

(Translation)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Community Affairs Committee of  
Sham Shui Po District Council (6th Term)

Date : 14 May 2020 (Thursday)  
Time : 9:30 a.m.  
Venue : Conference Room, Sham Shui Po District Council

Present

Chairman

Ms NG Mei, Carman

Members

Ms CHAU Yuen-man, Eunice  
Mr CHUM Tak-shing (Arrived at 10:55 a.m.)  
Mr HO Kai-ming, Calvin  
Mr HO Kwan-chau, Leo  
Mr KONG Kwai-sang (Arrived at 10:20 a.m.)  
Mr LAO Ka-hang, Andy  
Ms LAU Pui-yuk, MH  
Mr LEE Hon-ting, Howard  
Mr LEE Man-ho, Leos (Arrived at 10:20 a.m.)  
Mr LI Chun-hei, Joshua  
Mr LI Kwing, Richard  
Mr LI Ting-fung, Jay (Arrived at 9:50 a.m.)  
Mr MAK Wai-ming (Arrived at 9:50 a.m.)  
Ms NG Yuet-lan, Janet  
Mr SIN Kam-ho, Jeffrey  
Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, MH, JP (Arrived at 9:48 a.m.)  
Mr TSUI Yat-hin, Ronald (Arrived at 9:40 a.m.)  
Mr WAI Woon-nam  
Mr WONG Kit-long  
Mr YEUNG Yuk (Arrived at 9:40 a.m.)

Co-opted Members

Mr FUNG Kin-wai, Patrick  
Mr LEUNG Man-ho

In Attendance

Mr LEE Wai-yin, Brett  
Miss CHIN Wai-sheung, Doris  
Ms LAM Suk-wah, Amy

Ms LO Ying-yue, Anna

Ms LEUNG Wai-ling, Betty

Miss CHAN Shuk-yu, Sylvia

Ms HO Wing-sze, Marianna

Miss TSUI Pui-yee

Ms TSENG Chieh, Elsa

Mr CHAN Kwok-pui, Louis

Ms YEUNG Siu-ping, Grace

Assistant District Officer (Sham Shui Po) 1  
Senior Liaison Officer 1, Sham Shui Po District Office  
Senior Community Relations Officer, Kowloon West  
Regional Office, Independent Commission Against  
Corruption  
Senior School Development Officer (Sham Shui Po) 1,  
Education Bureau  
Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Sham Shui  
Po) 2, Social Welfare Department  
Housing Manager (Kowloon West and Sai Kung 6),  
Housing Department  
Senior Manager (Kowloon West/Cultural Services),  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
Manager (Kowloon West) Marketing, Programme &  
District Activities, Leisure and Cultural Services  
Department  
Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po) District  
Support, Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
Assistant District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po)  
District Support, Leisure and Cultural Services  
Department  
Senior Librarian (Sham Shui Po), Leisure and Cultural  
Services Department

Secretary

Miss CHU Lok-yin, Lorin

Executive Officer (District Council) 2, Sham Shui Po  
District Office

Absent with Apologies

Member

Mr LAU Wai-chung, Lawrence

Co-opted Member

Mr TSUI Yip-chun

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed members and representatives of government departments to the meeting and welcomed Ms Elsa TSENG, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po) District Support of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”), who would attend the future meetings in place of Ms WONG Sau-ling, Vicky.

2. The Committee noted the leave applications of Mr Lawrence LAU and Mr TSUI Yip-chun.

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of minutes of the 2nd meeting held on 27 February 2020 and the 1st special meeting held on 19 March 2020

3. Ms Grace YEUNG suggested a proposed amendment on paragraph 83 of the minutes of the second meeting: “available for use by children aged 12 or below” should be “available for use by children aged below 12”.

4. The Committee confirmed the amended minutes.

Agenda Item 2: Follow-up matters

Follow-up matters item (a): We must ride out the difficulties together and should not discriminate against freelancers (CAC Paper 21/20)

Follow-up matters item (b): Request for the Government to set up a financial assistance system for the unemployed as soon as possible (CAC Paper 22/20)

Matters for discussion item (b): “Relax the eligibility criteria for the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance, no delay is allowed for the financial assistance for the unemployed!” (CAC Paper 25/20)

5. The Chairman said that since Papers 21/20, 22/20 and 25/20 were similar in nature, she suggested discussing the three papers together. Members did not raise any objection.

