

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Southern District Council (SDC)**  
**(2024-2027)**

Date : 19 March 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 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. YU Chi-ying	District Leisure Manager(Southern) Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TO Chak-foo	Chief Manager/Management (Hong Kong Island & Islands Region), Housing Department
Ms. YEUNG Min-jing, Anna	Chief Transport Officer/Hong Kong Island, Transport Department
Mr. LEUNG Kwok-wing, Andy	District Commander (Western District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr. WAN Siu-ming	Assistant Police Community Relations Officer (Western District), Hong Kong Police Force

**Agenda Item 1:      Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 1st SDC Meeting Held  
on 4 January 2024**

The Chairman said that the captioned minutes had been circulated to members for comments prior to the meeting. The Secretariat had not received any amendment proposals so far.

2. The Chairman asked SDC members whether to confirm the captioned minutes.
3. The Chairman said that SDC confirmed the captioned minutes.

**Agenda Item 2:     Southern District Office Work Plan 2024-25**  
**(SDC Paper No. 10/2024)**

4. The Chairman invited the representative of the Southern District Office (SDO) to briefly introduce the paper. Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, reviewed the achievements of SDO in 2023, including the formation of the Southern District Care Teams (Care Teams) ; the establishment of the Southern District Youth Community Building Committee (SDYCBC) and the Southern District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee to advance youth development work; catering for the aftermath of extreme weather, including activation of the Emergency Co-ordination Centre in response to the rainstorms in September 2023 and provision of assistance to residents in need in conjunction with Care Teams; and proactively explaining to the public the proposals on improving governance at district level. The staffing establishment of SDO is set out in Annex 1 to the SDC Paper No. 10/2024.

5. Ms NG Yee-mei, Ivy, Ms Grace CHAN, Ms CHUNG Chui-yan, Chris, Mr LEUNG Ying-kit and Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby took turns to introduce the work of SDO with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

6. The Chairman said that he was grateful to SDC members for their continuous support in their various capacities in the community for the work of SDO. Commenting that all SDO staff members had worked hard to implement district work, he hoped that SDC members would continue to support various work of SDO and join hands with SDO to achieve success in the district work in the days to come.

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

8. Mr SIU Wai-chung said that the Southern District was among the first of the 18 districts in Hong Kong to set up Care Teams, and he was pleased that the 17 Care Teams in the District had visited or come into contact with more than 10 000 elderly households and needy families in the first year of their service. As a Care Teams member, he had come into contact with people from different walks of life, including low-income households, tenants of sub-divided flats and the chronically ill. He considered Care Teams' comprehensive services and assistance to the community commendable. He added that following the implementation of the improved district governance system, the public had come to the impression that members of SDC, Care Teams and "the three committees" (i.e. the Southern District Area Committees, the Southern District Fight Crime Committees and the Southern District Fire Safety Committees) were all very proactive in providing services and assistance to residents in need. He hoped that SDC members and Care Teams would strengthen their co-operation, capitalise on the resources available and work in synergy, in order to achieve a higher degree of satisfaction among the Southern District residents.

9. Mr CHAO Howard said that SDO had been allocating resources for improving building management and environmental hygiene of buildings in the District. However, frontline staff and property management companies of some buildings still did not have a good understanding about the Municipal Solid Waste Charging Scheme (Charging Scheme). If the Government did not further delay the implementation of the Charging Scheme, to avoid confusion during its implementation, SDO could consider allotting resources to organise talks for frontline staff or property management companies of buildings as well as introducing the Charging Scheme at the meetings of owners' corporations (OCs).

10. Mr LAU Ngai, Victor commended the efforts of SDO in youth development. He had participated in a number of youth activities organised by SDO and found that participants, whether young or old, enjoyed the activities. In particular, the mural design competition had received very positive feedback from local residents and tourists, and was considered effective in promoting community interactions and exchanges. The student singing contest attracted lots of young people's participation, which allowed them to demonstrate their talents. He suggested that young participants be invited to take part

in activities organised by different committees or local organisations to help promote the activities as volunteers, so as to identify young talents in the Southern District.

