

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 134th Meeting
of the Kwai Tsing District Council**

Date: 10 May 2022

Time: 2:31 p.m. – 4:41 p.m.

Venue: K&T DO Conference Room

<u>Attendee</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Miss LO Yuen-ting (Chairman)	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr CHAN Chi-wing (Vice Chairman)	Start of Meeting	Start of Meeting
Miss KWOK Fu-yung	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LAM Siu-fai	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms LAU Kwai-mui	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LEUNG Chi-shing	2:35 p.m.	End of Meeting
Ms LEUNG Kar-ming	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr TSUI Hiu-kit	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting

In Attendance

Mr CHENG Kin, Kenneth, JP	District Officer (Kwai Tsing), Kwai Tsing District Office
Mr LAI Chi-wah, Andrew	Director of Lands
Ms HO Mun-ye, Money	District Lands Officer/Tsuen Wan & Kwai Tsing (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Ms YEUNG Sien-ching, Susana	Acting Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Mrs MAK LEUNG Suet-mui, Cherry	Senior Estate Surveyor/Training, Lands Department
Ms HO Yuen-man, Jacqueline	Assistant Director (Grade Management & Development), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr CHAN Ka-yip	Senior Superintendent (Public Columbaria Project Team), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

**Responsible
Department**

Ms KWAN Po-man, Bo Bo	Chief Health Inspector (Public Columbaria Project Team), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr SUNG Wai-fai, Andrew	Chief Project Manager 301, Architectural Services Department
Mr CHOW Yun-tong	Senior Project Manager 321, Architectural Services Department
Ms SO Hoi-yan, Victoria	Project Manager 318, Architectural Services Department
Ms KWAN Peggy	Senior Engineer, Atkins China Limited
Mr SO Tak-wo	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwai Tsing), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms LIM Ting-ting, Sylvia	Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms HUE Kam-ching	District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms TAM Nga-ching, Monita	District Commander (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms WONG Wai-yin	Assistant District Commander (Crime) (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms TSE May-may	Police Community Relations Officer (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms MA Ming-wai	Officer-in-charge, District Intelligence Section (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms MA Sau-ching, Annisa	District Social Welfare Officer (Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Social Welfare Department
Ms LIU Tze-kwan, Fiona	Chief Engineer/West 2, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms LUI Hiu-fai, Monica	Chief Transport Officer/New Territories South West, Transport Department
Mr CHAN Tsz-kim, Joe	Senior Housing Manager (Kwai Chung), Housing Department
Mr TANG Huggin	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 Po-wan, Priscilla (Assistant Secretary)	Executive Officer I (District Council), Kwai Tsing District Office

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the 134th meeting of the Kwai Tsing District Council (K&T DC). She said that in view of the spread of the epidemic, a contingency measure would apply to meetings of K&T DC that there would be no petition areas and public galleries at all meetings of K&T DC and Committees to reduce the risk of infection due to group gathering. The measure would continue until further notice.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Following Meetings:

- (i) **the 133rd Meeting of K&T DC Held on 11 January 2022**
- (ii) **the Special Meeting of K&T DC Held on 25 January 2022**

2. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received no proposed amendments from Members prior to the meeting and she invited Members to endorse the minutes of the above meetings.

3. Mr TSUI Hiu-kit moved a motion. The motion was seconded by Mr CHAN Chi-wing. Members unanimously endorsed the minutes of the above meetings.

Meeting with the Head of Department

Director of Lands's Visit to K&T DC

4. Mr LAI Chi-wah, Andrew, the Director of Lands, introduced with a slide presentation the work of his department, mainly including granting land, lease modifications and short-term tenancies, land and lease enforcement, land surveying and map production, vetting and approving deeds of mutual covenant, issuing pre-sale consents, etc., and introduced the major work of the District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (DLO/TW&KT) in Kwai Tsing District.

5. Ms LEUNG Kar-ming enquired about the Lands Department's (LandsD) proposal for handling unlawful occupation of government land for farming in Tsing Yi.

6. Mr TSUI Hiu-kit put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) There were as many graves on the hill behind Ching Wah Court as in a small columbarium. The Government should clearly demarcate the areas of permitted burial grounds (PBGs) and proactively regulate burial matters.

