

(Translation)

**Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the  
District Facilities and Works Committee (2024) of  
Kwai Tsing District Council**

Date: 5 August 2024

Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:04 p.m.

Venue: Kwai Tsing District Office (“K&amp;T DO”) Conference Room

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Time of Arrival</u></b>	<b><u>Time of Departure</u></b>
Miss LO Yuen-ting, MH (Chairman)	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr AU Chi-fai (Vice Chairman)	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms WANG Chung-wing	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr NG Chi-wah	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr NG King-wah	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Miss CHU Lai-ling, MH	2:33 p.m.	End of Meeting
Mr NG Yam-fung, Benny	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LEE Wai-lok	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Miss CHAU Kit-ying	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms LAM Ying-wai	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms LAM Chui-ling, MH, JP	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr TSUI Hiu-kit	2:35 p.m.	End of Meeting
Mr YUEN Yun-hung	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Miss MOK Yee-ki	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms KWOK Fu-yung, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms GUO Huimin	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms CHAN On-ni	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr PANG Yap-ming	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr WONG Chun-yeung	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Miss WONG Shuk-man	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr WONG Siu-kwan	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms LAU Mei-lo	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr POON Chi-shing, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms TANG Lai-ling	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms CHENG Lam	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr SO Pak-tsan, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LAM Lik-shan (Co-opted Member)	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting

Ms LAM Siu-fong (Co-opted Member)                      Start of Meeting                      End of Meeting

**Standing Representatives of Departments and Institutions**

Ms WONG Ngan	Senior Housing Manager (Kwai Chung), Housing Department
Ms LAM Hang Ling, Sara	Acting Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Ms CHEUNG Yuen-ping	Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 3, Drainage Services Department
Ms LIM Ting-ting, Sylvia	Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms WONG Sau-kuen, Joe	District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr FAN Chin-wai, Joseph	Engineer/14 (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr LAM Ho-lun, Alan	Engineer/New Territories West (Distribution 4), Water Supplies Department
Mr CHOR Chun-hay, Elvis	Building Surveyor/D4-1, Buildings Department
Mr WONG Wing-yiu	Professional Officer 2-4/Joint Office 2, Buildings Department
Mr CHUNG Wai-hung	Senior Health Inspector (Regional Joint Office) New Territories West 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr HO Kiu-sang, Sam	Assistant Town Planner/Kwai Tsing 2, Planning Department
Ms KONG Yuen-fan, Bonnie	Architect (Works)5, Works Section, Division II, Home Affairs Department
Ms TANG Suet fun, Joy	Senior Project Manager, WCWP International Limited
Ms NG Pui-ki, Christy	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Kwai Tsing District Office
Mr CHU Chun-fan, Alvin	Executive Officer (Administration), Kwai Tsing District Office
Mr LEE Ming-ki	Senior Inspector of Works (Kwai Tsing), Kwai Tsing District Office
Mr CHIU Leung-ye, Louie	Liaison Officer-in-charge, Kwai Chung (Central & South), Kwai Tsing District Office

**Representatives of Departments and Institutions Attending by Invitation**

Mr FUNG King-pong	Maintenance Engineer/Kwai Chung, Highways Department
Mr LEUNG Kwong-chung, John	Senior Engineer/Mainland South 2, Drainage Services Department
Miss HO Yin-king, Susanne	Senior Liaison Officer (1)/Acting Assistant District Officer (Kwai Tsing), Kwai Tsing District Office

**Responsible Department**

**Secretary**

Mr CHAN Tak-pang, Angus

Executive Officer (District Council) 2, Kwai Tsing District  
Office

### **Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the fourth meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee (“DFWC”) (2024) of the Kwai Tsing District Council (“K&T DC”).

