Sai Kung District Council **District Facilities and Works Committee** Minutes of the Third Meeting in 2025

: 13 May 2025 (Tuesday) Date

Time 10:00 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room of the Sai Kung District Council

Present

Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, MH (Chairman) Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHAN Kai-wai, MH (Vice-Chairman) Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms FONG Kwok-shan, Christine Member of Sai Kung District Council Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr WANG Wen Mr WONG Shui-sang Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr LI Tin-chi Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr LI Ka-leung, Philip, MH Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms LI Ka-yan Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHAU Ka-lok Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr LAM Chun-ka Member of Sai Kung District Council Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms KI Lai-mei, MH Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr YAU Siu-hung, Kelvin, MH Mr YAU Ho-lun Member of Sai Kung District Council Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms YU Natasha Ms SZE Pan-pan Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms WU Suet-lin Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHEUNG Mei-hung, Chris Member of Sai Kung District Council Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang Mr CHEUNG Man-tim Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms CHONG Nga-ting, Angel Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHAN Chi-ho Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHAN Kin-chun, Ken Member of Sai Kung District Council Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHAN Kwong-fai Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan, MH Member of Sai Kung District Council Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr TSANG Kwok-ka Mr WAN Kai-ming Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr WONG Wang-to, MH Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr WONG Yuen-hong Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms KAN Tung-tung Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr LAU Kai-hong, MH Member of Sai Kung District Council Mr CHENG Yu-hei Member of Sai Kung District Council Ms TAM Chuk-kwan Member of Sai Kung District Council

Mr WAN Pui-lun, Joe Co-opted Member

Mr LEE Cheuk-yin, Norris (Secretary) Executive Officer (District Council)5,

Sai Kung District Office

In Attendance

Miss LAM I-ching Assistant District Officer (Sai Kung)1,

Sai Kung District Office

Assistant District Officer (Sai Kung)2, Miss CHENG Suet-ching, Lacus

Sai Kung District Office

Mr CHENG Chi-wing, Ken Senior Liaison Officer (1),

Sai Kung District Office

Miss WONG Wai-fong, Bonnie Senior Liaison Officer (2),

Sai Kung District Office

Mr NG Wai-ming Senior Liaison Officer (3),

Sai Kung District Office

Senior Inspector of Works (Sai Kung), Mr PANG Kam-ping

Sai Kung District Office

Mr HUI Chun-kwan, Simon Senior Executive Officer (District Management),

Sai Kung District Office

Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Mr CHUNG Kai-yin

Sai Kung District Office

Miss WONG Chui-ying, Erin Executive Officer I (District Council),

Sai Kung District Office

Architect (Works)7, Ms LUI Tung-ni

Home Affairs Department

District Leisure Manager (Sai Kung), Ms LEE Lai-sheung, Susan

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Ms LAI Ka-yee, Jenny

Support) Sai Kung,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Senior Executive Officer (Planning)22, Mr HUNG Man-wai, Jonathan

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Executive Officer (Planning)22A, Miss LAM Ka-foo, Tiffany

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Senior Project Manager 322, Mr CHAU Ka-ping

Architectural Services Department

Senior Landscape Architect/1, Ms LEE Yuk-yin, Carmen

Architectural Services Department

Administrative Assistant/Lands, Mr WONG Kwai-sun, Sunny

District Lands Office, Sai Kung

Mr YEUNG Wong-pan Senior Property Service Manager/Kowloon West

& Sai Kung, Housing Department

Senior Engineer/20(East), Miss YEUNG Lok-kei, Kiki

East Development Office,

Civil Engineering and Development Department

Geotechnical Engineer/Project Management 21, Mr LI Chun-hung, Vince

Civil Engineering and Development Department

for agenda item III(C)

for agenda

item II(A)

Ms HUI Yuk-ling, Helen Country Parks Officer (Sai Kung),

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Department

for agenda item III(D)

Absent

Ms WU Jia-xin Co-opted Member

Welcome Remarks

The Chairman said a quorum was present and the meeting commenced officially. He welcomed all Members and representatives of government departments to the third meeting of the Sai Kung District Council (SKDC) District Facilities and Works Committee (DFWC) in 2025, in particular Mr CHAU Ka-ping, Senior Project Manager 322 of the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and Ms Carmen LEE, Senior Landscape Architect/1 of ArchSD.

