

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 106th Meeting
of the Kwai Tsing District Council**

Date : 11 May 2017

Time: 2:30 p.m. – 6:40 p.m.

Venue: K&T DO Conference Room

<u>Attendee</u>	<u>Time of Arrival (p.m.)</u>	<u>Time of Departure (p.m.)</u>
Mr LAW King-shing, MH (Chairman)	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr CHOW Yick-hay, BBS, JP (Vice-chairman)	Start of Meeting	3:59
Mr CHAN Siu-man, Simon	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms CHEUNG Wai-ching, Clarice	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman	2:44	End of Meeting
Miss CHU Lai-ling	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr HUI Kei-cheung	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms KWOK Fu-yung	Start of Meeting	5:47
Ms LAM Chui-ling, Nancy, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LAM Siu-fai	Start of Meeting	5:53
Ms LAU Mei-lo	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LEE Chi-keung, Alan, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LEUNG Chi-shing	2:34	6:25
Mr LEUNG Kam-wai	2:40	End of Meeting
Mr LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis	4:11	End of Meeting
Mr LEUNG Wai-man, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
The Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung	2:47	3:53
Mr LI Sai-lung	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Miss LO Yuen-ting	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
The Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice, BBS, JP	2:37	4:30
Mr NG Ka-chiu	2:40	End of Meeting
Mr NG Kim-sing	2:34	End of Meeting
Mr PAU Ming-hong	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr POON Chi-shing, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms TAM Wai-chun, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr TANG Shui-wah, MH	2:32	End of Meeting
Mr TSUI Hiu-kit	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr WONG Bing-kuen	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr WONG Yiu-chung, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr WONG Yun-tat	Start of Meeting	6:00

In Attendance

Mr LO Ying-ki, Alan, JP	District Officer (Kwai Tsing), Kwai Tsing District Office
Mr LO Wai-chung, Stephen, PDSM, PMSM	Commissioner of Police
Mr NG Kwok-chi	Regional Officer/New Territories West, Independent Commission Against Corruption
Ms CHUNG Hoi-yin, Eva	Senior Community Relations Officer, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Mr LAU Kwok-ming	Chief Engineer/New Territories West 2, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr MOK Ying-kit, Kenneth	Chief Transport Officer/New Territories South West, Transport Department
Ms LAM Pui-mui	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwai Tsing), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr WONG Hon-kwan	District Commander (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms CHUNG Lie-moy, Joany	Police Community Relations Officer (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LAM Kam-wah	Senior Housing Manager (Kwai Chung), Housing Department
Mr LO Kam-lun, Alan	District Lands Officer (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Mr TSE Hing-chit	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Mr WONG Kwok-chun, Alex	District Social Welfare Officer, (Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing), Social Welfare Department
Ms CHEUNG Yuk-king, Dilys	Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHAN Pik-hing, Connie	District Leisure Manger (Kwai Tsing), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr WU Tin-yau, Gordon	Assistant District Officer (Kwai Tsing), Kwai Tsing District Office
Mr WONG Man-kit, Timothy (Secretary)	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Kwai Tsing District Office
Miss NG Kai-yue, Eliza (Assistant Secretary)	Executive Officer I (District Council), Kwai Tsing District Office

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the 106th meeting of the Kwai Tsing District Council (K&T DC).

Confirmation of Minutes of the 105th Meeting of the Kwai Tsing District Council held on 9 March 2017

2. Mr CHAN Siu-man, Simon moved a motion to confirm the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr PAU Ming-hong and the DC endorsed the said minutes unanimously.

Commissioner of Police's Visit to K&T DC

3. Mr LO Wai-chung, Stephen, Commissioner of Police, talked about the public order situation of Hong Kong over the past year and the work of the Hong Kong Police Force.

4. Mr WONG Yiu-chung put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) He thanked the Police for its strenuous efforts to maintain public order. As a result, the problem of illegal parking in the district had been alleviated considerably.
- (ii) He hoped that the Police would step up efforts to crack down on telephone deception and Loco London Gold trading fraud, and to give attention to the problem of “bogus refugees” committing crimes in the district.

5. The Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:

- (i) She asked if police manpower was sufficient to cope with the increasing workload.
- (ii) She hoped that the Police would combat the crimes relating to unscrupulous financial intermediaries.
- (iii) She urged the Police to give an account of the details of the suicide committed by a suspect in a detention cell as soon as possible to address

the public concern.

6. Mr POON Chi-shing pointed out that members of the public had received money lending advertisements from unscrupulous financial intermediaries through mobile applications. Those financial intermediaries were mostly unauthorised and he hoped that the Police would keep an eye on the problem.

7. Mr PAU Ming-hong said that a few telephone cases happened in the Cho Yiu constituency and the victims had suffered serious losses. He suggested the Police to strengthen publicity to raise the public's awareness of anti-deception.

8. Mr LEUNG Wai-man asked why the Police did not use the less potent water cannons to disperse demonstrators.

9. Ms KWOK Fu-yung remarked that there were burglaries in some units of commercial/residential buildings in Tai Pak Tin in northeast Kwai Chung. She asked the Police what new measures it had to combat such crime.

