

(Translation)

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Southern District Council (SDC)
(2024-2027)

Date : 4 January 2024
Time : 2:30 p.m.
Venue : SDC Conference Room

Present:

Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP Chairman
District Officer (Southern)

Mr CHU Lap-wai, MH
Ms HO Yuen-wei
Ms LI Ka-ying
Ms LAM Yuk-chun, BBS, MH
Ms LAM Wing-yan
Ms LAM Wing-yee
Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung
Mr CHEUNG Wai-nam
Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun
Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP
Professor CHAN Yuk-kit, MH, JP
Ms CHAN Wing-yan
Mr PANG Siu-kei
Mr WONG Choi-lap
Ms WONG Yu-ching, Nicole
Mr YEUNG Sheung-chun
Mr CHAO Howard
Mr LAU Ngai, Victor
Mr SIU Wai-chung
Mr LAI Ka-chi

Secretary:

Ms NG Yee-mei, Ivy Senior Executive Officer (District Council),
Southern District Office

In Attendance:

Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby	Assistant District Officer (Southern)
Mr LEUNG Ying-kit	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Southern District Office
Ms CHAN Kit-ming, Grace	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Southern District Office
Ms CHUNG Chui-yan, Chris	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Southern District Office
Miss LEUNG Wai-kuen	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Southern), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms LEE Suk-han	Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TO Chak-foo	Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island & Islands Region), Housing Department
Mr FU Ting-hong, Derek	Acting Chief Transport Officer/Hong Kong Island, Transport Department
Mr LEUNG Lincoln	District Commander (Western District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr WAN Fu-kwan, Nelson	Police Community Relations Officer (Western District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr WONG Wai-on, Edward	Officer-in-charge (Care & Support), Southern District Office
Mr LEE Yuen-po, Paul	Officer-in-charge (South), Southern District Office
Mr PANG Chi-chun	Service Director (Social Service), Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association
Mr SO Kin-wa	Social Worker (Social Service), Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association

Agenda Item 1: Opening Remarks by the Chairman and Appointment of the Secretary of Southern District Council

The Chairman gave a welcome speech.

2. The Chairman welcomed members of the SDC and the representatives of Government Departments to the first meeting of the seventh-term of SDC. He sincerely congratulated the SDC members, saying that they deserved to be appointed as SDC members given that they were elites from various sectors and had offered unfailing support for the Southern District for many years. Not only were they dedicated to serving the community, they were also the key supporters of “loving the country and Hong Kong”.

3. The Chairman added that members of this term of SDC came from various sectors, ranging from top talents of industrial and commercial sectors to leaders of social services organisations and high-flying professionals. Among the 20 SDC members, more than one-third were female. There were also young people as well as representatives from the fishing industry which was unique to the Southern District. The wide diversity of their backgrounds and social positions made SDC broadly representative and this would enable the Government to identify residents’ needs from different perspectives and review district development holistically. With rich experience in district services, the SDC members could contribute to the synergistic cooperation among SDC, “Three Committees” (i.e. Area Committees, District Fight Crime Committee and District Fire Safety Committee of the Southern District) and District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) to better serve the community. The Chairman highlighted that the median age of the SDC members was 37 and it was believed that the SDC members were relatively younger than their counterparts in the other 17 Districts. In addition, the youngest member of the District Committees constituency in Hong Kong was sitting on SDC. Building a team so professional and pragmatic, these young and energetic SDC members would surely instil vitality into SDC and bring a new paradigm to SDC.

4. The Chairman said that this was the first term of District Councils after the implementation of the improved district governance structure. The new District

Councils would definitely revert to their original positioning as set out in the Basic Law, focusing on livelihood issues at the district level, and serving the residents with practical goals in a practical way for the benefits of the residents. Most importantly, the new District Councils would fully implement the principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong”, laying a solid foundation for district governance in Hong Kong, opening up a new chapter of good governance and ensuring that “one country, two systems” would be implemented steadfastly and successfully.

5. The Chairman said that the Southern District was a place of harmony where mountains and waters met, rendering it a popular tourist spot as well as a good place for Hong Kong residents to spend their leisure time. At the same time, the Southern District was a blend of tradition and innovation, with the development of the Cyberport and the inheritance of the fisherfolk’s culture. There were many revitalised industrial buildings in Wong Chuk Hang accommodating and nurturing the emerging industries as well. In recent years, the Government had been striving to develop the Southern District, including the implementation of the Invigorating Island South initiative. Various projects in the Southern District were in full swing and there was great potential for development in the future. The Chairman hoped that the SDC members would collaborate with Southern District Office (SDO) to make the Southern District a more pleasant place to work and live by actively participating in the development and giving advices to the Government.

6. The Chairman said that each and every SDC member present was a partner of the Government in administration and a bridge between the Government and the residents. Various sectors in the Southern District had high expectations of SDC members. The Chairman hoped that the SDC members would live up to the expectations of the public in the coming four years and give full play to their strengths by making use of their knowledge, experience and district network to assist the Government in implementing and explaining district policies, collect residents’ views proactively, facilitate consultation and serve the community. This would enhance the efficacy of district governance in a way just as what Director XIA Baolong said in his important speech on 22 December 2023 that District Councils would ensure effective communication between the Government and the people by serving as a connection between the two.

7. The Chairman said that the SDC members had already written down their work aspirations for this term on a card and put it in the time capsule of the seventh-term of SDC before this meeting officially commenced. The time capsule would be opened four years later. He believed that by then all SDC members would have successfully fulfilled their expectations and goals, benefitting the Southern District. When giving out forget-me-not tea made by a social enterprise to the SDC members, the Chairman reminded them to remember at all times their original commitment to serving the public. The Chairman looked forward to joining hands with the SDC members to build a pleasant community and make contribution at the district level as the city embarked on the new journey from stability to prosperity. The Chairman wished the seventh-term of SDC every success and the residents of the Southern District a happy life.

8. The Chairman said that according to Section 69 of the District Councils Ordinance, for the purpose of carrying out the functions of a District Council, the Chairman of the District Council might appoint a public officer to act as the secretary of that District Council.

9. The Chairman appointed Senior Executive Officer (District Council) Ms NG Yee-mei, Ivy as the secretary of SDC.

Agenda Item 2: Registration and Declaration of Interests by District Council Members

10. The Chairman said that in accordance with Order 16(1) of the Standing Orders (SO) of SDC, every SDC member should furnish the SDC Secretary with particulars of his registrable interests in writing within one month from the commencement of each term. The Chairman invited the Secretary to briefly introduce the registrable interests of SDC members and the requirements for the declaration of interests.

11. The Secretary briefly introduced the paper as follows:

- (i) The SDC Secretariat (Secretariat) would invite SDC members to fill in the “District Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region - Registration Form on Personal Interests” at Appendix 3 to the SO after the meeting. In accordance with Order 16(1) of the SO, she requested SDC members to furnish the SDC Secretary with particulars of their registrable interests in writing by using the aforesaid registration form on personal interests within one month from the commencement of each term (i.e. on or before 31 January), so that the Secretariat could upload such particulars to the SDC website; and
- (ii) In accordance with Order 17 of the SO, SDC members should furnish the SDC Secretary with particulars of any change in their registrable interests in writing by using the aforesaid registration form on personal interests within 14 clear working days of any such change, so that the Secretariat could upload such particulars to the SDC website.

