

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 144th Meeting
of the Kwai Tsing District Council**

Date: 5 March 2024

Time: 2:33 p.m. – 3:53 p.m.

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

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Mr TANG Huggin, JP (Chairman/District Officer (Kwai Tsing))	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	2:35 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
Mr CHOW Kim-ho	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	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr YUEN Yun-hung	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms LEUNG Kar-ming, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Miss MOK Yee-ki	3:34 p.m.	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 CHAN Chi-wing, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms Miranda CHAN Oi-yi	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
Mr YIP Cheung-chun, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Ms LAU Mei-lo	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr LAU Hing-wah, James, BBS, MH, JP	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Mr AU Chi-fai	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
Miss LO Yuen-ting, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting
Mr SO Pak-tsan, MH	Start of Meeting	End of Meeting

In Attendance

Dr CHAN Ho-sun	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Resources Recovery)3, Environmental Protection Department
Miss CHIU Yu-ying, Janice	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 4, Environmental Protection Department
Miss CHIN Kit-wai, Tammy	Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West) 43, Environmental Protection Department
Ms HO Mun-yee, Money	District Lands Officer (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Mr YU Hok-chi, Raymond	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Mr KAO Hsi-chiang	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 AU YEUNG Mun-yee, Monica	District Commander (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr LEUNG Chi-hang	Assistant District Commander (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr KAN Siu-hong	Officer-in-charge, District Intelligence Section (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr HO Wai-kin	Police Community Relations Officer (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms WONG Siu-fan, Phoebe	District Social Welfare Officer (Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing), Social Welfare Department
Mr LUK Ka-wing	Senior Engineer/7 (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr MOK Ka-sing, Mark	Chief Transport Officer/New Territories South West, Transport Department

**Responsible
Department**

Ms WONG Kam-wah	Chief Manager/Management (Kwai Chung), Housing Department
Miss LI Mei-sze, Julia (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 144th meeting of the Kwai Tsing District Council (“K&T DC”).

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 143rd Meeting of K&T DC Held on 5 January 2024

2. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received no proposed amendment from Members prior to the meeting and he invited Members to endorse the minutes of the above meeting.
3. Ms KWOK Fu-yung moved a motion. The motion was seconded by Miss CHU Lai-ling. Members endorsed the minutes of the above meeting.

Discussion Items

Enquiry into the Matters regarding the Details about the Plastic Reduction Policy in Kwai Tsing District

(Proposed by Mr NG Chi-wah, Mr NG King-wah, Miss CHU Lai-ling, MH, Mr NG Yam-fung Benny, Ms LAM Ying-wai, Mr YUEN Yun-hung, Ms LEUNG Kar-ming, MH, Ms KWOK Fu-yung, MH, Mr WONG Chun-yeung, Miss WONG Shuk-man, Mr WONG Siu-kwan, Mr POON Chi-shing, MH, Ms TANG Lai-ling and Miss LO Yuen-ting, MH)
(K&T DC Paper No. 10/D/2024)

4. Ms KWOK Fu-yung introduced the paper.
5. Dr CHAN Ho-sun, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Resources Recovery)³, Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”) pointed out that the new legislation would not regulate the acquisition, purchase, or use of certain disposable plastic products by the public in their daily lives, in order to avoid causing excessive impact on their daily lives.
6. Ms WANG Chung-wing said that to tie in with “plastic-free” policy, many shop operators had to adjust their ways of running business while the general public had to alter their lifestyles. Due to the lack of pertinent publicity and education, she suggested the Bureau to step up its efforts in carrying out publicity and education work for relevant scheme.

