

Southern District Council
Report from the Area Committees

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to report on the major items discussed during the Area Committees meetings.

Items Discussed

I. East Area Committee (EAC)

Matters discussed at meeting held in September 2016

1. **Request for Reinforced Patrols and Enforcement Actions against Shop Front Extensions at the Stanley Pedestrianised Zone**

A Committee Member said that restaurants in the pedestrianised zone at Stanley Main Street often illegally placed tables and chairs on the pavements and carriageways outside the opening hours of the pedestrianised zone. As the situation had been aggravated, he suggested that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) should deploy more staff to patrol the location and consider issuing fixed penalty tickets to offending shops. The FEHD representative responded that she would request the relevant FEHD staff members to step up patrols and enforcement actions after the meeting.

2. **Concern over the Spotting of Wild Pigs at Various Locations in Stanley**

A Committee Member said that at about 9 p.m. on 3 September 2016, three large wild pigs appeared in the vicinity of Stanley Tin Hau Temple and subsequently ran towards Kwun Yam Temple and Ma Hang Park. Several Committee members said that wild pigs were spotted at various locations in

Stanley (including St. Stephen's College and the International Montessori School). The residents living nearby showed concern over the situation and the schools were worried that the wild pigs would pose a danger to the students. Committee Members considered that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) should look for a solution as soon as possible, such as replacing old chain link fences and adding chain link fences at suitable locations, so as to improve the situation and protect the residents' safety.

3. Area Committee Activities in 2016-2017

A Committee Member reported the details of activities discussed at the first meeting of the organising committee. The Committee also endorsed the holding of "Tea Gathering for the Elderly Presented by Southern District EAC", which was to be held at a restaurant in the Southern District in January 2017. The purpose of the activity was to introduce the structure and functions of the Area Committee and to enhance the sense of belonging of residents in East Area of the Southern District to their community.

II. South Area Committee (SAC)

Matters discussed at meeting held in October 2016

1. Illegal Parking in the Vicinity of Ap Lei Chau Main Street

Since Ap Lei Chau Main Street was the major road for traffic in the northern Ap Lei Chau, it was the only way for all vehicles to use in gaining access to the buildings and shops within the area. Since the area was tightly packed with residential buildings and restaurants, parking spaces were most sought after by the residents and non-local visitors for loading and unloading goods as well as parking purposes. Thus there were often car owners parking their vehicles illegally along Ap Lei Chau Main Street, causing traffic jam and obstruction to the residents and other road users. Even worse, there were frequent movements of large vehicles at the new construction sites in the area, which also aggravated the situation.

Upon discussion, the Committee requested that the Police should continue to follow up the above problems, and report the numbers of tickets issued by months.

2. Central Divider on Ap Lei Chau Bridge Road near The Oasis

Upon discussion, the Committee would continue to follow up the issue until the installation of the central divider was completed.

3. Proposal on the Designation of a Section of Ap Lei Chau Street adjacent to H-bonaire as No Parking Zone

The Committee suggested that further deliberation on this matter should be made upon the intake of residents in “H-bonaire”. Meanwhile, this matter would be put on hold.

4. Shortage of Private Vehicle Parking Spaces at Ap Lei Chau Street

As the tenancy of the outdoor parking lot would be expired in 2017, the Committee requested the Leisure and Cultural Services Department to consider providing additional parking spaces for private cars wherever possible.

5. Illegal Parking of Motorcycles at South Horizons Bus Terminus

Upon discussion, the Committee resolved to request the Police to continue stepping up enforcement actions against the above problem at South Horizons Bus Terminus.

6. Illegal Parking at Lei Tung Estate

Upon discussion, the Committee resolved to request the Police to continue paying attention to the above situation and taking law enforcement actions as appropriate.

7. Illegal Parking of Motorcycles at Ap Lei Chau Estate

Upon discussion, the Committee resolved to request the Police to continue paying attention to the above situation and taking law enforcement actions as appropriate.

8. Abandoned Motorcycles

A Committee Member reported that there were quite a number of abandoned motorcycles, including motorcycles without licence plates, parked illegally on pavements and occupying parking spaces for motorcycles in the vicinity of Ap Lei Chau Estate and Ap Lei Chau Praya Road. Members requested the Police to follow up.

9. Time Table of Reinstatement of Bus Stop and Road Repair Works at South Horizons

In view of the imminent completion of MTR works at South Horizons, the Committee requested the Transport Department (Priority Railway Division) (TD (PRD)) to provide the details and time table of the reinstatement of bus stop and road repair works at South Horizons for Members' reference. Besides, the Committee suggested that TD (PRD) should keep contact with the owners' committee and property management company of South Horizons on the above-mentioned issues.

10. Bus Frequencies to and from Ap Lei Chau affected by Frequent Stopping of Buses at Chengtu Road, Aberdeen

A Committee Member pointed out that while there were quite a number of vehicles illegally parked at Chengtu Road, Aberdeen, they had not totally obstructed the road and so there should be sufficient space for buses to go past these vehicles. However, many bus drivers chose to stop their buses instead of going past the illegally parked vehicles. This had seriously affected the bus frequencies to and from Ap Lei Chau. Members requested TD to follow up the issue and urged the bus company to monitor the driving attitude of the bus drivers.