12. The Chairman asked SDC members to observe the relevant requirements.

Agenda Item 3: Committees and Working Groups under the 7th Term of SDC (SDC Paper No. 1/2024)

- 13. The Chairman invited the Secretary to briefly introduce the paper.
- 14. The Secretary briefly introduced the paper as follows:
 - (i) In accordance with Order 69(1) of the SO, the Chairman of SDC had to appoint four specified committees (including the District Facilities and Works Committee, the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee, the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee, and the Traffic and Transport Committee) to carry out the relevant functions of SDC;
 - (ii) In accordance with Order 69(2) of the SO, the SDC Chairman might, having regard to the situation of the district, appoint other committees to carry out the relevant functions of SDC. In this connection, the Chairman, having regard to

the situation of the Southern District, had appointed the Development Planning Committee;

- (iii) Order 84(1) of the SO stipulated that the SDC Chairman might appoint “standing working groups” to assist in carrying out specified functions. In this connection, the Chairman, having regard to the situation of the Southern District, had appointed the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy to assist in promoting various activities to boost the development of the local economy in the Southern District;
- (iv) The terms of reference of the committees and the working group were given in Annexes 1 to 6 to SDC Paper No. 1/2024;
- (v) Order 70 of the SO stipulated that each SDC member should join at least three committees or working groups. On 20 December 2023, the Secretariat had sent letters to SDC members inviting them to join the aforesaid five committees and one working group. The relevant membership lists were given in Annex 7 to SDC Paper No. 1/2024;
- (vi) Order 71 of the SO stipulated that the SDC Chairman was to appoint a member of a committee who was also a SDC member as the chairman of the committee. The SDC Chairman might also appoint a vice chairman of a committee in accordance with Order 72 of the SO. The relevant appointments were given in Annex 7 to SDC Paper No. 1/2024. The Secretary added that the tenure of office of the chairmen and the vice chairmen of the committees would close at the end of 2025, and subsequent arrangements would be announced in due course;
- (vii) Order 87(1) of the SO stipulated that the SDC Chairman should appoint a member of a working group who was also a SDC member as the chairman of the working group. The relevant appointment was given in Annex 7 to SDC Paper No. 1/2024. The Secretary further said that the chairman of the working group and the working group shared the same tenure of appointment which would close at the end of 2024; and
- (viii) She congratulated the aforesaid SDC members on being appointed as the chairmen or the vice chairmen of the committees, or the chairman of the working group.

15. The Chairman added that while each SDC member should join at least three committees or working groups under Order 70 of the SO, all of them had actually joined a total of five committees under SDC. This was testimony to their dedication and commitment to the work of SDC. He looked forward to working closely with all the SDC members to deliver quality district services with a view to enhancing governance efficacy at the district level.

Agenda Item 4: Meeting Schedule of SDC and its Committees in 2024
(SDC Paper No. 2/2024)

16. The Chairman invited the Secretary to briefly introduce the paper.

17. The Secretary briefly introduced the paper as follows:

- (i) In accordance with Order 26(2) of the SO, the chairman of a meeting should determine the date, time and place of a meeting. Order 27 of the SO stipulated that SDC meetings and committee meetings should be convened at least once every two months so far as the actual circumstances permitted. The meeting schedule of SDC and its committees in 2024 was given in SDC Paper No. 2/2024 and its annex;
- (ii) In accordance with the Performance Monitoring Guidelines for Members of the District Councils (Monitoring Guidelines), SDC members were required to attend the meetings of SDC and the annual attendance rate of a SDC member at meetings of SDC or its committees or working groups should not be lower than 80%. SDC members were obliged to attend meetings punctually and avoid leaving while a meeting was being conducted. SDC Members' attendance would be made available for public inspection;
- (iii) In accordance with Order 64 of the SO, SDC members who would be absent from a meeting were required to submit a written application for absence from a meeting to the Secretary before the meeting concerned and the meeting concerned should determine whether the applications for absence would be accepted; and

(iv) SDC members were reminded that an application for absence from a meeting should be submitted before the meeting concerned. If SDC members could not comply with this requirement due to an emergency, they should notify the Secretariat by phone as much as practicable.

Agenda Item 5: “Meet-the-Public Scheme”
(SDC Paper No. 3/2024)

18. The Chairman said that the purpose of the “Meet-the-Public Scheme” (Scheme) of SDC was to provide SDC members with more opportunities to get in touch with local residents or members of the public working in the Southern District. Through directly getting in touch with the public, SDC members could gain thorough understanding of the public’s views and the problems they faced, and in turn handle or refer their requests for assistance with a view to enhancing the public’s understanding of the Government policies and thereby gaining their support.

19. The Chairman asked the Secretary to briefly introduce the paper.

20. The Secretary briefly introduced the paper as follows:

- (i) In accordance with Paragraph 18(1) of the Monitoring Guidelines, SDC members should participate in the Scheme of SDC which was held every week and be on duty at the SDC office in person according to the duty roster agreed by the SDC Chairman;
- (ii) The Scheme would start from 5 January 2024 and be held at the SDC Conference Room from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. every Friday. SDC members were required to take turns to be on duty in pairs. SDC members were required to post their duty rosters at their ward offices. The duty rosters of the SDC members would also be uploaded to the SDC website; and
- (iii) The first round of the duty roster for 2024 was given in the annex to SDC Paper No. 3/2024. Subsequent rounds of the duty roster would be published in due course.

Agenda Item 6: Study of Issues of Concern in the District and Collection of Public Views
(SDC Paper No. 4/2024)

21. The Chairman invited Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby, Assistant District Officer (Southern) to briefly introduce the paper.
22. Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby briefly introduced the paper as follows:
 - (i) According to Section 4A of the District Councils Ordinance, the functions of a District Council of a District included collecting the views of the people in the District in respect of an issue specified by the Chairman of the District Council, and submitting to the Government a summary of the views collected and the suggested corresponding measures;
 - (ii) The purpose of collecting views was to enhance SDC members' understanding of district issues and views, and at the same time to enable the public to express their views to Government Departments through SDC, so as to assist the Government in considering the issues in a more comprehensive manner and hence formulating more appropriate policies accordingly;
 - (iii) The specified issues would be drawn up by the Chairman. The issues would cover different aspects, including traffic and transport, environmental hygiene, housing development and opportunities in the District. SDC members might also propose other issues to the Chairman, but they had to seek the Chairman's prior consent before collecting views in the name of SDC;
 - (iv) Regarding the collection of views, the Secretariat would inform SDC members in a timely manner of the specified issue and deadline for each round, which took place every two to three months tentatively. SDC members were required to collect views from the public and stakeholders in the Southern District on the issue specified by the Chairman and submit a report to the Government;
 - (v) The report should include background information on the issue, a summary of residents' views and the proposed measures. In this connection, the Chairman would consider inviting SDC members to report on the contents of the report at

the relevant committee meetings and discuss the issue with representatives of Government Departments;

- (vi) Each SDC member should participate in the collection of views. SDC members should make good use of their backgrounds and networks, etc. to collect views from different organisations and individuals. SDC members should also make use of their professional knowledge to make practical suggestions to the Government;
- (vii) SDC members were required to submit a report through the Secretariat before a specified deadline, normally within 45 calendar days from the date when the specified issue was assigned. Before collecting views, SDC members were required to submit to the SDC Chairman a proposal enumerating the methodology for the collection of views and relevant details, such as the proposed locations and time to collect views, the target respondents, the collection method and the target number of completed questionnaires;
- (viii) SDC members might work individually or together to collect views, and if they chose to work together, the target number of respondents would have to be increased. In general, depending on the collection method, each SDC member should collect the views from at least about 50 to 100 members of the public, and SDC members might also collect a similar number of views from district organisations;
- (ix) SDC members should display the issues and relevant information at their ward offices and encourage the public to express their views through different means;
- (x) The specified issue for the first round of collection of views was “how to improve the community facilities in the Southern District, particularly in respect of cultural, recreational and sports facilities, so as to meet the needs of residents of different background and age groups”. In view of the breadth of the issue, SDC members might draw up a more specific scope and the questions to address this issue, such as how to improve the cultural, recreational and sports facilities in Ap Lei Chau, in the proposals on the collection of views to be submitted to the Chairman so as to make the content of the views more specific; and
- (xi) SDC members were required to submit a proposal to the Chairman through the Secretariat on or before 11 January 2024, so that the relevant work could commence as soon as possible, and to submit a report to the Secretariat on or before 18 February 2024.