7. Mr YUEN Yun-hung put forth enquiries and opinions as follows:
- (i) Enquired the Bureau about its progress of visiting the restaurants in Hong Kong for publicising the aforesaid scheme.
 - (ii) Asked how the Bureau would deal with the problem if some shop operators still stocked up a large number of regulated plastic products after the end of the adaptation period (i.e. the first six months following the implementation of the scheme).
 - (iii) Said that he was willing to act in concert with the Bureau's publicity plans.
8. Miss LO Yuen-ting made suggestions to EPD as follows:
- (i) To co-operate with Care Teams for strengthening education and publicity work of plastic reduction policy.
 - (ii) To forge closer ties with the industry to disseminate information about plastic reduction policy.
 - (iii) To co-operate with schools to step up publicising plastic reduction policy so that students could deliver relevant information to their families, hence the amplification of publicity effect.
9. Mr NG Yam-fung, Benny said that many shops in the district were operated by ethnic minorities, so he asked whether EPD had formulated any publicity programme appropriate to ethnic minorities. He also suggested the Department to produce publicity leaflets in ethnic minority languages.
10. Ms TANG Lai-ling asked EPD about the details of publicity work on the waste reduction policy targeting at the general public.
11. Mr NG King-wah asked whether EPD would set up a reporting hotline for the policy.
12. Ms GUO Huimin relayed the residents' hope for the Department to hold briefing sessions in the district to answer enquiries from the residents.
13. Mr POON Chi-shing said that exemptible plastic products under the regulation

included those used for pre-packaged food or drink products. He asked about the definition of pre-packaged food or drink products, and suggested the Department to explain in detail the exemptible plastic products to restaurant operators in advance, so as to avoid operators' misunderstanding on the interpretation of relevant details.

14. Mr CHAN Chi-wing reflected that many restaurant owners in Tsing Yi had enquired him about the implementation details of plastic reduction policy. Among the 20 000 small and medium-sized restaurants which EPD had paid site visits to, he asked whether those visits had extensively covered the restaurants in Tsing Yi. He continued to point out that the Department should provide more information if it wanted Members to help explain the policy.

15. Mr YIP Cheung-chun said that many adults and elderly people did not support the policy because it would cause changes in their daily lives. Therefore, he recommended EPD to step up its efforts in explaining the policy to the aforesaid people.

16. Dr CHAN Ho-sun responded as follows:

- (i) Said that the Department has, since February this year, implemented a series of comprehensive publicity work, including the release of TV and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, trade-specific promotional clips, posters and advertisements on different platforms (including TV, radio, Mass Transit Railway platforms and paid-areas, public transport display screens, stations and vehicle exterior, shopfronts of on-street restaurants, building lobbies and external digital screens, news and lifestyle mobile applications, as well as websites), so as to raise public awareness and understanding of the regulation.
- (ii) Said that EPD has already established an enquiry hotline on the "Cut Plastic Use" website, and would set up a hotline to continue answering the questions, as well as handling complaints and reporting from the public and the trade.
- (iii) Explained that pre-packaged food or drink products were food or drink products pre-packed with disposable plastic containers in places outside points of sale (e.g. food establishments), while examples of exemptible plastic products were disposable plastic straws attached to beverage cartons, disposable plastic spoons provided inside ice-cream cups, etc.

- (iv) Indicated that the Government had since the year end of 2023 dispatched personnel to conduct site visits to 20 000 small and medium-sized restaurants over the territory, with an aim to conduct compliance surveys on small and medium-sized restaurants before the regulation implementation. He pointed out that, in the 6 month-long adaptation period, the Government would plan to focus on carrying out publicity and education work, arrange personnel to actively conduct inspections on the operation of relevant business premises, and provide appropriate advice and information to help businesses comply with the requirements under the new legislation. He said that, after the meeting, follow-ups would be made on the compliance surveys conducted on the small and medium-sized restaurants in the district.
- (v) Indicated that the Government had, since January this year, been distributing trade-specific promotional leaflets to approximately 11 000 retail stores and 1 800 hotels and guesthouses to help them better understand the regulatory requirements. In February this year, the Government had revisited some of the retailers to explain in details the regulatory scope as well as to answer their queries. He welcomed Members to provide more contact details of the businesses who were still in doubts, so that the Department could explain to them the regulatory scope and answer their queries one by one.
- (vi) Said that the Department would explore ways to strengthen publicity among ethnic minorities after the meeting.

17. Ms KWOK Fu-yung enquired EPD that, under the constraint of limited resources, how it would determine the order for conducting publicity among different targets. She also enquired whether the Department would collect the contact details of restaurants from the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, so that the Department could publicise the content of relevant policy through a more efficient electronic means. Thereafter, the Department would be able to concentrate its resources on visiting family-run restaurants.