2. <u>The Chairman</u> said Ms WU Jia-xin, Co-opted Member was unable to attend today's meeting due to another engagement.

I. <u>Confirmation of Minutes of the 2nd DFWC Meeting in 2025 held on 11 March 2025</u>

3. <u>The Chairman</u> stated that the Secretariat had not received any proposed amendment before the meeting. There being no proposed amendment at the meeting, <u>the Chairman</u> declared that the above minutes were confirmed.

II. Report Items

- (A) Report on management of recreation and sports facilities in Sai Kung District from March to April 2025 by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 21/25)
- 4. <u>Mr CHAU Ka-ping, Senior Project Manager 322, ArchSD</u> reported on the progress of the construction works of "Town Park in Area 68, Tseung Kwan O" (the Park).
- 5. Members raised the following questions and views:
 - They enquired about the expected opening date of the first phase of the Park.
 - They suggested placing large and clear signs along Chi Shin Street from Exit B of Tseung Kwan O MTR Station to the Park. Also, they suggested providing sufficient signage in the Park to clearly indicate toilet locations.

- 6. <u>Ms Susan LEE, District Leisure Manager (Sai Kung), Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)</u> responded as follows:
 - The Park was expected to open in phases progressively, starting from the second quarter of this year.
 - Before the first phase opening of the Park, LCSD would properly place signs directing the public from Tseung Kwan O MTR Station to the Park, as well as signs indicating toilets in the Park.
- 7. Members continued to raise the following questions and views:
 - They suggested providing adequate signage along Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Promenade to clearly indicate toilet locations.
 - They suggested stepping up anti-mosquito work in the Park (for example, using mosquito killer lamps).
 - They enquired about the official name of the Park.
- 8. <u>Ms Susan LEE of LCSD</u> noted Members' views and said that the official name of the Park was "Tseung Kwan O South Park".
- 9. Members suggested in response that the official name of the Park could be more distinctive (e.g. "Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Promenade Park", "Tseung Kwan O Central Park" and "Tseung Kwan O Town Park").
- 10. Ms Susan LEE of LCSD said that the proposed name of "Tseung Kwan O South Park" was endorsed at the meeting of the Culture, Recreation and District Facilities Management Committee under SKDC in 2023 and the relevant gazettal procedures had been completed.
- 11. <u>The Vice-Chairman</u> enquired whether the relevant signage bearing the words "Tseung Kwan O South Park" was ready for use. He also suggested arranging a site inspection for Members before the first phase opening of the Park.
- 12. <u>The Chairman</u> also enquired whether it would be feasible to change the Park's official name without affecting the objective of its first-phase opening before the anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Establishment Day this year (i.e. 1 July 2025).
- 13. Ms Susan LEE of LCSD said that the relevant signage bearing the words "Tseung Kwan O South Park" was ready for use and changing the Park's official name was not feasible at this stage. LCSD would invite Members for a site inspection in due course before the first phase opening of the Park.

- 14. <u>The Chairman</u> understood that if the Park's official name was changed, its first phase opening might not be ready for public use before the anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Establishment Day this year (i.e. 1 July 2025), and considered the name "Tseung Kwan O South Park" acceptable.
- 15. The Chairman asked LCSD and ArchSD to note Members' views.
- 16. Members noted the above report.
- (B) Report on community halls/ community centre/ activity centre in Sai Kung District (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 22/25)
- 17. A Member expressed concerns about the recent reservation of The Sai Kung Jockey Club Town Hall for the Rural By-election. He suggested that in the future, consideration could be given to holding rural elections in the village offices of the villages concerned to facilitate voting by villagers.
- 18. Mr Simon HUI, Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Sai Kung District Office (SKDO) noted the Member's views and said he would follow up after the meeting.
- 19. Members noted the above report.
- (C) Overview of projects under the District Minor Works Programme by the Sai Kung District Office (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 23/25)
- 20. Members raised the following questions and views:
 - Regarding the project "Addition of sitting-out facilities at the Tseung Kwan O South Waterfront Promenade (Lohas Park Road Sitting-out Area)":
 - They suggested opening the remaining facilities, including binoculars and water dispensers, as soon as possible.
 - They enquired whether LCSD would deploy staff to inspect the venue and suggested installing a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system.
 - Regarding the project "Construction works for the open space near lamp post no. DE2356 at Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Southern Bridge", they suggested extending the scope of facilities in the open space.
 - They enquired of LCSD about the locations of venues equipped with the Smart Accident Detection System in accessible toilets.
 - Regarding the project "Improvement of Children's Playroom at Tiu Keng Leng Sports Centre":
 - They suggested increasing the area of children's playroom.
 - Apart from the children's playroom at Tiu Keng Leng Sports Centre, they enquired whether the opening hours of other children's playrooms in the