23. The Chairman added that the aforesaid brief introduction explained SDC's requirements and arrangements for collecting views under the District Councils Ordinance. He pointed out that SDC members had already been reaching out to the public through various channels on a daily basis to collect views from different sectors of the community. He encouraged SDC members to continue to make good use of resources to collect more public views through various means, and suggested that they submit agendas to the Secretariat to discuss the collected views at SDC or committee meetings or relay the views to relevant Government Departments for follow-up. He stressed that all Government Departments would welcome the views submitted by SDC members and the Secretariat could also assist in arranging SDC members to meet with respective Government Departments.

24. The Chairman invited SDC members to raise comments or enquiries.

25. Regarding the collection of views, Mr LAI Ka-chi said that the scope of district studies would vary depending on the issues. He enquired whether it was possible to discuss with the Secretariat the extension of the submission deadline of the report if the issue involved a wider scope. He would also like to learn about how SDC members could report to the public on the progress of the collection of views.

26. Ms LI Ka-ying raised the following comments:

- (i) The collection of views was highly significant and the views collected were important to the future development of the community;
- (ii) As SDC comprised 20 members, SDC members should maintain good communication and cooperation with each other so that the collection of public views could be done effectively;
- (iii) In the past, SDC members often used questionnaire surveys to collect views. She suggested that SDC members consider adopting different means, including organising residents' meetings, thematic discussions, interviews or visits, etc., to exchange views with the public, with a view to collecting more detailed and diversified views; and

(iv) SDC members should not collect views from people of a particular class or background only. The target respondents for collecting views should cover people of different age groups and from all walks of life, so as to ensure that the views were broadly representative.

27. Mr PANG Siu-kei raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) By collecting public views on specified issues and submitting summaries of views and suggestions to the Government, SDC members could fully realise what Director XIA Baolong said in his speech at the Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Chinese Association of Hong Kong and Macao Studies, that District Council members should ensure effective communication between the Government and the people by serving as a connection between the two, so as to give full play to the functions expected of District Councils;
- (ii) As the cultural, recreational and sports facilities were very much part of the daily lives of the public, “how to improve community facilities in the Southern District” was one of the issues of greatest concern to the public and was closely related to their daily lives;
- (iii) Apart from collecting views from people of different age groups, the target respondents should also include local organisations as well because many local organisations often hired government venues to organise recreational activities; and
- (iv) He concurred with Mr LAI Ka-chi and asked whether the submission deadline of the report could be extended if the scope of the issue was quite broad.

28. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun raised the following comments:

- (i) By collecting public views on specified issues, SDC members could clearly relay the actual needs of the District to the Government;
- (ii) He agreed with other SDC members and opined that the study on issues of concern in the District could not rely solely on public views in order to gain insight into the problems. He suggested that the views of district organisations be taken into account, and that SDC members collect a corresponding number

of views from district organisations, in addition to collecting the views from at least about 50 to 100 members of the public at any one time; and

(iii) He suggested that the reports submitted by SDC members be consolidated and the information be shared with the Invigorating Island South Office (IISO) to assist the Office in optimising and shaping the development projects in the Southern District.

29. Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) She kept an open mind on the deadlines for the collection of views and the submission of reports, and understood that SDC members might need some more time for in-depth study if the issue involved a broader scope. SDC members were welcome to discuss the extension of the deadline with the Secretariat;
- (ii) Recognising the importance of diversity of views and target respondents, she said SDC members were expected to take into account various factors in setting the target respondents for collecting views, and that apart from collecting views from the public, the views of district organisations and other stakeholders were also important;
- (iii) The amount of views to be collected could be adjusted flexibly where necessary; and
- (iv) The Secretariat would consolidate the reports submitted by SDC members and then forward them to the relevant Government Departments for follow-up and action. As the proposed issue of the first round was largely related to cultural, recreational and sports facilities, the information would be passed to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) as well as IISO to facilitate the development of the Southern District.

30. The Chairman concurred that public views from various perspectives should be collected, and pointed out that in drawing up an issue, a broad framework would be set up under which SDC members could make use of their personal expertise and community experience to make the issues more specific, with a view to obtaining representative views and pragmatic suggestions. After consolidating the information, SDC members could discuss the views collected at SDC meetings or committee

meetings, or relay the views to the relevant Government Departments for follow-up. For the issue of the first round, the Secretariat would consider inviting LCSD and IISO to send representatives to the meetings to exchange views and discuss the issue with SDC members.

31. The Chairman invited the LCSD representative to give a response.

32. Ms LEE Suk-han said that LCSD had noted the comments raised by the Chairman and SDC members, and that LCSD would be happy to send representatives to the meetings for discussion after the SDC members had collected views from the public.

33. Mr WONG Choi-lap agreed that the collection of views from the public would assist the Government in understanding the situation of the District. He considered it important to publicise the collection of views to the public and encourage them to participate. He further said that apart from displaying notices at SDC members' ward offices, the details could also be announced on the SDC website and the SDC notice boards, etc., so that the public would be aware of the purpose of the collection of views and the timetable, etc. In addition, he opined that after collecting and consolidating the views, SDC members should draw up a follow-up report so that the public could see whether their views would be dealt with. This would encourage the public to express their views to SDC.

34. Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby responded that it was a brand new task for the current-term SDC to study issues of concern in the District and collect public views. The public should be encouraged to express their views. Regarding the publicity of the collection of views, SDC members could also make use of the SDC notice boards in addition to their own means. Moreover, SDO would assist in the publicity, including making use of the Home Affairs Department's social media platforms and other channels to disseminate information and appeal to the public in the Southern District to participate actively. Besides, if the public learnt that their views would be dealt with, they would be more forthcoming in giving their views in the future, and this would require close co-operation between SDC members and Government Departments. In addition, she suggested that in planning the collection of views, SDC members could

narrow down the scope of the issue or consider whether the proposed projects could be completed within a short period of time, for example, apart from increasing the number of large-scale recreational and sports facilities, whether there were other facilities which could be constructed in a shorter period of time by way of minor works, etc., so that the public could see the results within a short period of time and have more confidence in SDC.

35. Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP opined that the issue of the first round was about cultural, recreational and sports facilities and he believed that LCSD could help with the publicity.

36. Mr CHU Lap-wai, MH agreed with Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP and suggested that SDC members place questionnaires and questionnaire collection boxes at LCSD venues. At the same time, LCSD could also display posters at its venues to encourage the public to submit their views. He looked forward to discussing with LCSD representatives on possible options for the collection and distribution of questionnaires after the meeting.

37. Ms LEE Suk-han responded that SDC members were welcome to contact and meet with LCSD representatives after the meeting. LCSD would co-operate with SDC in the publicity to facilitate the collection of views from the public on the cultural, recreational and sports facilities in the Southern District.

38. Professor CHAN Yuk-kit, MH, JP opined that the Housing Department (HD) could also assist in the publicity.

39. Mr TO Chak-foo responded that the HD could make arrangements for placing questionnaires at the estate offices.

Agenda 7: Proposals on (a) Launching the Community Care Campaign in 18 Districts in Collaboration with the District Services and Community Care Teams; and (b) Carrying Out a District Clean-Up in Collaboration with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department before the Lunar New Year
(SDC Paper No. 5/2024)

40. The Chairman invited Officer-in-charge (Care and Support) of the SDO Mr WONG Wai-on, Edward and District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Southern) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) Miss LEUNG Wai-kuen to briefly introduce the details about launching the community care campaign and carrying out a district clean-up with the Care Teams.