- (ii) Illegal graves affected indigenous inhabitants' legal burial rights and led to hygiene problems like accumulation of stagnant water and breeding of mosquitoes.

7. Mr LAM Siu-fai thanked the Kwai Tsing District Office (K&T DO) for proactively coordinating various departments' efforts in combating the illegal barbeque sites in Kau Wa Keng that had affected nearby residents for years. He worried that the barbeque sites would reopen for business after the epidemic was under control, so he hoped that the Government, especially DLO/TW&KT would follow up the matter from the perspective of land uses.

8. The Chairman put forth opinions and enquiry as follows:

- (i) She thanked LandsD for making proper arrangements earlier for the "restriction-testing declaration" (RTD) operations in the district and DLO/TW&KT for its dutiful performance in the inter-departmental joint operations in the district.
- (ii) Whether LandsD would consider resuming the land of the illegal barbeque sites in Kau Wa Keng through legal means.
- (iii) There had been media coverage of styrofoam boxes piling up like a mountain in the district recently. It would be environmentally unfriendly for the Government to just deliver the styrofoam boxes to landfills. LandsD should consider providing vacant government sites temporarily for handling those styrofoam boxes, which could hopefully be delivered to the Mainland for reuse after resumption of quarantine-free travel so as to utilise government resources and reduce environmental pollution.

9. Mr LAI Chi-wah, Andrew responded as follows:

- (i) LandsD had conducted a total of 10 RTD operations since March this year and about 100 of its staff members were mobilised in each operation. He thanked the Chairman for recognising the Government's anti-epidemic work.
- (ii) Concerning the issue of styrofoam boxes piling up in the district, if the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) or the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) deemed vacant government sites in the district

suitable for handling styrofoam boxes or other waste, LandsD would be pleased to grant suitable vacant sites based on its mechanism.

- (iii) If the illegal barbeque sites in Kau Wa Keng were involved in unlawful occupation of government land or structures erected on private land which were in breach of the lease, DLO/TW&KT would request the persons concerned to stop occupying government land unlawfully and remove the lease-breaching structures within a reasonable period in accordance with the law.
- (iv) After receiving a complaint about unlawful occupation of government land for farming, LandsD would normally post a notice at the government land and request the persons concerned to stop occupying government land unlawfully within a reasonable period in accordance with Chapter 28 of the Laws of Hong Kong. If the situation persisted, LandsD would then remove the farm produce and structures in accordance with the law.
- (v) Some land in Sai Shan, Tsing Yi was burial grounds for indigenous inhabitants and an application must be made to K&T DO for a Certificate for Burial within Permitted Burial Grounds prior to burial. Besides, according to the “hillside burial policy”, graves and niches that had existed before 1983 could be preserved until the land was used for development or they posed a threat to hygiene or other aspects. If unlawful occupation of government land was involved outside PBGs for building new graves or columbaria, LandsD would remove the illegal structures in accordance with the law.
- (vi) The Survey and Mapping Office of LandsD assisted in demarcating the areas of PBGs in recent years, including erecting signage poles at some PBGs for indigenous inhabitants to identify the areas of PBGs and providing a mobile phone application to make it easier for indigenous inhabitants to ascertain the areas with a positioning system.

10. Mr TSUI Hiu-kit put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) A residents concern group had used the above signage poles to identify a large number of illegal graves.
- (ii) He suggested that K&T DO should identify whether the graves were set up before 1983 and step up regulation of the areas occupied by graves.

