

**Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Southern District Council
(2020-2023)**

Date : 7 January 2020
Time : 1:30 p.m.
Venue : SDC Conference Room

Present:

Mr LO Kin-hei (Chairman)
Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN (Vice Chairman)
Mr CHAN Hin-chung
Mr CHAN Ping-yeung
Ms CHAN Yan-yi
Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo
Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin
Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH
Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun
Ms LI Shee-lin
Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael
Mr POON Ping-hong
Mr TSUI Yuen-wa
Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus
Mr YIM Chun-ho
Mr YU Chun-hei, James
Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany

Secretary:

Ms YIP Wai-see, Priscilla Senior Executive Officer (District Council),
Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department

In Attendance:

Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis	District Officer (Southern), Home Affairs Department
Miss CHENG Wai-sum, Sum	Assistant District Officer (Southern), Home Affairs Department
Mr CHEUNG Wai-chun, William	Executive Officer I (District Management), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department
Ms CHAN Grace	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department
Miss CHOW Suk-yee, Jessica	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department

Opening Remarks:

Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis (DO) welcomed all members to the 1st meeting of SDC (2020-2023).

Agenda Item 1: Election of SDC Chairman and Vice Chairman

[1:30 p.m. – 1:39 p.m.]

2. DO stated the following:
 - (i) under the relevant provisions of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547) (the Ordinance), a District Council (DC) was to elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman at the first meeting of the Council. As the District Officer (Southern), he had to preside at the meeting for the election of the SDC Chairman and Vice Chairman;
 - (ii) the election of the SDC Chairman and Vice Chairman would be conducted in accordance with the “Procedure for the Election of DC Chairman and Vice Chairman” and the voting procedure as specified in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance issued by the Southern District Office (SDO) earlier on;
 - (iii) the original nomination form had to be given in person by the nominees standing for election of the Chairman or Vice Chairman at SDO one hour before this meeting commenced, i.e. not later than 12:30 p.m. The nominee for the office of Chairman or Vice Chairman had to indicate his or her consent to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he or she was nominated. Hence, the nomination for the election of the SDC Chairman and Vice Chairman had been closed by 12:30 p.m. today;
 - (iv) the election of the SDC Chairman would be conducted first, followed by the

election of the SDC Vice Chairman. By the close of nomination (i.e. 12:30 p.m.) today, one valid nomination for the office of SDC Chairman had been received by SDO, and all members had been notified by email upon receipt of the nomination concerned. Mr LO Kin-hei was nominated as the candidate by Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN and seconded by Mr TSUI Yuen-wa and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany. Under Section 5 of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, if only one candidate was nominated for the office of Chairman, the candidate was regarded as having been elected Chairman. As there was only one candidate, he declared that Mr LO Kin-hei was elected uncontested as Chairman of the SDC (2020-2023); and

(v) by the close of nomination. (i.e. 12:30 p.m.) today, one valid nomination for the office of Vice Chairman had been received by SDO, and all members had been notified by email upon receipt of the nomination concerned. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN was nominated as the candidate by Mr LO Kin-hei and seconded by Mr TSUI Yuen-wa and Mr YIM Chun-ho. Under Section 5 of Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, if only one candidate was nominated for the office of Vice Chairman, the candidate was regarded as having been elected Vice Chairman. As there was only one candidate, he declared that Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN was elected uncontested as Vice Chairman of the SDC (2020-2023).

3. DO announced a five-minute break, and invited the newly elected SDC Chairman to take over the chair of this meeting at this juncture.

Agenda Item 2: Any Other Business

[1:44 p.m. – 3:32 p.m.]

4. The Chairman thanked members for their support and promised to take forward the district work together with all fellow members in the coming four years, while ensuring that different views would be fully discussed at the meetings.

5. The Chairman said that he received a joint oral statement from 15 members of pan-democratic camp (including Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr TSUI Yuen-wa, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YIM Chun-ho, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany and Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN) and invited the attendees for an observance of silence after the joint oral statement was delivered. The joint oral statement was as follows:

‘In March 2018, the Hong Kong Government used a murder in Taiwan as an

excuse to force through the extradition law. Civil society repeatedly pointed out the large number of loopholes in the poorly formulated legislation and raised questions about the legal system in mainland China. Many professional groups, the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce, and foreign chambers of commerce expressed reservations and objections to the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 involving amendments of the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance (Cap. 503) and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance (Cap. 525). Foreign governments expressed safety concerns over their citizens and corporations.

Unfortunately, Carrie Lam’s government insisted on going ahead arguing that the administration had “enough votes” from the pro-establishment in the Legislative Council, which resulted in major public protests and disturbances. On 9 June, 1.03 million Hong Kong people came to the streets to protest against the proposed bill. Carrie Lam remained stubborn and issued a statement that evening confirming that the bill would proceed for second reading in the Legislative Council as usual on 12 June. The pro-establishment expressed its full support. On 12 June, the Hong Kong police attacked tens of thousands of anti-extradition protesters who had peacefully gathered with disproportionate force. They intended to remove the protesters to facilitate the government’s passage of what everyone saw as evil laws.

This is how the “Five Demands” campaign by Hong Kong citizens started.

Hong Kong people have been resisting government for more than seven months now. The Hong Kong Government has since condoned the Police Force’s firing of more than 10 000 tear gas bombs, the rampant use of tear gas in every community, and the attacks by triads and others on demonstrators. For no apparent reason, the Hong Kong Police refused to rescue and protect the citizens who were attacked. Hong Kong has since been transformed from a thriving international city into a police city.

Carrie Lam has buried her head and has fully supported and accepted police brutality. None of the members of the administration nor the Executive Council have taken responsibility and stepped down. Government failed to investigate the Hong Kong Police Force and suspend those responsible for police abuses. More than 7 000 protesters, supporters, and passersby have been arrested. Countless citizens have been fired at by the police with live ammunition, pouches, rubber bullets, pepper spray and tear gas bombs, or have been beaten with truncheons. Many suffered injuries and some sacrificed their lives in the

struggle.

On 25 November, Hong Kong citizens voted for the district councils in what is a clear referendum on governance and demand for democracy. In addition to improving the transparency of the district councils and better representation of the concerns of the residents of the Southern District, together we will follow up on the ongoing police violence and support for the “Five Demands – Not One Less” campaign. We urge the Hong Kong Government to submit to public opinion and accept the five key demands, reorganise the Police Force, achieve true universal suffrage, and stop police violence and political chaos. We seek to govern and putting Hong Kong back on the right track. “Hongkongers”, “Southerners”, “Add Oil”.

6. The Chairman called upon all attendees of the meeting to observe a one-minute silence.

7. The Chairman said that two provisional motions had been received before the meeting, and noted another provisional motion would be submitted by members. He suggested that discussion be started with the matters concerning DC operation first before discussing the provisional motions.

8. Members had no objection.

9. The Chairman said that in order to commence the DC work as soon as possible, it was proposed to discuss the following issues related to DC operations under the current agenda item. Relevant papers had been sent to members via email earlier on and would be uploaded onto the SDC website after meeting:

- (i) Appointment of Secretary of SDC under Section 69 of the Ordinance;
- (ii) SDC Standing Orders;
- (iii) Formation of Committees under the SDC and Determination of the Tenure of Office of Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Members of the Committee;
- (iv) Schedule of Meetings for the SDC and its Committees in 2020;
- (v) Funding Matters of SDC;
- (vi) Election of Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the Committees under SDC; and
- (vii) Distribution of the 2020 SDC Lunar New Year *lai see* packets and couplets

10. The Chairman asked members whether they agreed to discuss the above matters and whether there were any other items to be raised for discussion in addition to the three provisional motions.

11. Members had no objection to the arrangement of discussion on the above matters, and no other matters had been raised.

(I) Appointment of Secretary of SDC under Section 69 of the District Councils Ordinance

12. The Chairman said that subject to Section 69 of the Ordinance, for the purpose of carrying out its functions, a DC might appoint a public officer to act as the secretary of that DC.

13. The Chairman asked members whether they approved the appointment of the Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of SDO as Secretary of SDC.