10. Miss CHU Lai-ling said that the lack of parking spaces in Lai Wah constituency in which she was serving had led to serious illegal parking. She hoped that the Police would continue to step up prosecution against illegal parking.

11. Mr WONG Bing-kuen put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:

- (i) The Police had contributed enormously to the extremely low crime rate in Hong Kong, but there were signs that its popularity was on the decline. He believed that Police's handling of demonstrations in recent years was one of the contributory causes. He hoped that the Police could firmly stick to the principle of political neutrality so as to regain the public's confidence.
- (ii) He asked about the reason for a sharp decrease by 20% in the number of deception cases despite the figure nearly doubled from 2006 to 2015.
- (iii) Illegal parking was serious on Tai Ha Street in Tai Wo Hau. Large vehicles were parked at roadside all the time, which had blocked pedestrians' line of vision. He asked whether the "3E" approach adopted in the Commissioner of Police's 2017 operational priorities could help solve the illegal parking problem in Tai Ha Street.

12. Mr LAM Siu-fai put forth opinions as follows:
- (i) The problem of debt collection had become increasingly serious in public housing estates.
 - (ii) The Police handled domestic violence sloppily and failed to offer practical assistance to the victims.
 - (iii) The suicide of a suspect in a detention cell had undermined the public's confidence over the Police. He urged the Police to promptly give an account of the incident.
13. Mr NG Kim-sing put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:
- (i) He hoped that the Police would combat the illegal parking problem in Hing Fong.
 - (ii) Conflicts often occurred at meetings of owners' corporations and crimes such as blackmail might be involved. He asked if the Police would intervene in such cases and conduct investigation.
 - (iii) He urged the Police to give an account of the suicide committed by a suspect in a detention cell and clarify if negligence was involved.
 - (iv) He suggested that the Police should recruit more South Asians to join the Police Force and deploy them to areas where many South Asians inhabited.
14. Mr HUI Kei-cheung put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:
- (i) He spoke highly of the close cooperation between the Police Community Relations Office of K&T and Members.
 - (ii) The Police was relatively passive in the investigation of telephone deception cases. He hoped that the Police could identify more effective strategies.
 - (iii) He asked about the Police's procedures of detaining suspects and how the Police ensure the safety of detainees.

15. Mr WONG Yun-tat put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) He had recently helped an organisation for the deaf-mute make an appointment to meet the Police Public Relations Branch in the hope of discussing ways to strengthen the support service for communication with the deaf-mute. However, the reply was that the organisation could set out its views in email. He was disappointed with the reply.
- (ii) He suggested that the Police should increase the proportion of ethnic minorities in the police service so as to help create a positive image of the Police in society.
- (iii) He drew the Police's attention to the problem of pyramid selling in public housing estates.

16. The Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) He spoke highly of the Police's work in K&T, but hoped that the Police would not be used as a tool for suppressing the voice of the public.
- (ii) There were cases where the mentally handicapped under detention had been treated abominably or even harshly by the Police. He doubted if the Police had abused authority to deprive detainees of their basic rights.

17. Mr LEUNG Kam-wai put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) He spoke highly of the Police's work in K&T.
- (ii) All persons should be protected until convicted. He suggested that the Police should improve the procedures of treating detainees.
- (iii) The Police had forced a victim of assault to admit having engaged in the fight when taking statement from the person. He considered that extremely unreasonable.
- (iv) He expressed concern over the Police's interference with communication signals on the grounds of anti-terrorism. He considered that the Police had excessive power.

18. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:
- (i) He thanked the members of Police Community Relations Office of K&T for offering help even in their off-duty hours so that efforts in tackling the illegal drug trade, etc. were even more effective.
 - (ii) He asked if the Police Community Relations Office of K&T was adequately staffed.
 - (iii) The handling of several incidents by the senior management of the Police in recent years had led to dissatisfaction among the public and a drop in Police's popularity rating, and had lowered the morale of junior police officers.
19. Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman put forth opinions as follows:
- (i) He highly praised K&T Police District for its performance in tackling illegal drug dealings.
 - (ii) Debt collection activities in public housing estates were on the rise.
 - (iii) He hoped that the Police would step up the fight against telephone deception.
 - (iv) He recently received a complaint from a member of the public who had committed a wrongdoing after getting drunk and, while under detention, he was refused a blanket for keeping warmth until 4 hours after the request was made. The Police should pay more attention to the protection of the rights of detainees.
20. Mr CHAN Siu-man, Simon pointed out that the Police was having an establishment of 33 000. He opined that it would be better to review the system of staff deployment to boost efficiency instead of expanding the establishment.
21. Mr TANG Shui-wah put forth opinions as follows:
- (i) He thanked the Police Community Relations Office for its well-planned arrangements for crowd control and traffic management in the celebrations of the birthdays of Zhen Jun and Tin Hau.

- (ii) Members of the public very often received calls from fraudsters posing as staff of the Immigration Department after having purchased travel products at travel agencies, which had made the public difficult to recognise that was actually a deception. He urged the Police to see if some travel agencies had conspired with fraudsters.

