the Chinese New Year approached.

39.2 Leakage of wastewater from refuse collection vehicles: (i) said that there were two kinds of refuse collection vehicles operating in the district. One of the main kinds was a kind of vehicles with clean and tidy bodies and trademarks clearly showing that they were refuse collection vehicles of a "refuse collection service contractor of FEHD", which belonged to the fleet of Lapco Service Limited ("Lapco"), which was the refuse collection service contractor of Kwun Tong District. Another kind was privately engaged refuse collection vehicles. He said that Lapco was currently responsible for refuse collection service of the entire Kwun Tong District, and had step by step been replacing all its refuse collection vehicles with those of new models. After receiving information from Members about refuse collection vehicles' leakage of wastewater, FEHD had immediately held a meeting with Lapco to confirm that its vehicles had not had any leakage problem. In addition, he said that no matter it was refuse collection vehicles of FEHD's contractors, or those few privately engaged refuse collection vehicles, it was possible for them to suffer a wastewater leakage problem. FEHD had taken the initiative to contact Members and residents to follow up on the reports, but since information received could not clearly indicate the routes of the refuse collection vehicles and locations involved in the incidents, it was difficult to trace the vehicles and provide evidence to prove anything. He said that after receiving the information, he had followed up on the situations of several of the vehicles involved, and would further enquire of colleagues responsible for this about prosecution information; (ii) FEHD also shared with KTDC the procedure of reporting wastewater leakages of refuse collections vehicles. He remarked that if anyone saw such a situation, he/she could first record the registration number and colour of the vehicle and the location involved, and complete and submit a report form provided by FEHD. Then, FEHD would be able to institute a prosecution against the owner of that refuse collection vehicle for littering from a vehicle, which was a very simple procedure. If he/she made a report over the telephone without providing the above information, FEHD might not be able to prosecute the owner of that vehicle. Instead, the department could only arrange officers to follow up on and look into the case, and it would be more difficult to institute a prosecution. He said that FEHD was currently arranging its team to handle the related work insofar as

resources permitted. Moreover, apart from refuse collection vehicles, he said that the public could complete the forms to report drivers' improper disposal of cigarette buds. FEHD had in the past received quite a number of such reports and successfully prosecuted the offenders. Lastly, he suggested complainants provide their contact telephone numbers for FEHD when making reports so that the department could easily collect further information for follow-up action. Otherwise, the effectiveness of making reports would not be satisfactory.

40. DO(KT) added that Kwun Tong Promenade was a matter of great concern to KTDO, and did not want to see it reported in news anymore. He said since the Chinese New Year was approaching, he would liaise with the relevant departments, especially LCSD and FEHD, to discuss the strengthening of cleaning and refuse collection work, including the provision of additional rubbish bins to facilitate the disposal of refuse. On publicity and education, KTDO would also discuss with the relevant departments to carry out relevant work during the festive period to raise public awareness of the "responsibility of all".

41. CM/M(KE)/HD responded to Members' views as follows:

- 41.1 Handling the problem of throwing objects from heights: HD noted Members' feedback and advised that it would step up monitoring and related prosecution work.
- 41.2 Design of rodent control facilities of public housing estates: HD reviewed the installations in public housing estates from time to time, and would arrange provision of additional facilities or maintenance if necessary with a view to completing the works as soon as possible during the "Year-end Clean-up Campaign". KTDO understood Members' expectation that the temporarily designed installations would be effective in prevention and control of rodent infestation and that the works could be completed as soon as their locations were confirmed.
- 41.3 Handling of the private rural market problem: HD noted that the locations of the private rural markets mentioned by Members were not within any public housing estate area, and said that the department had been monitoring the situation in the vicinity of the public housing estate concerned.
- 41.4 Estate cleaning and rodent disinfestation work: HD remarked that it would continue its efforts in cleaning and rodent disinfestation work in public housing estates, maintain good communication with FEHD and actively work with FEHD for implementation of FEHD's rodent disinfestation measures, thereby striving to improve the cleaning and rodent control condition in public housing estates.

42. The Chairman looked forward to the continued efforts of government departments in promoting the clean-up work.

Item V — (A) Reports by Chairman of the District Management Committee
(KTDC Paper No. 4/2023)

43. Mr TAM Siu-cheuk referred to item 26 of the present paper on “Re-allocation of Offices Returned by Mutual Aid Committees”, which stated that “a certain size of space should be reserved in each public housing estate for promotion or storage of solid waste”. He said he did not quite understand the meaning of “storage of solid waste”, and was worried that vacant flats would be used as refuse collection rooms or for waste separation. He hoped that HD would clarify the issue concerned.

44. CM/M(KE)/HD responded that priority would be given to allocating vacant flats for domestic use. Besides, in the light of the Government’s Municipal Solid Waste Treatment Programme, each public housing estate would later be arranged to reserve space for publicity or storage of materials. By that time, vacant flats in public housing estates would then be acquired for implementation of the above programme, and the number of flats required might increase or decrease according to the implementation progress of the programme.

45. The meeting noted the paper.

Item V — (A) Reports by Chairmen of Standing Committees
(KTDC Paper No. 5/2023)

Annex 1: CRSYDC

46. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 2: Food, Environmental Hygiene and District Facilities Management Committee

47. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 3: Housing, Planning, Lands, Development and Redevelopment Committee

48. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 4: Social Services, Education and Women Development Committee

49. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 5: Traffic Development and Transport Committee

50. Ms FU Pik-chun said that the epidemic had subsided now and the arrangements for border reopening were ready. Therefore, she hoped that TD would resume services of airbus routes such as route no. A29P as soon as possible so that residents could go out conveniently.

51. Chief Transport Officer/Kowloon 2, TD remarked that since the border was going to be reopened, it was anticipated that the overall cross-boundary flow of people would increase. TD would progressively enhance services of airbus routes with the bus company. TD said that services of some of the main routes had substantially returned to the pre-epidemic level whereas some of the supporting routes would progressively resume their services having regard to patronage growth. TD could have further discussion with Members on situations of service resumption of individual airbus routes.

52. The Chairman asked TD to note the Member's concern and follow up on the relevant situation.

53. The meeting noted the paper.

Item VI – Any Other Business

(A) Matters on Duty Visit of District Councillors

54. The Chairman reported that since the 5th term of district councils (2016-2019), the Government had provided funding for duty visits of district councils in the hope of giving district councillors the opportunities to exchange views with related organisations or associations outside Hong Kong on district affairs so that district councillors could be inspired on the ways they dealt with affairs related to district administration, thereby enhancing the quality of district administration. In this connection, the Chairman reflected that there were Members hoping that the matters concerned could be discussed in an FC meeting.

55. The Chairman opined that duty visits could not only broaden district councillors' horizons, but also enhance the quality of district administration through different aspects. Therefore, the Chairman suggested Members put forward suggestions on details of a duty visit, and intended to hold the duty visit no later than June this year. As for the destination of the duty visit, Members could

consider countries related to the Belt and Road and the Association of South-East Asian Nations and places on Mainland China. The Secretariat would consult Members in due course.

56. The Chairman believed that there were many details pending discussion for the duty visit, and relevant government departments' assistance and accommodation would be required so as to ascertain the destination, time and content of the duty visit. Thus, the Chairman suggested the Secretariat collect views on the duty visit from the entire KTDC and refer the views to the Finance, Administration and Management Committee for follow-up action so that arrangements for the duty visit could be confirmed.

57. The meeting noted the matters.

Item VII — Date of Next Meeting

58. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 7 March 2023 (Tuesday).

59. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 7 March 2023.

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat
February 2023