6. Mr Howard LEE introduced Papers 21/20, 22/20 and 25/20.

7. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had invited the Labour and Welfare Bureau (“LWB”) to attend the meeting, yet the Bureau could not send representatives to attend the meeting. She asked members to refer to the written response of the Bureau (Paper 37/20).

8. Ms Betty LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) The Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (“CSSA”) Scheme served as the last safety net which encouraged mutual help among household members, thus the applications must be processed under household-based principle application. Although CSSA application was on household basis, this did not mean that a household would definitely be ineligible if a household member was employed. Assessment should be made on a case-by-case basis.
- (ii) Since the processing of CSSA applications was based on the overall assessment, the Department would consider whether the granted amount of CSSA could support the basic living of the applicants. If the rent for the current accommodation of an applicant accounted for a substantial proportion of the granted amount of CSSA, the Department would discuss feasible solutions with the applicant. The case would be referred to integrated family service centres for follow up if necessary.
- (iii) During the epidemic, although the opening of the Social Security Field Units (“SSFUs”) to the public had been restricted, members of the public could still submit their applications through the drop-in boxes outside SSFUs or other means such as by post, fax, e-mail.
- (iv) During the epidemic, SSFUs had also simplified the procedures. Cases of CSSA recipients which would expire at a certain period of time would be renewed automatically and the procedures of the meeting between the recipients and the staff will be skipped. Manpower could then be released for handling new applications.

9. Mr YEUNG Yuk raised the following views and enquiries: (i) how the Department handled applications with excessively high rent for accommodation and how it provided assistance to the concerned applicants; (ii) he hoped that the Department could provide detailed information about various ways of submitting CSSA applications.

10. Mr Richard LI raised the following views and enquiries: (i) since the Government had not yet established financial assistance for the unemployed, residents could obtain assistance through CSSA only; (ii) some of the non-governmental organisations (“NGOs”) had suspended the provision of assessment service by social workers during the epidemic; some CSSA applications were affected as the applicants could not participate in the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance (“IEAPS”); (iii) he

enquired whether the Department had any special arrangement for processing CSSA applications during the time of the epidemic.

11. Mr WAI Woon-nam said that he hoped that the Department would provide assistance proactively and handle CSSA applications flexibly.

12. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu raised the following views: (i) he suggested relaxing the CSSA eligibility criteria through temporary measures to provide immediate assistance to the unemployed; (ii) the opening of SSFUs had been restricted during the time of the epidemic, this had caused inconvenience to people who sought assistance; he hoped that the Department would take note to that.

13. Ms Janet NG raised the following views: (i) she was dissatisfied that SSFUs had been closed during the time of the epidemic; (ii) the Department should understand that some unemployed persons were unwilling to apply for CSSA. However, the Government had offered no assistance other than CSSA.

14. Mr Ronald TSUI enquired how applicants could handle the problem of not being able to apply for CSSA due to excessively high rent for accommodation and he asked how the Department would offer support.

15. Mr Kalvin HO raised the following views: (i) the two rounds of Anti-epidemic Fund could not provide direct assistance to the grassroots workers for the Government needed to establish financial assistance for the unemployed; (ii) the application procedures for CSSA were complicated, he hoped that the Department would support the grassroots proactively.

16. Mr Jay LI raised the following views and enquiries: (i) he was disappointed and strongly condemned LWB for not being able to send representatives to attend the two meetings; (ii) he doubted the Bureau's explanation in the response paper that it was necessary to set up three relevant systems before establishing a financial assistance system for the unemployed; (iii) Hong Kong Council of Social Service ("HKCSS") provided financial assistance for the unemployed under the sponsorship of private companies; he doubted why the Government could not achieve that; (iv) he enquired how the Government supported single unemployed persons who were ineligible for applying for the financial assistance provided by HKCSS.

17. Ms Eunice CHAU raised the following views: (i) CSSA was a social security safety net and should not be used as a short-term transitional measure for supporting the unemployed; (ii) she was dissatisfied that LWB had not attended the two meetings; (iii) she hoped that the Bureau would establish financial assistance for the unemployed to help persons who became unemployed during the epidemic.