22. Mr LO Wai-chung, Stephen gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) With the widespread publicity work about telephone deception conducted in 2016 and the cooperation between the Police and Mainland agencies to crack down on deception syndicates based in Indonesia and Spain, the number of deception cases had dropped by 60% in the previous year, but there was a slight rebound in March 2017. It was believed the rebound was related to the fact that fraudsters had adopted new mode of operation. The Police would continue to warn the public to beware of telephone deception through social networking platforms, media, District Fight Crime Committees (DFCCs), schools and organisations providing services to new arrivals. It would also encourage members of the public to discuss with their family to avoid falling victim to telephone deception.
- (ii) The number of prosecution cases against illegal parking in 2016 had increased by 21% compared with that in 2015. However, there were many causes of illegal parking. The Police could not focus all its resources on this problem. It hoped that government departments could cooperate to tackle illegal parking through different means, such as increasing the number of parking spaces in the district, improving road design and encouraging the public to use the public transport.
- (iii) The Police was well aware that debt collection might involve serious criminal offences and therefore attached high importance to it. There were 1 656 cases relating to debt collection in the territory from January to February 2017. Out of the total, 255 cases involved criminal offences, representing a decrease of 10% compared with the same period last year. There were 122 such reports in K&T Police District, with 20 cases involving criminal offences. The Police would appoint the Criminal Investigation Team to investigate the cases with criminal offences or cases which would very likely develop into cases with

criminal offences. The Police would also maintain close contact with security and management companies and ask them to strengthen patrol.

- (iv) The Police had procedures in place to handle domestic violence case. Police constables should complete all procedures before closing such cases. The cases would be reported to sergeants or officers at higher level for review.
- (v) The Police would arrange for sign language interpreters to communicate with the deaf-mute depending on the situation. Members were welcome to make an appointment with the Police Public Relations Branch again to convey the demands of the deaf-mute.
- (vi) He would not comment on the individual cases mentioned by Members about the alleged unfair treatment suffered in police stations, but he reiterated that the Police had procedures to protect the basic human rights. The public could lodge complaints, if any, to the duty officer of the police station.
- (vii) He reiterated that the Police's duty, besides fighting crime, was to ensure public safety. It had always enforced the law in an impartial manner and would not be affected by any political considerations. The Police hoped to continue to enhance communication with the public through social networking platforms so as to regain their support and confidence.
- (viii) The Police was currently not equipped with the specialised crowd management vehicle, but the vehicle would be put into operation in late 2017 or early 2018. The Police would then draw up guidelines on the use of vehicle and the personnel concerned would be provided with necessary training.
- (ix) K&T Police District had launched the Project Go Front to help non-ethnic Chinese to raise their Chinese language standard and integrate into society, and to encourage interested non-ethnic Chinese to join the Police Force.
- (x) The Police had a total 29 000 police officers among the 30,000-strong establishment. To cope with the increasingly heavy workload, the Police hoped that the Legislative Council (LegCo) would endorse the

addition of 608 posts to the establishment in the 2017-18 financial year (FY) and a further increase of 400 plus posts in 2018-19 FY.

- (xi) The Police noted Members' opinions on burglary in commercial/residential buildings, conflicts of owners' corporations, "bogus refugees", etc. and would prudently handle them.
- (xii) The Police had strict procedures in place to deal with detainees. The Police attached high importance to the recent suicide committed by a suspect in the police station. The Regional Crime Unit of another region had been entrusted with the investigation of the case to see if any negligence, etc. was involved. Since the death investigation report of the suspect had to be submitted to the Coroner's Court, the Police was not in a position to disclose details of the case for the time being.

Introduction of Paper

ICAC Regional Office (New Territories South West) Work Plan 2017-18

(Proposed by Independent Commission Against Corruption)

(K&T DC Paper No. 24/I/2017 and 24a/I/2017 (tabled at the meeting))

23. Mr NG Kwok-chi, Regional Officer/New Territories West of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), introduced the paper with a slide show.

24. The Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice declared an interest as a member of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Complaints Committee. She thanked ICAC for its anti-corruption publicity work in K&T.

25. Mr LEE Chi-keung, Alan asked if members of the public had to provide ICAC with evidence when they lodged complaints to ICAC against suspected corruption in building maintenance works.

26. Mr NG Kwok-chi replied that ICAC encouraged members of the public to report to it as long as they had reasonable doubt that corruption was involved. ICAC also suggested that the public should provide all detailed information they had and identify themselves when making the reports.

27. Members unanimously endorsed the proposal that K&T DC would jointly organise the 2017-18 "All for Integrity" anti-corruption programme.

Discussion Items

Request for Early Implementation of Higher Old Age Living Allowance

(Proposed by Mr WONG Bing-kuen, Mr HUI Kei-cheung, Mr NG Kim-sing and Mr LAM Siu-fai)

(K&T DC Paper No. 25/D/2017 and 25a/D/2017)

28. Mr WONG Bing-kuen introduced the paper. He pointed out that as can be seen from the schedule set out in the paper, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) was less efficient in implementing the Higher Old Age Living Allowance (Higher OALA) than OALA in 2012. He considered the progress unacceptable.