district would be extended during public holidays (such as Easter and Christmas holidays).

- Regarding the project "Beautification works and provision of sitting-out facilities at Hang Hau Tin Hau Temple", they enquired which government department would be responsible for the management of the venue after the completion of works.
- Regarding the project "Improvement and beautification works at Tin Hau Temple in Fat Tong Mun", they enquired about the duration of works.
- Regarding the project "Beautification works at the Memorial Monuments for Sai Kung Martyrs During World War II in Tsam Chuk Wan", they suggested providing photos for Members' reference upon the completion of works.
- They enquired about the locations where the racks for nest letter boxes had been installed. They also asked whether the relevant racks served a rain shielding function.
- Regarding the project "Replacement of the closed-circuit television system at the Hong Kong Velodrome", they enquired whether the Hong Kong Velodrome would be temporarily closed to the public or its opening hours of related facilities would need to be adjusted in view of the 15th National Games of the People's Republic of China (the National Games).

21. <u>Ms Jenny LAI, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Sai Kung, LCSD</u> responded as follows:

- LCSD planned to install the Smart Accident Detection System in accessible toilets at Hang Hau Man Kuk Lane Park and Po Tsui Park. The relevant works, undertaken by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, were at the tender stage then.
- Regarding the project "Improvement of Children's Playroom at Tiu Keng Leng Sports Centre":
 - Following the completion of works, the admission quota for each session of the children's playroom at Tiu Keng Leng Sports Centre had been increased from 40 to 43.
 - The current arrangement was to provide an early additional session of the children's playroom at Tiu Keng Leng Sports Centre during public holidays or long holidays (e.g. Easter holiday, summer vacation, and Chinese New Year holiday). Considering the relatively low usage rate of the additional session at the moment, LCSD would continue to review the operation and consider whether such arrangements would be extended to other children's playrooms in the district in the future.
- Regarding the project "Replacement of the closed-circuit television system at the Hong Kong Velodrome", LCSD would continue to maintain close liaison with the unit responsible for the National Games, and inform Members about the facilities to be affected and the temporary closure arrangements at the Hong Kong Velodrome during the National Games in due course.
- Regarding the project "Addition of sitting-out facilities at the Tseung Kwan O South Waterfront Promenade (Lohas Park Road Sitting-out Area)", LCSD was

proactively coordinating with various works departments with a view to opening up the remaining facilities of the venue as soon as possible.