18. Mr LEUNG Man-ho raised the following views and enquiries: (i) he enquired whether the Department would tighten the eligibility criteria for CSSA after the epidemic; (ii) he hoped that the Department would provide assistance to residents affected by the epidemic more proactively.

19. Mr Jeffrey SIN enquired how the Department supported households with members who were still employed.

20. Mr Joshua LI raised the following views: (i) he opined that LWB smeared CSSA, making the people in need not dare to apply; (ii) the information about application for CSSA on the Internet was insufficient, he suggested the Department provide the details of delineation of service areas of SSFUs in the district; (iii) he hoped that the Department would handle the applications on compassionate grounds and help the persons in need.

21. The Chairman raised the following views and enquiries: (i) she enquired whether the workers who handled applications in SSFUs were social staff; (ii) she hoped that the Department would review the working attitude of the frontline workers; (iii) she hoped that the Department would explain the issue of the rent limit for accommodation.

22. Ms Betty LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) Members' views on the relaxation of eligibility criteria for CSSA, including the asset limit and household-based application, would be relayed to LWB and the Department.
- (ii) Workers of all SSFUs were not social workers, while the workers providing employment support services under IEAPS were the social workers of NGOs. The Department would remind frontline workers of SSFUs from time to time to pay attention to their service attitude and understand the difficulties encountered by the applicants.
- (iii) The number of CSSA applications of the unemployed had increased for 1.5 times in March this year as compared those in February. The frontline workers were handling the new applications proactively, it was hoped that the public would understand that the workload had increased substantially due to the epidemic.
- (iv) The approval of application for CSSA would depend on the circumstance of each case. Members were welcomed to refer applications with special circumstances.

- (v) In 2019 Policy Address, the Government had proposed a series of enhancement measures on CSSA including a one-off increase in the maximum rates of rent allowance under CSSA. The Department had completed the relevant review and submitted the proposal to the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for consideration.
- (vi) The Department would also adjust the rent allowance in accordance with inflation every year. According to the established mechanism, it was proposed that the maximum rates of rent allowance would be increased by 3.2% starting from 1 February 2020. Together with the above overall enhancement measures on CSSA, it was hoped that the burden of citizens could be alleviated.
- (vii) The Department noted members' views on the request for updating the information on the Internet.
- (viii) The public service of SSFUs had been resumed on 4 May. Manpower would also be increased by internal deployment and hiring of retired former SSFU workers to handle a large amount of CSSA applications.

23. Mr YEUNG Yuk enquired about the rates of rent allowance under CSSA and the rent limit of the applicants.

24. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu raised the following views and enquiries: (i) regarding the one-off handling of applications at discretion, he enquired about the rent limit and the approving officers; (ii) he hoped that relevant departments would provide assistance to single unemployed persons.

25. Mr WAI Woon-nam said that he hoped that the Assistant District Officer would assist in inviting the Bureau to attend the meeting and explain the concerned policies to members.

26. Mr Kalvin HO raised the following views: (i) he suggested SSFUs hire additional manpower to assist applicants in completing the application forms; (ii) he hoped that the Department would disseminate the rent limit for application for CSSA to public.

27. Ms LAU Pui-yuk raised the following views and enquiries: (i) she found it unfortunate that the Government had not yet established financial assistance for the unemployed, she hoped that the Government would set up the system as soon as possible; (ii) she hoped that the Department would simplify the application procedures for CSSA and disseminate the asset calculation method; (iii) she enquired about the time required for

processing CSSA applications; (iv) she enquired how the Department handled applications with the rent exceeding the limit.

28. Mr Richard LI enquired whether applicants still had to participate in IEAPS during the epidemic according to normal procedures so that their CSSA applications would not be affected.

