

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the
7th Term Kwun Tong District Council (Full Council)**

Date: 5 September 2024 (Thursday)

Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.

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

Chairman

Mr HO Lap-ki, Denny, JP

Members

Mr YU Siu-lun

Mr YU Man, MH

Mr YU Ka-ming

Mr NG Sing-wah

Mr NG Ting-fung

Mr LUI Tung-hai, MH

Ms LEE Shuk-woon, Sophia

Mr LEE Ka-hang

Mr FONG Yat-kwan

Mr LAM Fung, MH

Mr LAM Wai

Ms KAM Kin

Mr OR Chong-shing, Wilson, MH

Mr HUNG Kam-in, MH

Mr MA Yat-chiu, MH

Mr CHEUNG Yiu-pan

Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong

Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang, MH

Ms LEUNG Sze-wan

Ms FU Pik-chun, MH

Mr HSU Yau-wai

Mr LIN Ho-man, MH

Mr CHAN Yiu-hung, Jimmy, MH

Mr TSANG Wing-fai

Ms CHING Hoi-yan

Ms FENG Yunsi

Mr WONG Chun-ping, MH, JP

Mr WONG Kai-san

Ms YU Juliana

Ms ZHAN Baoyu

Mr LAU Kar-wah

Mr AU YEUNG Kwan-nok

Ms CHU Lok-wai

Mr TANG Wing-chun

Mr CHENG Keung-fung

Mr LAI Wing-chun, MH

Mr KAN Ming-tung, MH

Mr TAM Siu-cheuk

Mr KWAN Kin-wing

Mr PANG Chi-sang

In attendance

Ms CHAN Wai-chun, Regina

Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)1

Mr CHEUNG Ka-long, Kelvin

Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)2

Ms CHIN Tsang-lo, Jennifer	District Commander (Kwun Tong), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms TSE Tsui-yan	District Commander (Sau Mau Ping), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms LAM Sau-wah	Police Community Relations Officer, Kwun Tong District, Hong Kong Police Force
Mr TAM Man-hoi	Police Community Relations Officer, Sau Mau Ping District, Hong Kong Police Force
Mr YIP Wai-choi, James	Senior Engineer/6 (East), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms LEE Lee	Acting Chief Manager/Management (Kowloon East), Housing Department
Mr LIU Kin-wai, Rick	Chief Transport Officer/Kowloon 2, Transport Department
Ms LAW Kit-nor	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwun Tong), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr LEUNG Po-wah, Taddy	District Social Welfare Officer (Kwun Tong), Social Welfare Department
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
Miss CHOW Tak-sum, Amy	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr FUNG Chi-man, Tom	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Kwun Tong District Office
Miss YIK Wai-sze, Cecilia	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr TANG Chun-ming	Senior Liaison Officer (3), Kwun Tong District Office
Mr CHEUNG Wing-fai, Frankie	Liaison Officer-in-Charge (Kowloon Bay), Kwun Tong District Office
Ms HUI Po-yu, Bowie	Executive Officer I (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office

Secretary

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

In Attendance by Invitation

Dr CHOW Po-ling, Paulina	Chief Manager (Planning & Commissioning), Kowloon Central Cluster	Item II
Mr Matthew CHENG	Senior Project Manager, Hospital Authority	
Mr TANG Tsz-chun, Tommy	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) ³ Environmental Protection Department	Item III
Mr LAM Cheuk-fung, Simon	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional East) ³ Environmental Protection Department	
Mr CHAN Muk-keung, Ringo	Senior Estate Surveyor/Kwun Tong (District Lands Office, Kowloon East) Lands Department	
Mr CHAN Chi-kit	Senior Structural Engineer/C1, Buildings Department	
Mr LAU Ho-mung	Marine Officer/Licensing & Port Formalities (1), Marine Department	
Mr LAU Kok-hei	Assistant Marine Officer/Harbour Patrol Section (1), Marine Department	
Mr NING Hok-Wai	Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Harbour Patrol Section (1), Marine Department	

The Chairman welcomed all Members and government representatives to the 5th Full Council (“FC”) meeting under the 7th Term Kwun Tong District Council (“KTDC”).

2. The Chairman said that no applications for absence had been received from Members for this meeting.

Item I — Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

3. The minutes of the 4th meeting were confirmed without amendment.

Item II — Progress Report on New Acute Hospital in Kai Tak Development Area

(KTDC Paper No. 25/2024)