41. Mr WONG Wai-on, Edward briefly introduced the paper. He added that before the meeting, some SDC members asked whether they had to declare interests relevant to this agenda if they were members of the Care Teams of the Southern District. Having examined the SO and the Monitoring Guidelines in detail, the Secretariat opined that this agenda on Care Teams did not involve additional resources or any other monetary interests. Therefore, SDC members did not have to declare interests. In addition, SDO would issue letters to SDC members later to invite them to take part in the community care campaign.

(Post-meeting note: SDO had issued letters to SDC members on 11 January 2024 to invite them to take part in the community care campaign.)

42. Miss LEUNG Wai-kuen briefly introduced the paper. She added that FEHD planned to invite SDC members to take part in the third phase of the year-end clean-up campaign on 1 and 2 February 2024. She thanked SDO for its coordination and SDC members for their active participation and support. She pointed out that the aforementioned two dates were exactly a week before the Lunar New Year. As the Lunar New Year was approaching, families would presumably be busy preparing for the festive season, which was a right time for Government Departments, tenants, members of the public and SDC members to launch a clean-up campaign together. The campaign would include briefing SDC members on the cleaning work, as well as

having them participate in various routine cleaning duties and distribute fai chuns to residents and tenants, to bring out the atmosphere of a new year approaching and to remind residents and tenants to do their cleaning properly.

43. The Chairman invited SDC members to raise comments or enquiries.

44. Ms CHAN Wing-yan opined that the year-end clean-up campaign was very meaningful. She pointed out that since the Southern District had quite a few public markets and cooked food markets, it was indeed appropriate for FEHD to carry out cleaning campaigns at these places and urge tenants and members of the public to do their cleaning properly towards the end of the year. Furthermore, she hoped that FEHD would pay attention to the hygiene black spots of the Southern District and step up cleaning efforts at these places, such as the back alleys of Fifteen Houses, as well as urge tenants to be mindful of hygiene and handle waste and miscellaneous items in an appropriate manner, which she believed was equally important. As for the environmental hygiene problem on Main Street, Ap Lei Chau, she noticed that FEHD had been proactively dealing with it. However, the public area outside Marina Habitat was full of stains from the faeces of feral pigeons, a serious problem which had turned the place into a hygiene black spot. She would like to know whether FEHD could increase its manpower and consider using new types of machines to remove stubborn stains from faeces.

45. Mr LAU Ngai, Victor opined that the two proposed activities were very timely and met the demands of the public, while the community care campaign was heart-warming to members of the public. He opined that Government Departments could consider organising these activities on a regular basis, such as arranging similar activities before or after traditional Chinese festivals. He suggested Government Departments, in collaboration with social welfare organisations, building management groups and owners' corporations, compile information on people with disabilities, elderly people and people living alone in the district, and organise activities such as home visits in a timely manner to show care to people in need. He suggested that FEHD could, in the third phase of the year-end clean-up campaign, focus its efforts on cleaning the hygiene black spots identified in the first two phases to make optimal use of resources. While concurring with the comments of Ms CHAN Wing-yan, he

opined that if clean-up campaigns were to be conducted on a regular basis in the future, FEHD could invite the relevant Government Departments to participate, since some places might not necessarily be under the purview of FEHD but under the HD or other Government Departments.

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

- (i) The two activities proposed to be carried out by FEHD at the end of the year met the needs of the public. The community care campaign of the Southern District, lasting over two months, featured a considerable variety of activities. She suggested adding year-end anti-theft and anti-deception messages, and having the Police deploy officers to carry out anti-deception promotion activities on the streets;
- (ii) Regarding the arrangement of the year-end clean-up campaign, she said that even though many locations requiring cleaning were set out in the paper, a few locations (such as the vicinity of Marina Habitat which was mentioned by Ms CHAN Wing-yan) were overlooked;
- (iii) Recently, she received complaints from residents of Lei Tung Estate that there were rodents in the area between Tung Hing House of Lei Tung Estate and Lei Tung Shopping Centre as well as around the planters. However, these locations were not under FEHD's purview. Since Lei Tung Estate was a housing estate under the Tenants Purchase Scheme, and the public area was not under the purview of the shopping centre, she asked whether FEHD could co-ordinate with the property management office or the property management company to resolve the rodent problem in concert. She pointed out that if the owners' corporation, the property management office and the property management company all turned a blind eye to the rodent problem in Ap Lei Chau, it would get worse with time. She said that many residents often saw rodents around the numerous planters in Lei Tung, suspecting that there were rodents hiding inside. In view of this, she hoped that FEHD would assist in resolving the rodent problem in Lei Tung Estate; and
- (iv) Regarding feral pigeon feeding by members of the public, FEHD claimed in the paper that it would regularly inspect black spots and strengthen efforts to prosecute offenders. She opined that FEHD should increase its manpower and

strengthen prosecution efforts instead of condoning offenders. Otherwise, the environmental hygiene problems arising from feral pigeon feeding could not be resolved.

47. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun raised the following comments:

- (i) Concurring with the comments of Ms LAM Yuk-chun, BBS, MH, he pointed out that according to the paper, FEHD planned to conduct a large-scale cleaning campaign in old tenement buildings or places where mosquitoes or other insects bred, covering non-governmental sites and properties not managed by HD or other Government Departments. At present, the rodent problem in Ap Lei Chau was getting more serious indeed, affecting areas such as Lei Tung Estate and South Horizons. In view of this, he hoped that FEHD could provide assistance in resolving the rodent problem of the housing estates involved; and
- (ii) He opined that the year-end clean-up campaign was very meaningful, bringing a refreshing feeling to the new year. He opined that FEHD had been making good use of resources to improve environmental hygiene. He suggested videos should be made as records and the associated expenses should be listed when carrying out cleaning work at different places (such as areas where feral pigeons gathered and resided), to let members of the public know that feeding feral pigeons and fouling public places would increase social costs. Similarly, if members of the public casually disposed of refuse for their own convenience, FEHD would have to use a significant amount of resources to properly tackle the consequent environmental hygiene problems. He suggested FEHD report to SDC on the amount of resources used on improving environmental hygiene, and then disseminate the message to the public through SDC that such behaviours would have an impact on both environmental hygiene and public resources. He hoped that other SDC members would assist in filming and recording, and the information collected could be used for publicity purposes.

48. Ms LI Ka-ying said that only the number of streets and alleys to be cleaned were listed in the paper on the year-end clean-up campaign, but there were quite a few other hygiene black spots in the Southern District. She hoped that FEHD would provide SDC members with supplementary information on the specific locations after the

meeting. She pointed out that some places had quite a lot of miscellaneous items which were clearly visible. Perhaps it was because of this that FEHD overlooked other places where the hygiene problems were not too obvious but requiring cleaning, such as places with foul odour. She said that she had mentioned on various occasions about a few different locations in the Southern District having odour problems, and hoped that FEHD would list the specific locations of all hygiene black spots and the names of streets to be cleaned, so that SDC members could add other hygiene black spots requiring attention and locations with foul odour.

49. Ms WONG Yu-ching, Nicole opined that the idea of a year-end clean-up campaign was a very good one. She suggested FEHD pay more attention to hygiene black spots, and conduct cleaning campaigns in a timely manner. She hoped that “Southern District is our home, let’s keep it clean” would not merely be a slogan, but would let every resident understand the purpose of the publicity exercise. She hoped that FEHD would enhance public education to disseminate the message of public participation in a bid to urge members of the public to take part in the clean-up campaign together.