11. Mr WONG Choi-lap pointed out that SDO had a permanent establishment of 64 staff and hired another 105 contract or temporary staff, i.e. there was a total of 169 staff providing day-to-day services. He remarked that apart from permanent staff, part-time staff were also deployed to assist in building management in the past, and that although the Mutual Aid Committees had now been disbanded, residents' concern about building management had not waned. He would like to know whether SDO had sufficient manpower for building management as well as the staffing establishment for the Signature Project Scheme (SPS).

12. The Chairman invited Ms CHUNG Chui-yan, Chris to respond to enquiries about youth activities and building management.

13. Ms CHUNG Chui-yan, Chris gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) As suggested, it was indeed a usual practice of SDO to invite young participants to take part in district activities. All participants in youth activities organised by SDO would be invited to join the Southern District Youth Cadets, which organised activities and held gatherings on a regular basis. Young participants who won awards in singing contests would also be invited as guests to perform in district activities, thus encouraging them to get involved in community service;
- (ii) Regarding the Charging Scheme, the related Government Departments were highly concerned about the District's concerns. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) was explaining and elaborating on the details of the Charging Scheme and its operation to stakeholders such as property management companies and other local bodies. SDO could arrange for EPD to communicate with the stakeholders;
- (iii) SDO attached great importance to building management and had devoted considerable resources to it. Apart from deploying staff to visit buildings and attend OCs meetings, SDO maintained regular contact with property management companies and OCs. As regards attendance at OCs meetings, SDO would make further arrangements based on manpower and actual needs. On building

management, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) had been providing a whole range of support services. A list of such services would be provided to each SDC member for reference shortly; and

- (iv) SDC members were welcome to contact responsible SDO staff for any issues relating to OCs and building management.

14. The Chairman invited Mr LEUNG Ying-kit to respond to enquiries about staffing establishment.

15. Mr LEUNG Ying-kit said that the Administration Section of SDO had been keeping a close watch on the establishment and vacancy situation of part-time staff, and would conduct recruitment exercise as necessary. Regarding the staffing arrangements for SPS, as the project was under the charge of the Assistant District Officer (Southern), staff of the SDC Secretariat would be deployed to provide assistance as and when necessary.

16. The Chairman thanked SDC members for their continuous support for the work of SDO and for giving their comments on the SDO Work Plan 2024-25. SDO was inviting other Government Departments to take turns to introduce to and share with SDC members the district work under their respective purview, and it was hoped that SDC members would actively participate and express their views then.

**Agenda Item 3: Report on Study of Issues of Concern in the District and Collection of Public Views**  
**(SDC Paper No. 11/2024)**

17. The Chairman welcomed Mr YU Chi-ying, District Leisure Manager (Southern) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), to the meeting and invited Miss MA Sze-ting Abby, Assistant District Officer (Southern), to briefly introduce the report.

18. Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby said the issue for the first round of collection of views by SDC 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”. This round of collection of views had been completed, with the participation of 20 SDC members and their timely submission of reports. This round of collection of views was conducted by means of questionnaires and interviews. The SDC members received a total of 981 completed questionnaires and interviewed three district organisations (including the ethnic minority groups). This facilitated a comprehensive understanding of the views held by different stakeholders in the Southern District. The report summarised the observations and recommendations made by the SDC members. Miss MA Sze-ting, Abby invited Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun to report the findings.

19. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, briefly reported the findings. He said that the SDC members had interviewed members of the public from different age groups as well as ethnic minority groups in the hope that the views collected could be more representative and comprehensive. He also thanked the SDC members for their effort, including Mr LAI Ka-chi who consolidated the views collected.