4. The Chairman welcomed Chief Manager (Planning & Commissioning) of the Kowloon Central Cluster (“KCC”) and Senior Project Manager of the Hospital Authority (“HA”) to report to KTDC on the construction progress of a new acute hospital (“NAH”) in the Kai Tak Development Area.
5. The representatives of KCC and HA presented the paper.
6. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:
 - 6.1 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk was pleased to learn that NAH was nearing completion. He pointed out that several large housing estates near Kwun Tong Road, such as Richland Gardens, Kai Yip Estate and Telford Gardens, would have shorter travel time to NAH compared to United Christian Hospital (“UCH”). Therefore, he suggested that HA coordinate with the Fire Services Department (“FSD”) to arrange ambulances to transport residents from the Kwun Tong West area to NAH for Accident and Emergency (“A&E”) services, thereby reducing ambulance journey time and alleviating the burden on UCH’s A&E services. On the other hand, he mentioned that although there were minibuses plying between Kowloon Bay and the Hong Kong Children’s Hospital (“HKCH”), they were insufficient. He urged relevant government departments to optimise the public transport network to facilitate public access to NAH from various locations in Kwun Tong District.
 - 6.2 Mr WONG Chun-ping considered the upcoming completion of the large and modern NAH to be good news. He was concerned about how the service network of NAH would be divided and whether it could benefit the residents of Kwun Tong District. Additionally, he felt that the current mobile application “HA Go” for booking HA services was not well developed enough. He enquired whether members of the public could use other convenient methods to book out-patient services online and whether they could use the mobile application to collect medication and make payments. On another note, he enquired whether the public could receive immediate notifications and print out some medical examination results, such as blood test results, after receiving out-patient services from HA.
 - 6.3 Ms FU Pik-chun was pleased to see that NAH would be completed progressively from the second quarter of next year. She learnt that the number of specialist out-patient consultation rooms would increase from the current 133 at Queen Elizabeth Hospital (“QEH”) to 235 at NAH. Additionally, the floor area of NAH’s A&E department

would be over three times that of QEH. She stated that healthcare services were an important livelihood issue for Kwun Tong District, and therefore, she was concerned about how many residents in Kwun Tong District would benefit from NAH's services, including specialist out-patient and A&E services.

- 6.4 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong looked forward to the expeditious completion of NAH. He pointed out that the A&E services of UCH were under tremendous pressure and hoped that NAH could alleviate the service pressure on UCH. Additionally, he suggested (i) increasing the number of healthcare staff at both NAH and UCH; (ii) implementing the "proximity principle" for ambulance service arrangements, under which emergency help seekers who lived near NAH would be transported there for A&E services, thereby reducing the pressure on UCH's A&E services; (iii) enhancing publicity to raise awareness among nearby residents about NAH's services; and (iv) increasing ancillary transport facilities to enable residents of various housing estates in Kwun Tong District to conveniently access NAH.
- 6.5 Mr HUNG Kam-in pointed out that there was currently a green minibus ("GMB") connecting Lok Wah Estate and HKCH next to NAH, but the pick-up and drop-off point was located beside HKCH rather than at its main entrance. He suggested relocating the GMB pick-up and drop-off point to the main entrance of HKCH for the convenience of passengers. Additionally, he urged the relevant government departments to enhance the ancillary transport facilities for NAH, such as planning new bus routes connecting Kwun Tong Town Centre with NAH.
- 6.6 Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang pointed out that the area near NAH, such as the Kai Tak New Development Area, had experienced rapid population growth in recent years. He enquired (i) how many out-patient service quotas NAH could provide; (ii) whether it was a five- to ten-minute walk to NAH from the MTR station; (iii) whether the Transport Department ("TD") had finalised the traffic planning for NAH; (iv) whether HA could provide the number of downloads and usage for "HA Go"; and (v) how HA would promote the download and use of "HA Go" among the public.
- 6.7 Mr PANG Chi-sang said it was quite inconvenient that the public had to walk a certain distance and cross a footbridge in order to reach NAH. He hoped that relevant government departments could provide information on how to optimise the traffic arrangements in that area in future. On the other hand, he suggested that NAH coordinate its service arrangements with UCH, such as triaging A&E services, and make greater use of new information technologies like big data in the process.

6.8 Mr Wilson OR was pleased to see the upcoming completion of NAH, which had been long awaited by patients and patients' rights concern groups. He (i) enquired how NAH would alleviate the pressure on specialist out-patient services after its completion, and whether HA could provide projected figures in this regard; (ii) asked how NAH would coordinate with UCH to achieve synergy in services such as ambulance services, out-patient care, follow-up consultations and specialist out-patient services; (iii) suggested that HA strengthen its interactions with surrounding stakeholders, engage more with the community and make good use of social media to publicise NAH; (iv) urged relevant government departments to carry out long-term traffic planning for NAH, such as reviewing whether the capacity of Hoi Bun Road could accommodate the future traffic flow to NAH; and (v) recommended increasing signage and smart facilities, among others, to guide the public to NAH.

7. The consolidated response from the representative of KCC was as follows:

7.1 Triage of ambulance services: QEH had maintained close liaison with FSD to jointly explore how to arrange for ambulances to transport patients to A&E departments more quickly, such as sending residents near NAH to receive treatment there.

7.2 Allocation of healthcare resources: KCC stated that although the area of NAH's A&E department had been expanded and the number of specialist out-patient rooms had also increased, the allocation of healthcare staff was subject to the manpower situation of HA. KCC would make staffing rearrangements based on the service needs of KCC and the entire Kowloon and would gradually increase the manpower of NAH.

7.3 "HA Go": KCC expressed gratitude to Members for their views on "HA Go", saying that it would explore ways to continue optimising the application, making it more convenient for the public to use "HA Go" for booking general out-patient appointments, arranging follow-up consultations, collecting medication, checking reports, making payments, etc.