50. Mr SIU Wai-chung opined that the community care campaign of the Southern District was very meaningful and worth supporting. He also opined that the activity would benefit more needy families and elderly people in the Southern District, thereby promoting harmony in the community. He suggested finding out whether the various stakeholders of the Southern District (such as middle-class or high-income individuals or families) would be willing to donate useful items, such as food, clothes, books and toys, and arranging for collection of these items at specific locations for distribution to residents in need during the community care campaign. He opined that Government Departments could encourage various stakeholders in the Southern District to participate through this.

51. Regarding the year-end clean-up campaign, Mr CHEUNG Wai-nam said that Ms LAM Yuk-chun, BBS, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun had both talked about the environmental hygiene problems arising from feral pigeon feeding, while FEHD stated in the paper that it would adopt a “zero tolerance” policy and conduct law enforcement actions. He pointed out that since the affected places included areas

under the purview of HD, FEHD could conduct joint law enforcement operations with HD. He said that the FEHD representatives could find out from SDC members the hygiene black spots in the district and places where members of the public often fed feral pigeons in the district after the meeting. He hoped that FEHD would arrange a year-end joint operation with HD and promote it.

52. Mr CHU Lap-wai, MH raised the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) Concurring with the comments of Ms Li Ka-ying, he pointed out that FEHD only stated the number of streets to be cleaned in the paper without clearly setting out the specific locations. He suggested FEHD provide SDC members with a list of hygiene black spots for amendment after the meeting. In the future, FEHD could perform cleaning work based on the updated list. To make optimal use of resources, hygiene black spots which saw an improvement could be removed from the list;
- (ii) The problem of feral pigeon feeding in the Southern District was very serious. Based on his experience of working in Shek Pai Wan Estate, HD was indeed better than FEHD in dealing with the feral pigeon problem, probably because the area under HD's purview was smaller. He said that last year, the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration Mr CHEUK Wing-hing, GBS, JP led a citywide clean-up campaign and successfully tackled the shop front extension problem in Aberdeen. He admitted that feral pigeon feeding was a long-standing and thorny problem. Nevertheless, the environmental hygiene problems arising from it had a huge impact on residents indeed. He hoped that the relevant Government Departments would step up efforts to prosecute offenders and conduct joint operations to alleviate the environmental hygiene problems; and
- (iii) FEHD stated in the paper that as the end of the year was approaching, 15 refuse collection points (including eight temporary waste collection points) would be opened for members of the public to dispose of large furniture and items. As far as Shek Pai Wan Estate was concerned, since quite a lot of items were disposed of by residents every year, he hoped that HD and FEHD would learn about the situation and enhance communication so that they could arrange more transport vehicles and strengthen law enforcement actions where necessary.

53. Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP asked whether FEHD would compile a list of hygiene black spots in the district clean-up and designate these black spots as places requiring regular cleaning, reviewing the list at FEHC meetings held every two months and updating it from time to time. He believed that this would allow SDC members to continually monitor the situation at hygiene black spots and formulate improvement indicators, as well as spur FEHD to improve environmental hygiene.

54. The Chairman invited the FEHD and HD representatives to respond to the questions on hygiene black spots, feral pigeon feeding and rodent problems, as well as invited the representatives of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) to respond on anti-deception efforts. The Chairman added that SDO noted the comments of SDC members on the community care campaign and would make arrangements accordingly.

55. Miss LEUNG Wai-kuen gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) FEHD would provide SDC members with information on hygiene black spots after the meeting;
- (ii) In addition to the year-end clean-up, FEHD would also step up efforts to clean back alleys and hygiene black spots in routine cleaning operations;
- (iii) FEHD was concerned about street cleanliness at locations where feral birds gathered. The cleaners of the cleaning service contractors would, in light of the actual circumstances, sweep, clean and disinfect the relevant public places. Regarding inter-departmental co-operation arrangements, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) was responsible for animal management and law enforcement. FEHD would support AFCD in its work, enforcing the law on fouling public places by feeding animals according to work priorities and where resources permit. Furthermore, some SDC members suggested FEHD record the resources (including manpower, time, etc.) used for tackling the hygiene problems arising from feral pigeon feeding by members of the public, and hoped that such information could be used for reference in future discussions about the relevant policies. FEHD also noted these comments;
- (iv) With regard to the rodent problem in Lei Tung Estate, the Pest Control Section of FEHD could arrange an on-site inspection with HD and provide advice at the

technical level to assist HD or the management company with the appropriate follow-up actions; and

(v) Concurring with SDC members' suggestions, FEHD opined that apart from instigating prosecutions, it was necessary to take proactive actions in enhancing publicity and education to educate the public on the importance of maintaining environmental hygiene.

(Post-meeting note: Information on hygiene black spots in the Southern District was at Annex.)

56. Mr TO Chak-foo gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) In addition to routine cleaning, HD would also conduct year-end clean-up campaigns, during which different stakeholders of housing estates would be invited to participate;
- (ii) On the rodent problem, HD thanked FEHD for providing assistance, which facilitated the smooth implementation of rodent control efforts in housing estates. Moreover, since Lei Tung Estate was managed by an owners' corporation, the representatives of the Hong Kong Housing Authority would continue to maintain close communication with the owners' corporation, as well as invite FEHD, the owners' corporation and the staff of the property management company for an on-site inspection, with a view to improving the situation;
- (iii) HD had been following up the feral pigeon feeding problem, and would conduct joint operations with other Government Departments to perform work such as cleaning and issuing summons; and
- (iv) The estate offices would closely monitor the situation and contact the FEHD staff to expedite the clearing of waste and large miscellaneous items collected during the clean-up.

57. Mr LEUNG Lincoln responded that the Police spared no efforts in crime prevention and deception prevention. In addition to law enforcement, they also worked with the Southern District Fight Crime Committee to fight crime. According to the statistics, the number of deception cases from January to October 2023 dropped

by 4.7% compared to the same period in 2022. As the year was coming to an end, the Police would continue to redouble efforts in deception prevention and crime prevention.

58. Mr WONG Wai-on, Edward noted SDC members' suggestions on the community care campaign, and said that he would discuss them with the Southern District Care Team Joint Committee and various Government Departments for follow-up.

59. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, BBS, MH suggested Miss LEUNG Wai-kuen invite the management company of Lei Tung Shopping Centre to work together in tackling the rodent problem in Lei Tung Estate.

60. Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung said that earlier Tung Yat House of Lei Tung Estate had refuse piling up, resulting in a fire. He suggested various Government Departments pay attention to the problem of refuse piling up in housing estates to prevent refuse piling up towards the end of the year which might lead to unfortunate incidents.

61. When concluding, the Chairman said that he believed that various Government Departments had noted the comments and suggestions of SDC members. He urged the Departments to maintain close liaison with SDC members and take forward the various initiatives properly.

Agenda Item 8: Proposals on Organising Activities to Promote Local Economic Development
(SDC Paper No. 6/2024)

62. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received declarations of interests from Mr PANG Siu-kei, in which he declared his positions as the Deputy Manager of Apleichau Kai Fong Tung Hing Association, as well as the Director of General Affairs and Deputy Director of Leisure Section of Apleichau Kaifong Welfare Association. Since this agenda did not involve Mr PANG Siu-kei's personal interests, he could

continue to sit in on the meeting but he was required to abstain from agenda discussion and decision-making.