22. Mr PANG Kam-ping, Senior Inspector of Works (Sai Kung), SKDO responded as follows:

- Regarding the project "Construction works for the open space near lamp post no. DE2356 at Tseung Kwan O Waterfront Southern Bridge", since there were no facilities such as road lights or park lights nearby, the scope of works could only be limited to the open space exposed to daylight.
- Regarding the project "Improvement and beautification works at Tin Hau Temple in Fat Tong Mun", the works were expected to commence in late June 2025 the soonest and complete before the Tin Hau Festival next year. In addition, a passageway would be reserved to facilitate worshippers' access to the temple during the construction period.
- Regarding the project "Beautification works and provision of sitting-out facilities at Hang Hau Tin Hau Temple", the Lands Department would continue to be responsible for the management of the land concerned, while SKDO would be responsible for the repairs of the facilities outside the temple and the platform.
- Regarding the project "Beautification works at the Memorial Monuments for Sai Kung Martyrs During World War II in Tsam Chuk Wan", photos would be provided for Members' reference upon the completion of works.
- The installation of the racks for nest letter boxes at Po Toi O had been completed and the racks would serve a rain shielding function.
- 23. <u>Miss Lacus CHENG</u>, <u>Assistant District Officer (Sai Kung)2</u>, <u>SKDO</u> added that SKDO would commence a series of works commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War (including those in Tsam Chuk Wan and High Island). Upon completion, Members would be invited to attend the relevant ceremonial events and the unveiling ceremony for the commemorative plaques in due course.
- 24. Members continued to raise the following questions and views:
 - Regarding the project "Replacement of the closed-circuit television system at the Hong Kong Velodrome", they asked LCSD to inform Members as soon as possible after confirming the facilities to be affected and the temporary closure arrangements at the Hong Kong Velodrome during the National Games, so that Members could relay the information to residents.
 - Regarding the project "Improvement and beautification works at Tin Hau Temple in Fat Tong Mun", they suggested providing photos for Members' reference upon the completion of works.
 - They were concerned about the recent removal of a distance post by a hiking visitor without authorisation and enquired about how to prevent similar occurrences in Sai Kung District in the future (e.g. whether regular inspections

were conducted).

25. Mr PANG Kam-ping of SKDO said that the distance post recently removed without authorisation was under the management of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). The distance posts constructed by SKDO near Wilson Trail were anchored with concrete foundations, making them difficult to be removed. SKDO would also conduct regular inspections and gauge public views to review the maintenance condition of the relevant facilities.

26. Ms Jenny LAI of LCSD responded as follows:

- Regarding the project "Addition of sitting-out facilities at the Tseung Kwan O South Waterfront Promenade (Lohas Park Road Sitting-out Area)", LCSD would closely monitor the use of the venue and review the feasibility of installing a CCTV system in due course.
- Regarding the project "Replacement of the closed-circuit television system at the Hong Kong Velodrome", LCSD would issue a press release on the facilities to be affected and the temporary closure arrangements at the Hong Kong Velodrome during the National Games in due course.
- 27. Members noted the above report.

III. <u>Discussion Items Suggested by Members</u>

- (A) Suggest the Government and shopping centres to install additional road signage/directional signage leading to the Saint Francis University
 (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 24/25)
- 28. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the discussion item was suggested by Mr CHAN Kai-wai, Mr LAM Chun-ka and Mr Chris CHEUNG.
- 29. Members noted the written replies from the Transport Department (TD), Metro Town Shopping Mall, the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) and Link Asset Management Limited (Link) (SKDC(DFWC) Paper Nos. 28/25 to 31/25).
- 30. Members enquired about the details of the criteria for defining "a considerable distance" in the written reply from Link (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No.31/25), which stated that "it was found that there was a considerable distance from the Saint Francis University to Link's nearest shopping centre (i.e. Choi Ming Shopping Centre)".
- 31. <u>The Chairman</u> asked TD, Metro Town Shopping Mall, MTRCL and Link to follow up Members' views.
- 32. There being no other comments from Members, the Chairman declared that the discussion item would be deleted at the next meeting.

- (B) Suggest providing a post office and an iPostal station at the Anderson Road Development Area to enhance postal services (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 25/25)
- 33. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the discussion item was suggested by Mr WONG Yuenhong, Ms WU Suet-lin, Mr LI Tin-chi, Mr WANG Wen, Mr Ken CHAN, Mr Chris CHEUNG, Mr CHENG Yu-hei, Ms Natasha YU, Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Ms Christine FONG, Mr YAU Ho-lun, Ms TAM Chuk-kwan, Mr CHAU Ka-lok and Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang.
- 34. Members noted the written reply from Hongkong Post (HKP) (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 32/25).
- 35. A Member said HKP mentioned in its written reply (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 32/25) that "it was only about a 15 to 20 minutes' walk from the Development Area to the said post office and iPostal station". The distance was neither convenient nor comfortable, especially for the elderly. Given the increasing public demand for parcel collection due to the rise in online shopping, they suggested making reference to the ratio of iPostal stations to population in Tseung Kwan O South (i.e. one iPostal station per 32 000 persons approximately), and providing one iPostal station at the Anderson Road Development Area, which had a population of about 30 000.
- 36. The Chairman asked HKP to follow up Members' views.
- 37. There being no other comments from Members, the Chairman declared that the discussion item would be deleted at the next meeting.
- (C) Follow-up on slope safety in Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O, and enquire about the progress of slope works in the district included in the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme
 (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 26/25)
- 38. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr Vince LI, Geotechnical Engineer/Project Management 21, Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) to the meeting.
- 39. The Chairman said that the discussion item was suggested by Ms Christine FONG, Mr CHENG Yu-hei, Mr Ken CHAN, Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Mr WAN Kai-ming, Mr WANG Wen, Mr Chris CHEUNG, Ms Natasha YU, Mr YAU Ho-lun, Mr Philip LI, Ms WU Suet-lin, Mr WONG Yuen-hong, Ms TAM Chuk-kwan, Mr CHEUNG Chinpang, Mr LI Tin-chi and Mr Kelvin YAU.
- 40. Members noted the written reply from CEDD (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 33/25).