8. The supplementary response from the representative of TD was as follows:

8.1 Public transport routes: TD stated that NAH was located near HKCH, where there were currently bus and minibus routes that went directly from Kwun Tong District to NAH or its vicinity. For instance, members of the public could take bus route no. 5R from the Kwun Tong or Ngau Tau Kok MTR station to reach HKCH and the future NAH. From the Kowloon Bay MTR Station, they could take GMB route no. 86 to the Cruise Terminal, which ran via NAH and HKCH. At the Yau Tong MTR station or the Sau

Mau Ping mid-levels, residents could take GMB route no. 90A or 90B to NAH. TD understood that residents of Kwun Tong District hoped for more convenient point-to-point access to NAH. The department would continue to review passenger needs to enhance the public transport network of NAH, provide timely updates to Members and welcome feedback from them.

8.2 Pick-up and drop-off point for GMB connecting Lok Wah Estate and NAH: TD stated that the current pick-up and drop-off point for the concerned GMB was located next to HKCH, which was also near the site of the future NAH. The department would review whether there was a need to adjust the pick-up and drop-off point in the future.

8.3 Traffic accessibility: TD stated that traffic improvement works were underway on Hoi Bun Road and some roads in Kowloon East. For instance, some sections of How Ming Street were scheduled to be converted from one-way traffic to two-way traffic at the end of the year. The department hoped to alleviate traffic congestion in the district through the enhancement of the road network in the Kwun Tong Business Area. The progress of the related works would be reported later at the Traffic and Transport Committee (“TTC”).

9. Members subsequently raised views and enquiries as follows:

9.1 Mr LEE Ka-hang (i) urged NAH to ensure sufficient staffing to provide hospital services in order to meet residents’ expectations; (ii) hoped for the provision of point-to-point public transport services to facilitate easier access for patients and visitors to NAH. He suggested referring to bus route no. 14H, which connected UCH with residential areas in Kwun Tong; and (iii) hoped that HA could coordinate ambulance services for NAH to transport nearby residents to receive A&E services there, aiming to alleviate the pressure on UCH’s A&E services.

9.2 Mr LAU Kar-wah praised HA for planning to build an Acute Block and an Oncology Block in NAH, which aligned well with Hong Kong’s actual situation. He was pleased to see the increase in space and hospital beds in NAH, but he believed that the quality of healthcare personnel was also very important. He noted that many hospitals were competing for healthcare staff and suggested enhancing nurse training so that nurses could take on some of the doctors’ tasks to reduce the latter’s workload.

9.3 Mr KAN Ming-tung (i) mentioned that during the preparations for the building of NAH, the utilisation rate of UCH’s services had already reached saturation. He hoped that NAH’s services could benefit members of the public in Kowloon East and

alleviate the service pressure on UCH; (ii) pointed out that NAH was not close to an MTR station, requiring the public to take buses or minibuses, or use nearby roads to reach NAH, thus increasing the traffic pressure in the area. He hoped that TD would expeditiously complete the planning and construction of nearby roads, including the Central Kowloon Route and the road connecting to the Kowloon City Ferry Pier; and (iii) suggested that NAH add barrier-free access and facilities, as well as waiting facilities, and that TD and bus companies should install seating at bus stops so that patients could comfortably wait for buses when travelling to and from the hospital.

- 9.4 Ms YU Juliana commended that NAH would enhance the overall quality of healthcare services. However, she was concerned about whether the future ancillary transport facilities in the area could cope with the flow of patients and visitors to NAH. Additionally, she enquired whether NAH had measures in place to shorten the waiting time for patients seeking specialist out-patient services.
- 9.5 Mr CHEUNG Yiu-pan noted that NAH belonged to KCC. He was keen to know how many service quotas NAH could provide to residents of Kwun Tong District, particularly those in the Kwun Tong West area. He enquired whether residents from Kwun Tong West would be transported to UCH or NAH if they required emergency ambulance services.
- 9.6 Ms FENG Yunsi wished to know HA's criteria for delineating the scope of A&E services. She enquired whether HA sent members of the public to hospitals for A&E services based on their residential addresses, or considered factors such as the population of each cluster, as well as the scope and service capacity of hospitals. Furthermore, she mentioned that NAH had a larger capacity for specialist out-patient services and asked whether it would assist in handling cases from the Kowloon East Cluster, in addition to those from KCC.
- 9.7 Mr TANG Wing-chun pointed out that, given NAH's remote location and its proximity to HKCH, there would be many patients and visitors awaiting buses. He hoped that TD and NAH could provide a friendly passenger waiting area with facilities, such as seating.
- 9.8 Mr FONG Yat-kwan learnt that there would be an increase in NAH's area and facilities. However, he was concerned that due to the current territory-wide shortage of healthcare personnel, NAH might not be able to fully utilise its facilities in its initial phase of operation. He enquired whether HA would redeploy healthcare staff from UCH to NAH.