14. Members had no objection.

15. SDC approved the appointment of Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of SDO as Secretary of SDC.

**(II) SDC Standing Orders
(Reference Paper 1)**

16. The Chairman stated the following:

- (i) information regarding the SDC Standing Orders (the Standing Orders) had been sent to all members via email by the Secretariat earlier on with details at Reference Paper 1; and
- (ii) it was now proposed that the clauses of the Standing Orders be left for detailed discussion in future and the Standing Orders as of 8 November 2018 should continue to be adopted until an updated version was available. Invitation to propose revisions on the Standing Orders would be sent to members by the Secretariat via email.

17. The Chairman asked members to raise comments or enquires.

18. Members had no comments or enquires.

19. The Chairman asked members whether they endorsed that the Standing Orders as of 8 November 2018 should continue to be adopted until an updated version was available.

20. Members had no objection.

21. SDC endorsed that the Standing Orders as of 8 November 2018 should continue to be adopted until an updated version was available. Invitation to propose revisions on the Standing Orders would be sent to members by the Secretariat via email.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat sent an email to members on 9 January 2020 inviting them to submit proposed revisions on the Standing Orders, and to attend the meeting to be held on 17 January 2020 to discuss the proposed revisions.)

22. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief members on the matters about registration of personal interests.

23. The Secretary briefed members on the matters as follows:

- (i) Appendix IV of the Standing Orders was the “Registration Form on Personal Interests of Members of a DC or Its Committees, DC of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region” (Registration Form on Personal Interests). The Secretariat would invite members to complete the Registration Form on Personal Interests after meeting. Completed registration form should be returned to the Secretariat on time to facilitate the Secretariat to upload them to the SDC website; and
- (ii) Order 48(4) of the Standing Orders stated that members should furnish the Secretary of the Council with particulars of any changes in his or her registrable interests within 14 clear working days of any such change by using the Registration Form on Personal Interests in order to facilitate the Secretariat to upload them to the SDC website.

(III) Formation of Committees under SDC and Determination of the Tenure of Office of Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Members of the Committee (Reference Paper 2)

24. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had provided information relating to the setting up of committees under the SDC and the tenure of office of the Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons and Members of the committees to all members via email beforehand with details given at Reference Paper 2. To follow up on the district matters effectively, it was proposed to form the following seven committees under the new term of SDC:

- (i) Community Engagement Committee;

- (ii) Economy, Development and Planning Committee;
- (iii) Environment, Hygiene and Healthcare Committee;
- (iv) Finance and Vetting Committee;
- (v) Focus Group on Southern District Signature Projects;
- (vi) Recreation and District Facilities Committee; and
- (vii) Traffic and Transport Committee.

25. The Chairman asked members to raise comments or enquires.
26. Members had no comments or enquiries.
27. The Chairman asked members whether they endorsed the following matters:
 - (i) the formation of seven Committees and adoption of the related terms of reference and the list of standing government department / organisation representatives at Annex (A to G) as stated in paragraph 2 of Reference Paper 2; and
 - (ii) to specify a two-year tenure of office for the Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons in the Committees, and a four-year tenure of office for the members in the Committees as stated in paragraph 3 of Reference Paper 2.
28. Members had no objection.
29. SDC endorsed the formation of seven Committees and adoption of the related terms of reference and the list of standing government department / organisation representatives at Annex (A to G) as stated in paragraph 2 of the Reference Paper 2; and endorsed a two-year tenure of office for the Chairpersons, Vice Chairpersons in the Committees, and a four-year tenure of office for the members in the Committees as stated in paragraph 3 of Reference Paper 2.
30. The Chairman said that the election of the Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the committees would be conducted later on. He asked members to complete the “reply slip on the invitation to join the committees under SDC” as soon as possible and also the “nomination form for the election of Chairman / Vice Chairman of the committees”, if necessary, and returned them to the staff of the Secretariat.
31. Mr TSUI Yuen-wa opined that the English name of “Focus Group on Southern District Signature Projects” might lead to confusion with “working group” and proposed to revise its English name accordingly.
32. The Chairman suggested renaming the “Focus Group on Southern District

Signature Projects” as “Southern District Signature Projects Committee” in order to be in line with the English names of other committees.

33. Members had no objection.

34. SDC endorsed the renaming of the “Focus Group on Southern District Signature Projects” as “Southern District Signature Projects Committee” in English.

(IV) Schedule of Meetings for the SDC and its Committees in 2020
(Reference Paper 3)

35. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had provided information on the schedule of meetings for the SDC and its Committees in 2020 to all members via email earlier on with details given at Reference Paper 3. Except for its 1st meeting to be held at 2:30 p.m., the exact time of meetings of the Recreation and District Facilities Committee had to be confirmed later depending on the schedule of the relevant working groups.

36. The Chairman asked Members to raise comments or enquiries.

37. Members had no comments or enquiries.

38. The Chairman asked members whether they endorsed the schedule of meetings for the SDC and its committees in 2020 given at Annex to Reference Paper 3.

39. Members had no objection.

40. SDC endorsed the schedule of meetings for the SDC and its committees in 2020 stated at Annex to Reference Paper 3.

41. The Chairman said the schedule of meetings for the SDC and its committees in 2020 would be uploaded onto the SDC website after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The schedule of meetings for the SDC and its committees in 2020 had been uploaded onto the SDC website.)

(IV) Funding Matters of SDC

(Reference Paper 4)

42. The Chairman said that the Secretariat has provided information regarding the grants for community involvement (CI) projects to be implemented from January to March 2020, the arrangements for the submission of funding application for CI projects to be implemented between April 2020 and April 2021, and the provisional allocation of funds for CI projects in 2020-21, etc., to all members via email earlier on. Details are at Reference Paper 4.

43. The Chairman asked members whether they needed to make a declaration of interest for the abovementioned issue.

44. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung declared that he was the Treasurer of the Incorporated Owners of Lei Tung Estate.

45. The Chairman said that Mr CHAN Ping-yeung had to withdraw from the meeting during discussion and voting of the subject matter, while other members could continue to participate in discussion and voting. The Chairman invited Mr CHAN Ping-yeung to withdraw from the meeting at the moment until the end of discussion of this item.

(Mr CHAN Ping-yeung withdrew from the meeting at 2 p.m.)

(Details of the declaration of interests are at Annex 1.)

46. The Chairman invited members to raise comments or enquiries regarding Annexes 2 and 3 to Reference Paper 4. .

47. Regarding the CI project “New Year Fun Day at Shek Pai Wan 2020” in Annex 2 to Reference Paper 4, Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that residents reflected the noise problem caused by the event. He suggested to request the organiser to handle the noise problem immediately upon receipt of complaints on the day of the event. Otherwise, the funding applications for similar events might be affected in future.

48. The Chairman invited the Secretary to respond.

49. The Secretary said that SDC might consider writing a letter to the relevant organiser to relay the member’s views.

50. Members had no objection.

51. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that he had received complaints from residents about

the noise problem caused by the event and the organiser did not take immediate action. Therefore, he agreed that the Secretariat should write to the organiser to remind them of the need to deal with noise problem.

52. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to follow up.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat wrote to the organiser on 17 January 2020 to convey members' views.)

53. Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo said that Annex 3 to Reference Paper 4 only listed the application deadlines for SDC funds with respect to the implementation of CI projects. He asked about when the funds would be open for application.

54. The Chairman invited the Secretary to respond.

55. The Secretary said that the funds for CI projects to be implemented from April 2020 to August 2020 had been open for application. Residents / activity groups needed to take note of the application deadlines set out in Annex 3 to Reference Paper 4.

56. The Chairman asked members whether they endorsed the content of paragraphs 3 to 5 of Reference Paper 4, including the amount of SDC funds approved in principle and the advance payment disbursed by the last term of SDC as set out in Annex 2, the schedule of dates for submission of applications for SDC Funds for projects to be implemented from April 2020 to April 2021 as listed in Annex 3, as well as the continual adoption of the "Guidelines on Application for SDC Funds" with effective from 29 May 2018 by the Secretariat in the vetting of fund applications and handling of funding matters until an updated version was available.