### **Confirmation of Minutes of the 3rd Meeting (2024) held on 3 June 2024**

2. Members endorsed the minutes unanimously.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Request for Improving the Facilities and Air-Conditioning System in Cheung Ching Community Hall**

(Proposed by Miss MOK Yee-ki, Miss LO Yuen-ting, MH, Mr TSUI Hiu-kit and Mr POON Chi-shing, MH)

(DFWC Paper Nos. 15/D/2024, 15a/D/2024 and 15b/D/2024)

3. Members discussed the aforesaid matter, and put forth enquiries and opinions as follows:
  - (i) Staff members of the community hall fail to fully understand the operational methods of the facilities and air-conditioning system in the hall. Therefore, the Department was recommended to provide guidelines or training for them to avoid operational failure and hence equipment fault;
  - (ii) The directions for routing in the community hall are not clear enough. For instance, there are no directions as to where the staircases lead to, thus causing inconvenience to venue users. In this context, the Department was requested to conduct follow-ups and put up additional directions;
  - (iii) Residents reported that the temperature in the community hall was too low. Hence, Members enquired of the Department whether the default temperature of the air-conditioners could be raised to provide the venue users with a comfortable environment, so that they would not feel uncomfortable and turn the air-conditioners on and off repeatedly, hence the equipment fault; and

- (iv) Enquired of the Department whether the air-conditioning system operated under a constant temperature mode. Members pointed out that Cheung Ching Community Hall was a brand new hall where the maintenance period of all equipment had not yet expired. Therefore, they suspected whether the malfunctions of the equipment and the air-conditioning system in the hall were too frequent.

4. Senior Housing Manager (Kwai Chung), Housing Department (“HD”), responded as follows:

- (i) The Department had already requested the air-conditioner subcontractor to step up cleaning of the equipment, e.g. cleaning the air-conditioner filters regularly during the maintenance period;
- (ii) Noted Members’ recommendation for providing the staff members with guidelines and training. Follow-ups would be performed after the meeting;
- (iii) The Department had set the air-conditioners at a suitable operating temperature according to relevant guidelines. After the meeting, the Department would look into the issues on whether the air-conditioning system maintained a constant temperature and whether its default temperature could be raised;
- (iv) Noted Members’ concern about the frequent equipment malfunctions. The issue would be reported to relevant section after the meeting; and
- (v) Noted Members’ recommendation for putting up additional directions for routing in the hall. Proactive follow-ups would be taken.

5. Members reported that quite a few residents had complained about the equipment malfunctions in the community hall. As the maintenance period of the equipment had not yet expired, the Department was recommended to contact the contractor for proactive follow-ups, as well as to study relevant maintenance guidelines and solutions.

6. Senior Housing Manager (Kwai Chung), HD, replied that Members’ opinions had been noted. The contractor and relevant departments would be contacted for follow-ups after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The air-conditioning system in the community hall operates under a constant temperature mode. When the temperatures of the air-conditioners have to be adjusted, the adjustment can be done with the controls at the community hall management office. Staff members had been instructed in the controls' operational method. To ensure smoother operation, HD would once again explain to the staff members about the air-conditioning system's operational and temperature adjustment methods in mid-August. Regarding the directions for routing in the community hall, HD is following it up with K&T DO to discuss putting up directions at suitable spots. As to the community hall equipment issue, HD would continue to follow up with K&T DO and complete relevant repair work within the maintenance period.)

**Request for Improving the Stormwater Drainage System in Kwai Tsing District**

(Proposed by Miss LO Yuen-ting, MH and Ms TANG Lai-ling)

(DFWC Paper Nos. 16/D/2024, 16a/D/2024, 16b/D/2024, 16c/D/2024 and 16d/D/2024)

7. Members discussed the aforesaid matter, and put forth enquiries and opinions as follows:

- (i) Enquired of the Department whether there was any underground stormwater storage tank in Kwai Tsing District at that time, and whether the tank's capacity could cope with extreme rainfall;
- (ii) There are quite a number of rural areas in Kwai Tsing District. Considering that the stormwater drainage systems in the district are not well developed compared with those in urban areas, Members enquired of the Department whether adequate measures had been formulated to prevent and address the impacts of rainstorms on such areas; and
- (iii) In addition to the flooding blackspots identified by the Department, many locations (e.g. the entrance of Kwai Fong Community Hall and Tsing Yi North Bridge) have also been hit by serious flooding that has posed danger to pedestrians and drivers. However, such conditions were not mentioned in the information offered by the Department. The Department was thus requested to give response.

8. Acting Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department, pointed out that the Department would proactively tie in with the land allocation application for drainage works.