10. The consolidated response from the representative of KCC was as follows:
- 10.1 Hospital staffing: KCC indicated that staff would be redeployed from QEH to NAH to provide services. It pointed out that HA had a resource allocation mechanism in place, which would gradually allocate resources to NAH based on the service needs of different areas. This would include increasing funding and hiring additional staff. On the other hand, KCC would continue to adopt multiple-pronged measures to increase manpower and retain talent.
 - 10.2 Service indicators: KCC had been monitoring various service indicators, such as waiting times for consultations, and would allocate resources as needed to resolve issues promptly.
 - 10.3 Ambulance services: KCC had been in close liaison with FSD to discuss how to arrange ambulance services in order to provide appropriate services to members of the public nearby.
11. The supplementary response from the representative of TD was as follows:
- 11.1 Passenger waiting space: TD would study the recommendations with the bus company to improve the passenger waiting facilities near NAH. This included the installation of a shelter and seating at the bus stop to provide passengers with a more comfortable waiting environment.
 - 11.2 Transport network: Considering that NAH was relatively far from the nearby MTR station, TD anticipated that most members of the public would take public transport to NAH. The department noted Members' suggestion to add public transport routes for point-to-point services to NAH and would conduct a study on this. On another note, the department mentioned that some roadworks near NAH would be completed gradually by 2026 or earlier, which would help alleviate traffic congestion in the Kowloon Bay area and enhance the accessibility of the road network.
 - 11.3 Barrier-free access arrangements: TD stated that the current design of the road network had taken into account factors related to barrier-free access. Franchised buses also adopted a low-floor design to facilitate boarding and alighting for wheelchair users. The department would maintain ongoing communication with NAH to enhance pedestrian accessibility to the hospital as far as practicable.

12. Members continued to raise views and enquiries as follows:

12.1 Mr LAM Fung learnt that HA was collaborating with FSD to explore the triage arrangements for ambulance services. He hoped that NAH's ambulance services could cover residents in the Kwun Tong West area, where there were more elderly residents with a high demand for ambulance services. Additionally, some housing estates in the area, such as Richland Gardens and Kai Yip Estate, were close to NAH. Transporting help-seekers to NAH for A&E services would take less time than going to UCH, thereby reducing the possibility of missing the critical golden hour for emergency treatment.

13. The meeting noted the paper.

Item III - Discussion on Environmental Problems Caused by the Concrete Batching Plants in Yau Tong

14. The Chairman welcomed Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officers (Regional East)³ of the Environmental Protection Department ("EPD"); Senior Estate Surveyor/Kwun Tong (District Lands Office, Kowloon East) of the Lands Department ("LandsD"); Senior Structural Engineer/C1 of the Buildings Department ("BD"); and Marine Officer/Licensing & Port Formalities (1), Assistant Marine Officer/Harbour Patrol Section (1), and Senior Assistant Shipping Master/Harbour Patrol Section (1) of the Marine Department ("MD") to the meeting. They reported to KTDC on the latest situation regarding the environmental pollution problems caused by the concrete batching plants ("CBPs") in Yau Tong.

15. The Chairman stated that during the meeting of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee ("FEHC") under KTDC on 16 July, Members pointed out that the CBPs in Yau Tong had caused many environmental pollution problems and suggested discussing them at an FC meeting. Since relevant issues had affected the environmental hygiene in Kwun Tong District, he agreed to discuss them at this FC meeting.

16. The representative of EPD presented the tabled paper and stated that (i) the department had been closely monitoring the operations of the CBPs in the Yau Tong area and would take follow-up action against any irregularities in accordance with the law. EPD pointed out that the "Air Pollution Control Appeal Board" had dismissed the appeals of the CBPs located at 22 and 20 Tung Yuen Street ("CBP 22 and CBP 20") in January 2022 and November 2023, respectively. These appeals involved the renewal applications for specified process licenses ("SPLs") issued under the Air Pollution

Control Ordinance (“Ordinance”), specifically for “cement works”; (ii) the department had been taking enforcement actions and had issued 35 summonses for criminal prosecution against the above two plants for failing to comply with air pollution abatement notices and operating without valid licenses. All prosecution cases were being handled in court, with some cases currently under trial; (iii) the department would continue to gather evidence on other suspected violations and promptly submit the collected evidence to the Department of Justice (“DoJ”) for consideration of further prosecution under the Ordinance; (iv) the department had earlier applied to the court through DoJ for interim injunctions against the CBPs at 20 and 22 Tung Yuen Street to prohibit their operations from causing air pollution nuisance to the public. Since the two CBPs had made a commitment to the court that their operations would not cause public nuisance, the court postponed handling of the injunction cases, during which the commitment would remain in force; and (v) the department was in the process of amending the Ordinance to introduce a closure mechanism, enabling relevant government departments to handle similar violation cases more effectively and swiftly. The proposed amendments were submitted to the Advisory Council on the Environment and the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) Panel on Environmental Affairs in mid-July 2024 and received general support. EPD planned to submit the amendment bill to LegCo in November 2024, aiming to implement the new control measures in the first half of 2025.

17. The representative of LandsD pointed out that the CBPs at 20 and 22 Tung Yuen Street were both located on private lots. The sites could be used for industrial or warehouse purposes and had rights of way for coastal access. Therefore, the operations of the CBPs did not breach the relevant land lease conditions.