63. The Chairman asked other SDC members whether they had interests to declare.

64. No SDC members said that they had interests to declare.

65. The Chairman invited Mr LEE Yuen-po, Paul, Officer-in-charge (South) of the SDO, to briefly introduce the paper.

66. Mr LEE Yuen-po, Paul, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, introduced the proposed “Southern District Night Vibes Bazaar @ Hung Shing Festival”. This event, with the aim of promoting local economic development, included an opening ceremony, a bazaar, a bamboo theatre for Cantonese opera performances, traditional handicrafts workshops, game booths, sightseeing boats and performances. He said that Hung Shing Festival included a diverse range of fun activities with such themes as entertainment, leisure, culture and arts, to let members of the public fully experience the sounds, colours and beauty of the Southern District. He further said that he hoped that SDC would agree to become a partner organisation of this event and SDC members would enthusiastically support it and participate in it.

(Post-meeting note: The name “Southern District Night Vibes Bazaar @ Hung Shing Festival” had been changed to “Southern District Vibes Bazaar @ Hung Shing Festival”.)

67. The Chairman said that some local organisations had expressed their intention to organise the aforementioned event in the second half of December 2023 and hoped to invite the seventh-term District Council to co-organise it. Therefore, he invited Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung, a then incoming District Council member, to contact the relevant organisations to learn about the event idea and arrangements. The Chairman asked if Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung had other points to add with respect to the event.

68. Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung thanked Mr LEE Yuen-po, Paul for the introduction and believed that SDC members had a preliminary understanding of “Southern District

Night Vibes Bazaar @ Hung Shing Festival". Specifically, there were three parts to the event. The first part was organising a bazaar with cooked food and dry goods stalls, coupled with decorative lights and performances, to attract residents to come and enjoy themselves at night. The second part was organising guided sightseeing tours on the sea and arranging for participants to visit Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter on the former feeder ferries of Jumbo Floating Restaurant to experience fishermen life, thereby promoting the characteristics of the Southern District and local economic development. As an extension of the concept of promoting local economic development, the third part was distributing coupons and encouraging tenants in the Southern District to offer discounts during the event to boost local consumption. The organisers Apleichau Kaifong Welfare Association and Apleichau Kai Fong Tung Hing Association received enthusiastic support from tenants in boosting the economy of the Southern District.

69. The Chairman thanked Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung for the supplementary information, and said that based on his previous experience of Hung Shing Festival, the event would showcase traditional culture with new elements, featuring a wide range of lively activities which were very appealing. In particular, the spectacular water lantern carnival was a major event in the Southern District which could draw public participation.

70. The Chairman invited SDC members to raise comments and enquiries.

71. Mr CHU Lap-wai, MH supported the organisation of the aforementioned event. He said that the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region had been making considerable efforts to promote district economic development in recent years. As an enormously appealing event steeped in history and culture, he believed that Hung Shing Festival would draw public participation and promote local economic development. Furthermore, he would like to know how the event would be promoted, especially to people from outside the district, hoping that the publicity work would be effective in attracting more people to the event.

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

- (i) The aforementioned event, as an event under “Night Vibes Hong Kong” campaign, aimed to boost the economy. As the Chairman said, Hung Shing Festival had always been extremely successful in previous years. He opined that setting up a bazaar was a great fit for this major event;
- (ii) There would be cooked food and dry goods stalls as well as performances in the bazaar. He would like to know the number of cooked food stalls. Regarding temporary licence application for food stalls, he hoped that the organisers would communicate with the FEHD as soon as possible to shorten the time for application and approval. Furthermore, he would like to know the fresh water supply arrangement for cooked food stalls, such as whether water wagons would be set up. He said that without fresh water supply, tenants might go for disposable cutlery, which would generate a massive amount of waste;
- (iii) The organisers planned to distribute snack coupons at the event for participants to collect snacks. He said that the event was originally aimed at boosting public consumption. If members of the public could collect free snacks from the mini snack stalls with the snack coupons, they might be less willing to buy food at the cooked food stalls. He would like to know whether there was any possibility of changing this arrangement; and
- (iv) He asked about the types of goods which would be sold at the dry goods stalls. He suggested selling goods unique to the Southern District or highlighting fishermen culture, with a view to promoting the Southern District’s fishermen culture, which would facilitate sustained local economic development in the long run.

73. Mr CHEUNG Wai-nam said that Hung Shing Festival was a major event in the Southern District. However, given that the event would be held near the residential area, if the performances continued until the evening, the residents would be affected. He asked if there were any measures to mitigate the nuisance to residents from noise and lights. Furthermore, as a bazaar would be set up at the event, he hoped that FEHD could enhance its cleaning services to clear the waste. He also suggested setting up booths of Government Departments at the bazaar to promote and publicise Government policies, such as waste charging, national education and national security education, to enrich the event.

74. Mr CHAO Howard believed that the event would attract many people from outside the district and tourists to the Southern District, imposing a burden on the local transport. He asked whether there were any measures to mitigate the nuisance to residents. Regarding publicity, he opined that traditional culture should not only be promoted in Hong Kong but also around the world, since he believed that people from overseas would also have a keen interest in the event. He added that publicity on popular social media (such as Facebook and Instagram) was already unable to attract young people's attention. He suggested inviting famous key opinion leaders (i.e. KOLs) to Hong Kong to experience Hung Shing Festival and collaborating with various sectors (such as the hotel industry) in providing free accommodation to them, with a view to promoting this major event and drawing participation from foreign tourists.

75. Professor CHAN Yuk-kit, MH, JP expressed his support for the event, opining that it would help tourists learn about the culture and history of the Southern District. Hung Shing Temple, a treasure of the Southern District, was directly managed by the Chinese Temples Committee. He used to be the Chairman of the Working Group under the Chinese Temples Committee, so he knew a little about the history of Hung Shing Temple. It was a declared monument built in the 38th year of Emperor Qianlong's reign (i.e. 1773) with over 200 years of history. Inside there were a series of artifacts of historical value, such as an ancient clock, ceramic sculptures made in the Qing Dynasty and a wooden column dubbed "a divine pointer that pacifies the sea". He suggested arranging guided tours led by volunteers or adding a QR code next to the artifact to allow tourists to scan and read its historical background and the details of Hung Shing Festival.

76. Mr YEUNG Sheung-chun said that Hung Shing Festival had always been a spectacular event in the Southern District, drawing participation from people in the district and outside the district. This year, Hung Shing Festival would feature a wide variety of activities on land as well as on water. He suggested the organisers look into whether the boats for guided sightseeing tours on the sea could be used for sightseeing. Furthermore, the organisers should ask the Marine Department (MD) whether an application had to be made for organising guided sightseeing tours on the sea as soon as possible. Even if this was not necessary, the organisers should maintain close liaison with MD and the Marine Police. Given that the event was enormous in scale

and might affect the navigation of ferries and fishing, he hoped that the organisers would maintain communication with other stakeholders during the event to ensure that it ran smoothly.

