

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 1st Meeting of
District Facilities and Works Committee,
the 7th Term Kwun Tong District Council**

Date: 9 January 2024 (Tuesday)
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 3:59 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Kwun Tong District Office,
Unit 05-07, 20/F, Millennium City 6, 392 Kwun Tong Road,
Kwun Tong, Kowloon

Present

Mr OR Chong-shing, Wilson, MH (Chairman)	Mr HSU Yau-wai
Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong (Vice-chairman)	Mr CHAN Yiu-hung, Jimmy, MH
Mr YU Siu-lun	Mr TSANG Wing-fai
Mr YU Ka-ming	Ms CHING Hoi-yan
Mr NG Ting-fung	Ms FENG Yunsi
Mr LUI Tung-hai, MH	Mr WONG Chun-ping, MH, JP
Ms LEE Shuk-woon, Sophia	Mr WONG Kai-san
Mr LEE Ka-hang	Ms YU Juliana
Mr FONG Yat-kwan	Ms ZHAN Baoyu
Mr LAM Wai	Mr AU YEUNG Kwan-nok
Ms KAM Kin	Mr CHENG Keung-fung
Mr CHEUNG Yiu-pan	Mr KAN Ming-tung, MH
Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang, MH	Mr TAM Siu-cheuk
Ms LEUNG Sze-wan	Mr KWAN Kin-wing
Ms FU Pik-chun, MH	Mr PANG Chi-sang

In Attendance

Mr LAM Fuk-leong, Jack	Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)2, Kwun Tong District Office
Mr CHOW Lap-kan, Douglas	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office
Miss CHOW Tak-sum, Amy	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr LI Kin, Brayden	Executive Officer I (District Management), Kwun Tong District Office

Miss LEE Yuen-tung, Phoebe	Executive Officer II (District Management), Kwun Tong District Office
Ms CHAN Pun-ho, Sandy	Liaison Officer-in-charge (District Facilities), Kwun Tong District Office
Ms CHEUNG Yee-mei, May	Chief Leisure Manager (Kowloon), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr LUI Chi-chung	District Leisure Manager (Kwun Tong), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms SIU Sau-king, Michelle	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Kwun Tong, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms WONG Sze-wan	Senior Librarian (Kwun Tong), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr YEUNG Sau-man, Simon	Senior Executive Officer (Planning)31, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr LEUNG Wai-lam, William	Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 4), Water Supplies Department
Miss POON Nga-man, Amy	Engineer/Kowloon 6, Drainage Services Department
Mr YIP Yuk-tsang, Steven	District Engineer/Kwun Tong, Highways Department
Mr LI Ka-wang, Calvin	Engineer/11 (East), Civil Engineering and Development Department

Secretary

Miss FUNG Siu-man, Alina	Executive Officer (District Council)5, Kwun Tong District Office
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Absent

Mr YU Man, MH
Mr MA Yat-chiu, MH

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all Members of the District Facilities and Works Committee (“DFWC”) and government representatives to the 1st meeting of DFWC under the 7th Term Kwun Tong District Council (“KTDC”).

2. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received notices of absence from Mr YU Man and Mr MA Yat-chiu before the meeting. DFWC consented to the above two applications for absence due to their compliance with Order 64 (1) of the Kwun Tong District Council Standing Orders.

I. Report on the Utilisation of Public Libraries of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) in Kwun Tong District (KTDC DFWC Paper No. 1/2024)

3. The representative of LCSD presented the paper.

4. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

4.1 Members suggested that the past data on the utilisation of libraries be included in the paper for Members’ comparison with the current data.

4.2 Members asked why there were no mobile libraries in either Shun Lee Estate or Shun On Estate, and enquired whether LCSD would provide such services in future.

5. The representative of LCSD responded to Members’ views and enquiries as follows:

5.1 The paper was a regular report to Members on the utilisation of libraries in the two months before the meeting. LCSD would provide past information to Members after the meeting.

5.2 Mobile libraries: LCSD said that Shun Lee Estate had already had a small library with well-equipped facilities to serve the residents of Shun Lee Estate and Shun On Estate. The department pointed out that there were currently 12 mobile library vans across the territory, with 10 service stations in Kwun Tong District serving areas far away from libraries. It would also adjust the locations of service stations in the district according to different circumstances and needs, including establishing service stations in On Tat Estate and On Tai Estate last year in response to community development. In addition, LCSD currently provided over 500 000 e-books to cater for different needs of the public.

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

6.1 Members enquired whether LCSD would consider increasing the collections of Sau

Mau Ping and Shun Lee Estate libraries to meet the needs of residents.

6.2 Members suggested that LCSD open mobile libraries during non-office hours to allow more members of the public to use the services.

6.3 Members enquired whether the number of libraries in the district was in line with population planning, and asked about LCSD's plan to add/relocate/expand libraries.