41. Members raised the following questions and views:

- They enquired about the methods used by CEDD in assessing landslip risks (such as whether high-tech equipment like drones, infrared technology/visual inspection/drag plates were deployed) as well as the specific practice of natural hillside stabilisation.
- Considering the occurrence of debris flows on a number of natural hillsides in the district during adverse weather conditions, they suggested including more natural hillsides (including those beside Oscar by the Sea, behind Pik Sha Road, and around the lower section of Clear Water Bay Road) in the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme (LPMitP).
- They suggested conducting more site inspections to identify and improve slopes at risk of landslips at an early stage. Also, Members were urged to promptly report any locations with potential landslip risks to CEDD for follow-up.
- They suggested carrying out landscaping works on the natural hillside along Wan Poon Path (beside Oscar by the Sea) as early as possible.
- They were concerned about the restored landfill at Wan Po Road (opposite Le Prestige of LOHAS Park) where debris flows (mud and rocks might flow out from the directions of Tai Chik Sha and Siu Chik Sha) might occur during adverse weather conditions. They suggested carrying out stabilisation works thereat.

42. Mr Vince LI, Geotechnical Engineer/Project Management 21, CEDD responded as follows:

- There were approximately more than 60 000 man-made slopes across Hong Kong, of which over 40 000 were government slopes.
- There were approximately over 3 000 natural hillsides identified in Hong Kong that had known hazards of landslips and posed potential risks to existing buildings and important transport corridors.
- LPMitP was primarily based on the landslip risks posed by man-made slopes and natural hillsides, and prioritised slopes for follow-up works based on factors such as size, gradient, condition and affected facilities. During the design and study phase of the landslip prevention and mitigation, a series of work (including site reconnaissance, ground investigation, hazard assessments and design by geotechnical engineering consultants, etc.) would be carried out before the commencement of relevant works.
- The risk mitigation works for natural hillsides might include soil nailing, the construction of flexible barriers/concrete check dams, etc., to block debris flows, as well as slope landscaping works. The landscaping works would begin after the completion of landslip prevention and mitigation works.
- CEDD would provide updates on the works progress for man-made slopes and natural hillsides in Sai Kung under LPMitP after the meeting.

- 43. Members continued to raise the following questions and views:
 - They enquired about the locations of over 40 000 government slopes and the means of accessing the information. Also, they asked whether relevant departments would deploy staff to conduct regular inspections.
 - They were concerned about a suspected debris flow that recently occurred on the natural hillside at Pik Sha Road due to adverse weather, which had affected nearby private hillsides and some private drainage facilities. They recommended strengthening communication with private property owners near the affected hillsides to clearly establish management responsibilities for private hillsides.
 - They suggested adopting a darker green colour on the natural hillside at Wan Poon Path; as well as expediting the ongoing hillside works thereat and initiating subsequent landscaping works. Also, they enquired about the details of the landscaping works.