9. Maintenance Engineer/Kwai Chung, Highways Department, responded as follows:

- (i) The Department would regularly review the drainage conditions of gullies along public roads, identify locations easily blocked by refuse or miscellaneous articles, and contact relevant departments to step up cleaning; and
- (ii) Noted Members' concern about the flooding condition of Tsing Yi North Bridge (the Lantau Island-bound fast lane off Maritime Square). He indicated that the improvement works of the drainage system on the road had been completed in May this year, and no subsequent flooding report was received for the spot concerned in June and July. As regards the flooding at another location of Tsing Yi North Bridge (the Kwai Chung-bound slow lane) mentioned by Members, the Department would proactively analyse the flooding cause and carry out follow-ups.

10. Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 3, Drainage Services Department ("DSD"), responded as follows:

- (i) There was currently no stormwater storage tank in Kwai Tsing District, and rainwater was mainly discharged into the sea through drain pipes and drainage tunnels. The Department commenced the study on "Drainage Improvement Works in Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing" in the previous year to review the drainage system in the district at that time. Meanwhile, it was nevertheless still in the preliminary investigation and research stage. When suitable improvement proposals or recommendations are available in the future, K&T DC will be consulted in due course; and
- (ii) Apart from flooding blackspots, the Department also compiled a list of locations which were susceptible to blockage at places prone to flooding due to blockages from debris or leaves in various districts. At that time, a total of 7 places in Kwai Tsing District were on the list, including Kau Wah Keng San Tsuen, Kau Wah Keng near Chung Shan Terrace and Tsing Yi

Road West. The Department would not only regularly review the list of places in Kwai Tsing District that are susceptible to blockage, but would also take such measures as emptying gullies and enhancing inspections prior to the rainy season, so as to reduce the risk of flooding during the season.

11. A Member pointed out that the flooding situation in the vicinity of Kau Wah Keng San Tsuen was severe. Every rainy season, residents reported that rainwater flooded into their residences. An enquiry was thus raised about the Department's preventive measures.

12. Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 3, DSD, responded as follows:

- (i) The vicinity of Kau Wah Keng San Tsuen had been included in the list of locations which were susceptible to blockage in Kwai Tsing District. The Department noted Members' opinions and would strengthen inspections of the places concerned; and
- (ii) The Department had completed the "Drainage Master Plan Review Studies of Tuen Mun, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing—Feasibility Studies" earlier on. The Department was conducting research on the drainage system improvement works in Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing. The recommendations and improvement measures proposed in the aforesaid feasibility studies would be examined. If suitable improvement proposals or recommendations are put forward in the future, K&T DC will be consulted in due course.

13. Senior Inspector of Works (Kwai Tsing), K&T DO, and Senior Liaison Officer (1)/Acting Assistant Kwai Tsing District Officer, K&T DO, gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) Under the District Minor Works Programme, the Department completed the first phase of the drainage improvement works for Kau Wah King Tsuen in February in the previous year and then arranged a contractor to clear the nullah there in August in the previous year and May this year. The works will proceed in the future to enhance the drainage system in that area; and
- (ii) The vicinity of Kau Wah Keng Tsuen is a low-lying area which is quite susceptible to rainstorms. Before the possible occurrence of extreme weather, the Department will empty the gullies and provide sandbags for

residents, so as to alleviate the impacts of flooding during rainstorms.

14. The Chairman remarked that joint efforts of all departments are required to address the problem of flooding. She hoped that relevant departments could take appropriate measures within their terms of reference to prevent flooding, such as removing miscellaneous articles on the road which block gullies in advance and clearing drains regularly.

**Improvement and Optimisation of Swimming Pool Facilities in Kwai Tsing District**

(Proposed by Ms CHAN On-ni, Mr LEE Wai-lok, Miss CHAU Kit-ying, Mr PANG Yap-ming, Ms LAU Mei-lo, Mr AU Chi-fai and Mr SO Pak-tsan, MH)

(DFWC Paper Nos. 17/D/2024 and 17a/D/2024)

**Request for Resolving the Problem of Insufficient Manpower of Lifeguards and Ensuring the Swimming Pools to be Opened for Use at All Times**

(Proposed by Mr POON Chi-shing, MH, Miss LO Yuen-ting, MH, Ms CHENG Lam, Miss MOK Yee-ki, Mr NG Yam-fung, Benny, Ms LAM Ying-wai and Miss WONG Shuk-man)

(DFWC Paper Nos. 18/D/2024 and 18a/D/2024)

15. The Chairman said that the aforesaid two items were both related to swimming pool facilities in Kwai Tsing District, so the discussion of such items would be combined to enhance meeting efficiency.