18. The representative of BD indicated that (i) the CBP at 22 Tung Yuen Street in Yau Tong was built without prior approval or consent from the Building Authority (“BA”), which violated the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123) and constituted unauthorised building works (“UBWs”). Additionally, EPD had rejected the plant’s renewal application for an SPL as its operations failed to meet environmental protection requirements, rendering its license invalid. Given that the operation of the CBP constituted serious health and environmental nuisances, it was categorised as actionable UBWs according to BD’s enforcement policy against UBWs. Thus, on 4 August 2023, the department issued a removal order to the owner, requiring the demolition of the CBP and its ancillary structures at the site. Despite his appeal to the Appeal Tribunal (Buildings) (“ATB”) after the department issued the order, the owner eventually withdrew the appeal voluntarily and appointed an authorised person and a registered structural engineer to handle the demolition works required by the order. The department would continue to seriously follow up on the case to ensure that the statutory order was complied with promptly and duly; and (ii) although the CBP at 20 Tung Yuen Street in Yau Tong had obtained the permit to erect a temporary building issued by BA under Regulation 51 of the Building (Planning) Regulations, the permit had since expired. The plant had not been removed after the expiration of the permit, violating the specified conditions of the permit and constituting

UBWs. Furthermore, EPD rejected the plant's renewal application for an SPL as its operations failed to meet environmental protection requirements, rendering its license invalid. As the operation of the CBP constituted serious health and environmental nuisances, it was categorised as actionable UBWs according to BD's enforcement policy against UBWs. Therefore, on 26 August 2024, BD issued a removal order to the owner, demanding the demolition of the CBP and its ancillary structures at the site. The department would continue to seriously follow up on the case to ensure the statutory order was complied with promptly and duly.

19. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

19.1 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk pointed out that since enforcement began in 2021, only 35 summonses had been issued against the CBPs for criminal prosecution and the penalties were not severe enough to effectively deter their unlicensed operations. He urged the relevant departments to step up enforcement and increase the issuance of summonses for their illegal activities.

19.2 Mr LUI Tung-hai stated that despite the suspension of licenses for the CBPs at 20 and 22 Tung Yuen Street and the ongoing processing of their cases, the two plants were still operating at a high capacity, causing nuisance to nearby residents. He (i) pointed out that the CBPs breached their commitments to the court by causing public nuisance and asked whether the court could be requested to expedite the hearing of the injunction cases; (ii) enquired whether the amendments to the Ordinance, if passed by LegCo and coming into effect in November, could prevent the CBPs from continuing their operations; and (iii) questioned whether the offshore operations of the CBPs' barges were in violation of relevant legislation.

19.3 Mr KAN Ming-tung expressed hope that before LegCo's discussion on the amendments to the Ordinance in November, the relevant government departments could strengthen enforcement actions to mitigate the environmental nuisances caused by the CBPs, such as concrete spillage on roads.

19.4 Ms YU Juliana enquired (i) why the CBPs could continue operating without licenses; and (ii) whether government departments had backup plans to address the current violations and public nuisances caused by the CBPs. She hoped that government departments could provide a timetable for combating the illegal operations of the CBPs.

19.5 Mr NG Ting-fung mentioned that after BD issued a removal order to the CBP last year, the plant stated that it had commissioned professionals to handle the matter. He

hoped that BD could explain its follow-up actions.

- 19.6 Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang (i) believed that there were grey areas in the current Ordinance and hoped that the amendments to the Ordinance would be passed promptly to directly prohibit the CBPs from continuing operations; and (ii) considered the cost-effectiveness of joint enforcement action by government departments to be relatively low, and enquired whether there were other feasible alternatives, such as installing closed-circuit televisions (“CCTVs”).
- 19.7 Mr PANG Chi-sang (i) enquired about the extent to which the ongoing legal proceedings could prevent the CBPs from continuing their operations; and (ii) pointed out that the CBPs were evading regulation by switching to offshore operations, which caused nuisance to residents. He hoped that the relevant government departments would implement regulatory measures in this regard.
- 19.8 Mr WONG Kai-san (i) enquired whether there was legislation in place to regulate the offshore operation model of CBPs; (ii) asked how the current operations of the CBPs could be regulated before the conclusion of the legal proceedings; (iii) enquired about information on the actual production volume of the CBPs; and (iv) hoped that the relevant government departments would step up their enforcement action.
- 19.9 Mr TSANG Wing-fai (i) enquired whether public funds would be used for the clean-up of pollutants from the CBPs, or whether the CBPs would be required to bear the associated costs based on the “polluter-pay principle”; and (ii) mentioned that BD had a mechanism to proactively remove UBWs and then charge the relevant parties for the necessary expenses. He enquired about the circumstances under which BD would activate this mechanism.
- 19.10 Mr TANG Wing-chun believed that EPD had an unshirkable responsibility on this issue and should seek solutions as far as possible, such as cutting off water and power supply to the non-compliant plants.
- 19.11 Mr KWAN Kin-wing enquired whether there was any regulation currently in place for the offshore operation model of CBPs. He believed that the CBPs had severely affected the overall development landscape of Kwun Tong District and hoped that the relevant departments would expedite their handling of the issue.
- 19.12 Ms LEUNG Sze-wan (i) enquired about the details of fines and penalties for the 35 criminal prosecution summonses issued by EPD; and (ii) enquired whether any other

types of prosecutions had been initiated concerning the related issues.

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

20.1 Enforcement and other judicial cases: EPD had been closely monitoring the operation of the CBPs and had initiated multiple prosecutions over the past few years. Since many cases were still being processed, the department was not in a position to comment or provide further information.

20.2 Ordinance amendments: EPD was very concerned about the pollution problems caused by the CBPs and had proposed amendments to the Ordinance, including (i) introducing a closure notice mechanism to immediately shut down relevant premises through the issuance of statutory closure notices, which also included cutting off their water and power supply; (ii) holding relevant directors and management personnel of the involved body corporates legally accountable; and (iii) revising the definition of cement storage capacity in "cement works" and establishing a capacity threshold based on the production scale.