18. Dr CHAN Ho-sun pointed out that EPD had dispatched personnel to retailers as well as small and medium-sized restaurants to carry out targeted visits after making reference to the data provided by the Census and Statistics Department. Meanwhile, the Department had already publicised relevant restriction content through trade associations. Furthermore, the Department had, since January this year, successively organised training sessions to provide comprehensive and focused training to different sectors to address their questions about the regulation at an early stage. Therefore, it was believed that businesses of different scales had already had knowledge and understanding of the regulatory content.

19. Mr AU Chi-fai put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:

- (i) Indicated his support of the plastic reduction policy and would recommend stepping up efforts in publicising the policy through new media.
- (ii) Enquired the Department whether its visits to 12 000 small and medium-sized restaurants over the territory in late February had already met the anticipated target set by the bureau. Also, he enquired the Department about the figures on “non-contact” cases.
- (iii) Asked the Department whether it was confident to complete visiting 20 000 small and medium-sized restaurants over the territory before the deadline.
- (iv) Recommended the Department to step up its efforts in publicising the policy by printing pertinent publicity materials for Members and Care Teams’ distribution, so as to facilitate such parties’ policy explanation.

20. Dr CHAN Ho-sun responded as follows:

- (i) Indicated that the Department would complete visiting 20 000 small and medium-sized restaurants by March. It would then carry out revisits within the adaptation period, so as to ensure compliance of relevant businesses to the regulation stipulated in the new legislation.
- (ii) Said that the Department had made clarifications to the public’s general misunderstanding and doubts on the regulation through various online platforms (including Tama Talk Facebook page, news.gov.hk and Big Waster Facebook page), and had prepared “Dummies Guides” as well as posters to respond to the commonly asked questions from the public, thereby minimising unnecessary misunderstanding in the society. For example, the scheme would not completely ban the sale of cotton buds but would only ban the sale of cotton buds with plastic sticks; and the scheme would not completely ban the use of disposable plastic cups but would only ban the use of Styrofoam cups. Besides, floss picks with plastic handles would be allowed to be sold as usual without being affected.
- (iii) Indicated that the Department would arrange revisiting “non-contact” restaurants.

21. Mr CHAN Chi-wing recommended the Department to enhance publicity on the alternatives to regulated plastic products.

22. Dr CHAN Ho-sun responded by indicating that EPD had established “Green Tableware Platform” in 2022. That platform has been uploaded with information of over 45 tableware suppliers and over 480 non-plastic disposable tableware products for the trade’s reference, so as to facilitate the trade to substitute disposable plastic tableware with environmentally friendlier non-plastic disposable tableware as early as possible. He continued to point out that some non-plastic disposable tableware has become so maturely developed that their prices are just similar to those of the generic disposable plastic tableware. The Department will continue to publicise the aforesaid information actively.

23. The Chairman said that EPD had detailedly explained Municipal Solid Waste Charging to Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee on 14 February this year. The Department could consider explaining the objectives and the way forward to Members and, at the same time, provide Members with more specific details as well as key points (e.g. information about the planned venues and schedules for providing various recycling facilities) on the policy and measures to be implemented in the district, so as to facilitate Members to publicise relevant policy and respond to residents’ queries more efficiently.

Information Paper

Briefing on Public Order Situation between December 2023 and January 2024

(Proposed by the Hong Kong Police Force)

(K&T DC Paper No. 11/I/2024)

24. The Chairman indicated that Chief Superintendent AU YEUNG Mun-yee, Monica succeeded Chief Superintendent TAM Nga Ching, Monita in taking up the post of District Commander (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force in February 2024.

25. Ms CHENG Lam said that the number of pickpocketing crime had increased drastically, so she enquired the Police about the commonest types of offenders in such cases. Also, she would like to learn from the Police about the number of successful prosecution cases, as well as the measures taken for case follow-ups and crime combating.

26. Ms GUO Huimin mentioned about the overall increment of crime rate, among which the increment in deception cases was more apparent. She further pointed out that, in spite of the Police’s proactive efforts in disseminating anti-deception and anti-crime

messages, as well as its full efforts in combating crime, the tricks for both phone deceptions and cyber frauds are still evolving incessantly. To prevent crime, Members were going to publicise anti-crime messages with the Police at the end of that month in Kwai Chung Estate. It was hoped that Members could continue to support the work of both the Police and Fight Crime Committee by disseminating anti-crime messages to the residents.