11. Mr LAM Siu-fai put forth opinions as follows:
 - (i) He suggested that LandsD should continue to combat the illegal barbeque sites in Kau Wa Keng to prevent them from reopening for business.
 - (ii) He hoped that LandsD would proactively deal with the problem of merchants occupying government land for placing miscellaneous objects.
12. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing suggested that LandsD should amend the law to step up regulation of PBGs for indigenous inhabitants.
13. Mr LAI Chi-wah, Andrew responded as follows:
 - (i) LandsD would cooperate and work with the Home Affairs Department (HAD) and FEHD to deal with illegal graves.
 - (ii) If the illegal barbeque sites in Kau Wa Keng and merchants in the district were involved in unlawful occupation of government land, LandsD would request the persons concerned to stop occupying government land within a reasonable time in accordance with the law. Otherwise, LandsD would remove the structures in accordance with the law.
14. Mr CHENG Kin, Kenneth, District Officer (Kwai Tsing), responded as follows:
 - (i) The Government was implementing a pilot scheme on the management of PBGs to strengthen regulation of illegal burial outside PBGs. Under the pilot scheme, HAD and district rural committees set up management committees for individual indigenous inhabitants' burial grounds to discuss various management matters of PBGs, including setting standards of areas occupied by graves.
 - (ii) K&T DO and the relevant government departments had been paying close attention to the issue of illegal barbeque sites in Kau Wa Keng and had been coordinating enforcement departments' efforts to step up inspections there before and during holidays to combat the illegal activity there.
15. The Chairman suggested that the relevant departments should continue to cooperate to handle the problem of illegal graves.

Discussion Items

Construction of Columbarium Facilities at the Former Site of the Kwai Chung Incineration Plant on Kwai Yue Street, Kwai Tsing

(Proposed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department)

(K&T DC Paper No. 4/D/2022 (Revised))

16. Ms HO Yuen-man, Jacqueline, Assistant Director (Grade Management & Development) of FEHD, and Mr CHOW Yun-tong, Senior Project Manager 321, and Ms SO Hoi-yan, Victoria, Project Manager 318 of the Architectural Services Department introduced the paper.

17. Miss KWOK Fu-yung put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) She thanked the departments for their detailed report.
- (ii) She suggested that the departments could report on the construction progress of the facilities to K&T DC in the future.
- (iii) She requested the departments to provide a conceptual plan of the columbarium facilities.

18. Ms HO Yuen-man, Jacqueline responded as follows:

- (i) The department would submit a funding application to the Legislative Council and invite tenders for the design and construction contract of the columbarium in 2025. The contractor would be in charge of the design and construction, so no detailed design plan could be submitted at the present stage. Upon completion of the detailed design by the contractor, the department could submit the project progress and relevant documents to K&T DC for circulation.
- (ii) Regarding the exterior design of the columbarium, the design concept would match the surrounding natural environment as far as practicable and make use of simple lines to create a tranquil and solemn environment, allowing the design of the columbarium to blend in with the community.

19. Mr CHOW Yun-tong responded that to reduce the visual impact of the columbarium on nearby residents, the exterior of the building, the building materials and the design of a low-rise structure with a green roof would match the surrounding natural environment.

20. Mr LAM Siu-fai enquired about the parking arrangement at the columbarium during the Ching Ming Festival and the Chung Yeung Festival (the ancestral worship in spring and autumn) to ensure that the public could choose to drive there on their own.

21. Ms HO Yuen-man, Jacqueline responded as follows:

- (i) To cope with the increased flow of traffic and people during the ancestral worship in spring and autumn, traffic control would be implemented, including providing special bus services to cope with the additional flow of people and encouraging the public to use public transport as far as possible.
- (ii) There would be a general pick-up/drop-off area at the columbarium for members of the public in need to take a taxi to get there directly.
- (iii) Prior to the ancestral worship in spring and autumn, the relevant government departments would discuss traffic control arrangements and implement appropriate traffic control measures with regard to the actual situation. The public could choose to go to the columbarium to worship the deceased on days other than the exact dates. If there was illegal parking at the vehicular access near the site, the Police would take appropriate law enforcement action.
- (iv) Members of the public who went to the columbarium by private car could get off at the existing temporary pick-up/drop-off point for taxis at Kwai Hei Street (conversion to a general pick-up/drop-off point suggested) or park at the public car park nearby and walk for about 5 minutes along Kwai Yue Street, which would be temporarily closed as a pedestrian precinct, to the columbarium.
- (v) 68 500 niches would be provided in phases. The traffic arrangements would be reviewed regularly.

22. Mr TSUI Hiu-kit put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) He suggested that the department should provide water transport and arrange ferries to and from the columbarium during the ancestral worship in spring and autumn to ease the burden on land transport.
- (ii) He suggested that the design of the columbarium should allow for a 20% increase or decrease in the number of niches to meet the future demand for niches.