16. Members discussed the aforesaid matter, and put forth enquiries and opinions as follows:

- (i) At that time, among the 4 public swimming pools in Kwai Tsing District, only Tsing Yi Southwest Swimming Pool had a heated pool. During winters, some local residents had to use the facilities of Shing Mun Valley Swimming Pool in another district, Tsuen Wan. Besides, residents reported issues such as prolonged closure of swimming pools and insufficient children's play equipment. Therefore, Members enquired whether the Department would consider adopting corresponding measures (such as building public heated swimming pools, re-planning swimming pools and increasing the number of lifeguards), with a view to addressing the requests of local residents;

- (ii) The information offered by the Department does not accurately reflect the attendance records of lifeguards and the opening status of the swimming pools. Thus, the Department was requested to supplement relevant figures, e.g. the headcount of lifeguards when the swimming pools would be fully open, the closure records of some swimming pool facilities due to lack of lifeguards, and the turnover rate of lifeguards;
- (iii) An artificial intelligence system had been launched for a while to alleviate the manpower pressure of lifeguards. The Department also conducted a trial of the artificial intelligence drowning detection system at Kwun Tong Swimming Pool during the swimming season in 2023. Therefore, it was hoped that the Department could provide a report on the trial scheme and explain potential difficulties and relevant considerations in fully implementing the system;
- (iv) Lifeguards are responsible for both detecting drownings and performing life-saving duties. However, drowning detection can actually be carried out by non-lifesaving certificate holders. The Department was thus recommended to hire non-lifeguards in respect of the duty concerned to alleviate part of the workload of lifeguards, thereby decreasing the manpower demand of lifeguards;
- (v) Enquired about the differences in the remuneration between lifeguards working in public and private markets. The Department was recommended to conduct a grade review and improve the remuneration of lifeguards (such as increasing their maximum point of pay scale and solving the problem of lifeguards forced to be jobless during non-swimming season), so as to attract more lifeguards to join the trade and alleviate the manpower shortage;
- (vi) The Department failed to update the opening status of swimming pools in a timely manner. Sometimes residents did not realise that a swimming pool was closed until they had reached the facility. Some residents dialled the Department's hotline, but their calls went unanswered. The Department is responsible for hiring lifeguards and allocating manpower, and is well-informed of the shortages of lifeguards in all districts. In this context, the Department should be able to forecast the opening status of the swimming pool facilities, thereby formulating accurate opening schedules of swimming pools. It was irresponsible for the Department to have repeatedly

closed swimming pools in short notice owing to lifeguard shortage; and

- (vii) Repeated reports had been made concerning the prolonged closure of swimming pools. Members hoped that the Department would proactively follow up the issue.

17. District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing), Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”), responded as follows:

- (i) Noted Members’ concern about the shortage of lifeguards. She pointed out that the Department had implemented a series of measures to handle the manpower problem, such as allowing greater flexibility in lifeguard recruitment procedures, signing two-year full-time year-long contracts with lifeguards to attract more new blood to join the trade, increasing the salaries of Contract Full-year and Seasonal Lifeguards and launching the “Combined Seasonal Lifeguard Training Scheme”. In the future, the Department will continue to co-operate with relevant departments and review the methods to stabilise the manpower supply of lifeguards;
- (ii) Noted Members’ concern about the launching of the artificial intelligence drowning detection system. She stated that the Department already conducted a trial of the aforesaid system at Kwun Tong Swimming Pool from August to October in the previous year, and planned to do a trial of another artificial intelligence system at Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Swimming Pool in the second half of the year. However, the proposal to bring in technology for complementing life-saving service was still on trial. The Department will continue to assess and proactively study whether artificial intelligence systems can be widely used in public swimming pools;
- (iii) Noted Members’ concern about the recruitment status of lifeguards. Relevant supplementary figures would be provided after the meeting;

(Post-meeting note: The information paper submitted by LCSD in respect of the aforesaid matter was set out in DFWC Paper No. 37/2024, which had been circulated to DFWC on 4 September 2024.)