57. Members had no objection.

58. Members endorsed the content of paragraphs 3 to 5 of Reference Paper 4, including the amount of SDC funds approved in principle and the advance payment disbursed by the last term of SDC as set out in Annex 2, the schedule of dates for submission of applications for SDC Funds for projects to be implemented from April 2020 to April 2021 as listed in Annex 3, as well as the continual adoption of the "Guidelines on Application for SDC Funds" with effective from 29 May 2018 by the Secretariat in the vetting of fund applications and handling of funding matters until an updated version was available.

(Mr CHAN Ping-yeung returned to the meeting at 2:04 p.m.)

59. The Chairman said the allocation of SDC CI project fund for 2020-21 as set out in Annex 4 to Reference Paper 4 was merely provisional allocation. It was subject to further discussion by the Finance and Vetting Committee and would be adjusted if necessary. The Chairman invited members to raise comments or enquiries.

60. Members raised no comments or enquiries.

61. The Chairman asked members whether they endorsed the provisional allocation of SDC CI project fund for 2020-21 as set out in Annex 4 to Reference Paper 4.

62. Members had no objection.

63. SDC endorsed the provisional allocation of SDC CI project fund for 2020-21 as set out in Annex 4 to Reference Paper 4.

64. The Chairman asked the Secretary to brief members on the content of the “Mechanism of Declaration of Interests in Vetting Fund Applications” as given in Annex 5 to Reference Paper 4.

65. The Secretary briefed members on the content as follows:

- (i) the “Mechanism of Declaration of Interests in Vetting Fund Applications”, which had been in use since the 4th term of SDC, adopted the following three-tier system for declaration of interests:
 - (a) Tier 1: a member associated with the applicant organisation / co-organiser / assisting organiser in a nominal capacity such as honorary chairperson, honorary president, advisors, and so on should declare interest prior to the discussion but could still take part in the discussion and decision-making;
 - (b) Tier 2: a member associated with the applicant organisation / co-organiser / assisting organiser in an executive capacity such as executive chairperson, vice chairperson, executive member, secretary, treasurer, and so on should declare interest to the meeting and keep their silence during the discussion of the application concerned, and should abstain from decision-making or voting for the application concerned. The chairperson might require the declarant to submit supplementary information as appropriate;
 - (c) Tier 3: a member who was an executor of the project concerned in the capacity as designated officer-in-charge or authorised person of the project and the like should declare interest to the meeting and withdraw from the

meeting during the discussion of the application concerned;

(ii) for projects led by SDC or its Committees / Working Groups (C/WGs), members need not declare their interest in the capacity as a member of SDC or C/WGs under SDC. Nevertheless, for a member having other interest in the project concerned such as association with the service provider, he / she should declare his / her interest, and then keep his/her silence or abstain from the meeting, whichever was appropriate; and

(iii) matters relating to declaration of interest could also be found in Order 48 of the Standing Orders. After members completed the Registration Form on Personal Interests, the Secretariat would upload it to the SDC website.

66. The Chairman invited members to raise comments or enquiries.

67. Members raised no comments or enquiries.

68. The Chairman asked members whether they endorsed continual use of the “Mechanism of Declaration of Interests in Vetting Fund Applications” as given in Annex 5 to Reference Paper 4. If necessary, discussions could be made in future.

69. Members had no objection.

70. SDC endorsed continual use of the “Mechanism of Declaration of Interests in Vetting Fund Applications” as given in Annex 5 to Reference Paper 4. If necessary, discussions could be made in future.

71. It was proposed in paragraph 9 of Reference Paper 4 that “Block Allocation of SDC Funds to Sponsor Community Building Activities Organised by Residents’ Organisations” recommended by respective Area Committees should still be endorsed by circulation of papers. The Chairman invited members to raise comments or enquiries.

72. Members raised no comments or enquiries.

73. The Chairman asked members whether they endorsed the proposal set out in paragraph 9 of Reference Paper 4, i.e. “Block Allocation of SDC Funds to Sponsor Community Building Activities Organised by Residents’ Organisations” recommended by respective Area Committees should still be endorsed by circulation of papers. Further discussion could be made in the future if necessary.

74. Members had no objection.

75. SDC endorsed the proposal set out in paragraph 9 of Reference Paper 4, i.e.

“Block Allocation of SDC Funds to Sponsor Community Building Activities Organised by Residents’ Organisations” recommended by respective Area Committees should still be endorsed by circulation of papers.

(IV) Election of Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the Committees under SDC

76. The Chairman said that it had been endorsed that seven Committees would be set up earlier on. The election of Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the Committees under SDC would follow. The Chairman continued that the manner and procedures for election of Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of Committees were similar to those of election of Chairman and Vice Chairman of SDC. Details were as follows:

- (i) each member could only nominate or second one nominee for the office of Chairman and one nominee for the office of Vice Chairman. Members could not nominate or second themselves;
- (ii) each nomination had to be seconded by at least two other members. The nominee had to indicate his or her consent to the nomination and acceptance, if elected, of the office to which he or she was nominated; and
- (iii) if there was only one Nominee, he or she could be treated as having been elected for the office concerned; if there was more than one nominee, secret ballots would be held. Any member absent from the meeting would not be allowed to appoint another member to vote on his or her behalf.

77. The Chairman continued that the membership lists of the Committees had been distributed to members. Members were not allowed to take part in all of the procedures for election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of a Committee if they did not join that Committee, and had to remain silent during the election. The sequence of electing Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the seven Committees was as follows:

- (i) Community Engagement Committee;
- (ii) Economy, Development and Planning Committee;
- (iii) Environment, Hygiene and Healthcare Committee;
- (iv) Finance and Vetting Committee;
- (v) Southern District Signature Projects Committee;
- (vi) Recreation and District Facilities Committee; and
- (vii) Traffic and Transport Committee.

78. The Chairman said that the Secretariat staff had collected the nomination forms

for Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the Committees. He asked whether any members would submit additional nomination forms.

79. No members submitted any additional nomination forms.

80. The Chairman announced that the nomination period for electing Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the SDC Committees had been closed. The election procedures would then commence.

Community Engagement Committee (CEC)

81. The Chairman said that a total of 17 members had joined the CEC. As at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Chairperson of CEC was received. Miss Yuen Ka-wai, Tiffany was nominated as the candidate by Mr CHAN Hin-chung, and seconded by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo and Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Miss Yuen Ka-wai, Tiffany was elected uncontested as the Chairperson of CEC (2020-2021).

82. The Chairman continued that as at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Vice Chairperson of CEC was received. Mr YIM Chun-ho was nominated as the candidate by Mr POON Ping-hong, and seconded by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung and Ms CHAN Yan-yi. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr YIM Chun-ho was elected uncontested as the Vice Chairperson of CEC (2020-2021).

Economy, Development and Planning Committee (EDPC)

83. The Chairman said that a total of 17 members had joined the EDPC. As at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Chairperson of EDPC was received. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN was nominated as the candidate by the Chairman himself, and seconded by Ms CHAN Yan-yi and Mr TSUI Yuen-wa. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN was elected uncontested as the Chairperson of EDPC (2020-2021).

84. The Chairman continued that as at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Vice Chairperson of EDPC was received. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael was nominated as the candidate by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, and seconded by Mr CHAN Hin-chung and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael was elected uncontested as the Vice Chairperson of EDPC (2020-2021).

Environment, Hygiene and Healthcare Committee (EHHC)

85. The Chairman said that a total of 17 members had joined the EHHC. As at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Chairperson of EHHC was received. Mr YIM Chun-ho was nominated as the candidate by Ms LI Shee-lin, and seconded by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung and Mr POON Ping-hong. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr YIM Chun-ho was elected uncontested as the Chairperson of EHHC (2020-2021).

86. The Chairman continued that as at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Vice Chairperson of EHHC was received. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus was nominated as the candidate by Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany, and seconded by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo and Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus was elected uncontested as the Vice Chairperson of EHHC (2020-2021).

Finance and Vetting Committee (FVC)

87. The Chairman proposed that Mr. Paul Zimmerman, the Vice Chairman, temporarily chair the meeting as he was nominated to be the Chairperson of FVC.