23. Ms HO Yuen-man, Jacqueline responded as follows:

- (i) Since there was no pier for ferries to berth near the columbarium and the fairways and routes had to be studied, it was not quite feasible to provide water transport at present. The department would continue to listen to Members' views and consider the feasibility where necessary.
- (ii) Before taking forward the columbarium project, the Government had conducted preliminary studies and assessments on the site selection, including geographical environment, compatibility with nearby land uses, visual impact of the landscape on nearby residents, infrastructural transport facilities, etc. The design had to take into account the above factors and restrictions such as space and height of the site. The assessment result indicated that the site was suitable for accommodating 68 500 niches. The department would review the demand for niches from time to time and continue its efforts to identify sites for building columbaria so as to increase the supply of niches.

24. Mr CHOW Yun-tong responded that the traffic impact report was mainly based on land transport whereas water transport might not be as frequent and sufficient as land transport to divert the flow of people, so the frequency of water transport was one of the factors to be considered for diverting the flow of people by water transport.

25. Ms LEUNG Kar-ming suggested that the department should implement the columbarium construction project as soon as possible.

26. Ms HO Yuen-man, Jacqueline responded that after listening to Members' views at the meeting, the department would implement construction of the columbarium as soon as possible and complete it according to the expected timetable.

27. Mr LAM Siu-fai enquired whether the Government would consider allocating some niches so that priority could be given to applications from local residents.

28. The Chairman put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) She suggested that the department could build a staircase at Tsing Yi South Bridge so that the public could walk directly to the columbarium to divert the flow of people.
- (ii) She suggested that the department could report to K&T DC on the progress of the project by circulating papers and should complete the facilities as soon as possible.
- (iii) She suggested that the department could reserve some niches for priority allocation to local residents and make water transport arrangements.

29. Ms HO Yuen-man, Jacqueline responded that the Government's columbarium development plan was mainly district-based, but geographical environment and population distribution varied across districts, thereby leading to different views. The current arrangement of niche allocation could already meet the public demand and those in need did not need to wait for a niche. Since the implementation of the monthly niche allocation arrangement at Tsang Tsui Columbarium, all eligible applicants had been allocated niches successfully. Besides, the Government had just announced that niches at Wo Hop Shek Columbarium were open for application this year. If some niches were reserved for local residents to apply for, niches might be idle and resources might not be utilised. The Government would keep an open mind and continue to listen to views.

About the Abuse of Recreation and Sports Facilities Through Touting Activities by Unscrupulous Individuals

(Proposed by Mr CHAN Chi-wing)

(K&T DC Paper No. 5/D/2022 & 5a/D/2022)

30. Mr CHAN Chi-wing hoped that LCSD would settle the problem of the abuse of recreation and sports facilities by rule-breakers as soon as possible, so that residents in need was able to book and use the recreation and sports facilities.

31. Ms LEUNG Kar-ming said that a member of the public had lodged complaints to many Members of the district on the issue of touting activities, and listed in detail the

organisation involved and the touting tactics. She hoped that LCSD could take effective measures to combat the above-mentioned illegal acts.

32. Mr TSUI Hiu-kit put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) The department might consider checking the booking records, arranging organisations and individuals who frequently hired the venues to a later position while giving priority to applicants who had never or rarely made venue bookings.
- (ii) Recommended that the department should set up a team dedicated to conducting inspections at the venues to combat touting activities.

33. Ms HUE Kam-ching, District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing), LCSD, responded as follows:

- (i) To further combat touting activities and the abuse of facilities, the department had revised the penalty on May 1 this year for violating the conditions for individual booking/use of recreation and sports facilities. Venue staff would conduct random inspections to check if the hirer was present during the use of the booked session and would request the hirer to provide his/her original copy of identity document used for registration for verification again. If it was found that the hirer was not present during the use of the booked session, it would be treated as one breach for “not being present during the use of the booked session”. A hirer who had two records of the above breach in 30 consecutive days would have his/her booking rights for sports facilities suspended for 90 days.
- (ii) Regarding the issue of member of the public suspecting that there was organisation abusing recreation and sports facilities, according to the record on 25 November 2021, the relevant time slot was booked by an individual instead of an organisation, and LCSD had never received any booking from the sports club mentioned by the citizen. The hirer of the relevant time slot also had presented a valid permit or approval letter, as well as the original copy of the identity document used for registration of the facility, completed the registration procedures and was present to use the facility. The citizen concerned had enquired about the relevant matters with the staff of LCSD venue, and the staff member had explained to the citizen that LCSD had not found any violations by the hirer. The

staff of LCSD had been making registrations for all hirers in accordance with the procedures and strictly implementing the relevant signing procedures. At the same time, they also conducted random inspections from time to time, and no suspected unauthorised transfer cases had been found.

34. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) The rule-breakers concerned would come to register for using the venue in their name or that of the representative of the organisation after receiving their rewards, and would stay at the hired facility lest there would be any blitz inspection. Therefore, the current arrangements implemented by the department could not effectively combat touting activities.
- (ii) Suggested the department should take further measures to combat touting activities.

35. The Chairman recommended that the department should implement more effective measures in the application process to combat the above-mentioned illegal acts.

36. Ms HUE Kam-ching responded as follows:

- (i) Since April 21, LCSD had adjusted the quota of individual booking of recreation and sports facilities to a maximum of two hours play per day during non-peak hours for the same type of facility at individual venues. The quota of individual bookings per day during peak hours remained the same.
- (ii) Noted the views of Members and would relay the relevant suggestions to the headquarters of LCSD.

(Post-meeting note: LCSD issued a press release dated 16 May 2022 stating that following the implementation of a new measure on May 1 targeting those who were suspected of engaging in touting activities by unauthorised transfer of use of venue after taking up bookings, it announced that three new measures would be implemented on May 16 to further combat suspected touting activities in the booking and use of recreation and sports facilities. The three new measures respectively aimed to combat “queuing gangs”, facilities booking by using the identity of another person, and touting activities by

organisations. LCSD would closely monitor the effectiveness of new measures and introduce more anti-touting measures when necessary.)

Request to Deal with Walls of Styrofoam Boxes Piling Up and Obstructing the Streets

(Proposed by Miss LO Yuen-ting)

(K&T DC Paper No. 8/D/2022 & 8a/D/2022 & 8b/D/2022 (OnTable))

37. The Chairman put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) Appreciated the efforts made by the department concerned in solving the problem of styrofoam boxes piling up around, but considered that the delivery of styrofoam boxes to landfills was not environmental friendly and could not solve the problem in the long run.
- (ii) FEHD might consider borrowing vacant government land from LandsD for the disposal of styrofoam boxes.

38. Ms LAU Kwai-mui put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) Recommended that the department concerned should consider acquiring vehicles that could dispense styrofoam-dissolving solutions and make use of styrofoam-dissolving technology to help tackle the problem of styrofoam boxes accumulation and transportation.
- (ii) Thanked FEHD for clearing a large number of styrofoam boxes in the area of Shek Yam Road earlier.
- (iii) Reference could be made to the use of recyclable plastic boxes by some shop tenants to reduce waste at source.

39. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing hoped that the new government could discuss with the Mainland about resumption of quarantine-free travel as soon as possible and to deliver the styrofoam boxes accumulated in the area to the Mainland to properly resolve the problem.

40. Mr TSUI Hiu-kit put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) Agreed to Member's suggestion of spraying a styrofoam-dissolving solution to compress styrofoam boxes, in order to improve the existing problem of accumulation and transportation of styrofoam boxes.
- (ii) Suggested that the Government should consider improving the existing environmental policy by providing a subsidy to encourage the public to recycle styrofoam.

41. Mr LAM Siu-fai put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) Some recyclers had indicated that they were unable to recycle styrofoam properly due to lack of land space.
- (ii) Suggested that the Government should consider improving the existing policy to solve the problem of styrofoam recycling in the long run.

42. The Chairman read out EPD's written response that it was unable to send officers to attend the meeting as other work had been arranged.

43. Mr LAM Siu-fai said that EPD had repeatedly failed to send officers to attend K&T DC meetings and he suggested that the Chairman should write to EPD to seek a reasonable explanation

44. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to write to EPD after the meeting to request for a reasonable explanation for the absence from the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat wrote to EPD on 13 May 2022 as requested by the Chairman requesting for a reasonable explanation for its absence from the meeting. EPD had provided the relevant reply, i.e., K&T DC Circulation (Information) Paper No. 3/2022.)