29. Mr WONG Kwok-chun, Alex, District Social Welfare Officer, (Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing) of SWD, responded as follows:

- (i) At present, OALA was the social security with the largest number of elderly recipients, accounting for 37% of elderly people aged 65 or above.
- (ii) To strengthen the support of this social security pillar for the elderly, SWD had enhanced the depth and breadth of OALA through two measures. In respect of the depth of OALA, a higher tier of assistance would be added. A higher monthly allowance of \$3,435 per person would be provided to elderly persons who were eligible for the allowance and have more financial needs, i.e., singletons with assets not exceeding \$144,000 or couples with assets not more than \$218,000. The rate would be about one-third higher than the existing one. In respect of the breadth of OALA, the asset limits for the existing allowance would be relaxed from \$225,000 to \$329,000 for singletons, and from \$341,000 to \$499,000 for couples, to benefit more elderly persons with financial needs. Through the two measures, the coverage of OALA would be extended to 47% of elderly aged 65 or above.
- (iii) The effective date of both higher OALA and the relaxation of the asset limits of OALA was the first day of the month when the relevant appropriation bill was passed by LegCo.
- (iv) The measure to enhance the breadth of OALA would be implemented immediately after the appropriation bill was passed.

- (v) Since an additional tier with a higher allowance would be added under the measure to enhance the depth of OALA, time was needed in the updating of system design, development of system, changing of applications, system testing and data conversion, so as to ensure sustainability of the system to handle the ever-increasing number of applications in future. As a result, the measure concerned would be implemented in mid-2018 at the earliest.

30. Mr LAM Siu-fai was of the opinion that although Higher OALA would be implemented with retrospective effect starting from the first day of the month when the relevant appropriation bill was passed by LegCo, the lead time was too long and some elderly might not be able to survive before they were able to obtain the allowance.

31. Mr LEUNG Wai-man criticised some LegCo Members for filibustering, which had impeded the implementation of Higher OALA.

32. Mr WONG Bing-kuen pointed out that there were also filibusters in LegCo in 2012, but the time needed for implementing OALA was still much shorter than that of Higher OALA. He opined that Higher OALA should be implemented as soon as possible to save elderly persons the trouble of keeping a large amount of documentary proof of assets.

33. Mr HUI Kei-cheung remarked that the number of applicants for OALA was much greater than that of Higher OALA, but the lead time required by SWD for implementing OALA in 2012 was shorter. Therefore, the blame for the slow progress of implementing Higher OALA should not be put on filibusters.

34. The Chairman pointed out that Members' request for the speedy passage of the appropriation bill by LegCo was not contrary to the request for the speedy implementation of Higher OALA by SWD.

35. Mr POON Chi-shing stated that the problem of filibuster in the 2016-17 FY were too severe. He appealed to some LegCo Members to refrain from obstructing measures that would benefit the public by filibustering.

36. Mr WONG Yun-tat pointed out that LegCo Members had responsibility for monitoring the Government's estimates of expenditure. He added that there was no filibustering at all in LegCo when examining the budget of 2017-18 FY.

37. Mr WONG Kwok-chun, Alex responded as follows:

- (i) The measures to enhance the depth and breadth of OALA would benefit 370 000 and 130 000 elderly respectively. The coverage of OALA would be increased from the present 37% to 47%.
- (ii) The number of OALA applicants would continue to rise and SWD's present computer system had to process other social security benefits as well. Moreover, the population was expected to continue to age. SWD therefore needed to upgrade its computer system in a timely manner to meet the future development. SWD would ensure the early completion of the upgrade.
- (iii) To benefit the elderly as soon as possible, SWD planned to implement Higher OALA in phases. The measure to enhance the breadth of OALA would be implemented as soon as LegCo passed the appropriation bill.
- (iv) At present, most elderly eligible for Higher OALA were recipients of OALA. SWD anticipated that the granting of Higher OALA in mid-2018 would not exert a great impact on their daily life.

38. The Chairman dealt with the following motion:

Motion: "The Kwai Tsing District Council requests the government to adopt a people-based approach to address the pressing needs of the people for early implementation of the Higher Old Age Living Allowance to improve the post-retirement life of elderly and minimise problems arising from its delayed implementation."

(Proposed by Mr WONG Bing-kuen and Mr HUI Kei-cheung; seconded by Mr NG Kim-sing and Mr LAM Siu-fai)

39. The Chairman received the following amended motion:

Amended Motion: "The Kwai Tsing District Council requests the government to adopt a people-based approach to address the pressing needs of the people for implementation of the Higher Old Age Living Allowance within three months of the Legislative Council's approval so as to improve the post-retirement life of the elderly and minimise problems arising from its delayed implementation."