77. The Chairman invited Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung to respond.
78. Mr CHEUNG Chin-chung gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (i) As SDC members were quite concerned about the publicity for the event, he would share the organisers' ideas here. There were two major activities in the event, namely Hung Shing Culture Festival and Southern District Night Vibes Bazaar. The organisers were looking into the arrangements for organising the two activities in the same period. Regarding the publicity for Southern District Night Vibes Bazaar, the organisers would mail information on the event and coupons to non-governmental organisations and schools in the Southern District to encourage students and the service targets of the organisations to participate in the event. Posters and banners would be put up to further promote the event. As for publicity online, the organisers would promote the event on social media (such as Facebook) with words and videos to attract different groups to come to the Southern District and spend;
 - (ii) At the moment, it was expected that there would be over ten cooked food stalls. Mr LEE Yuen-po, Paul was invited to provide supplementary information later;
 - (iii) Regarding the licences of cooked food stalls, he had communicated with FEHD earlier. FEHD said that it was happy to facilitate the work of the organisers and stall owners and assist stall owners in licence application;
 - (iv) Concerning the division of work between mini snack stalls and cooked food stalls raised by Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, mini snack stalls would mainly sell special traditional snacks, while the cooked food stalls ran by tenants with Southern District characteristics would sell food, so the two were positioned differently;
 - (v) Regarding stall selection, the organisers would invite tenders from tenants before selecting the stalls in conjunction with eminent members of the public. The criteria would include whether the goods had Southern District characteristics;

- (vi) He invited Mr LEE Yuen-po, Paul, to provide supplementary information on noise control later. Since no complaints about light pollution were received in previous Hung Shing Festivals, he believed that the event would not have that much of an impact on residents. As regards hygiene, the organisers would arrange for cleaning staff to clear the waste, as well as communicate closely with FEHD to ensure that the venue was clean and hygienic;
- (vii) The organisers encouraged members of the public to take public transport to the Southern District to participate in the event, such as by stating on the publicity materials the public transport to and from the venue. According to previous experience, foreign tourists usually travelled by MTR. Based on the current traffic assessment, the impact of the event on the traffic of the Southern District was manageable; and
- (viii) As far as he knew, the organisers had already finished dealing with the licence and insurance issues for the sightseeing boats, so he believed that the administrative procedures would not pose a big problem. He concurred with the comments of Mr YEUNG Sheung-chun that the organisers should maintain close liaison with various stakeholders. He asked Mr LEE Yuen-po, Paul to note this and communicate with the organisers.

79. Mr LEE Yuen-po Paul gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) It was preliminarily proposed that the bazaar should have 22 stalls in total, namely 12 cooked food stalls, 5 dry goods stalls and 5 mini snack stalls. While this was a preliminary idea, corresponding arrangements would be made subject to tenants' response;
- (ii) With regard to noise control, the organisers would arrange for noise control officers to measure the noise volume at the event venue, with a view to monitoring the noise. Furthermore, the bazaar would close at 10 p.m. and loudspeakers would face the seaside to reduce the adverse impact of noise;
- (iii) Ap Lei Chau Hung Shing Culture Festival would be held from 10 March to 25 March, while Southern District Night Vibes Bazaar would be held from 20 March to 24 March. Although the two events were sponsored by different organisations, the publicity work could achieve synergy; and

(iv) He encouraged members of the public participating in the event to take public transport to and from the event venue. Walking from the MTR station to the venue would only take about five minutes.

80. The Chairman invited the representatives of FEHD and the LCSD to respond.

81. Miss LEUNG Wai-kuen gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) She opined that the event was wonderful and said that there were more than ten food stalls. Given that the organisers had not yet confirmed the types of food to be sold at the stalls and, in particular, that the planning stage spanned the Chinese New Year, she suggested the organisers provide information to the district staff of FEHD as soon as possible, so that they could coordinate with the Licensing Office and make appropriate recommendations; and
- (ii) FEHD would maintain close communication with LCSD to enhance cleaning and waste collection within and outside the event venue to ensure that the event would be held in a tidy and clean environment.

82. Ms LEE Suk-han, Yvonne responded that the event was still in the planning stage. As Miss LEUNG Wai-kuen said, the organisers should maintain close communication with LCSD during the planning process. Meanwhile, LCSD would also facilitate the work of the organisers by cleaning the venue properly. Furthermore, under normal circumstances, LCSD would not provide water for event organisers who booked leisure venues under its purview for organising events. Having said that, LCSD would be happy to communicate with the organisers and facilitate their work.

83. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun added that in the past he had been to bazaars in other districts in which fresh water at the LCSD venues was available to stalls, so he hoped that LCSD could help. Regarding free snack tasting, he suggested distributing stamps to people who spent at the stalls and giving them small gifts after they collected a certain number of stamps. This would give people an incentive to come and spend at the bazaar, thereby stimulating consumption.

84. Ms CHAN Wing-yan suggested the organisers conduct meetings with stakeholders in the district (such as owners' corporations) to introduce the details and specifics of the event and reduce complaints.

85. Ms LAM Wing-yan suggested not only distributing physical coupons to Southern District residents, but also providing electronic coupons for people from outside the district, with a view to boosting the economy of the Southern District and letting more people know the signature tenants of the Southern District. Furthermore, in addition to setting up audio guides on sightseeing boats, fishermen could also be invited to introduce boat dweller culture in person to foster interaction and exchange. She added that since there would be bazaars in all 18 districts across the territory, "Southern District Night Vibes Bazaar @ Hung Shing Festival" should be accentuated in the promotion campaign, such as by highlighting the guided sightseeing tours on the sea, the water lantern carnival and other special activities, to draw participation from people living outside the district. On transportation, someone mentioned about the shortage of parking spaces earlier. She suggested the organisers further promote the event and encourage members of the public to take public transport to and from the venue.

86. The Chairman said that Hung Shing Festival in Ap Lei Chau was a distinctive event of the Southern District. He was glad to learn that SDC members all agreed to SDC becoming a partner organisation of the event, as well as raised many useful comments and suggestions. He invited the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy and the organisers to follow up on the comments and suggestions from SDC members. He hoped that SDC members, the organisers, the relevant Government Departments (such as FEHD, LCSD, MD and the HKPF) and other stakeholders would complement one another and maintain close liaison to ensure that the event ran smoothly.

(Post-meeting note: The first meeting of the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy was held on 29 January 2024 to discuss the progress of the preparation for the event and other matters.)

Agenda Item 9: Initiatives Related to the District Councils in the Policy Address
– Proposals on Photo-taking Landmarks with Local Characteristics
(SDC Paper No. 7/2024)

87. The Chairman welcomed the following representatives of Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association (AKA) to the meeting:

- (i) Mr PANG Chi-chun, Service Director (Social Service) of AKA; and
- (ii) Mr SO Kin-wa, Social Worker (Social Service) of AKA.

88. The Chairman asked Mr LEUNG Ying-kit, Senior Executive Officer (District Management) of SDO and the AKA representatives to briefly introduce the paper.

89. Mr LEUNG Ying-kit said that to align with “Caring and Inclusive Community” and “Community Building” which were two policy measures put forward in the Chief Executive’s 2023 Policy Address, the Southern District Youth Community Building Committee (SDYCBC) suggested decorating the well-known staircase connecting Aberdeen Main Road and Yue Fai Court with a staircase painting featuring local characteristics of the Southern District to create a beautiful landmark for the Southern District and encourage the public and tourists to visit the landmark and take photos. The staircase painting was designed by local artists and young people of the Southern District and the event was entitled “Happy Painting: A Youth Programme to Promote Social Inclusion in the Southern District” (the Programme). It was hoped that SDC could agree to be a co-organiser of the Programme.

90. Mr SO Kin-wa, with the aid of PowerPoint presentation, briefly introduced the Programme details and schedule.

91. The Chairman said that declaration of interests was received from Mr LAU Ngai, Victor declaring that he was a director of AKA. As this agenda item had no connection with the personal interests of Mr LAU Ngai, Victor, he could continue to sit in on the meeting but he was required to abstain from agenda discussion and decision-making.

92. The Chairman asked Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP, Chairman of the SDYCBC whether he had anything to add.

93. Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP invited attendees of this meeting to participate in the Programme between late January and late February.

94. The Chairman invited SDC members to raise comments or enquiries.

95. Ms LAM Wing-yan said that the public should be encouraged to actively participate in this worthy event. As given in the PowerPoint presentation, local artists and young people of the Southern District would be painting on the staircase between late January and late February but the publicity would run from late February to late March. In this regard, she suggested bringing forward the publicity efforts by announcing the Programme schedule in advance, so as to attract the public and tourists to visit the staircase and take photos while the painting process was still ongoing. Meanwhile, a brief introduction on the cultural background of the attractions featured in the painting should be provided on-site so that the public could learn about the various attractions in the Southern District and eventually be motivated to visit the attractions and take photos.