29. Mr Jeffrey SIN enquired how the Department would provide assistance to the applications mentioned by members.

30. Ms Betty LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) Able-bodied unemployed persons needed to participate in IEAPS if they wished to apply for CSSA. Due to the epidemic, the Department had already omitted the procedure of the meeting between the applicants and the staff; the relevant formalities would be carried out after the epidemic situation improved. This arrangement would not affect or delay the application for CSSA.
- (ii) The Department would process the applications based on the overall situation of each case. Considerations included the asset of the applicant household (including the Mandatory Provident Fund and insurance), income, rent for accommodation, family condition, etc. The Department would exercise discretion in considering special circumstances if necessary.
- (iii) The Department thanked members for their suggestion on the reference index of setting up a rent limit. However, the situation of each case varied, there were a number of considerations and the rent was only one of these factors. Hence, the Department was concerned that making the reference index public would cause misunderstanding easily.
- (iv) The Department would actively consider members' suggestion of hiring additional manpower to assist applicants in completing the application procedures such as filling in the forms.
- (v) Under normal circumstances, if an applicant could provide the required information, it was expected that the Department would complete the application formalities for CSSA within four weeks.



31. Mr Jeffrey SIN said that he was dissatisfied that the Department did not respond to the request for providing assistance to households with members who were still employed.

32. Mr YEUNG Yuk enquired how the Department provided assistance to applicants who could not afford the rent for accommodation due to unemployment.

33. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu raised the following views: (i) he suggested the Department process CSSA applications without taking into account the rent for accommodation; (ii) he suggested the Department exercise discretion in handling applications with the rent exceeding the limit so as to support people who could not afford the rent due to unemployment.

34. The Chairman raised the following views: (i) The time required for handling the applications manually was too long, she hoped that the Department would consider using computer systems for handling the applications; (ii) regarding the enquiries about individual cases, she suggested members raise their enquiries directly to the representatives of the Department after the meeting.

35. The Chairman introduced the motion in Paper 25/20 which was moved by Mr Calvin HO and seconded by Mr Howard LEE. It read as follows:

“Extend the opening hours of SSFUs in the district, relax the eligibility criteria for CSSA immediately, cancel the application on a household basis and requirements such as the rent limit and IEAPS, and establish financial assistance for the unemployed as soon as possible.”

36. The Committee voted on the motion by open ballot.

37. The voting result was as follows:

For: Ms Eunice CHAU, Mr Calvin HO, Mr Leo HO,  
Mr KONG Kwai-sang, Mr Andy LAO, Ms LAU Pui-yuk,  
Mr Howard LEE, Mr Leos LEE, Mr Joshua LI, Mr Richard LI,  
Mr Jay LI, Mr MAK Wai-ming, Ms Carman NG, Ms Janet NG,  
Mr Jeffrey SIN, Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, Mr Ronald TSUI,  
Mr WAI Woon-nam, Mr WONG Kit-long, Mr YEUNG Yuk,  
Mr LEUNG Man-ho, Mr Patrick FUNG (22)

Against: (0)

Abstain: (0)

38. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and concluded as follows: (i) the Committee expressed strong dissatisfaction and deep regrets that LWB did not send representatives to attend the meeting; (ii) members expressed their concern over the matter of LWB not attending the meeting; (iii) the Committee was strongly dissatisfied that LWB was not able to establish financial assistance for the unemployed.

39. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu said that he hoped that the Bureau could attend the meeting to explain the difficulties of establishing financial assistance for the unemployed and how CSSA could be substituted for financial assistance for the unemployed as a short-term measure.

40. The Chairman suggested continuing to follow up on this issue at the next meeting and inviting LWB to attend the meeting again.

Follow-up matters item (c): Request for improving the operation of the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre (CAC Paper 23/20)

41. The Chairman said that the District Council (“DC”) had discussed the above item at its third meeting on 28 April this year. At the meeting, Members had suggested handing over the item to the Community Affairs Committee for discussion. She asked Mr Jay LI to introduce Paper 23/20.

42. Mr Jay LI introduced Paper 23/20.

43. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had invited the Home Affairs Bureau (“HAB”) and the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre (“JCCAC”) to attend the meeting, yet the relevant parties could not send representatives to attend the meeting. She asked members to refer to the written response of the Bureau (Paper 40/20).

44. Ms Janet NG was disappointed that JCCAC had not provided assistance to the tenants.

45. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu raised the following views and enquiries: (i) the Council was responsible for relaying the situation of inadequate support from JCCAC to the tenants during the epidemic to the Government; (ii) he suggested relaying to Hong Kong Baptist University (“HKBU”) the dissatisfaction of the Committee that JCCAC could not send representatives to attend the two meetings; (iii) he suggested the matter of the overall

operation of JCCAC be discussed by the Working Group on Sports, Arts and Culture (“WGSAC”).