20.3 Concrete spillage from concrete mixers: Members of the public who discovered concrete spillage from concrete mixers were advised to collect relevant evidence, such as filming and recording vehicle registration marks, and report it to the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD"). FEHD could prosecute and issue fixed penalty tickets for littering from vehicles.

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

21.1 CBP 22: BD issued a removal order to the owner concerned on 4 August 2023, requiring the demolition of the CBP and its ancillary structures at the above site. The owner subsequently lodged an appeal on 24 August 2023. According to Section 44 of the Buildings Ordinance, during the appeal period, the department could not enforce the order unless there was an emergency, until the appeal was disposed of, withdrawn, or abandoned. The owner voluntarily withdrew the appeal on 5 August 2024 and on the same day, appointed an authorised person and a registered structural engineer to handle the demolition works required by the order. The department would continue to seriously follow up on the case to ensure that the statutory order was complied with promptly and duly.

21.2 CBP 20: BD issued a removal order to the owner concerned on 26 August 2024, requiring the demolition of the CBP and its ancillary structures at the above site.

According to the Buildings Ordinance, failure to comply with a removal order without reasonable excuse constituted a serious offence. The department would continue to seriously follow up on the case to ensure that the statutory order was complied with promptly and duly.

21.3 Default works: To effectively utilise government resources, BD generally first prosecuted owners who failed to comply with removal orders. For owners who repeatedly disregarded such orders, the department would continue to take enforcement actions, including initiating further prosecutions or, when necessary, appointing government contractors to carry out the default works and recover the required costs from the owners.

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

22.1 Enforcement action: MD stated that it maintained an average of six irregular patrols per day in the relevant waters. During these patrols, no vessels berthed at the seawalls of the CBPs were found to have violated marine-related laws. In terms of environmental pollution, the department's enforcement mainly focused on whether waste was wilfully disposed of into the sea. Additionally, MD occasionally conducted joint operations with EPD in the relevant waters, primarily focusing on whether vessels deliberately caused or permitted waste or oil to be disposed of into the sea. The department did not find any such instances; however, if there was sufficient evidence, the department would definitely take enforcement action.

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

23.1 Mr LUI Tung-hai hoped that MD could clearly respond to whether the offshore operation of the barges was in violation of the law and what measures the department had in place to address the issue.

23.2 Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang hoped that government departments would further supplement information regarding law enforcement.

24. The representative of MD responded that the loading and unloading activities carried out by barges connected to the CBPs did not violate marine legislation.

25. The representative of EPD responded that the department was not in a position to discuss the legality of the offshore operation of the barges, which had been involved in some prosecution cases. However, the department revealed that in the proposed amendments to the Ordinance, it was

suggested to include statutory requirements that would cover cement works carried out at sea, in order to concurrently regulate pollution generated by cement works on land and at sea.

26. The Chairman enquired about the timetable for the amendments to the Ordinance.

27. The representative of EPD responded that the proposed amendments to the Ordinance were submitted to the LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs in mid-July 2024. It was hoped that the amendment bill would be officially submitted to LegCo in November 2024 with the aim of implementing the new control measures in the first half of 2025.

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

28.1 Mr LAM Fung enquired why the CBPs could still operate at sea without licenses.

28.2 Mr WONG Kai-san enquired whether the penalties for prosecution could include imprisonment in addition to fines.

28.3 Mr LAM Wai enquired why the CBPs could continue to operate without licenses and why the government departments were unable to stop them.

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

29.1 Penalties: Under Section 13 of the Ordinance, the maximum penalty for unlicensed operations was a fine of \$200,000 and imprisonment for six months.

29.2 Operation of CBPs: The CBP at 22 Tung Yuen Street had previously held a valid SPL. In 2021, EPD rejected the plant's SPL renewal application due to its inadequate environmental performance and failure to meet the license renewal requirements. Subsequently, the plant's appeal was also dismissed. As for the CBP at 20 Tung Yuen Street, EPD likewise rejected the plant's SPL renewal application in April 2022 due to its inadequate environmental performance and failure to meet the license renewal requirements.

29.3 Offshore operations: As the issues involved prosecution cases that were currently under judicial proceedings, EPD was not in a position to comment. However, the proposed amendments to the Ordinance included recommendations to strengthen the control measures.

30. The Chairman concluded by expressing hope that the relevant government departments would

listen to Members' views and proactively follow up on the issues.

31. The meeting noted the paper.

Item IV – Kwun Tong District Core Departments' Work Plans 2024/25: Half-yearly Progress Report
(KTDC Paper No. 26/2024)

Annex 1: Civil Engineering and Development Department ("CEDD")

32. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 2: FEHD

33. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 3: Housing Department ("HD")

34. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 4: Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD")

35. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 5: Social Welfare Department

36. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 6: TD

37. The meeting noted the paper.

38. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

38.1 Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang (i) requested that HD provide supplementary information regarding the plan to install charging facilities for electric vehicles ("EVs") in car parks; and (ii) enquired LCSD about the number of pet gardens in Kwun Tong District.