(Proposed by Mr LEE Chi-keung, Alan, Mr LEUNG Wai-man, Ms LAU Mei-lo, Mr

TSUI Hiu-kit, Mr NG Ka-chiu, Mr CHAN Siu-man, Simon, Ms KWOK Fu-yung, Mr LI Sai-lung, Mr POON Chi-shing, Mr PAU Ming-hong, Mr WONG Yiu-chung, Miss LO Yuen-ting, Ms TAM Wai-chun, Ms LAM Chui-ling, Nancy, the Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice, Mr LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis and Miss CHU Lai-ling; seconded by Mr TANG Shui-wah)

40. Mr LEUNG Wai-man urged SWD to fully implement Higher OALA within three months of the passage of the appropriation bill by LegCo.

41. Mr WONG Bing-kuen supported the amended motion.

42. DC accepted and passed the amended motion unanimously.

“Guidelines on the Use of Kwai Tsing District Council Funds” — Review of the Permissible Items of Expenditure and Limit of Expenditure for Kwai Tsing District Council Funded Activities

(K&T DC Paper No. 26/D/2017)

43. The Secretary introduced the paper.

44. DC endorsed the paper unanimously.

Discussion on the Audit Commission’s Report on the Provision of District Council Funds for Community Involvement Projects and the Improvement of the Relevant Funding System, Declaration of Interests and Monitoring

(Proposed by Mr WONG Yun-tat and Mr HUI Kei-cheung)

(K&T DC Paper No. 36/D/2017 and 36a/D/2017 (tabled at the meeting))

45. The Chairman said that the Audit Commission published the Director of Audit’s Report No. 68 (“the Report”) on 26 April. Chapter 4 of the Report, which titled “Provision of district council funds for community involvement projects”, gave a report on the results of value for money audits of community involvement (CI) projects implemented by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) through District Councils (DCs) and proposed recommendations for improvements. The Secretariat had sent relevant parts of the Report to all Members.

46. Mr WONG Yun-tat introduced the paper. He hoped that K&T DC could discuss the following items / issues:

- (i) The allocation of K&T DC funds focused too much on cultural, recreational and sports activities and festive celebrations.
- (ii) K&T DC Members and Committee Members should made ruling on the interests declared at meetings so as to prevent possible conflict of interest in the vetting of funding applications.
- (iii) K&T DC should openly invite organisations to organise CI activities.
- (iv) The existing activity assessment form was too simple.

47. Mr HUI Kei-cheung opined that as the government had empowered DCs with functions in district administration, DCs' vetting mechanism on provision of funds must be strict so as to ensure the proper use of public funds. Taking the provision of funds for research study on transport as an example, the results of the report could be submitted to relevant departments for follow-up. He hoped that the Kwai Tsing District Office (K&T DO) can provide recommendations, such as on the refining of the existing mechanism in declaration of interests, for K&T DC's consideration.

48. Mr LEE Chi-keung, Alan put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) DCs took up the functions of promoting cultural and recreational activities from the then Urban Council and Regional Council. According to the District Councils Ordinance, there were two major functions of a DC: (1) to advise the Government on matters affecting the well-being of the people in the District, and on the provision and use of public facilities and services within the District, and on the use of public funds allocated to the District for local public works and community activities; (2) where funds are made available for the purpose, to undertake environmental improvements, the promotion of recreational and cultural activities, and community activities. DCs had the responsibility to use the funds to promote recreational and cultural activities, while policy research and so on might not be the statutory function of DCs.
- (ii) Taking the 2016-17 FY as an example, K&T DC had a provision of \$23.7 million, of which \$15 million was reserved for designated organisations, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") and the employment of Non-Civil Service Contract staff. Funds for

festive celebrations and recreational and cultural/art activities only accounted for about 30% of the provision.

- (iii) Other activities, such as talks on public housing affairs, only required tens of thousands of dollars each regardless of the venue being a Chinese restaurant or a community hall. Overall speaking, the expenditure was equivalent to about 40 cents per resident in K&T.

49. Ms CHEUNG Wai-ching, Clarice opined that DC funds must be used properly, and she doubted the spending of tens of thousands of dollars on hiring singers in some activities.

50. The Chairman pointed out that in the 2016-17 FY, the total expenditure of DC on CI projects was about \$23.6 million. As for the 2017-18 FY, the provision allocated was about \$30 million, of which \$4.35 million would be used for the preparation of community healthcare service projects, thus enhancing the variety of CI projects. He said that while the budget was mainly based on the expenditure items of the previous years, Members were encouraged to exchange views among themselves openly to ensure that the budget could better meet local demands.

51. Mr LEE Chi-keung, Alan pointed out that organisers of CI projects had to provide quotations in accordance with the Guidelines on the Use of Kwai Tsing District Council Funds (“the Guidelines”) to ensure fairness and justice. It was unreasonable to focus on the amount of expenditure without taking into consideration of the effectiveness of the activities.

52. Mr LEUNG Wai-man pointed out that the expenditure items of the budget were mainly based on those in the earlier terms of K&T DC, and there had never been any query from Members in the past.

53. Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman opined that the Report provided an opportunity for K&T DC to review the provision of funds to see if the funds were used for improving people’s livelihood. He expressed regret that activities funded by K&T DC in the five areas were commonly carried out in a few venues, and he hoped that the review could explore if the funds could be used in more meaningful projects.