- (iv) When the Department considers opening swimming pool facilities, top

priority is accorded to the safety of swimmers. The opening of different swimming pool facilities is prioritised based on factors like popularity and manpower arrangement of lifeguards. Generally, when there is a shortage of lifeguards, major swimming pool facilities (such as main pools and secondary pools) will remain open for public use as far as possible. Alternatively, individual swimming pool facilities will be open for public use according to actual needs in different time slots in order to meet local demands;

- (v) Noted Members' recommendation for reviewing the grade structure of lifeguards. The Department will continue to maintain close communication with lifeguards and exchange views on staff management and work arrangements, as well as discuss with the trade unions when necessary; and
- (vi) Noted Members' recommendation for adding swimming pool facilities in Kwai Tsing District. Nonetheless, at that moment, the Department had no plan to build additional heated swimming pools, nor did it have plan to reconstruct Kwai Shing Swimming Pool or add children's play equipment. When providing swimming pool facilities, the Department has to consider various factors, e.g. population distribution, age groups of swimmers and geographical environment of the district. The Department will closely monitor the changes in the local demand for swimming pool facilities to formulate corresponding plans.

18. Members discussed the aforesaid response of the Department, and put forth enquiries and opinions as follows:

- (i) Enquired of the Department about the trial results of the artificial intelligence drowning detection system at Kwun Tong Swimming Pool in the previous year. They also enquired whether there was a specified timetable for the introduction of the intelligent system in public swimming pools, and about the specific circumstances if there was one;
- (ii) The artificial intelligence drowning detection system to be trialled at Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Swimming Pool by the Department differs from the one which had been trialled at Kwun Tong Swimming Pool. In this connection, an enquiry was made of the Department about the reasons for choosing to trial the new system and the evaluation criteria of the system;

- (iii) Enquired of the Department about the arrangements for updating the opening status of swimming pools. The Department was recommended to inform the public through multiple channels, e.g. the Department's website, SmartPLAY and K&T DC;
- (iv) Enquired of the Department how the opening of swimming pool facilities was prioritised. They added that many parents entered the venue just to accompany their children without using swimming facilities. The Department should take the actual needs of swimming pool users into account and open different swimming pool facilities on different days, so as to protect residents' right to use such facilities;
- (v) The Department had adopted a series of measures to tackle the shortage of lifeguards, but the situation did not improve. The Department was thus enquired about the ways to assess the effectiveness of the existing measures; and
- (vi) Requested the Department to provide figures on the different reasons for the closure of swimming pools (e.g. suspended materials in the pool, maintenance arrangements and lack of lifeguards).

19. District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing), LCSD, responded as follows:

- (i) The Department did not have detailed figures on the trial of the artificial intelligence drowning detection system at that time. The Department would follow up the matter after the meeting;
- (ii) At the time, the artificial intelligence drowning detection system of Kwun Tong Swimming Pool was still on trial. The Department would conduct a trial for another system at Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Swimming Pool, which aimed at studying the new technology that was still in testing stage for further improving rescue efficiency. The Department will maintain an open attitude towards the application of technology, as well as keep an eye on the development of relevant technologies and examine whether such technologies can be applied in other public swimming pools;

(Post-meeting note: The artificial intelligence drowning detection system

trialled by LCSD at Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Swimming Pool is called Poseidon. It was known that Poseidon has been installed at the swimming pools of 4 schools in Hong Kong. LCSD will make reference to trial results, consult relevant stakeholders and evaluate carefully the feasibility of installing the aforesaid system in other public swimming pools.)

- (iii) Noted Members' concern about the update of the opening status of swimming pools. The Department stated that, at that time, it informed residents of the latest opening arrangements through various means, such as issuing press releases, updating the Department website timely, and posting notices at prominent positions at the swimming pool entrances. Regarding Members' recommendation for offering residents more channels to receive relevant information, the Department would explore the feasibility of notifying residents through the offices of K&T DC members after the meeting;
- (iv) The children's pools of Kwai Shing Swimming Pool and North Kwai Chung Swimming Pool are free-of-charge facilities with relatively shallow water, and are not quite attractive to general users of swimming pools. Therefore, in times of lifeguard shortage, the opening of the children's pools would be of a lower priority. However, the Department noted Members' concern about the prioritisation of opening swimming pool facilities. The Department will continue to monitor the usage of swimming pool facilities as a reference for reviewing the opening arrangements of various facilities in the future; and
- (v) At that time, when swimming pool facilities had to be closed for maintenance arrangements, the Department would inform the public via the LCSD website. In case some facilities had to be temporarily closed due to a shortage of lifeguards on duty, the Department would proactively allocate manpower and open major swimming pool facilities as far as possible, so as to reduce the impact on members of the public. At the time, the Department had to confirm the opening status of swimming pools before updating the information on its website, so it was quite difficult to notify the public in advance. The Department will review relevant procedural arrangements for exploring room for further improvement.