- 38.2 Mr WONG Kai-san enquired whether CEDD could report on the progress of the lift works at Lei Yue Mun Road at KTDC committee meetings to facilitate Members' follow-up.
- 38.3 Mr TSANG Wing-fai mentioned that a number of refurbishment works were being carried out in public housing estates in the district, such as Shun Lee Estate and Shun On Estate. He suggested that HD increase the channels of communication with local District Council ("DC") Members and residents to seek their views on these works.
- 38.4 Mr NG Ting-fung enquired about HD's fire safety improvement works and hoped that the department could provide Members with specific information about the works involving the sealing up of corridor-facing louvres of flats.
- 38.5 Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang urged TD to (i) review whether the frequency of the minibus running between Yau Tong and HKCH was adequate; and (ii) follow up with the bus company on the repair status of damaged display panels at bus stops, such as the one at Ko Yee Estate.
39. The representative of HD responded to Members' views and enquiries as follows:
- 39.1 EV-charging facilities in car parks: HD indicated that the housing estates where EV-charging facilities would be provided at their car parks were listed in the Annex to the progress report. HD's target was to install charging infrastructure for about 300 parking spaces by the end of this year at locations including Choi Fook Estate, Choi Tak Estate, Choi Ying Estate, Lei Yue Mun Estate, Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate, On Tai Estate, On Tat Estate, Yau Lai Estate, Domain Mall and Yau Lai Shopping Centre. The installation was expected to be completed in phases by the end of 2024 with services to be provided progressively.
- 39.2 Communication channels: HD welcomed feedback from public housing residents through electronic means, and its estate management staff would strengthen liaison with Members and listen to their views.
- 39.3 Sealing up of louvres: HD indicated that it was discussing with FSD and BD to seal up corridor-facing louvres of public rental housing ("PRH") flats in accordance with the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, which involved a total of 240 PRH blocks in 53 estates, of which only eight blocks had been arranged for the relevant works. HD would pilot the scheme in Fu Shan Estate and had also arranged some trial works and

displayed samples at the lobbies of some PRH blocks. About more than 30 PRH blocks in seven housing estates in Kwun Tong District were involved in the improvement works. HD had been discussing further details with FSD and BD.

40. The representative of LCSD responded that there was currently a pet garden at Tai Yip Street and 11 Inclusive Parks for Pets in Kwun Tong District where members of the public could bring their dogs into the parks on a leash. LCSD would consult Members' views when providing new pet-inclusive spaces in the future.

41. The representative of CEDD said that he would contact the team responsible for the Yau Tong lift project and urge them to report the progress of the works to the committees under KTDC.

42. The representative of TD said that he would liaise with the operator of GMB route no. 90A to follow up on the minibus frequency arrangements. On the other hand, TD would follow up with the bus company regarding the repair progress of the display panel at the Ko Yee Estate bus stop. He thanked Members for conveying their views on district traffic and transport services to TD for appropriate follow-up actions.

43. The meeting noted the paper.

Item V — Kwun Tong and Sau Mau Ping Police Districts Policing Plan 2024: Half-yearly Progress Report
(KTDC Paper No. 27/2024)

44. The representative of the Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”) presented the paper.

45. Members raised views and enquiries as follows:

45.1 Mr CHEUNG Ki-tang said that members of the public had relayed that the number of scams related to online travel information was particularly high during the summer holiday. He enquired whether there were dedicated units handling such cases in the Kwun Tong and Sau Mau Ping Police Districts, or whether these cases were handled by other divisions of HKPF.

45.2 Mr MA Yat-chiu said that (i) prostitution activities on Hong Ning Road and Fu Yan Street had shown signs of resurgence and hoped that the police would follow up; and (ii) a volunteer was hit and injured by a motorcycle on Hong Ning Road during a

National Day celebration event on 28 August. He hoped that the police would follow up on the case.

45.3 Mr YU Siu-lun expressed concern about the recent rising trend of the distribution of illicit cigarette promotion leaflets in public housing estates. He (i) enquired about the effectiveness and prosecution of the anti-illicit cigarette special operation codenamed “Tempest”; (ii) was concerned about how security in housing estates would be strengthened to prevent strangers from entering buildings for illicit cigarette activities; and (iii) was worried that young people might be lured by lawbreakers to engage in distributing illicit cigarette leaflets, thus breaking the law. He opined that education and publicity for young people should be enhanced to advise them not to defy the law.

45.4 Ms ZHAN Baoyu was concerned about the rising trend of various crimes in the district, including violent crimes, thefts and robberies, in the past six months. She suggested that the police conduct joint inspections with DC Members and carry out publicity and education work in the district. She mentioned that she conducted a joint patrol with the Sau Mau Ping Police District on 21 June, and local residents subsequently relayed to her that the operation had enhanced their sense of security. In addition, she suggested installing additional CCTVs in public places outside housing estates.

45.5 Ms CHING Hoi-yan (i) said that she had witnessed local primary school students smoking on the street and was worried that illicit cigarette promotion leaflets might lure children into trying smoking; and (ii) expressed concern about how to strengthen publicity efforts to remind young people who were not fully mature intellectually to avoid falling victim to naked chat scams.