88. Members had no objection.

89. The Vice Chairman said that a total of 15 members had joined the FVC. As at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Chairperson of FVC was received. Mr LO Kin-hei was nominated as the candidate by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, and seconded by Ms CHAN Yan-yi and Mr YU Chun-hei, James. The Vice Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr LO Kin-hei was elected uncontested as the Chairperson of FVC (2020-2021). The Vice Chairman said that the Chairman would resume the chair for the remaining part of the meeting.

90. The Chairman said that as at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Vice Chairperson of FVC was received. Mr YU Chun-hei, James was nominated as the candidate by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, and seconded by Mr POON Ping-hong and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr YU Chun-hei, James was elected uncontested as the Vice Chairperson of FVC (2020-2021).

Southern District Signature Projects Committee (SDSPC)

91. The Chairman said that a total of 15 members had joined the SDSPC. As at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Chairperson of SDSPC was received. Ms CHAN Yan-yi was nominated as the candidate by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, and seconded by the Chairman himself and Mr POON Ping-hong. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Ms CHAN Yan-yi was elected uncontested as the Chairperson of SDSPC (2020-2021).

92. The Chairman continued that as at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Vice Chairperson of SDSPC Mr POON Ping-hong was nominated as the candidate by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, and seconded by Ms CHAN Yan-yi and Mr YU Chun-hei, James. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr POON Ping-hong was elected uncontested as the Vice Chairperson of SDSPC (2020-2021).

Recreation and District Facilities Committee (RDFC)

93. The Chairman said that a total of 16 members had joined the RDFC. As at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Chairperson of RDFC was received. Mr TSUI Yuen-wa was nominated as the candidate by the Chairman himself, and seconded by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung and Ms CHAN Yan-yi. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr TSUI Yuen-wa was elected uncontested as the Chairperson of RDFC (2020-2021).

94. The Chairman continued that as at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Vice Chairperson of RDFC was received. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung was nominated as the candidate by Ms CHAN Yan-yi, and seconded by the Chairman himself and Mr POON Ping-hong. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung was elected uncontested as the Vice Chairperson of RDFC (2020-2021).

Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC)

95. The Chairman said that a total of 17 members had joined the TTC. As at the close of nomination period, one valid nomination form for electing the Chairperson of TTC was received. Mr CHAN Hin-chung was nominated as the candidate by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, and seconded by Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Mr CHAN Hin-chung was elected uncontested as the Chairperson of TTC (2020-2021).

96. The Chairman continued that as at the close of nomination period, one valid

nomination form for electing the Vice Chairperson of TTC was received. Ms LI Shee-lin was nominated as the candidate by Ms CHAN Yan-yi, and seconded by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung and the Chairman himself. The Chairman announced that since there was only one nominee, Ms LI Shee-lin was elected uncontested as the Vice Chairperson of TTC (2020-2021).

97. The Chairman concluded that all Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the seven Committees were elected successfully. He extended congratulations to all Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the Committees.

(V) Distribution of the 2020 SDC Lunar New Year *lai see* packets and couplets

98. The Chairman invited the Secretary to brief members on the distribution arrangements for the 2020 SDC Lunar New Year *lai see* packets and couplets.

99. The Secretary said that, the Secretariat had informed members earlier on that the 2020 SDC Lunar New Year *lai see* packets and couplets would start to be distributed at 9:00 am on 14 January 2020 (Tuesday) in District Councilors' ward offices, preferred places designated by Councilors, Southern Home Affairs Enquiry Centre, Stanley sub-office, Ap Lei Chau Community Hall in Lei Tung Estate and Wah Kwai Community Centre in Wah Kwai Estate at the same time.

Agenda Item 2: Any Other Business

[1:44 p.m. – 3:32 p.m.]

100. The Chairman said that discussion of the items raised by the Secretariat was completed. It was now time to discuss the three provisional motions received before the meeting. The three motions were as follows:

(i) Provisional Motion 1

(Moved by Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus and seconded by Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany)

“The Southern District Council strongly requests the government to respond to the Five Demands and to implement universal suffrage according to the public opinion.

In addition, the Council strongly objects to pay rise for the Police Force. The

Council condemns the Police for entering into the private premises of Aberdeen Centre without authorisation on numerous occasions, where arrests were made and teargas canisters were fired endangering the safety of Southern District residents. The Council urges the Police Force to stop making false arrests and to start process of reform.”

(ii) Provisional Motion 2

(Moved by Mr CHAN Hin-chung and seconded by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo and Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael)

“This Council is most grateful to all Hong Kong people for their unselfish perseverance in taking to the streets since June 2019. Hong Kong people fear no police brutality and suppression, and have been sparing no effort to pursue justice. We would like to salute these people.”

(iii) Provisional Motion 3

(Moved by Mr YIM Chun-ho and seconded by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung)

“The pneumonia outbreak in Wuhan is spreading and the number of suspected cases in Hong Kong and the rest of the world is on the rise. As the authorities in Hong Kong are not conducting stringent health screening at border control points (land, sea and air) and ordinary residents do not have an active awareness on epidemic prevention, the Council requests all border control points to adopt the most stringent epidemic prevention measures and to promote awareness on epidemic prevention to the public by taking various measures in the communities and referring to the experience from the SARS outbreak in 2003.”

101. The Chairman said that as Provisional Motion 1 and Provisional Motion 2 were both related to the recent social movement, he suggested discussing the two provisional motions together.

102. Members had no objection.

103. The Chairman invited Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus to briefly introduce Provisional Motion 1.

104. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus briefed members on the motion as follows:

(i) as an elected SDC member and people’s representative, he requested the Government to squarely respond to the Five Demands immediately according to

the public opinion;

(ii) he said that the Government had ignored public opinion and submitted the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Amendment Bill) to the Legislative Council (LegCo) without adequate consultation. Being taken forward hastily, the legislative process had resulted in the current political turmoil;

(iii) on 9 June 2019, over two million people joined the protest to express their aspirations peacefully. It had been over seven months since the onset of the Anti-Extradition Law Amendment Bill Movement (the Movement). But the Government was unwilling to address the aspirations of the public, and only relied on the Police to suppress public opinion and disperse peaceful protesters. There was also a lot of police brutality, as evidenced by the firing of over ten thousand rounds of tear gas, the July 21st Yuen Long West Rail Station Incident, the August 31st Prince Edward Station Incident and the incident in which a person was wounded by gunshot on 1 October 2019. All these had aroused grievances and indignation of the public. Some members of the public had even lost their lives;

(iv) earlier on the Police had broken into private places such as Aberdeen Centre in violation of the Police Force Ordinance to arrest and intimidate the people there. They also fired tear gas at the podiums of buildings intentionally. All these showed that police brutality had spread to the communities, with profound impact on society, and as a result, the public had lost confidence in the Police Force. As an initiator of the whole incident, the Government had neither held any principal officials accountable nor established a mechanism to investigate the problem of police brutality. Instead, when seeking the LegCo's approval for civil servant pay rise, the Police Force has been included into the beneficiaries of pay rise. This showed that the current political system in Hong Kong was utterly corrupt. He hoped that SDC would object to pay rise for the Police Force and request the Police to stop all violence and abuse of power. The Police should also refrain from entering private places for enforcement without authorisation to safeguard the public's rights; and

(v) reiterating the public's request for "Five Demands, not one less", he urged the Government to respond squarely to the Five Demands, re-organise the Police Force, stop police brutality and indiscriminate arrests and implement genuine dual universal suffrage as soon as possible so that the public could express their opinions through a popularly elected government and the problems arising from the existing unfair political system could be resolved.