20. The Chairman asked whether the LCSD representative had anything to add other than the written reply in Annex 2.

21. Mr YU Chi-ying provided supplementary information as follows:

- (i) Regarding the provision of study room services and cultural facilities in the Southern District, SDC members could refer to the written reply in Annex 2. As the subject officer was unable to attend this meeting, if SDC members had any comments in respect of the provision of study room services and cultural facilities, supplementary information would be provided after the meeting;
- (ii) He thanked SDC members for their valuable comments and improvement suggestions regarding the recreational and sports facilities in the Southern District. He further said that the current provision of recreational and sports facilities of great popularity (such as sports centres) was sufficient for the Southern District according to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines

- (HKPSG). Recreational and sports facilities were very popular in the Southern District and the usage rates were very high;
- (iii) LCSD would review the condition of facilities from time to time. If any defect was found, it would arrange with relevant works departments to repair the damaged facilities as soon as possible;
  - (iv) Replacement of play equipment at Aberdeen Promenade had been rolled out in phases by LCSD under the Transformation of Public Play Spaces project. Stage 1 had been completed and Stage 2 was expected to commence in April;
  - (v) LCSD noted the suggestions made in the study report that more recreational and sports facilities should be provided in the Southern District. LCSD would, as far as resources allowed, consider the improvement suggestions in this study report and proactively explore the feasibility to provide more recreational and sports facilities;
  - (vi) LCSD was committed to promoting sports in the community. Eligible groups in the Southern District could apply for a subsidy from the Community Sports Club Programme. It aimed to encourage the public to consistently participate in sports and enhance the level of sports in the community; and
  - (vii) LCSD noted the suggestion about the collaboration between the Government, the business sector and the community, and thanked SDC members again for their suggestions to enhance the recreational and sports facilities. It would refer to these suggestions in the future when dealing with relevant matters.

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

23. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that LCSD stated in its written reply that its staff would conduct daily inspection of the venues under its management, and, if any defect was found, LCSD would immediately pass the case to relevant works departments for follow-up. He found that the facilities in Repulse Bay Beach Children's Playground were often damaged and would like to know whether LCSD had made any performance pledges in this regard to specify, for example, the timeframe for completing repairs, the frequency of inspection of venues and facilities under its management, and the level of attention to detail during the inspection.



24. Mr LAI Ka-chi said that the study had found that teenagers and the elderly had a higher demand for outdoor fitness equipment. He enquired whether smart outdoor fitness equipment could be installed so that users could immediately learn about their health condition and the benefits of exercising to their physical health.

25. Ms HO Yuen-wei said that she was aware that LCSD had adopted a “single site, multiple uses” approach for the provision of recreational and sports facilities. Although the recreational and sports facilities were able to meet the current needs of the Southern District residents, she believed that as the aging problem continued, such facilities could not cater for the future needs in the District. She opined that the provision of recreational and sports facilities could help the public to build healthy lifestyles and, to some extent, alleviate the pressure on Hong Kong’s healthcare system. It could also enhance public satisfaction. She suggested LCSD proactively identify suitable sites to provide more outdoor recreational and sports facilities.

26. The Chairman invited the LCSD representative to respond.

27. Mr YU Chi-ying gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) LCSD noted that some members of the public said that there was a shortfall of parks and outdoor facilities in the District. Relevant figures were set out as follows for reference. According to HKPSG, the standard for provision of open space in urban areas was a minimum of 2m<sup>2</sup> per person, and open space could be developed either by the public or private sector. LCSD offered a total of 88.9 hectares of open space in the Southern District, in terms of the Southern District’s population (267 000 people), the provision of open space in the District had met the requirement stipulated in HKPSG at large;
- (ii) In response to SDC members’ suggestions to increase and enhance the facilities, LCSD was committed to providing recreational and sports facilities of good quality. Should there be suitable sites, LCSD would proactively consider increasing such facilities as far as resources allowed. In fact, Southern District Leisure Services Office had sought funding from the District Minor Works Programme (DMW) to extend Wah Lam Path Sitting-out Area and provide elderly fitness equipment as well as children’s play equipment. LCSD also planned to

make use of the funding from the DMW to convert the two plots of Government land adjacent to Heung Yip Path and near the roundabout on Shum Wan Pier Drive into sitting-out areas, with due consideration given to the introduction of new fitness equipment for public use. This project was still under planning;

- (iii) The project on Redevelopment and Enhancement of Recreation and Sports Facilities in Wong Chuk Hang would involve the reprovision of the existing recreation ground, sports ground, sports centre and swimming pool within Wong Chuk Hang area to meet the modern design requirements; and
- (iv) Daily inspection of facilities by LCSD staff included identifying the level of damage and checking whether there were any missing parts. The timescale for repairs would vary depending on the level of damage and / or the parts required.