96. Ms LAM Wing-yeo was in favour of making the staircase a popular photo-taking spot and she made two suggestions. Her first suggestion was incorporating the design process of the staircase painting (such as the clips filmed at the creativity workshops) in the promotional video, making it one of the highlights to be shown at the launch ceremony. Her second suggestion was that AKA might provide the promotional video to SDC members directly or through the Secretariat so that SDC members could show the video via a wide array of channels in order to step up the publicity. This would attract more people to visit the staircase and take photos.

97. Mr SIU Wai-chung raised the following comments:

(i) He agreed with the two SDC members and suggested that the organiser encourage the public to share the photos they took on social media platforms

and give them small gifts to extend the publicity, thereby encouraging more people to visit the staircase;

- (ii) He suggested that the organiser collaborate with shop owners in the Southern District to set up booths near the photo-taking spot. This would not only promote the distinctive snacks of the Southern District but also boost the local economy;
- (iii) He suggested that the organiser invite the local artists and young people of the Southern District who designed the staircase painting to share their design concepts with the public on-site so that the public could grasp the essence of the design;
- (iv) He suggested that the organiser make use of the Programme to identify more photo-taking spots with local characteristics in the Southern District, such as the fishing port-themed Ap Lei Chau Wind Tower Park. The organiser could put up trendy installations at the photo-taking spots to showcase the characteristics of the Southern District – a place where the new and the old intricately intertwined; and
- (v) He suggested that the organiser seek to work in partnership with Hong Kong Tourism Board to invite overseas artists to create photo-taking landmarks with young people of the Southern District so that the photo-taking landmarks of the Southern District could go international. This would not only attract overseas tourists but also give the young people greater satisfaction of creative work.

98. Professor CHAN Yuk-kit, MH, JP suggested using self-cleaning paint to protect the staircase painting from rain stains. In addition, an anti-slip coating should be applied on the staircase painting to prevent accidents.

99. Ms HO Yuen-wei said that the Southern District was dubbed the “Back Garden of Hong Kong” and Hong Kong Tourism Board had produced videos on the attractions in the Southern District. If the design of the staircase painting had not been finalised, she suggested incorporating the landmarks of the Southern District such as hiking trails, Stanley Market, beaches, temples and Wah Fu Estate to match its reputation as the “Back Garden of Hong Kong”. She hoped that the Programme could continue, making the staircase a photo-taking landmark in the Southern District. In addition, she suggested an extension of the Programme in which the organiser gave out souvenirs

imprinted with the design of the staircase painting to the public to promote the attractions in the Southern District.

100. Ms WONG Yu-ching, Nicole concurred with Mr SIU Wai-chung's suggestions and said that the local artists might also talk about the historic background of the attractions and buildings featured in the staircase painting when they shared their design concepts with the public. She also suggested giving out small gifts with characteristics of the Southern District to members of the public who pressed the "like" button on social media platforms. This would boost public participation as well as publicity. Moreover, she opined that the photo-taking spot required regular maintenance in which the organiser could renovate the staircase or even give it a complete makeover according to public opinion later on, so as to keep it attractive for tourists and enrich their experience.

101. The Chairman invited the AKA representatives to respond.

102. Mr SO Kin-wa thanked SDC members for their comments and said that AKA would continue to discuss the design of the painting with SDO and SDYCBC for further revision. Regarding SDC members' comments on the promotional video, he said that the video would be revised accordingly. Also, AKA had noted the suggestion raised by an SDC member on the extension of the Programme.

103. The Chairman thanked the AKA representatives for attending the meeting. He was pleased to learn that all SDC members supported the Programme. It was hoped that different parties could join forces to contribute to the success of this remarkable event.

Agenda Item 10: Any Other Business

(SDC Paper No. 8/2024)

Arrangements to Assign District Council Members to Serve As Members of Advisory and Statutory Bodies and Attend Events

104. The Chairman asked the Secretary to briefly introduce the paper.

105. The Secretary said that after the discussion paper of this agenda item had been uploaded onto the SDC website, there was media coverage of the arrangements given in the discussion paper. However, the media reports were misleading and she hoped to make clarification at this meeting. She added that as per the usual practice, when an SDC member was invited to hold public office, he/she should be officially appointed by the Government Department or related organisation. The arrangements given in the paper did not change the usual practice. Generally speaking, Government Departments or related organisations would not specify a particular person when they issued an invitation. They only hoped that SDC would arrange a suitable SDC member to be a representative and serve as a bridge to facilitate communication. To facilitate the effective assignment of representatives, the Secretariat suggested that the nominations be made by the SDC Chairman with due consideration of the situation and all the relevant factors.

106. The Secretary further said that the word “assign” used in the discussion paper could be replaced with “nominate”. In other words, to assign a representative meant that the SDC Chairman would nominate a suitable SDC member to serve as a representative of SDC, and the relevant Government Department or organisation would determine whether to appoint him/her. She hoped that the above explanation could facilitate the SDC members’ understanding of the arrangements for assigning representatives.

107. The Chairman added that SDC hoped to achieve balanced participation through the aforesaid arrangements for assigning representatives. In the past, the appointment of representatives of SDC was often dominated by a minority of SDC members. The current-term SDC was made up of 20 members with diverse background and several years of community service experience. It was hoped that with the assistance and coordination of the Secretariat, invitations to hold public office as representatives of SDC would be made upon considering the SDC members’ suitability for the positions based on the requirements set by relevant Government Departments or organisations.

108. The Chairman further added that it was also very important to ensure that the process of assigning representatives was fair and open. In general, the Secretariat

would consolidate the relevant information for SDC members' consideration, and SDC members would coordinate among themselves to nominate a suitable representative to hold public office based on their own field of expertise and areas of interest. In certain circumstances, for example, when under a tight timeframe or there was more than one member who wished to be nominated, the Chairman would make the final decision.

109. The Chairman invited SDC members to raise comments or enquiries.

110. No SDC members raised any objections to the arrangements.

Agenda Item 11: Date of Next Meeting

111. The Chairman advised that the second SDC meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 19 March 2024 (Tuesday).

112. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:46 p.m.

Secretariat, Southern District Council

March 2024

1st SDC Meeting Held on 4 January 2024

About Agenda 7 – Proposals on (a) Launching the Community Care Campaign in 18 Districts in Collaboration with the District Services and Community Care Teams; and (b) Carrying out a District Clean-Up in Collaboration with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department before the Lunar New Year

	Address	Main Problem
1	Rear lane of 41-55 Main Street, Ap Lei Chau	Rear lane hygiene problem
2	Vicinity of Sai On Street, Lok Yeung Street, Tung Sing Road and Aberdeen Main Road, Aberdeen	Shop front extension
3	Rear lane of 181-185 Aberdeen Main Road	Environmental hygiene problem
4	Footbridge across Ap Lei Chau Bridge Road	Graffiti
5	Vicinity of 25 Shum Wan Road	Disposal of construction waste
6	Vicinity of lamp post no. 43019, Pak Pat Shan Road	Disposal of construction waste
7	Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter (including the wholesale fish market and waters off the breakwaters)	Marine refuse at foreshore waters
8	Large junk collection point at Wah Sang House, Wah Fu (II) Estate	Estate junk/refuse collection point
9	Slope near Wah On House, Wah Fu (I) Estate	Rodent infestation
10	On-street shops at Yue Ko Street, Tin Wan, Aberdeen	Shop front extension