46. Assistant District Officer 1 responded that members’ concerns over JCCAC were noted. Sham Shui Po District Office (“SSPDO”) had relayed members’ views to JCCAC and invited relevant parties to send representatives to attend the meetings for many times.

47. The Chairman announced that the meeting would be adjourned for five minutes for members to prepare for the provisional motion.

[The meeting was adjourned for five minutes.]

48. The Chairman announced that the meeting was resumed and asked Mr Jay LI to introduce provisional motion 1 which was moved by him.

49. Mr Jay LI introduced provisional motion 1 and it read as follows:

“The Committee requests HAB and JCCAC to:

1. Regain the original objection of establishing the centre, improve the operation of the centre, strengthen the communication with the tenants and the artists, spearhead the cultural and arts development in Hong Kong;
2. Report the operation of the centre to the Committee regularly, for instance activity reports, financial reports, arrangements for exchange activities, in order to enhance communication.”

50. The Chairman said that the seconder was Mr TAM Kwok-kiu.

51. The Committee voted on the motion by open ballot.

52. The voting result was as follows:

For: Ms Eunice CHAU, Mr CHUM Tak-shing, Mr Calvin HO, Mr Leo HO, Mr KONG Kwai-sang, Mr Andy LAO, Ms LAU Pui-yuk, Mr Howard LEE, Mr Leos LEE, Mr Joshua LI, Mr Richard LI, Mr Jay LI, Mr MAK Wai-ming, Ms Carman NG, Ms Janet NG, Mr Jeffrey SIN, Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, Mr Ronald TSUI, Mr WAI Woon-nam, Mr WONG Kit-long, Mr YEUNG Yuk, Mr LEUNG Man-ho,

Mr Patrick FUNG (23)

Against: (0)

Abstain: (0)

53. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

54. Mr Jay LI enquired whether the Committee could follow up again on the the issue that JCCAC not being able to attend the meetings.

55. The Chairman responded that JCCAC had not obtained DC funds, the Committee might not be able to request JCCAC to respond to the content of the provisional motion. She then concluded as follows: (i) the Committee would write to HKBU to express regrets and strong dissatisfaction that HKBU could not send representatives to attend the two meetings, with the hope that HKBU would attend the meetings in the future; (ii) it was suggested that the item be discussed by WGSAC.

Agenda Item 3: Matters for discussion

(a) Request for including Cheong Chit House of Nam Cheong Estate into the ambulance service area of Caritas Medical Centre (CAC Paper 24/20)

56. Mr WAI Woon-nam introduced Paper 24/20.

57. Mr Howard LEE enquired about the success rate of the Fire Services Department (“FSD”) for requesting the revision of delineation of hospitals’ catchment areas of ambulance services over the past ten years.

58. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had invited FSD and the Hospital Authority (“HA”) to attend the meeting, yet the relevant parties said that they could not send representatives to attend the meeting. She asked members to refer to the relevant written responses (Papers 38/20 and 39/20).

59. Mr WAI Woon-nam said that he was dissatisfied that FSD and HA could not send representatives to attend the meeting.

60. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu said that he hoped that the Assistant District Officer would follow up on the government departments not being able to send representatives to attend DC meetings.

61. Assistant District Officer 1 responded that members' views were noted. As usual, SSPDO would provide documents to relevant departments and invite them to send representatives to attend the meetings according to established procedures.

62. Ms Janet NG said that she hoped that SSPDO would assist in following up on the matter of including the ambulance services of Cheong Chit House into the catchment area of Caritas Medical Centre ("CMC").

63. Mr Howard LEE asked under what circumstances the delineation of hospitals' catchment areas of ambulance services would be reviewed and enquired about the frequency of review.

64. The Chairman asked Mr WAI Woon-nam to introduce the motion in Paper 24/20.

65. Mr WAI Woon-nam introduced the motion and it read as follows:

"When the residents in Cheong Chit House of Nam Cheong Estate call for ambulance services, the building should be covered into the service area of the accident and emergency department of CMC so that the residents could receive immediate first-aid service."