45. Mr SO Tak-wo, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Kwai Tsing), FEHD, responded as follows:

- (i) Apart from sending staff to regularly inspect the black spots of abandoned styrofoam boxes in the district, including Shek Yam Road, Kwai Fong Circuit, Tai Ha Street, Kwai Yue Lane, Kwai Hei Street, Wing Yin Street, Lai Po Road and Ngong Wan Road, FEHD would also arrange street cleansing contractors to clear the abandoned styrofoam boxes at the above

locations on a daily basis. Enforcement actions, including the issue of Fixed Penalty Notices to those who disposed of styrofoam boxes or rubbish, would be taken on a case-by-case basis by invoking the relevant legislation under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228) and the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance (Cap. 570).

- (ii) Starting from March this year, FEHD had, in accordance with the EPD's requirement, changed the delivery of the abandoned styrofoam boxes collected in Kwai Tsing from the original West Kowloon Refuse Transfer Station to the North West New Territories Refuse Transfer Station for disposal. As a result, the delivery time of the disposed styrofoam boxes to the transfer station had increased.
- (iii) In early April, FEHD had conducted a joint operation with the Tsing Yi Division of the Hong Kong Police Force to clean up abandoned plastic styrofoam containers at Kwai Yue Lane, Kwai Hei Street, Wing Yin Street, Lai Po Road and Ngong Wan Road.
- (iv) To expedite the clearance of the abandoned styrofoam boxes at Lai Po Road and Ngong Wan Road, after discussion between K&T DO and EPD, FEHD could deliver two trucks of abandoned styrofoam boxes to the West Kowloon Refuse Transfer Station for disposal in late March every day. In addition, FEHD had added three special teams since April 21 to clear the abandoned styrofoam boxes and rubbish at the black spots in the district on a daily basis to expedite the clearance operation and maintain environmental hygiene.
- (v) FEHD would closely monitor the situation in the district and take appropriate actions.

46. The Chairman expressed disappointment at FEHD's reply. She suggested that FEHD should consider borrowing idle land from LandsD to assist in the disposal of styrofoam boxes.

47. Mr SO Tak-wo responded that FEHD would follow up with LandsD.

(Post-meeting note: A styrofoam recycler had approached FEHD for assistance in arranging vacant land on short-term tenancy to increase the amount of styrofoam to be

recycled. FEHD had referred the recycler's request to EPD and LandsD for follow-up after the meeting.)

48. Ms TAM Nga-ching, Monita, District Commander (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force thanked the relevant government departments for joining hands with the Police in Operation SUPERCLEAR to clear up the styrofoam boxes that had been disposed of indiscriminately on the roads and pavements. The Police hoped to continue to work with the relevant departments in the future to properly remove the abandoned styrofoam boxes.

49. Mr LAM Siu-fai said that some chain stores unpacked the goods in front of their shops, blocking the street with miscellaneous objects. He suggested that the relevant departments should actively communicate with the shop tenants concerned to solve the problem of street obstruction by miscellaneous objects.

Information Paper

Briefing on Public Order Situation on December 2021 and March 2022

(Proposed by the Hong Kong Police Force)

(K&T DC Paper No. 6/I/2022)

50. The Chairman stated that Mr TSE Chun-chung, John, the former District Commander (Kwai Tsing), had been posted to the Security Bureau to assume the post of Principal Assistant Secretary for Security in February 2022, and he welcomed his successor, Ms TAM Nga-ching, Monita, who assumed the post of District Commander of Kwai Tsing in March 2022.

51. Ms TAM Nga-ching, Monita, introduced the law and order situation in Kwai Tsing and the main points were as follows:

- (i) Since the 5th wave of the epidemic in Hong Kong, there had been a number of confirmed cases in the community. Some police officers had also been sent into quarantine because they or their family members had been infected, making them unable to return to work. Nonetheless, Kwai Tsing Police District (KWTPD) immediately adjusted its strategy to flexibly deploy the manpower to arrange supporting police officers to the frontline to participate in RTD operations, assist the residents in evacuation, ticket the violators, and perform daily patrol duties, so as to maintain the regular law and order situation of Kwai Tsing District.