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

7.1 LCSD said that having regard to community development, Sau Mau Ping Public Library was reprovisioned in 2021 and its area was increased by more than double. Its service facilities and collections also increased accordingly. LCSD would actively study the feasibility of establishing libraries in new development projects.

7.2 The opening hours of mobile libraries: LCSD noted Members' suggestions and added that mobile libraries were support services provided to areas far away from libraries. The department encouraged members of the public to use stationary libraries with richer collections and services. In addition, apart from developing physical services, LCSD provided more than 500 000 e-books and 80 electronic databases to cater for different needs.

7.3 Having regard to community and population development, LCSD was looking at the possibility of setting up a small library in Cha Kwo Ling Development Project.

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

8.1 Members suggested that Cha Kwo Ling Library should be located near residential areas and a large library should be considered to be built to cater for the growing population in Yau Tong. In addition, Members enquired about the estimated completion time of Cha Kwo Ling Library.

8.2 Members invited LCSD to give a briefing on electronic services.

8.3 Members suggested that LCSD compile statistics on the circulation of various types of books at mobile libraries to understand the interests of different groups of readers in order to promote its services.

9. The representative of LCSD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
- 9.1 Small library in Cha Kwo Ling: LCSD said that it was exploring the possibility of reserving space to build a small library in the Cha Kwo Ling Development Area. As the plan was still in its preliminary stages, there was no specific completion time yet. LCSD would provide relevant information to Members in due course.
- 9.2 LCSD responded that mobile libraries mainly served areas far away from libraries, and users were generally children, the elderly and housewives in the areas. The department thanked Members for their suggestions and would examine ways to strengthen the promotion of mobile library services.
10. The Chairman hoped that LCSD would make good use of existing resources to enhance interaction with KTDC and publicity to the public. In addition, the Chairman suggested that LCSD also provide data on the utilisation of libraries for the same period of the preceding year or the past three months in the meeting paper for Members' reference.

II. Report on the Management of LCSD Facilities in Kwun Tong District for August to November 2023
(KTDC DFWC Paper No. 2/2024)

11. The representative of LCSD presented the paper.
12. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:
- 12.1 Members pointed out that the paper showed the overall performance of the security services contractor was average, and asked how LCSD would urge the contractor to improve its services.
- 12.2 Members enquired LCSD whether the works period of the improvement works for Lift L1 in Hong Ning Road Park could be shortened, and whether there were plans to replace Lift L2.
- 12.3 Members said that the utilisation rate of the 7-a-side soccer pitch at On Sau Road Park was on the low side from September to November last year and suggested LCSD open the venue to the public for free.

- 12.4 Members relayed that the lawn area near the jogging track at On Sau Road Park was seriously damaged, hoping that LCSD would follow up and check whether it was due to drainage or maintenance problems.
- 12.5 Members suggested that LCSD step up anti-mosquito efforts in Shun Lee Tsuen Park, Shun Lee Tsuen Playground and Jordan Valley Park.
- 12.6 Members enquired about the details of the football pitch repair works at Lam Tin Service Reservoir Playground, including the repair schedule.
13. The representative of LCSD gave a consolidated response to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
- 13.1 The performance of the security services contractor: LCSD said that the contractor was changed in the middle of last year and its average performance was mainly due to manpower shortage. The department had issued several warning letters to the contractor in recent months, and the contractor was actively recruiting additional manpower to improve its services.
- 13.2 Anti-mosquito work: LCSD would set up a special contract every year before the rainy season to carry out anti-mosquito work every week. The department would also consult the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") for professional advice and conduct joint operations with FEHD in due course.
- 13.3 Improvement works for Lift L1 in Hong Ning Road Park: LCSD said that it was difficult to shorten the works period due to the time required for tendering. Nevertheless, it was believed that the project could be completed in June. As for Lift L2, since the inspection results showed that the lift was in normal condition, there was no plan to replace it yet.
- 13.4 LCSD stated that it would follow up on the condition of the lawn area near the jogging track at On Sau Road Park.
- 13.5 The 7-a-side soccer pitch at On Sau Road Park: LCSD pointed out that poor weather conditions from September to October last year might affect the utilisation rate, and stated that the venue was a fee-charging facility and would not be open for free for the time being.

13.6 Lam Tin Service Reservoir Playground: LCSD said that the playground had been requisitioned by the Government as a mobile testing station in early 2023. To promptly reopen the venue for public use, LCSD only carried out temporary repair works after taking over the venue. Currently, the Architectural Services Department (“ArchSD”) was performing formal repair of the venue, including resurfacing works and other work processes, which would be carried out in phases to reduce the impact on the public.