54. The District Officer responded as follows:

- (i) K&T DO attached great importance to the effective use and monitoring

of public funds.

- (ii) The expenditure items of the budget were formulated by K&T DC. For the budget of 2017-18 FY, K&T DC decided to earmark \$4.35 million, i.e. about 14.4% of the estimated provision for the organisation of community healthcare service projects in view of the success in the Significant Project Scheme (SPS). One thus might say K&T DC did not just focus on cultural and recreational activities and festive celebrations.
- (iii) K&T DO attached great importance to the recommendations proposed in the Report. The Secretariat was studying on the enhancement of the existing system by making reference to the practices adopted by other DCs and would report to Members at the meeting of the Administration and Finance Committee (“AFC”) to be held on 22 June.

55. The Chairman pointed out that there were slight discrepancies in the funding and declaration of interests systems among the 18 DCs. He suggested that Members could integrate other Members’ opinions and guidelines from HAD and further discuss on the issue at the next meeting of AFC. He also encouraged Members interested in the discussion to join AFC.

56. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing suggested reviewing the papers of K&T DC produced in 2007 or before to see if the funds for K&T DC were allocated to different areas. He said that he had participated in several working groups at that time, and the funds, regardless of the amount, were evenly allocated to each of the constituencies and the Member of the concerned constituency would be invited to organise activities together. As a comparison, the current situation was that the constituency served by him seldom received promotion materials on area activities, and the residents also had little chance to participate in area activities.

57. Mr WONG Yun-tat hoped that K&T DC should not be bound by past practices, but could reform the funding and declaration of interests systems. He opined that DC should review whether such a high proportion of resources should still be deployed for holding cultural and recreational activities. He pointed out that some activities with the themes on transport and housing affairs were in fact held in the form of tea receptions instead of allowing residents to express their opinions. The current situation was undesirable.

58. Mr HUI Kei-cheung opined that it would be most effective to carry out reform in the funding system. He agreed that cultural and recreational activities should be taken care by LCSD, and more non-governmental organisations (NGOs) should be invited to participate in CI projects. He was dissatisfied with the existing practice of nominating co-organiser right away at the meetings of the working groups by members in charge of the events. In addition, he hoped that K&T DC could deploy more resources on researches.

59. Mr WONG Bing-kuen recalled three CI project activities he had assisted in their organisation. These activities were (1) compost cultivated plants programme co-organised with the Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden and the Asbury Methodist Social Service; (2) investigation report on noise problem at the Texaco Road flyover; (3) discussion with professionals from the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education on the recurrence of water seeping from ceilings of public rental housing units even after maintenance.

60. Mr POON Chi-shing opined that there were still vagueness in the existing declaration of interests system and he hoped that K&T DO could provide clearer guidelines. In addition, he pointed out that Members could put forth proposal on a certain issue to K&T DC at any time. For example, a new Working Group on Container Terminal was set up in the current term of K&T DC.

61. Mr LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis pointed out that the budget had to be discussed and endorsed by AFC and K&T DC. Working groups were open to all Members and co-opted Members, and work reports had to be submitted to the committees. However, some Members never raised opinion or queried the activities. He opined that the meetings of VWG were frequent and currently only few Members were willing to join, and it was hard to monitor all activities.

62. Ms TAM Wai-chun put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) Perhaps some Members were dissatisfied with the funding system because they felt that the activities organised by K&T DC might not be able to benefit residents in different constituencies. She encouraged more Members to participate in the working groups and express their opinions proactively.
- (ii) Participating in working groups was not easy. The members not only had heavy workload but also had to make advance payments when

organising the activities.

- (iii) In view of a high proportion of grassroots in K&T, the arrangement of holding seminars and talks in restaurants could attract more people and be more effective, and the people had to pay a fee to attend these activities.
- (iv) All activities applied for K&T DC funding had to comply with the prescribed procurement procedures in the Guidelines.

63. Mr LEE Chi-keung, Alan pointed out that K&T DC had compiled quite a number of research reports in the past, but they were not quite effective and the public did not quite care about the details of the reports. He also encouraged more Members to participate in working groups.

64. Ms CHEUNG Wai-ching, Clarice opined that the number of “pan-democratic” Members was not enough to cause an impact on the decision of K&T DC and their participation in working groups would also have little influence.

65. Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman said that conducting policy research and following up cases from the public had already taken up most of his work time, and he could hardly afford any for participating in working groups. The current proposal to review the funding system was not related to the uneven allocation of funds. He opined that the government should further empower DCs, so that DCs could focus on their roles as advisers to the government. LCSD should take care of the promotion of cultural and recreational activities.

66. Mr LEUNG Kam-wai pointed out that the Report criticised that DCs seldom organised projects targeting specific groups of people (such as ethnic minority, new arrivals and women). K&T DC had also given up on inviting academic groups for compiling of research report on transport due to insufficient funds. He hoped that the budget could be adjusted in response to the review.