44. Mr Vince LI of CEDD responded as follows:

- Government slopes were maintained and managed by relevant departments. For slopes with high potential risks, the departments would deploy staff for annual maintenance inspections. Also, qualified engineers would conduct inspections every five years.
- LPMitP included slope landscaping and ecological enhancement works, and, where practicable, would preserve existing trees and apply hydroseeding vegetation on a slope surface, preferring native species over non-native ones. Typically, a hard cover (concrete surfacing) would only be applied to a slope as a last resort when the use of a vegetative cover was not feasible, with efforts made to minimise its visual impact wherever practicable.
- CEDD would continue to raise public awareness of slope safety and gauge public views on the slope appearance.
- CEDD would provide a progress report on slope works in Sai Kung District after the meeting.
- 45. <u>The Chairman</u> enquired about the means of accessing information on the locations of more than 40 000 government slopes.
- 46. <u>Mr Vince LI of CEDD</u> said that information on the locations of more than 40 000 government slopes could be accessed on CEDD's "Hong Kong Slope Safety" webpage.
- 47. <u>Miss LAM I-ching</u>, <u>Assistant District Officer (Sai Kung)1</u>, <u>SKDO</u> added that the Secretariat would refer the condition regarding the debris flow on the restored landfill at Wan Po Road (opposite Le Prestige of LOHAS Park) to the Environmental Protection Department for follow-up.

- 48. <u>The Vice-Chairman</u> enquired about the location of the slope with serial number 12 in "Table 3: Man-made slopes proposed for the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Studies in the coming year" in the written reply from CEDD (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 33/25).
- 49. <u>Mr Vince LI of CEDD</u> said the location of the lamp post number registered in the Slope Information System could be viewed on CEDD's website. CEDD would also verify the relevant lamp post number again when conducting the works studies.
- 50. <u>The Chairman</u> said, considering a number of works had been included in LPMitP in the district and they took time for completion, he suggested CEDD to submit regular progress reports on slope works under LPMitP to DFWC.
- 51. Mr Vince LI of CEDD said he could submit regular progress reports on slope works under LPMitP to DFWC.
- 52. The Chairman asked CEDD to follow up Members' views.
- 53. There being no other comments from Members, the Chairman declared that the discussion item would be deleted at the next meeting.
- (D) Suggest exploring the introduction of a new route from the Po Pin Chau Viewing Platform directly to the dolosse and sea caves at East Dam (SKDC(DFWC) Paper No. 27/25)
- 54. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Helen HUI, Country Parks Officer (Sai Kung), AFCD to the meeting.
- 55. The Chairman said that the discussion item was suggested by Mr CHEUNG Chinpang, Mr Philip LI, Ms Christine FONG, Ms TAM Chuk-kwan, Mr LI Tin-chi, Mr CHAU Ka-lok, Mr YAU Ho-lun, Ms Natasha YU, Ms WU Suet-lin, Mr Chris CHEUNG, Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Mr WONG Yuen-hong, Mr CHENG Yu-hei, Mr WANG Wen, Mr WAN Kai-ming and Mr Kelvin YAU.
- 56. Members noted the written replies from AFCD and the Water Supplies Department (WSD) (SKDC(DFWC) Paper Nos. 34/25 and 35/25).
- 57. Members raised the following questions and views:
 - There had been previous examples in which trails were constructed using artificial materials instead of handmade methods, without adversely affecting the landscape. For instance, WSD had constructed concrete stairs, using cement and steel reinforcing bars, near the entrance to the official trail and close to the waterworks facilities behind it. Another example was the boardwalk constructed at the bottom of the cofferdam of the East Dam of the

- High Island Reservoir (the East Dam), which allowed visitors to view sea caves.
- They suggested making reference to the Mainland and other countries regarding the construction of roads on steep slopes and the use of natural materials (e.g. natural stones, organic concrete) instead of artificial materials for constructing trails.
- Compared with the current practice of deploying staff to the site during peak travel periods to advise visitors to "use the longer official trail instead of the shorter shortcut", they suggested introducing a shorter and safer route directly connecting the Po Pin Chau Viewing Platform to the dolosse and sea caves at the East Dam, to better meet visitors' needs. They also suggested exploring the introduction of a new route to the East Dam at a suitable mid-point between the Sai Kung Country Park Visitor Centre at Pak Tam Chung (the Visitor Centre) and the East Dam. The starting point of the route should be accessible by public transport and not too far from the East Dam.
- They were concerned about the current capacity of the official trail and the Po Pin Chau Viewing Platform, and opined that the need to ensure that the number of visitors would not exceed the capacity and compromise safety.
- They recommended that a proper balance should be achieved between environmental protection and tourism development.