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

14.1 Members pointed out that Jordan Valley Swimming Pool and Kwun Tong Swimming Pool would be temporarily closed from January to the end of February 2024, and asked if LCSD had assessed whether Lam Tin Swimming Pool could withstand the additional flow of people.

14.2 Members suggested that LCSD explore the provision of rental concessions for under-utilised venues in order to attract the flow of people.

15. The representative of LCSD responded to Members’ views and enquiries as follows:

15.1 The closure of swimming pools: LCSD stated that under the law, swimming pools were required to be emptied of water for inspection every year. Therefore, in addition to closing its outdoor swimming pool facilities on 1 November every year, the department would also close its indoor swimming pools for annual maintenance. As it took time for LCSD to perform various tasks, such as inspecting tiles, repairing cracks, checking plant room equipment and testing water quality, swimming pools had to be closed for a period of time. Apart from Lam Tin Swimming Pool, indoor swimming pools in Wong Tai Sin District and Kowloon City District would remain open as usual during the closure of Jordan Valley Swimming Pool and Kwun Tong Swimming Pool. According to past records, they should be sufficient to meet public needs.

16. Members noted the paper.

**III. Report on the Utilisation of Community Halls/Community Centres in Kwun Tong District
(KTDC DFWC Paper No. 3/2024)**

17. The representative of the Kwun Tong District Office (“KTDO”) presented the paper.

18. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

18.1 Members enquired about the reasons for the low utilisation rates of the hall of Kwun Tong Community Centre and the conference rooms of various community halls.

18.2 Members requested KTDO to follow up on the problem of projector failure in Yau Tong Community Hall.

18.3 Members suggested installing electronic display screens in Shun Lee Estate Community Centre to attract more groups to hire the venue.

18.4 Members recommended that KTDO provide information about community halls to hirers, such as the dimensions of spaces for hanging banners.

18.5 Members suggested that KTDO inform hirers in advance about equipment failure.

18.6 Members enquired about the works duration of the replacement works of stage lightings for Lok Wah Estate Community Centre and asked KTDO to consider partially closing the venue and carry out the works during off-peak hours wherever possible.

(Post-meeting note: KTDO had provided the Members concerned with information on the stage lighting replacement works for Lok Wah Estate Community Centre on 18 January 2024.)

19. The representative of KTDO responded to Members’ views and enquiries as follows:

19.1 KTDO would later provide supplementary information on Kwun Tong Community Centre.

(Post-meeting note: KTDO had provided the Members concerned with supplementary information on Kwun Tong Community Centre on 15 January 2024.)

19.2 Yau Tong Community Hall: KTDO would relay the projector problem to the person-in-

charge of the venue.

19.3 Installation of electronic screens: KTDO would consider the suggestion based on the allocation of resources.

19.4 Provision of the dimensions of community hall venues: KTDO would work with the persons-in-charge of community halls to examine the possibility of providing relevant information to applicants.

19.5 Works for Lok Wah Estate Community Centre: KTDO would work with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department to explore the feasibility of closing the venue during off-peak hours.

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

20.1 Members enquired whether Care Teams had been given priority to hire venues and whether they could hire venues under LCSD (such as sports centres).

20.2 Members enquired whether Kai Yip Community Hall needed to be closed during the enhancement works of the hall sound system.

(Post-meeting note: KTDO had called the Member concerned on 1 March 2024, providing additional information on the enhancement works of the hall sound system for Kai Yip Community Hall.)

20.3 Members relayed that the automatic door of Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre could easily let in cold air, causing inconvenience to the staff of the cold shelter. In addition, since the facilities at the centre were normally open for hire by the public from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., cold shelter users could only rest on the seats during this period. Members suggested that KTDO improve the relevant arrangements.

20.4 Members enquired how KTDO would notify hirers of damage to the facilities.

20.5 Members hoped that KTDO would provide the contact information of the persons-in-charge of venues.

20.6 Members suggested that KTDO adopt QR codes to allow hirers to take the initiative to report equipment damage.

- 20.7 Members recommended that KTDO enhance the arrangements for opening the venues to other applicants after cancellation of venue hire by applicants.
- 20.8 Members suggested that KTDO refer to the practice of LCSD and provide a list of rental items for hirers to choose from.
21. The representative of KTDO responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
- 21.1 KTDO stated that Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) did not classify Care Teams as charitable institutions or charitable trusts exempt from tax, nor did the venue hiring guide mention Care Teams. KTDO would study it.
- 21.2 Venue equipment: KTDO said it would examine how to notify hirers of equipment damage and improve the procedure for hire of equipment.
- 21.3 Cold shelters: KTDO would study how to enhance the design of cold shelters in order to provide a more comfortable environment for shelter users and staff.
- 21.4 KTDO said it would provide the contact means of the persons-in-charge of venues after the meeting.
- 21.5 The use of QR codes: KTDO noted the suggestion and would review whether relevant arrangements could be adopted for members of the public to report equipment damage to the persons-in-charge of venues.
- 21.6 Enhancing the arrangements for cancellation of venue hire: KTDO stated that hirers were currently required to notify the office of the cancellation of the use of the venue at least 14 working days prior to the date of activity before it could arrange for other groups to use the venue.
22. LCSD stated that it had not yet received guidelines on the use of venues by Care Teams. The department noted the views and would find out about the situation.
23. The Chairman hoped that KTDO would have the Secretariat distribute the contact information of the persons-in-charge of community halls/centres to Members and follow up on the views raised by Members on the use of venues and equipment damage.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat had forwarded to Members the contact information of the persons-in-charge of community halls/centres provided by KTDO on 27 February 2024.)