27. Mr LAU Hing-wah, James put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:

- (i) Indicated that the number of deception cases rose significantly. He was informed that the total number of deception cases in 2023 was 40 000, which was a 40% increment involving a total amount of \$9 billion. The case number accounted for 44% of the yearly crime rate, among which 70% were cyber frauds.
- (ii) Noted that the upgraded version of mobile application "Scameter+", which had been launched by the Police, can not only enable users to check suspicious incoming calls and websites, but also allow users to report such types of calls and websites.
- (iii) Enquired the Police whether it would consider publicising and sharing anti-crime messages with Members and Area Committees. Also, he would like to know how the Police would make good use of "Scameter+" and conduct publicity on it.

28. Ms LAU Mei-lo said some residents reflected that, since the Government announced raising Tobacco Tax, lawbreakers had been distributing leaflets on illicit cigarettes door-to-door. In view of such phenomenon, she asked what law enforcement actions the Police and government departments would take to combat illicit cigarettes.

29. Mr NG King-wah enquired the Police about the information on the informants of child abuse cases, as well as its strategies to combat incidents of objects being thrown from a height.

30. Ms. AU YEUNG Mun-ye, Monica, District Commander (Kwai Tsing), Hong Kong Police Force responded as follows:

- (i) Was thankful to Member' support for and concern about the law enforcement actions taken by the Police.

- (ii) In 2022 and 2023, Kwai Tsing Police District (“KWTDIST”) had recorded 2 and 18 cases of pickpocketing respectively. As the base figure for comparison, i.e. the number of pickpocketing in 2022, was relatively small, a comparatively large increment would be observed when comparing the base figure with the figure in 2023. She continued to point out that, between December 2023 and January 2024, KWTDIST had only recorded 4 cases of pickpocketing, which was just an increment of one case compared with the case numbers in both the same period a year before, as well as the period between October and November 2023, i.e. 3 cases. Therefore, the increment rate of pickpocketing cases was actually insignificant.
- (iii) The Police had proactively tracked relevant cases by analysing intelligence and CCTV recordings. In the 4 pickpocketing cases occurred between December 2023 and January 2024, the Police could not find any evidence indicating that the aforesaid cases had been committed by organised crime syndicate. Among those cases, 3 of them occurred in shopping malls or market areas which involved monetary values ranging from \$1,100 to \$10,000.
- (iv) One of those cases involved pickpocketing which had occurred in January this year. After diligently tracking the case, officers of the Task Force Sub-unit in Kwai Chung Division expeditiously arrested the suspect in the following day. The suspect was charged with a count of theft, who was then convicted and sentenced to 12 months’ imprisonment on 31 January 2024.
- (v) KWTDIST has been maintaining close contact and co-operation with the security companies of shopping malls and, through a 24-hour task force hotline, enables frontline security personnel to provide the Police with useful information at any time, thereby expanding intelligence network. In addition to conducting high profile patrols by Patrol Sub-units in places with heavy pedestrian flow, investigation and ambush operations will also be carried out by plain-clothed task force units in blackspots. Police Community Relation Officers will distribute publicity leaflets in places with heavy pedestrian flow, including the entrances/ exits of shopping malls or markets, to disseminate anti-crime messages for raising the awareness of the public.
- (vi) Deception cases accounted for half of all crime in Hong Kong. Besides proactively combating crime, the Police also pays much focus on

strengthening anti-crime publicity and education work through Police-public co-operation, so as to prevent crime. Therefore, in the second half of 2023, officers of the police district had actively visited various public estates within the district with many Members and community leaders to post notices in building lobbies, as well as to distribute anti-deception leaflets and souvenirs. Through Project TI-FANG, the officers have been maintaining close connection with the estates' security personnel and encouraging them to report suspicious persons to the Police expeditiously.