67. Mr LAM Siu-fai recalled that he had participated in the working group on redevelopment of interim housing, and although only a small amount of fund was allocated for the organisation of residents’ meeting and production of pamphlets, it had been a very meaningful job. On the other hand, he was the first member-in-charge of the “Thousands Walk for Health” organised by the Safe and Healthy Community Working Group. The activity was organised in partnership with the Kwai Chung Hospital to help

dementia patients. He opined that K&T DC should maintain closer liaison with NGOs in the district.

68. Mr NG Kim-sing recalled that K&T DC organised more activities related to the livelihood of people and provided opinions on policies more frequently in the past. For example, the government shelved the electronic road pricing due to opposition from the 18 DCs. He opined that as Members were elected by the people, they should not simply support the government, but should exert pressure on the government with regard to issues undesirable to the livelihood of the people.

69. Mr LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis reiterated that K&T DC provided funding through scrutiny of multi-layered hierarchy. He spoke highly of Members' participation in working group duties and their effort in formulating details of the activities. He opined that Members should proactively join the working groups on the issues they were especially interested in and participate in formulating the outline of work.

70. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing agreed that there was a higher proportion of the grassroots in K&T. The response of the people to residents' meetings organised in the past were disappointing, but the situation had changed in recent years. More people cared about their community and issues of livelihood. K&T DC should review if the approach adopted in organising activities in the past should continue. He pointed out that there were talks with the presence of Housing Manager held in form of tea receptions and the discussions, however, got sidetracked from public housing issues.

71. Mr WONG Yun-tat agreed that Members taking up duties in working groups had heavy workload. He suggested to limit the number of working groups that a Member could serve as Chairman. In addition, he suggested requiring the organisers to provide video record as a means to enhance monitoring of CI activities.

72. Mr HUI Kei-cheung reiterated that CI projects should not just focus on promoting cultural and recreational activities, and more resources should be deployed to livelihood issues. He pointed out that opinions put forth by some Members were not taken into consideration by DC.

73. The District Officer responded as follows: :

- (i) The publication of the Report provided a good opportunity for K&T DC to review and enhance its system.

- (ii) The system in monitoring the operation of K&T DC had made much improvement in the past, e.g. the meetings of all committees and working groups had been open to public since 2014. The agendas, papers, recordings and records of the meetings were also uploaded to K&T DC website to facilitate public supervision.
- (iii) With regard to the recommendations proposed in the Report, K&T DO would provide improvement options for Members' discussion in the next AFC meeting.

Information Papers

Kwai Tsing District Office Work Plan 2017 - 2018

(Proposed by the Kwai Tsing District Office)

(K&T DC Paper No. 27/I/2016)

74. The Assistant District Officer (ADO) introduced the paper. °
75. Mr HUI Kei-cheung put forth enquiries as follows:
- (i) What direction and measures in the macroscopic sense K&T DO would adopt in the implementation of district administration.
 - (ii) SPS had been implemented for two years. In view that the health conditions of some elderly people might not be fit for receiving treatment in the mobile dental clinics, he asked whether K&T DO would have additional resources to allow the elderly to receive services provided by other medical institutions.
76. The District Officer responded as follows: :
- (i) The government attached great importance in the implementation of district administration. As for K&T, K&T DO strived to establish strong local network with the Members, such as involving the Members to enhance the promotion of SPS and “e+ Action” in the district, thus allowing the above projects to reach out to people in need of the relevant services.
 - (ii) In view that the conditions of some elderly people might not be fit for

receiving treatment in the mobile dental clinics, [amended Chi version as well] K&T DC could use the \$4.35 million for community healthcare service projects for inviting other medical institutions to provide out-patient services.

Work Plan of “e+ Action – Dementia Community Support Service” under Kwai Tsing District-led Actions Scheme

(Proposed by the Kwai Tsing District Office)

(K&T DC Paper No. 28/I/2016)

77. The District Officer introduced the paper.

78. Mr HUI Kei-cheung pointed out that many social welfare organisations also provided services to dementia patients. He enquired whether K&T DO would cooperate with those organisations by linking the services provided by each other to reach out to their existing clients.

79. The District Officer said that the Hong Kong Alzheimer’s Disease Association had been consulted on the selection of target clients of the “e+ Action”. The conclusion was that patients currently not receiving services from social welfare organisations, such as singleton elderly, would have more pressing need for the assistance from the e+ Action.

80. Mr WONG Kwok-chun, Alex said that SWD would give full support to the implementation of the e+ Action. He added that community education and the encouragement of the people to take test for early detection was especially important. Therefore, SWD appealed to the social welfare organisations to identify dementia patients at the early stage so that treatment and support services could be provided to the patients and their family members respectively.