**IV. Progress Report on Recreational and Cultural Works in Kwun Tong District
(KTDC DFWC Paper No. 4/2024)**

24. The representative of LCSD presented the paper.

25. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

25.1 Members urged LCSD to follow up on toilet issues in Lam Tin Park/Ma Yau Tong Central Sitting-out Area. Members also enquired about the reasons for the delay in the improvement works for Lam Tin Park Phase II and the actual purposes of the short-term infrastructure improvement works.

25.2 Members enquired about how LCSD would conduct consultation on the Sai Tso Wan site.

25.3 Members enquired about the details of the phased opening of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre (“EKCC”) and requested clear clarification from LCSD regarding the opening schedule of various venue facilities. In their view, representatives of the departments responsible for the project should attend the meeting.

25.4 Members enquired about how long it would take for LCSD to get ready after taking over EKCC, and when it would start accepting applications for venue hire.

26. The representative of LCSD responded to Members’ views and enquiries as follows:

26.1 EKCC: the triangular park area, flagpole location, and adjacent outdoor staircase space of EKCC was opened in October 2023 to provide the public with 24-hour green public open space and access to Kowloon Bay MTR station and nearby housing estates, while the remaining facilities were expected to open successively from 2024. By then, LCSD would hold audience building activities for public participation. In addition, the department stated that it would announce in due course the policies and arrangements for group booking of venues.

26.2 Phase II of Lam Tin Park: since no non-profit-making organisation or government department had put forward long-term development plans for Ma Yau Tong Central Landfill for the time being, the Environmental Protection Department would carry out some short-term infrastructure improvement works to increase the feasibility of developing temporary uses.

26.3 Sai Tso Wan Park: LCSD would refer to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and consult KTDC for views on the recreational facilities in due course, having regard to the population changes, public needs and the use of facilities in the district.

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

27.1 Members hoped that LCSD would conduct more consultations with Members and residents when planning and designing Sai Tso Wan Park.

28. The representative of LCSD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

28.1 EKCC: LCSD would convey Members' views to ArchSD and colleagues responsible for the EKCC project.

28.2 Sai Tso Wan Park: the lead department concerned would consult KTDC on the scope of the project in due course.

29. The Chairman stated that Members were concerned about the EKCC project and hoped that LCSD would provide a written reply on the project.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat had forwarded to Members the supplementary information provided by LCSD on the EKCC project on 6 March 2024.)

V. **Progress Report on District Minor Works**
(KTDC DFWC Paper No. 5/2024)

30. The Chairman invited Members to refer to the paper.

31. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

31.1 Members enquired whether KTDO had decided to carry out the construction of a covered walkway at On Sau Road connecting On Tat Estate and On Tai Estate (KT-DMW679). Due to the high estimated costs of the project, he suggested that KTDO provides a briefing again to new DC Members. In addition, Members enquired whether KTDO had discussed the feasibility of provision of covers outside slope screens with the Highways Department or the Lands Department in order to reduce the impact on the footpath.

31.2 Members enquired about how to submit suggestions on district minor works.

32. The representative of KTDO responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:

32.1 Project No. KT-DMW679: due to high project costs, KTDO would carry out the works based on cash flow. The inclined lift project (KT-DMW680) was currently under construction. KTDO conducted district consultation through KTDC and two Area Committees last year and would provide information in due course.

(Post-meeting note: according to the study conducted by the consultant responsible for KT-DMW679, the provision of covers outside slope screens would add to the load of the slope and increase construction complexity and costs. Therefore, the proposal was not recommended.)

32.2 Submission of views on district minor works: the Secretariat would distribute the proposal form to Members later.

33. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to distribute the proposal form on district minor works to Members after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat had forwarded to Members the proposal form on district minor works provided by KTDO on 6 March 2024.)

34. Members noted the paper.

VI. Any Other Business

35. Members raised no other discussion items.

VII. Date of Next Meeting

36. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 p.m. on 12 March 2024 (Tuesday).

37. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 12 March 2024.

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat

March 2024