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

29. Ms LI Ka-ying said that the questionnaire survey was also conducted in public housing estates and some residents had shared their views on the repairs to the recreational facilities in public housing estates. She hoped to learn more about the details from the Housing Department (HD).

30. Mr TO Chak-foo responded that HD would regularly inspect the recreational facilities in public housing estates. If any defect was found, it would arrange repairs or replacement depending on the level of damage.

31. The Chairman thanked SDC members for summarising and reporting the public views on the cultural, recreational and sports facilities in the Southern District, as well as making a range of improvement suggestions which provided a valuable reference. Should there be issues requiring further discussion, such as the introduction of smart facilities and the provision of necessary facilities in response to aging problem, they could be followed up by the District Facilities and Works Committee.

**Agenda Item 4:     Photo-taking Landmarks in the Southern District**  
**(SDC Paper No. 12/2024)**

32. The Chairman invited Mr LEUNG Ying-kit, Senior Executive Officer (District Management), to briefly introduce the programmes of photo-taking landmarks in the Southern District.

33. Mr LEUNG Ying-kit briefly introduced the programmes as follows:

- (i) The staircase painting at the photo-taking landmark “Hundred-step Staircase” as mentioned at the first SDC meeting was already completed. The launch ceremony would take place from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on 23 March 2024 (Saturday), and the Director of HAD was invited to be the officiating guest. SDC members were welcome to join and attend the official opening of the staircase painting at “Hundred-step Staircase”, which would be open to members of the public for photo-taking afterwards;
- (ii) The SDO and the SDYCBC planned to beautify the subway at Shek Pai Wan Road near Wah Fu Road and several rain shelters in busy areas by the third quarter of this year so as to create new photo-taking landmarks and attract members of the public and tourists to visit these places to take photos and make memories;
- (iii) The aforesaid subway project would display the winning entries of the Wall Painting Design Competition organised by SDYCBC in the form of wall paintings;
- (iv) As for the rain shelter project, SDO and SDYCBC would beautify the rain shelters with paintings or designs featuring characteristics of the Southern District according to the locations of the rain shelters and other factors;
- (v) SDO invited SDC to be the supporting organisation of the aforesaid two programmes and sought SDC’s consent for the use of the SDC logo in the promotional materials. It was hoped that SDC members could assist in the publicity and promotion of the programmes; and
- (vi) A small-scale carnival would be held on 30 March 2024 at “Hundred-step Staircase”, alongside the award presentation ceremony for the Wall Painting Design Competition organised by SDYCBC. SDC members were welcome to join.

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

35. SDC members supported this agenda item. Professor CHAN Yuk-kit, MH, JP agreed to the beautification of the rain shelters and subways. He further said that rain shelters not only gave protection against the rain but also the sunlight. The rain shelter in Ap Lei Chau Estate had a transparent roof. Therefore, he suggested improving the roof design of the rain shelter during the beautification works, for example, by installing Low-E glass to block ultraviolet light more effectively. If the budget did not allow this, an alternative would be installing an ultraviolet blocking glass film.

36. The Chairman was happy to learn that all SDC members supported these two programmes. SDC agreed to be the supporting organisation and granted the consent for the use of the SDC logo in the promotional materials. It would also assist in the publicity and promotion.

**Agenda Item 5: Any Other Business**

37. The Chairman asked members whether they had any other items to raise.

38. No other business was raised at the meeting

**Agenda Item 6: Date of Next Meeting**

39. The Chairman advised that the third SDC meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 9 May 2024 (Thursday).

40. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 3:36 p.m.

Secretariat, Southern District Council

May 2024