Report on the Progress of Kwai Tsing District Celebration Events for the 20th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China

(Proposed by the Kwai Tsing District Office)

(K&T DC Paper No. 29/I/2016)

81. ADO introduced the paper.

82. Members noted the paper.

Report of the Kwai Tsing District Management Committee meeting held on 24 February 2017

(Proposed by the Kwai Tsing District Office)

(K&T DC Paper No.30/I/2017)

83. Members noted the above paper.

Reports of the Kwai Tsing District Area Committees

(Proposed by the Kwai Tsing District Office)

(K&T DC Paper No. 31/I/2017 (revision) (tabled at the meeting))

84. Members noted the above paper.

Briefing on Public Order Situation in February and March 2017

(Proposed by the Hong Kong Police Force)

(K&T DC Paper No. 32/I/2017)

85. Mr WONG Bing-kuen pointed out that the crime figures in the first quarter of 2017 were increased by 10.5% compared with the same period in 2016. As stated in the paper, the causes for the increase were related to the increases in the deception cases and the arrest of young/non-ethnic Chinese offenders. He asked the Police for the details of the cases and the causes for the increase of crimes.

86. Mr WONG Hon-kwan, District Commander (Kwai Tsing) of the Hong Kong Police Force, responded as follows: :

- (i) The Police pay much attention to the increase in the number of crimes. However, the crime rate of K&T had been decreasing while the detection rate kept increasing in the past years, i.e. much better than the territory-wide figures. As a result, the low base of comparison last year resulted in a more significant percentage increase in crime rate even there was only a slight increase in the number of cases.
- (ii) The Police proactively combatted crimes in relation to non-ethnic Chinese, resulting in the increase in the number of persons arrested. There were 43 persons arrested from January to April 2017 and of these persons, 26 were Hong Kong Identity Card holders, 2 were illegal immigrants, 1 was tourist and the remaining 14 were holders of recognisance forms (Form 8). The 14 persons were mainly engaged in

illegal employment and involved in the use of forged documents and other crimes in K&T.

- (iii) Deception cases included Internet, street and telephone deception and so on. Internet deception cases increased slightly and some of the cases were related to social media transactions, such as purchase of concert tickets. The number of telephone deception cases was about the same as last year, and two of such cases were successfully detected. The Police also noted that street deception cases were on the rise, and relevant publicity and education efforts had been enhanced.
- (iv) There were more young offenders arrested because the Police detected 3 robberies in the first quarter of 2017 and arrested over 10 young persons.

87. Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:

- (i) He received a few cases seeking for help. There were lawbreakers taking advantage of summer job recruitment to recruit young persons to sell Loco London gold or memberships and even to assist in contraband transactions. He hoped that the Police could enhance publicity through schools and the DFCC during the summer holiday to prevent young persons from falling prey to lawbreakers.
- (ii) He wondered if the Police would only conduct investigation into a case after debt collection posters against the case reporter had been posted for three times.

88. Mr WONG Hon-kwan responded as follows: :

- (i) The Kwai Tsing Police Community Relations Office (PCRO) [the long form appears several times in earlier parts of the draft] and the District Anti-triad Squad (DATS) frequently cooperated with schools in holding talks to remind young persons to beware of summer job traps.
- (ii) While debt collection activities involving criminal elements (such as plugging keyhole of a flat unit and pouring of paint) or cases highly probable to involve criminal elements would be referred to criminal investigation teams for investigation, the Police also deployed anti-debt collection teams to undergo intelligence collection, step up patrol and

carry out special operations and so on to combat such crimes. Several illegal debt collectors were successfully arrested in the past.

89. Mr LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis pointed out that according to Section 35 of the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations, the driver of each of the first 2 public light buses standing at a public light bus stand shall not, without reasonable excuse, leave his vehicle. He recently received a complaint that a public light bus driver parked the vehicle in the stand as he wanted to go to the toilet, and when he returned, a penalty ticket had been issued. He opined that the Police was too rigid in the enforcement.

90. Mr WONG Hon-kwan pointed out that the police officer had observed at scene for 10 minutes but did not see the driver, before he issued the ticket. If the driver considered that the Police was unfair in issuing the ticket, he might complain to the Central Traffic Prosecutions Division.

Report Items

Reports of the K&T DC Committees

(K&T DC Paper No. 33/R/2017)

91. Members noted the above paper.

Report of Working Group on Development of Kwai Chung Park

(K&T DC Paper No. 34/R/2017)

92. Members noted the above paper.

Report of District Council Overseas Duty Visits Working Group

(K&T DC Paper No. 35/R/2017)

93. The Chairman said that at the meeting on 7 April, the Working Group agreed that K&T DC Members would have an overseas duty visit to Seoul in South Korea in May 2018. The visit would mainly cover environmental protection and landscaping facilities there. According to the relevant guidelines, Members' overseas duty visits should be conducted within the 4 years of their terms of office. It was proposed that the visit would be scheduled for the third year of the current DC term. Since the preparation for overseas duty visit took quite some time, it was believed that the Working Group might not be able to organise another visit in the current term [amend Chi version accordingly]. Therefore, he encouraged Members to take the opportunity and enroll in

the visit when the Secretariat confirmed the visit content and consulted K&T DC.

94. Members noted the above paper.

Any Other Business

95. There was no other business.

Date of Next Meeting

96. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 13 July 2017 (Thursday).

Kwai Tsing District Council Secretariat
July 2017