105. The Chairman invited Mr CHAN Hin-chung to briefly introduce Provisional Motion 2.

106. Mr CHAN Hin-chung briefed members on the motion as follows:

- (i) the whole Movement was triggered by the Government, which stubbornly submitted the Amendment Bill 2019 to the LegCo. It had been over seven months since its outbreak. Opposition voices against the Amendment Bill were first heard as early as 15 March 2019. The subsequent demonstration with over a million protesters on 9 June 2019, the mass demonstration on 16 June 2019, the “Be Water” public assembly on 18 August 2019 and the New Year Day demonstration with over a million participants on 1 January 2020 all sufficed to show Hong Kong people’s heart-touching persistence for the Five Demands;
- (ii) quoting from *Glory to Hong Kong*: “We pledge: No more tears on our land. In wrath, doubts dispell’ we make our stand. Arise! Ye who would not be slaves again. For Hong Kong, may Freedom reign!”, he said that the lyric reflected the public’s wish for rebuilding a free Hong Kong. He pointed out that many Hong Kong people feared no authoritarian government, police brutality and oppression. To pursue justice and strive for a bright future, they rose up against an unjust government. It was only after a large number of people were injured, arrested, assaulted or even sacrificed their lives during the Movement that the Government was forced to withdraw the Amendment Bill 2019 and Hong Kong people were awokened. He thus hoped to say thanks and salute to these people;
- (iii) he commented that there should not be a difference between the privileged and unprivileged in a civilised society. No one should sacrifice more justifiably than anyone else. One should not rise up to express one’s own aspirations only after somebody else had sacrificed. Therefore, all Hong Kong people with conscience should remember the sacrifice made by others;
- (iv) he pointed out that attending SDC members were successfully elected owing to the trust of the voters in the past six months. Therefore, members should work for Hong Kong people’s interest. They should accord higher priority to the public interest than personal career or political interests and continue to fight against the brutal government in any circumstance and position;
- (v) he reminded fellow members to remember the principles of “We fight on, each in his own way” and “The non-violent and valiant wings are one. Nothing can break us apart”. They should continue to fight for “Five Demands, not one less” in unison and refuse to betray the valiant wing; and
- (vi) he hoped that the Government headed by the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie LAM, would turn back from its wrong path and stop antagonising the people. Otherwise, it would only bring on unbearable evil on itself.

107. The Chairman invited members to raise comments and enquiries.

108. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) in view of the police brutality that had become more and more rampant, she absolutely agreed to condemn the Police. It had been more than a half year since June 2019. The Government had constantly laid the blame for social dissension on the protesters and neglected the indiscriminate arrests and attacks carried out by the Police. The police power had expanded endlessly. The police officers' sentiment had prevailed over their professionalism. In every demonstration, police officers scuffled with and used batons to beat members of the public and reporters. There were even cases in which a police officer pointed a pistol at the chest of a person. Moreover, the Police also fired tear gas indiscriminately, resulting in toxic gas creeping into residential flats. But the public had no way to air their complaints;
- (ii) she said that the Government had recently produced a video themed "Say NO to VIOLENCE", which was broadcast every day aiming to call on the public to stop violence. She commented that the public really had to say NO to police officers who had distorted the truth and abused violence. The public opinion had been clearly expressed and the Government could not turn a blind eye to it;
- (iii) the Police had also intruded into campuses, and fired tear gas, rubber bullets, 40 mm react rounds and bean bag rounds at students. During the Movement, many people were injured or even had their face distorted after being assaulted. Only cold-blooded people would think that these protesters deserved their suffering. Only shameless people would think that these were enforcement actions with the minimum force. Nowadays, no people dared to give well-intentioned reminder to the Police, because when somebody reminded the Police to restore their conscience, they might be accused of disrupting social order and then arrested. She emphasised that an independent commission of inquiry must be established immediately; and
- (iv) as the Lunar New Year was drawing near, it was a time for family reunion. However, many Hong Kong people or families might not be reunited this year, or there was even no time that they would be reunited. Nevertheless, she commented that Hong Kong people would not give up, and would continue to strive for "Five Demands, not one less". May peace be with Hong Kong. May glory be to Hong Kong.

109. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he pointed out that the two Provisional Motions both arose from the Movement in the past six months. He said that the Movement had had impacts on all walks of life. Everyone was a victim, be they supporters of either camp, the Government, protesters, the Police, etc.

- (ii) he said that the Chairman just now said that members had the right to express different views and he hoped to express his views on the Movement. He thought that the Government had made mistakes in handling the incident and there was much room for improvement. It was really distressing that the Government's attempt to implement the Amendment Bill 2019 had resulted in the current situation;
- (iii) he did not totally agree to the content of the two Provisional Motions because both motions were targeted against the Police and commended some people for their unselfish perseverance. He admired people who expressed their aspirations peacefully. But recently there arose the phenomenon of "white terror". Many people were assaulted by people holding different political views. People supporting the Movement advocated that "Yellow and blue are only political views, while black and white reflect one's conscience". Whether one supported the Movement or not, one should not lose his/her own conscience when faced with incorrect things, and should not turn a blind eye to the incidents of people being assaulted simply because they held different political views. Just now a fellow member said that all men were born equal. But some Mainlanders with an impure Cantonese accent were discriminated against or even beaten up in Hong Kong. This was downright unreasonable; and
- (iv) he respected everyone's right of pursuing his/her ideals, and both sides should not be oppressed. But when pursuing their ideals, some people made no mention of other people being hurt. A fellow member said that some people felt afraid when they met the police officers. But he also heard from members of the public that they felt afraid when they met protesters wearing black clothes.

110. Mr YIM Chun-ho raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he said that conscience was the human ability to judge between right and wrong. Some people advocated that "Yellow and blue are only political views, while black and white reflect one's conscience" because they considered that the Government and the Police had responded to the Movement unjustly and were dissatisfied with the performance of the Government and the Police;
- (ii) in response to a member's accusation that some people discriminated against Mainlanders with impure Cantonese accent, he believed that these were only individual cases. Instead, he pointed out that some police officers discriminated against protesters living in public rental housing as well as reporters. He said that the accusation was not conducive to addressing the crux of the problem; and
- (iii) he said that the public's dissatisfaction with the Police stemmed from the July 21st Yuen Long West Rail Station Incident in which the Police assumed totally different attitude towards people with different political views. The public's

dissatisfaction with and indignation against the Police had accumulated to an extent such that the public's confidence in the Police Force had plummeted to the lowest level. It had been over 175 years since the establishment of the Police Force. Conceivably no one would expect that the image of the Police Force would tarnish to such an extent. He pointed out that the public lacked confidence in the Police Force. For instance, earlier on a political party member contacted the Police owing to an incident that happened in Wah Fu Estate. When the police officers arrived at the scene, they arrested a young girl. As a result, hundreds of people who were dissatisfied with the political party's handling of the incident gathered in Wah Fu Estate. The people were worried about enforced disappearance of the young girl and hoped to help her. As the salaries, armament and weapons of the Police Force were paid by public money, he stressed that the public could not accept the pay rise arrangement for the Police Force under the current situation.

111. Ms CHAN Yan-yi said that Hong Kong people would judge whether the Police Force had conscience. She pointed out that one feature of the Police's abuse of power was that some police officers were unwilling to show their warrant cards, whether they were at the scene of protests or carrying out routine duties. The public could still believe that police officers in uniform were genuine police officers as identification numbers were printed on their uniform. But if plainclothes police officers did not show their warrant cards, the public would then doubt their identity. Recently, there were cases in which some members of the public were cheated of money by people impersonating police officers. This showed that the practice of police officers not showing their warrant cards had had adverse impacts on society. She commented that showing one's warrant card was the simplest and most basic requirement for the Police. Contrary to their capacity as a law enforcement agent, the Police had in fact violated the principle of rule of law and the laws of Hong Kong and thus resulted in the public's loss of confidence in them. She emphasised that an independent commission of inquiry must be established to investigate the enforcement actions taken by the Police in response to the recent social movement.

112. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he considered it absurd to hear a fellow member claim that some Mainlanders were beaten up owing to their impure Cantonese accent. Some members of the public considered that people in black clothes damaging MTR turnstiles were disrupting social order. But they had neglected the underlying causes of these acts. He commented that if one focused only on the results without considering the underlying causes, then there would be no room for further discussion;

- (ii) the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie LAM, often emphasised the need for governance in accordance with the law. Similarly, the Police had to adhere to the relevant ordinances and legislation when enforcing the law. This was the principle of constraining powers by law. But since June 2019, the Police had failed to perform their duties properly, as evidenced by some police officers who were unwilling to show their warrant cards. He pointed out that he had recently specified his identity as Southern District Councillor CHAN Ping-yeung to a police officer and requested the latter to provide his identification number. But the police officer failed to do so. If a police officer was unwilling to disclose his/her basic information, then the public could not ascertain his/her identity. In view of the current serious problem of police brutality, many members of the public hoped to see the establishment of an independent commission of inquiry, or even dissolution of the Police Force. The bad relation between the Police and the public was not due to a single reason. If the situation persisted, there was no way to improve the relation between the Police and the public other than dissolution of the Police Force; and
- (iii) he was discontented to see that four observers of the meeting with political party affiliation did not stand up during observance of silence. He commented that their behaviour had been spurned by voters and was the reason for their failure in the elections.

113. Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) in his constituency, a lot of residents had concern about the negative impact brought by tear gas on the local community, including Aberdeen and communities which were densely populated. Quite a lot of young couples and children were residing in his constituency. They had worries that the tear gas fired by the Police might have released toxic chemical substances, such as dioxin and cyanide, affecting the health and growth of children. Thus the residents would like to know about the chemicals containing in tear gas, particularly the tear gas produced by China. He also requested the Government to examine the situation; and
- (ii) he enquired whether the Government would carry out cleaning work at the locations where tear gas had been used. He stressed that the Government should listen to the public and look into the root of public grievances in order to solve the problem at source. The first step was to set up a commission of inquiry into the conduct of the Police for the recent incidents. It was also necessary for the Government to restart the political reform and implement universal suffrage in order to break the deadlock in society. Democracy was not a panacea for all problems but could at least enhance the accountability and transparency of the

executive authority. The Central Government and Hong Kong Government had the responsibility to tackle the existing social crisis and mend the rift in society. It should not be a sole responsibility rested with the democratic protesters. The SDC should endorse these two provisional motions so as to clearly bring up the opinion and aspiration of the Southern District residents for the attention of the Government.

114. Mr YU Chun-hei, James raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) it had been a lapse of over seven months since the Movement began. The poor performance of the Police had been apparent to everybody, so he would not drill into further details; and
- (ii) though Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun was supposed to be an open-minded pro-establishment member, what he said was not without ironic implication. In March 2019 when the “Amendment Bill” issue had not yet been developed to such a serious state as seen currently, he had never heard of any objection against the Amendment Bill from the pro-establishment camp. However, after deterioration of the development, the pro-establishment camp said that they accepted peaceful protests in opposition to the Amendment Bill. The Liberal Party had seats in the LegCo but blindly supported the Amendment Bill until the Amendment Bill was withdrawn. By then, the Party started to claim that they did not fully support the Amendment Bill. It would not invite much criticism if the pro-establishment camp intended to please their voters and pro-government personalities, but he considered such acts hypocritical and misleading voters.

115. Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo recalled that police vehicles entering Chi Fu Fa Yuen had already aroused public panic. Quite a number of residents exchanged their concern through social media group about the cause of the presence of police officers in the residential area. This served to prove that residents had no trust in the Police at all and the police-community relation was poor in the Chi Fu constituency. He said that one night, someone posted campaign materials at Chi Fu Bus Terminus to promulgate their views. Soon afterwards, about ten to 20 police officers carrying rifles arrived at the scene to search them and were rude to these persons who just intended to express their demands. District Councillors were returned through direct election and had secured the mandate of the public with due recognition. DCs had the responsibility to inquire into police brutality thoroughly. He reiterated that “investigate police brutality, stop police lies” was a must.

116. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) police had the right to carry weapons but the general public did not. The police-community relation was not on a par. District Councillors had secured the mandate of the public and were returned by election. Yet, a DC had limited authority and could only convey the grievances of the public to the Government; and
- (ii) a member had just raised the issues of “white terror” and “conscience”. He opined that the problems were created by the Chief Executive Mrs Carrie LAM and the Government. In face of such a government being backed by a powerful state, Hong Kong people had never retreated since June 2019 and would not be absent from any of the demonstrations. It was expected that from now to the LegCo election in September 2020, marches and protest activities would continue. Hong Kong people would never retreat.

117. Mr POON Ping-hong raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) there had been a lot of clashes in society from 9 June 2019 onwards. In fact, ever since the Government’s consultation with the LegCo Panel on Security concerning the co-operation between Hong Kong and other places on juridical assistance in criminal matters in February 2019, there had been loud voices from the LegCo meetings as well as the general protesters during their demonstrations in opposition to the amendment of the relevant legislation, for fear that the amendment might lead to serious consequences. However, the Government kept imposing pressure and refused to hear the public opinion, rendering a misjudgement of the social situation; and
- (ii) on 29 October 2019, the Returning Officer for the South Horizons West constituency decided to rule out the validity of Mr Joshua WONG’s nomination for the 2019 DC Ordinary Election. There was heavy deployment of riot police at Wah Kwai Estate that day, causing widespread panic among the residents and the elderly in the estate. Later on, it was learned that the Returning Officer had arranged drawing of lots in Wah Kwai Community Hall to assign candidate numbers for the South Horizons West constituency. In spite of the fact that the riot police did not take any action, their presence had aroused panic among the public and had influence on the residents. He stressed that only the Government could mend the rift in society now. He also called upon people to target their movement at the ruling authority.

118. Ms LI Shee-lin raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) she supported these two provisional motions. Apart from being grateful to all Hong Kong people for their unselfish efforts, she would also like to thank all industries for adhering to their duties. Special thanks should be given to the press who made Hong Kong and the world know the truth about Hong Kong and put down a page in history. The public had been making every effort unselfishly to safeguard its indigenous freedom, such as freedom of press, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, while protecting Hong Kong, upholding the rule of law, the status of Hong Kong as an international financial centre and further pursuing a democratic system. The public had paid a great price to let Hong Kong and the world know the truth. Apart from the media, the high participation of the public was also worth a credit. She urged fellow members to speak their conscience by telling people all the facts, rather than giving one-sided story or twisted the truth;
- (ii) she said it was a shame on the Government having refused to take different views, disqualified candidate of dissent from running for an election, and even disseminated hate speech. The ruling coalition formed by the pro-establishment camp even fanned up by promoting and supporting the “evil law”, for instance, the promotion of “anti-mask law” and request for deployment of additional manpower to clear the “Lennon Wall” bulletin, in a bid to deprive people of their freedom of speech. If Hong Kong, as a metropolitan city, could not allow a peaceful way of expression, it would end up a laughing stock of other countries; and
- (iii) harmony in the Southern District required the concerted effort of everyone. Members should be able to see things in black and white and thus show their support for a thorough inquiry into police brutality. She pointed out that if the Police did not use pepper spray first to incite the protesters to extreme reaction, there was no need to fire tear gas to disperse the crowd at all, leaving chemical residue in the community.

119. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he pointed out that since his residency in Hong Kong started in 1984, he had come into contact with people from all walks of life in society, including the Police. However, over the past half year, society had been so seriously torn apart. He condemned the Government for creating confrontation at all levels of society, including the confrontation between Police and protesters. He wished to find a solution to the existing political problem, but the responsibility to solve the problem must ultimately lie with the Government;
- (ii) he pointed out that everyone should be clear about how torn apart was today’s society – number one was the torn relationship between Hong Kong community

and the Government. In today's LegCo, various advisory bodies, Executive Council or the National People's Congress, not all members were elected by the public. Hong Kong people had been poorly represented. He considered that unless there was a full reform of the democratic system, the clashes in society would continue to exist;

(iii) he further said that the relationship between the Central Government and Hong Kong people was also torn apart. He queried whether the Central Government had listened to the voice of the public. He also opined that both sides were in lack of an effective channel for communication, and genuinely needed to work out a solution to facilitate effective communication between both sides. The current term of District Councillors mainly comprised pan-democratic members. The election results had served to reflect the political inclination for most of the voters who were in support of democracy;

(iv) he pointed out that District Councillors had secured the mandate of the public in the governance of the local community. It was also necessary for them to work with the Police, all sectors in society and the Government. Despite the uncompromising condemnation administered by members at this meeting against the improper police behaviour over the past six months, it did not mean that this Council did not work with the Police. The Council needed to cooperate with all sectors of society and the Government to help Hong Kong get out of the existing predicament and continue to move forward. He urged the Police to restore their role as community police in the past, instead of being a force without unique identification numbers, wearing masks and carrying weapons. He requested an independent inquiry into the whole chaotic situation with a view to seeking a real possible solution to solve the problem;

120. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH raised the following comments and enquiries:

(i) she hoped that fellow members could show their respect for each other's opinion, and allow others to voice their views fairly;

(ii) after a lapse of several months, the social volatility had no sign of settlement yet. She felt sad for society being so torn apart and the widespread panic among the general public. She hoped that people holding different political views could come together and work out a solution in concerted effort in order to avoid further aggravation of the problem; and

(iii) she pointed out that quite a lot of residents from the grassroots level lost their jobs due to the recent social situation. She called upon all parties to exercise restraint and obey the law so that society could restore its normal status in an orderly manner as soon as possible and that the impacts on Hong Kong's economy could be avoided. Since she had different point of views concerning the two

provisional motions, she would vote against these two provisional motions.

121. Mr TSUI Yuen-wa raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he pointed out that his opinion was generally in line with the joint declaration put forward by the pan-democratic members. He said that earlier on he took his son to go hiking at Lion Rock, and they saw quite a number of offensive slogans pinpointing the Police along the trail. His son also raised questions about the content of the slogans. He found it rather difficult to explain to young children the errors made by the Police in the recent six months and that they were not a representative of justice;
- (ii) he opined that most of the people were peaceful, rational and nonviolent protesters who would also be agonised by any violent scenes on either sides. While he understood that members of the pro-establishment camp were anxious about the violent incidents, the election results of the current term DCs had explicitly indicated that even though some of the protesters expressed their demands in a violent way, a majority of the public, including the peaceful supporters still rallied their support for the calls of the current Movement; and
- (iii) he reiterated that the crux of the existing problem had arisen from the unfair system. The Government turned a deaf ear to public opinion, and had provoked staging of the mass demonstrations. He urged the Government to listen to the people. The current Movement had fully demonstrated the solidarity power of Hong Kong people. He had been so proud of them.

122. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael mentioned that a female dead body was found floating on the sea off South Horizon Drive in Ap Lei Chau. Although the Police had classified the case as not related to the “Amendment Bill argument”, the public had already lost confidence in the Government. There had been no trust between the Police and the public already; yet, similar incidents had an extraordinarily high occurrence frequency. It was hard to convince people that the said incident had nothing to do with the protests. He proposed Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH to follow up the above incident so as to eliminate the anxiety of the public.

123. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he agreed that all sectors of society should work together for a solution to the problem. However, it was a prerequisite that the Chief Executive must respond to the Five Demands which had been put up for more than a half year. The governing power had made no response so far, rendering it not possible to solve the problem in concerted effort; and

(ii) Chinese culture had always advocated the idea of “fostering harmony in diversity”. The public might have different perspectives to an issue. Behaviour was indicative of a person’s value judgement. The public would take into account the value judgement of members and determine whether the members had acted against conscience or not.

124. Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he respected the comments of Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and opined that society should work out a solution to the current problems in concerted effort; and
- (ii) he did not consider that the rise in unemployment rate and the problem of slack economy were attributable to the “Amendment Bill argument”; instead, from an economic angle, it was mainly because the economy in China had slackened.

125. The Chairman asked members to vote on Provisional Motion 1 and Provisional Motion 2.

126. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus requested to vote on Provisional Motion 1 and Provisional Motion 2 by open ballot.

127. The Chairman invited members to vote on Provisional Motion 1 moved by Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, and seconded by Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany.

128. Provisional Motion 1 was passed by 15 votes in favour (namely Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr TSUI Yuen-wa, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YIM Chun-ho, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany and Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN), two against (namely Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun) and zero abstention.

129. The Chairman invited members to vote on Provisional Motion 2 moved by Mr CHAN Hin-chung, and seconded by Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo and Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael.

130. Provisional Motion 2 was passed by 15 votes in favour (namely Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael,

Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr TSUI Yuen-wa, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YIM Chun-ho, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany and Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN), two against (namely Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun) and zero abstention.

131. The Chairman asked Mr YIM Chun-ho and Mr CHAN Ping-yeung to briefly present Extempore Motion 3.

132. Mr YIM Chun-ho briefed members on the content of the motion as follows:

- (i) he pointed out that a suspected pneumonia case involving a mainland student of the Chinese University of Hong Kong being denied access to medical care at the Union Hospital after returning to Hong Kong from Wuhan had reflected that improvement was required for the immigration control as well as the coordination mechanism between public and private hospitals in Hong Kong. Mrs Carrie LAM, the Chief Executive, had said that the “Severe Respiratory Disease associated with a Novel Infectious Agent” would be included as a statutorily notifiable infectious disease set out in Schedule 1 to the Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 599) through legislative amendment under the negative vetting procedure to strengthen Hong Kong’s capability to conduct surveillance of this disease, and that port health measures would be stepped up at all boundary control points, focusing particularly on inbound flights and Express Rail Link (XRL) trains from Wuhan;
- (ii) given the population density and mobility of mainland cities, he was worried that the mere announcement of the number of pneumonia cases detected in Wuhan was unable to reflect the actual circumstances, and queried whether similar cases had arisen in other cities as well. Apart from strengthening port health measures for inbound visitors from Wuhan, he suggested that the Government should also step up such measures for inbound visitors from other mainland cities. Citing the example of the atypical pneumonia outbreak in Hong Kong in 2003, he said that as local authorities had not had a good grasp of the characteristics of the virus in the initial stage, SDC members could do was to carry out preventive and control measures in the community to the best of their abilities. In 2003, SDC had distributed disinfectant packs to increase residents’ awareness of personal hygiene and epidemic prevention; and
- (iii) in view of the public events in the recent six months or so, quite many kerbside litter bins had been replaced by plastic garbage bags. Moreover, the relevant government department had failed to take stringent anti-litter enforcement actions. Therefore, the Government should enhance the preventive and control measures implemented by frontliners in the community, e.g. stepping up liaison with such

organisations as relevant departments, care homes for the elderly and schools as well as providing support for housing estates and clinics, etc.

133. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung pointed out that it was vital to report the number of detected cases. As there were quite many hospitals and clinics in the Southern District, he asked whether a notification mechanism could be put in place by SDC or SDO to provide the respective numbers of cases of upper respiratory tract infection and suspected pneumonia cases on a daily basis.

134. The Chairman asked members to raise comments and enquiries.

135. Miss YUEN Ka-wai raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) the successive detection of suspected cases in Hong Kong following the recent outbreak of viral pneumonia of unknown etiology in Wuhan had caused widespread panic in the community. Members of the public were worried that a fatal epidemic would plague Hong Kong again, causing a recurrence of the situation of the atypical pneumonia outbreak in 2003. Looking back on the lessons learnt from this, the Hong Kong Government should take effective preventive and control measures, enhance information transparency, release figures on detected cases, and take proactive measures to control inbound visitor movements from the source of the outbreak. At present, there were two Hong Kong-bound XRL trains via Wuhan and one to two inbound flights from Wuhan daily. The Government had the responsibility of taking special quarantine measures at ports and assessing the necessity of suspending all transport services operating between Wuhan and Hong Kong; and
- (ii) education was essential, while ignorance was truly horrifying. Previously, some people from the pro-establishment camp had suggested not wearing face masks, so as to avoid falling into the trap set by the pro-democracy camp and “yellow ribbons”. In fact, good personal hygiene practices were common sense precautions regardless of one’s political view. The Government had the responsibility of disseminating health and hygiene-related information to all members of the public and calling on all Hong Kong people to overcome this difficult situation together. She pointed out that quite many people and healthcare staff in Hong Kong had lost their lives during the atypical pneumonia outbreak in 2003. As such, she hoped that various departments would proactively take preventive and control measures in concerted efforts, and give an account of the situation to the public as soon as possible.