Moreover, the Committee resolved to request the Southern District North Area Committee to refer the problem of illegal parking at Chengtu Road to the Police for follow-up.

11. Shallow Bank Warning Signs

A Committee Member reported that two shallow bank warning signs erected near Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter opposite Ap Lei Chau Park were almost completely hidden from view by plants. Accidents would occur if boaters did not notice the shallow bank. Members requested the Lands Department to follow up the issue.

12. Feeding of Wild Doves in Ap Lei Chau

Upon discussion, the Committee resolved to request the FEHD to clean up the streets in Ap Lei Chau lest the droppings of doves should affect environmental hygiene, as well as step up prosecution against people who fed wild doves at black spots.

13. Control of Large Dogs

A Member said that some owners of large fighting dogs did not muzzle their dogs and even let them run at will in the vicinity of Ap Lei Chau Municipal Services Building and the neighbouring dog garden at night, especially between 10 p.m. and 12 a.m., endangering the safety of other pedestrians. Upon discussion, the Committee requested the AFCD to inspect the location and institute prosecutions.

14. Stray Dogs Problem in Ap Lei Chau

A Committee Member pointed out that stray dogs and cats were still often spotted in many locations of Ap Lei Chau. The spotting of stray dogs was tabulated below:

Location	Time
South Bay	Whole day, especially on Sundays
Shipyards in the vicinity of Ap Lei Chau Praya Road	Whole day
Ap Lei Chau Estate	At night
The vicinity of Ap Lei Chau Estate Market	About 8 p.m.

The Committee requested AFCDD to respond whether they had set up a squad to capture stray dogs after office hours on weekdays and on Sundays or public holidays. Besides, the Committee urged AFCDD to step up patrol and capture operations against stray dogs and provide the dates and time of their capture operations for Members' reference.

15. Southern District South Area Committee Activity

Three shows named Ap Lei Chau Gold Classics for Music Fans, an annual activity of the Southern District South Area Committee, would be held at South Horizons Neighbouring Community Centre, Ap Lei Chau Community Hall and Lei Tung Community Hall. The ceremony would be arranged in the first show, i.e. the show held at South Horizons Neighbouring Community Centre. Tickets for the shows would be available for public collection at the three venues at 9:30 a.m. on 11 November 2016 (Friday).

III. West Area Committee (WAC)

Matters discussed at meeting held in September 2016

1. Out-of-service Escalator and its Maintenance

The down escalator of Wah Kwai Estate leading to Wah Fu Estate Market was out of service recently. Upon inspection by the maintenance contractor of the escalator concerned, it was found out that the aged handrail was malfunctioned. Owing to the lead-time required for the procurement of parts from overseas, it was estimated that the down escalator could only resume operations by the end

of November 2016. The Representative of the Housing Department (HD) said that HD's electrical appliances section had already liaised with the maintenance contractor of the escalator concerned in the hope of resuming service wherever possible before carrying out replacement works for the handrail. The Chairlady urged HD to post a notice of suspension of escalator service to inform residents of the cause and the expected date of resumption of normal operations.

2. Ventilation Problem of Escalator

HD had earlier on, in collaboration with some Members, conducted a site inspection at the escalator of Wah Kwai Estate leading to Wah Fu Estate Market, and exchanged views on possible improvement measures in order to address the problem of air ventilation. After scrutinising the various proposals from Members, HD's works section resolved that window grille retrofitting works would be carried out for the windows at the escalator entrance opposite to Wah Kwai Sub-office of the Southern District Office first. This would not only enable increased air circulation with the windows wide open wherever possible but also prevent children from falling out of windows opened when climbing on them.

HD planned to affix heat insulation material onto the glass, in a bid to lower the temperature of the corridor. A Member opined that with the weather getting cooler gradually, there was no need for HD to affix heat insulation material hastily. Instead, HD should exercise care in selecting a model that was able to produce better cooling effect before affixing it onto the windows.

IV. North Area Committee (NAC)

Matters discussed at meeting held in October 2016

1. Traffic and Transport in Tin Wan

A Committee Member said that there was illegal parking in the vicinity of Caritas Centre and the construction site at Tin Wan Street. The illegal parked vehicles caused obstruction to boarding and alighting passengers of buses and minibuses and caused hindrance to vehicles entering Ka Wo Street. It was hoped that the Police would follow up. The Secretariat was asked to contact

the TD requesting them to conduct a site visit so as to understand the traffic problem of Tin Wan and consider ways to resolve the problem of traffic congestion by improving the traffic facilities of the area.

2. Environmental Hygiene Problem outside Kai Bo Chilled Meat Shop in Tin Wan

A Committee Member said that waste scrap cardboards and wooden planks were placed haphazardly outside Kai Bo chilled meat shop in Tin Wan. There was also dirty water flowing out when workers unpacked the chilled meat, causing environmental hygiene problem. It was hoped that the FEHD would follow up.

3. Objects Left in Piles in Aberdeen

A Committee Member said that there were objects left in piles in a number of public places in Aberdeen and urged FEHD to follow up. The places in question included the outside areas of shops next to Aberdeen flyover and the vicinity of the entrance/exit of the subway next to Aberdeen Bus Terminus. Moreover, some shops would also leave goods such as fruits in piles on the pavement next to the filling station during festivals.

Advice Sought

2. Members are invited to note the contents of this paper.

Secretariat, Southern District Council
November 2016