58. Ms Helen HUI, Country Parks Officer (Sai Kung), AFCD responded as follows:

- It had been AFCD's objectives to protect the nature and ensure the safety of visitors.
- As the route suggested by Members would traverse a steep and natural rocky slope adjacent to the sea, it was not feasible to use the sustainable trail construction method currently adopted in other country parks.
- When constructing trails in country parks, AFCD generally used natural materials and would explore the feasibility of using new construction materials (in terms of their durability, strength, environmental impact, and other properties) in the future.
- The "High Island Geo Trail Po Pin Chau Section" used a small section of existing stairs, which was WSD's maintenance access on a man-made slope, as the official trail entrance. The man-made slope had been constructed for the building works and protection to the adjacent waterworks facilities and Man Yee Road. The stairs and access were existing facilities used for slope maintenance and repairs, and were neither constructed for hiking nor sightseeing. Additionally, the existing trail leading to the Po Pin Chau Viewing Platform was constructed using a handmade method which minimised the impact to the environment, taking into account the site topography and geographical conditions.
- Given that the boardwalk leading to a sea cave at the bottom of the East Dam was close to water level, the safety risks and technical requirements of construction were lower. As the route suggested by Members involved a steep and natural rocky slope a few dozen metres above water level, the safety

risks and technical requirements for the construction would be comparatively high.

- 59. Members continued to raise the following questions and views:
 - They suggested that when traffic control measures were implemented on the road section from the Visitor Centre to the East Dam and the vicinity of Po Pin Chau during peak travel periods, more en-route drop-off points should be provided, in addition to those at the East Dam (such as by allowing taxi passengers to alight at the official entrance to Po Pin Chau near the green minibus route no. 9A stand) to facilitate vehicular flow. This would also make it more convenient for visitors to choose visiting other nearby tourist attractions (e.g. Sai Wan and Long Ke Wan) other than the East Dam first, thereby helping to divert the flow of visitors travelling to the East Dam.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had relayed Members' views to TD and the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) in writing on 30 May 2025. Subsequently, HKPF gave a response on 17 June 2025 and TD had nothing to supplement.]

- They suggested deploying additional manpower to clear litter at the East Dam and the neighbouring areas in Sai Wan and Ham Tin Wan, stepping up guided tour work (such as by holding eco-tourism briefing sessions and arranging for guides to explain travel guidelines to visitors) and raising public awareness about environmental protection and caring for the countryside.
- They suggested making reference to the design of the trail aided with chains on Po Toi Island and adding similar facilities to the trails in the district for the convenience of visitors (e.g. for support).
- The original intent of the restricted area arrangements for the High Island Reservoir was to preserve invaluable water resources in the reservoir. Therefore, efforts should be made to avoid water pollution of the reservoir and the nearby environment while developing tourism.

60. Ms Helen HUI of AFCD responded as follows:

- On the premise of protecting the nature and ensuring the safety of visitors, AFCD would strive to achieve a proper balance between environmental protection and tourism development.
- As regards environmental hygiene, AFCD had increased the cleaning frequency at popular hiking spots during the peak season. In terms of publicity and education, AFCD would also continue to cultivate the public habit of "Take Your Litter Home" through various channels.
- 61. Members continued to enquire about the intent of making the restricted area arrangements for the High Island Reservoir.

- 62. Ms Helen HUI of AFCD said that the Pak Tam Chung Barrier served as a vehicle control measure. AFCD would continue to strengthen the management of the East Dam area and improve the relevant facilities in hope of enhancing visitors' experience, while minimising the impact of visitor activities on the natural ecology of the countryside.
- 63. The Chairman asked AFCD and WSD to follow up Members' views.
- 64. There being no other comments from Members, the Chairman declared that the discussion item would be deleted at the next meeting.

IV. Any Other Business

65. No other business was raised by Members.

V. Date of Next Meeting

- 66. The next meeting was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on 15 July 2025 (Tuesday).
- 67. The meeting ended at 11:30 a.m.

Sai Kung District Council Secretariat June 2025