- (vii) KWTDIST is also aware of the importance of publicising anti-deception messages. Therefore, Police Community Relation Office has actively organised numerous anti-deception seminars in Kwai Tsing District to strengthen anti-crime publicity among the residents. For example, Police Community Relation Office did not only hold anti-deception seminars for youths as well as primary and secondary school students at campuses, but also organised anti-deception and anti-crime publicity activities with District Fight Crime Committee (Kwai Tsing District) and K&TDO among industrial buildings in the vicinity of Kung Yip Street and Tai Lin Pai Road. Through the "Project SHIELD" which focused on the industrial buildings in the district, KWTDIST maintains close connection with the security personnel in the district's industrial buildings so as to strengthen its capacity to collect intelligence.
- (viii) On 29 February this year, KWTDIST officers had set up an interactive anti-crime game booth at Cheung Hang Estate in Tsing Yi together with Members, Care Team members and "Kwai Tsing Junior Police Call & Senior Police Call Anti-crime Pioneers" for the purposes of publicising a mobile application developed by the Police "Scameter+" to the residents, as well as publicising 3 of the application's brand new features, i.e. detection of both suspicious incoming calls and websites, and provision of a reporting platform to the public. At the activity venue, the officers had given explanations of various kinds of publicity articles for "Scameter+", including those for introducing installation method and application features. Meanwhile, the officers had also explained to the residents the user guide of the application, and assisted them to install the application. The Police will step up its efforts in publicising the mobile application "Scameter+", with an expectation to continue co-operating with Members and Care Team members to disseminate anti-deception messages for combating and preventing crime in a concerted manner.

- (ix) Most of those who had reported child abuse were social workers and school teachers.
- (x) Cases of objects being thrown from a height, to a large extent, had a direct relation with the public's civic awareness. The police district would, together with the Housing Department ("HD"), distribute publicity leaflets in public estates in the district for strengthening relevant education.

31. The Chairman put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) Thanked the Police, HD, Members and Care Teams for making a concerted effort to set up an interactive anti-crime game booth in the district, so as to publicise government information, such as anti-crime and anti-deception messages, to the residents.
- (ii) Indicated that child protection is an interdisciplinary matter. Given the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") had constructed a public website uploaded with the statistics of child protection information system, Members were advised to visit the system for retrieving details.

Report Item

Reports of the K&T DC Committees

(Submitted by the Secretariat of K&T DC)

(K&T DC Paper No. 12/R/2024)

32. Chairmen of various committees made briefings on the aforesaid documents.

33. The Chairman put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) It is the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China this year and Kwai Tsing District will organise a series of activities to celebrate the anniversary. He welcomed Members of Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee to offer input on the organising details for such activities.
- (ii) Indicated that Traffic and Transport Committee, which is responsible for handling traffic matters, relies on Members' familiarity to and mastery of

the details of traffic affairs in the district.

- (iii) Noted that Social Welfare Committee had carried out discussions and made enquiries on the objectives and effectiveness of "School-based After School Care Service Pilot Scheme" in Kwai Tsing District.

Any Other Business

34. Mr CHAN Chi-wing, Chairman of Working Group on Boosting Local Economy, gave an account of the latest progress of "Day x Night Vibes@18 Districts – Kwai Tsing Bamboo Theatre", and requested the district council to endorse amending the dates of the aforesaid activity to 12 April to 14 April 2024 (for a period of 3 days) in order to align with the arrangements for the celebrative activities of Chun Kwan Emperor Festival and Tin Hau Festival.

35. The Chairman announced taking a vote on the above matter. Of the Members who participated in the vote, 0 voted against it and 0 abstained. Members endorsed the above matter.

36. The Chairman put forth opinions as follows:

- (i) Care Teams and government departments had both carried out a series of work after the previous district council meeting. For example, those two parties had both instantly followed up with the gas company for a suspected gas leakage incident which took place on 8 February in the district. He hoped that Care Teams would be able to incessantly fine-tune their modalities and service quality for district work after accumulating experience from the co-operation.
- (ii) SWD would hold a Care Team briefing on 18 March 2024. It was believed that the briefing could provide a platform for government departments and Care Teams to exchange ideas on district care work.

37. The Chairman declared closure of meeting.

Kwai Tsing District Council Secretariat
April 2024