- (ii) KWTPD had also stepped up its enforcement of regulations under the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance, including ticketing those who had violated the prohibition on gatherings and face mask order, and stepped up inspections of industrial buildings in Kwai Tsing District to curb illegal group gatherings in party rooms.
- (iii) During the epidemic, KWTPD had spared no effort in combating crime. From January to March 2022, 838 crime reports were received, a decrease of nearly 10% compared with the same period last year; a total of 56 debt collection-related crimes was recorded, a decrease of nearly 40% compared with the same period last year. The law enforcement of KWTPD had been shown effective.
- (iv) During an anti-crime patrol in mid-March, the Police found a 14-year-old local boy who behaved suspiciously and was suspected of stealing a bicycle outside Kwai Shing East Estate. The Police later searched the backseat of the bicycle and found dozens of loan receipts. After the Crime Unit of KWTPD had taken over to follow up the case, it was found that the boy was involved in a total of 21 criminal cases related to illegal debt collection in various districts in the New Territories and Kowloon, including splashing red paint, jamming keyholes with glue and issuing debt collection letters. After in-depth investigation and intelligence gathering, officers of KWTPD subsequently arrested two other local males, aged 16 and 19, involved in the case. The Police appealed to young people not to defy the law for “quick cash”.
- (v) Although the overall crime figure was in a downtrend, KWTPD received reports of 343 deception case from January to March in 2022, an increase of about 20% compared to the same period last year. During the epidemic, KWTPD also received report of deception case from the public in the Tsing Yi community isolation facility (TYCIF). KWTPD immediately actively promoted anti-deception messages to the public. In early April, KWTPD contacted two community quarantine facilities in the district (i.e., TYCIF and Silka Tsuen Wan Hotel), and distributed promotional materials with anti-deception messages to about 600 quarantined persons. Anti-deception banners were put up at prominent positions inside TYCIF, hoping that members of the public could still receive anti-deception messages during their stay in TYCIF.

- (vi) In order to enhance the effectiveness of crime prevention work, KWTPD attached great importance to maintaining cooperation with various social stakeholders in the society. KWTPD had noticed an uptrend in phone scams targeting the elderly, including “Guess Who” cases and scammers purporting to be relatives of the elderly victims to ask for emergency money. Relevant analysis showed that the scammers would instruct the elderly to take a taxi and hand over their mobile phone to the taxi driver for delivery of cash at a designated location.
- (vii) In response to the above situation, with the support from Mr TO Sun-tong, the manager of the Motor Transport Workers General Union (Kowloon branch), and Ms LEE Siu-yee, a member of the Kwai Tsing Senior Police Call, officers from KWTPD joined hands with them to produce a short anti-deception video in early April. Mr TO, who was from the taxi industry, apart from lending a taxi to the crew for filming, also played the role of a taxi driver. After filming, he also disseminated the video to more than ten thousand professional taxi drivers through his community network, so that the drivers could grasp the modus operandi and prevent the elderly from being deceived.
- (viii) KWTPD would continue to adhere to the principle of “small town, big issues”, actively follow up and respond to trivial matters of people’s livelihood, and take “stand fast at the posts and fight the virus together” as responsibility of our own.

52. Mr LAM Siu-fai thanked the Police for always paying attention to the issue of illegal gambling at Shek Yam Road Rest Garden No.2 and hoped that the Police would continue to strengthen law enforcement at the above-mentioned location.

53. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing thanked the Police for joining hands with FHED and K&T DO to combat street obstruction by miscellaneous objects by shops in Kwai Tak Street and had achieved remarkable results. He reported that after the joint action taken by the Government against shops obstructing the street in Kwai Fong Circuit in November in previous year, there were signs of resurgence recently, especially the section along Kwai Fong Circuit where the situation was severe. He hoped that the Police could deal with the street obstruction problem by shops in Kwai Fong Circuit.

54. Ms TAM Nga-ching, Monita, responded that the Police would proactively follow up the above issues.

Report Item

Reports of the K&T DC Committees

(Submitted by the Secretariat of K&TDC)

(K&T DC Paper No. 7/R/2022)

55. Members noted the above paper.

Any Other Business

56. There was no other business.

57. The Chairman announced closure of meeting.

Kwai Tsing District Council Secretariat

July 2022