46. The representative of HKPF responded to Members’ views and enquiries as follows:

46.1 On-street solicitation by sex workers: In the first half of 2024, the Kwun Tong Police District of HKPF conducted 14 operations, arresting 54 people, including sex workers holding two-way exit permits, local sex workers and owners of premises. The Kwun Tong Police District carried out 18 and 11 operations in the first half of 2023 and 2022 respectively, resulting in 28 and 19 arrests. In the first half of 2024, they issued warning letters to 20 premises, of which 15 premises involving 35 “one sex worker apartments” ceased to use the flats for vice activities after receiving the warning letters. On 30 May 2024, the police conducted a joint inspection of on-street solicitation activities in Kwun Tong District with the Chairman and members of the Kwun Tong District Fight Crime Committee. The police indicated that the operation of “one sex

worker apartment” was not illegal, and enforcement mainly targeted property owners who might have breached the law and street sex workers who caused nuisance to the public. The police would conduct joint operations with the Immigration Department to arrest persons contravening their conditions of stay and repatriate them to the Mainland immediately; the frequency of joint operations had increased from once per month to two to three times per month, and some of the operations were even conducted at night. In addition, the police would initiate formal prosecution against the property owners concerned to enhance deterrence. The police would also conduct more decoy operations to arrest street sex workers engaged in illegal activities.

- 46.2 CCTVs: The Kwun Tong and Sau Mau Ping Police Districts planned to install more than 20 CCTVs in Kwun Tong District this year, and would continue to select suitable locations for installation next year, taking into account locations with on-street solicitation activities.
- 46.3 Motorcycle accident: The police would look into and follow up on the incident, and step up enforcement actions at the location concerned.
- 46.4 Distribution of illicit cigarette leaflets in public housing estates: The police had established a collaborative mechanism with the Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office (“TACO”) of the Department of Health and HD. When HD became aware of individuals distributing illicit cigarette promotion leaflets in public housing estates, it would notify the police. If the police assessed that immediate manpower deployment was not necessary, the case would be referred to TACO for arranging joint operations. The police would continue to discuss with HD on strengthening efforts in combating illicit cigarette problems in public housing estates within the district. Regarding estate security, the police had been maintaining communication with security guards or management companies of housing estates, and conducted surprise inspections to check whether security guards had properly performed their duties in preventing unauthorised entry by strangers into housing estates. Warning letters would be issued to security companies with dereliction of duty when necessary. On the other hand, the police would address the issue of illicit cigarettes during anti-crime and anti-drug talks in local primary and secondary schools, so as to remind young people not to be exploited by crime syndicates to commit illicit cigarette-related offences.
- 46.5 Naked chat scams: Naked chat scams recorded a rising trend, but these cases were relatively difficult to detect as they usually occurred without physical contact, and many cases involved transnational crimes. The police would deploy officers to schools to

explain naked chat scams and other types of crimes, including sex crimes, to alert young people and prevent such crimes. In addition, the police would display promotion banners at places such as public transport interchanges and public housing estates to disseminate anti-deception information, including the “Anti-Scam Helpline 18222” and the scam and pitfall search engine, “Scameter”.

46.6 Deception cases: Deception cases were a key priority in police crime-fighting efforts. Primary emphasis was placed on preliminary education and publicity, such as disseminating anti-deception messages through social media, TV programmes, lift lobbies in housing estates and various forms of advertisement. In addition, the police would be glad to collaborate with DC Members and Care Teams to utilise their district networks to publicise anti-fraud messages. Regarding enforcement, the police would take action against those who sold or lent bank accounts for unlawful purposes and coordinate different police districts to enhance efficiency in evidence collection and increase the chances of conviction.

47. The meeting noted the paper.

Item VI — Work Reports of Committees under KTDC
(KTDC Paper No. 28/2024)

Annex 1: District Facilities and Works Committee

48. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 2: Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee

49. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 3: FEHC

50. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 4: TTC

51. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 5: Housing and Development Planning Committee

52. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 6: Social Welfare and Women Development Committee

53. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 7: Youth Committee

54. The meeting noted the paper.

Annex 8: National Education Promotion Committee

55. The meeting noted the paper.

Item VII – Any Other Business

(A) “National Day celebration events in Kwun Tong District”

56. The Chairman reported that KTDO and various groups in Kwun Tong District organised many events to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China, and KTDC was invited to be a co-organiser or supporting organisation for many of these events. The Secretariat had earlier sought Members’ views via email, and Members agreed that KTDC would serve as a co-organiser or supporting organisation for these events. Details of the events were as follows:

Lighting Ceremony of Landmark Lighting Display in Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People’s Republic of China

Date : 14 September 2024 (Saturday)

Time : 7 p.m.

Venue : Free Space, Kwun Tong Town Centre

Kwun Tong Chinese Cultural Fest – Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People’s Republic of China

Date : 28 September - 1 October 2024 (Saturday to Tuesday)

Venue : Kwun Tong Promenade

Honouring China · Spreading Love – Exhibition of Chinese Wedding Traditions in Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People’s Republic of China in Kwun Tong District

Date : 12 - 14 October 2024 (Saturday to Monday)

Venue : Free Space, Kwun Tong Town Centre

Kwun Tong Golden Song Concert in Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People’s Republic of China

Date : 19 - 21 October 2024 (Saturday to Monday)

Venue : Academic Community Hall, Hong Kong Baptist University, Kowloon Tong

57. The Chairman urged Members to pay close attention and render their enthusiastic support for the above activities.

Item VIII – Date of Next Meeting

58. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 7 November 2024 (Thursday).

59. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 7 November 2024.

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat
November 2024