136. Mr CHAN Hin-chung raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) he stressed the importance of epidemic information exchange. Given that the number of reported cases in Wuhan as a populous city was similar to that of suspected cases reported in Hong Kong, doubts were raised about the accuracy of such figures released by Wuhan authorities; and
- (ii) apart from enhancing quarantine measures, he suggested that the Government should make proper preparation and consider deploying additional healthcare staff for emergency response. Regarding community education programmes, he suggested that apart from reminding members of the public to wear face masks and wash hands frequently, the Government might also organise talks and publicity activities to increase public awareness of epidemic prevention.

137. Mr YU Chun-hei, James shared the views that exchange of intelligence and education were vital. Apart from the recommendation on conducting medical screening for inbound visitors from Wuhan, given the likelihood of similar emerging cases in other mainland cities after the Lunar New Year, the Government had the responsibility of conducting stringent medical screening for all inbound visitors. On education, he learnt from news reports that some Hong Kong people travelling to the Mainland had been unaware of the gravity of the epidemic. Therefore, it was hoped that the Government could step up educational efforts to raise public awareness of epidemic prevention.

138. Mr Paul ZIMMERMAN said that since this was the 1st SDC meeting, and this extempore motion was put under “Any Other Business” for discussion, representatives of the relevant government departments had not been invited to respond at the meeting. As such, he proposed to issue a letter to the government department concerned to reflect members’ views on the recent outbreak of pneumonia of unknown etiology in Wuhan after the meeting.

139. The Chairman agreed to issue a letter to the government department concerned to reflect members’ views on the recent outbreak of pneumonia of unknown etiology in Wuhan after the meeting. The Chairman asked members to take a vote on Provisional Motion 3 moved by Mr YIM Chun-ho and seconded by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung.

140. Provisional Motion 3 was carried with 17 votes for it, zero vote against it and zero abstention.

141. The Chairman said that since members were not in a position to formally submit agenda items for discussion at the 1st SDC meeting, representatives of the relevant government departments had not been invited to attend this meeting. Regarding Provisional Motions 1 and 2, he hoped that the Police could assign representatives to

attend the meeting when similar agenda items were put forth by members in the future. As for Provisional Motion 3, he suggested that where necessary, follow-up actions could be taken by the Environment, Hygiene and Healthcare Committee and representatives of the Department of Health (DH) be invited to give an account of the situation in due course.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat sent an extract of the draft minutes on Extempore Motion 3 to DH on 17 January 2020, with details set out at [Annex 2](#).)

Date of Next Meeting

142. The Chairman advised the meeting that the 2nd SDC meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 23 January 2020 (Thursday), and that the Secretariat would remind members of the deadline for submission of agenda items scheduled for 8 January 2020 via email after the meeting.

143. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Secretariat, Southern District Council
January 2020

1st Meeting of Southern District Council (SDC) (2020-2023)**Declaration of Interest Summary**

Agenda	Project Title	Organiser / Co-organiser / Assisting organiser / Organisation concerned	Member	Capacity in the Organiser/ Co-organiser/ Assisting organiser / Organisation concerned and/or other declaration of interests	Being an Executor of the Project or not
Any Other Business	SDC Fund Application: New Year Celebration at Lei Tung Estate 2020	Organiser: The Incorporated Owners of Lei Tung Estate	Mr CHAN Ping-yeung	Treasurer	-
		Assisting organiser: Hong Yip Service Company Limited	-	-	-
	SDC Fund Application: Lei Tung One Day Tour in Spring	Organiser: The Incorporated Owners of Lei Tung Estate	Mr CHAN Ping-yeung	Treasurer	-
		Assisting organiser: Hong Yip Service Company Limited	-	-	-

Annex 2

(Translation)

By Post and By Fax
(Fax: 2836 0071)

Ref: HADS DC/13/15/1/1/016

17 January 2020

Dr CHAN Hon-yee, Constance, JP
Director of Health,
21/F, Wu Chung House,
213 Queen's Road East,
Wanchai, Hong Kong

Dear Director,

Wuhan Pneumonia Cases

The Southern District Council (SDC) had discussion on the Wuhan pneumonia cases and passed a related provisional motion at its 1st meeting held on 7 January 2020. In this regard, I am writing to your Department to reflect our views.

Views and Comments from SDC

Members expressed at the meeting that they were extremely concerned about the Wuhan pneumonia cases. They also raised quite a lot of comments on the corresponding measures taken by the Government. Details are as follows:

(i) Strengthen Port Health Measures

Members pointed out that, at present, there were two Hong Kong-bound Express Rail Link (XRL) trains via Wuhan and one to two inbound flights from Wuhan daily, the Government had the responsibility to take proactive measures to control inbound visitor movements from the source of the outbreak by taking special quarantine measures at ports and assessing the necessity of suspending all transport services operating between Wuhan and Hong Kong.

Members suggested that apart from strengthening port health measures for inbound visitors from Wuhan, the Government should also step up such measures for inbound visitors from other mainland cities. Members were worried about the likelihood of similar cases emerged in other mainland cities after the Lunar New Year, and considered that the Government had the responsibility of conducting stringent medical screening for all inbound visitors.

(ii) **Enhance Information Transparency and Release Figures on Detected Cases**

Given the population density and mobility of mainland cities, members were worried that the mere announcement of the number of pneumonia cases detected in Wuhan was unable to reflect the actual circumstances, and queried whether similar cases had arisen in other cities as well. Furthermore, given that the number of reported cases in Wuhan as a populous city was similar to that of the suspected cases reported in Hong Kong, members had doubts about the accuracy of such figures. Members urged the Government to enhance information transparency and release figures on detected cases.

(iii) **Increase Public Awareness of Epidemic Prevention**

Citing the example of the atypical pneumonia outbreak in Hong Kong in 2003, members pointed out that as local authorities did not have a good grasp of the details of the virus in the initial stage, only what SDC members could do was to carry out preventive and control measures in the community to the best of their abilities. That year, SDC had distributed disinfectant packs to increase residents' awareness of personal hygiene and epidemic prevention. Members urged the Government to disseminate health and hygiene-related information to all members of the public. Apart from reminding the public to wear face masks and wash hands frequently, members suggested that the Government should also organise talks and publicity activities to increase public awareness of epidemic prevention; and

(iv) **Strengthen Response and Preventive Measures**

Members suggested that the Government should consider deploying additional healthcare personnel for emergency response, and various departments should proactively take preventive and control measures in

concerted efforts, including enhancements to the preventive and control measures implemented on the front line in the community, e.g. stepping up liaison with such organisations as relevant departments, care homes for the elderly and schools as well as providing support for housing estates and clinics.

Furthermore, a provisional motion, moved by Mr YIM Chun-ho and seconded by Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, has also been passed by the SDC unanimously. Details of the motion are as follows:

“The pneumonia outbreak in Wuhan is spreading and the number of suspected cases in Hong Kong and the rest of the world is on the rise. As the authorities in Hong Kong are not conducting stringent health screening at border control points (land, sea and air) and ordinary residents do not have an active awareness on epidemic prevention, the Council requests all border control points to adopt the most stringent epidemic prevention measures and to promote awareness on epidemic prevention to the public by taking various measures in the communities and referring to the experience from the SARS outbreak in 2003.”

The relevant draft minutes of meeting is enclosed as Annex; the audio recordings of the meeting have also been uploaded onto the SDC homepage¹ for reference. It would be most helpful if your reply (if any) could be provided in bilingual versions. Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact Ms Priscilla YIP, Secretary to the SDC, at 2814 5802.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

(LO Kin-hei)

Chairman, Southern District Council

c.c. Dr WONG Yuk-ming, Alice, Principal Medical & Health Officer
(Emergency Response and Programme Management)
(Fax: 2601 4209)

¹ https://www.districtcouncils.gov.hk/south/english/meetings/dcmeetings/dc_meetings.php