20. Members discussed the aforesaid response of the Department and put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) It was unreasonable for the Department to claim that the closure notices of swimming pools for lifeguard shortage could not be issued in advance. When compiling the lifeguards' duty roster, the Department should have had a full knowledge of the lifeguards' attendance, so same-day deployment ought not to have occurred. Members also emphasised that they had repeatedly raised the problem that the closure notices were not given in a timely manner, hence the requested for the Department to follow up proactively;
- (ii) Recommended the Department to inform residents through K&T DC in the event of temporary closure of swimming pool facilities under special circumstances (such as absence of lifeguards due to sickness), so that residents could learn about the opening arrangements as soon as possible; and
- (iii) Recommended the Department open the swimming pools flexibly and open different facilities over different time slots with reference to the utilisation rates in different periods (e.g. opening an adults' pool in the morning and a training pool in the afternoon), so that more residents could use the swimming pool facilities.

21. District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing), LCSD, responded as follows:

- (i) At that time, the Department had already opened the swimming pools flexibly, with different facilities opened over different time slots according to users' demand; and
- (ii) There are certain practical difficulties in providing advance announcement on the change of the facilities' opening status caused by lifeguard shortage. Owing to the large number of swimming pool facilities, the Department opens different facilities over different time slots according to actual demand. Moreover, the opening arrangements of such facilities may change within the same day under particular circumstances. As a result, the amount of information to be announced becomes huge, thereby raising the

Department's concerned that the residents could not receive all such information clearly. However, the Department noted Members' concern about whether it could issue the facility closure notices in time, and would perform proactive follow-ups for improving the existing means of information dissemination.

22. The Chairman enquired of the Department whether it had issued notices to residents for prolonged closure of swimming pool facilities.

23. District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing), LCSD, replied that the Department had already listed on its website the swimming pool facilities that had been closed for a relatively long period for that time being.

### **Any Other Business**

24. Members enquired of the Department about the progress of implementing the "Request for Improving the Barrier-free Facilities between Lei Pui Street and Shek Hing House", an item in the previous meeting. They emphasised that the issue had been raised for a number of times, and hoped that the Department could give a response. Besides, Members stated that they would provide proactive assistance in case the Department encountered difficulties in contacting Gaw Capital Partners.

25. Senior Housing Manager (Kwai Chung), HD, responded that the Department had already offered supplementary information subsequent to the previous meeting. The Department would continue to follow up the matter after the meeting and was thankful for Members' support.

26. Members discussed the aforesaid response from the Department, and put forth enquiries and opinions as follows:

- (i) The supplementary information offered by the Department did not positively respond to the demands of Members. The Department was thus requested to conduct further follow-ups, such as providing Members with supplementary information in the form of circulation papers, and arranging on-site inspections for Members and stakeholders; and

- (ii) Enquired whether the Department had set aside the repair fund provided by Gaw Capital Partners, and, if positive, what the criteria were for the utilisation of such a fund.

27. Senior Housing Manager (Kwai Chung), HD, responded as follows:

- (i) The fund mentioned by Members is jointly owned by Hong Kong Housing Authority and Gaw Capital Partners. The consent of all property owners of the site has to be obtained to perform any improvement works. The owners are required to bear their corresponding costs; and
- (ii) Noted Members' concern about the improvement works. She added that Members would be contacted as soon as possible should the Department have any arrangement for on-site inspection or any supplementary information.

(Post-meeting note: Gaw Capital Partners invited Members through HD to an on-site inspection at Shek Lei (I) Estate on 27 August 2024 for the aforesaid matter.)

28. The Chairman requested the Department to provide a written reply on the aforesaid matter after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The information paper submitted by HD in respect of the aforesaid matter was set out in DFWC Paper No. 36/2024, which had been circulated to DFWC on 22 August 2024.)

29. Members commended LCSD for its swift reactions and remarkable efficiency in responding to public demands and handling facility repairs.

30. The Chairman commended Water Supplies Department for its swift reactions and remarkable efficiency in handling mains burst incidents.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

31. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 7 October 2024 (Monday).

Kwai Tsing District Council Secretariat  
September 2024