66. The Chairman said that the seconders were Mr Howard LEE, Mr YEUNG Yuk, Mr CHUM Tak-shing, Mr Calvin HO, Mr KONG Kwai-sang, Mr Richard LI, Mr Jay LI, Mr MAK Wai-ming, Mr TAM Kwok-kiu and Mr Ronald TSUI.

67. The Committee voted on the motion by open ballot.

68. The voting result was as follows:

For: Ms Eunice CHAU, Mr CHUM Tak-shing, Mr Calvin HO, Mr Leo HO, Mr KONG Kwai-sang, Mr Andy LAO, Mr Howard LEE, Mr Leos LEE, Mr Richard LI, Mr Jay LI, Mr MAK Wai-ming, Ms Carman NG, Ms Janet NG, Mr Jeffrey SIN, Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, Mr Ronald TSUI, Mr WAI Woon-nam, Mr WONG Kit-long, Mr LEUNG Man-ho, Mr Patrick FUNG (20)

Against: (0)

Abstain: (0)

69. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and concluded as follows: (i) the Committee would write to CMC to express deep regrets that CMC could not send representatives to attend the meeting and express concern over the delineation of hospitals' catchment areas of ambulance services; (ii) it was hoped that FSD would respond to the Committee's request for including Cheong Chit House into the catchment area of CMC.

70. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu enquired whether FSD or HA was responsible for the delineation of hospitals' catchment areas of ambulance services.

71. Mr CHUM Tak-shing said that he hoped that the relevant parties would also respond to the delineation of hospitals' catchment areas of ambulance services for the reclamation area in Sham Shui Po ("SSP"). He also hoped that the Secretariat would record the number of times that the departments could not attend the meetings of DC and the Committees to respond to the papers for Members' reference.

72. The Chairman said that it was hoped that the relevant parties would provide written responses on the delineation of hospitals' catchment areas of the overall ambulance services for SSP District. It was suggested that the Secretariat and the DC Chairman would follow up on the request made by Mr CHUM Tak-shing after the meeting.

(c) Prevent tragedies from happening again Request for providing more support services to help disadvantaged groups during the time of the epidemic (CAC Paper 26/20)

(d) Strong request for the Social Welfare Department to review the quantities of protective equipment and the delivery of home services of social welfare units during the time of the epidemic (CAC Paper 27/20)

73. The Chairman said that since Papers 26/20 and 27/20 were similar in nature, she suggested combining the two papers for discussion. Members did not raise any objection.

74. Mr Richard LI introduced Paper 26/20.

75. Mr LEUNG Man-ho introduced Paper 27/20.

76. Ms Betty LEUNG introduced Response Paper 36/20.

77. Mr Richard LI raised the following views and enquiries: (i) services provided by the district elderly community centres (“DECCs”) were suspended due to the epidemic, he enquired whether the Department had provided support to the elderly and social welfare organisations; (ii) he enquired whether the Department had provided guidelines on the suspension of services to the social welfare organisations; (iii) he hoped that the Department would pay more attention to the reports on the deterioration of health of the elderly people or persons with disabilities during the epidemic.

78. Mr WONG Kit-long enquired whether the Department had provided clear guidelines and concrete support regarding the suspension of services to the social welfare organisations.

79. Mr LEUNG Man-ho raised the following views and enquiries: (i) the support from the Department and district organisations providing door-to-door services to the people in need was inadequate during the epidemic; (ii) he enquired whether the Department would provide masks to the rehabilitation training centres and relevant organisations.

80. Ms Eunice CHAU raised the following views and enquiries: (i) the service demand for social welfare organisations had increased substantially during the time of the epidemic, she enquired whether the Department had provided additional support to the organisations; (ii) she enquired whether the Department would provide emotional support to the elderly people in the residential care homes.

81. Ms Janet NG said that the support from the Department to the people in need and the social welfare organisations was inadequate, she hoped that the Department would provide additional support.

82. Ms Betty LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) During the epidemic, social welfare organisations continued to maintain necessary subvented services. Although centre-based service units such as the neighbourhood elderly centres and DECCs were not open to the public, these service units still maintained minimal services, for instance the provision of meals and assistance to individual elderly people during severe epidemic. Some of the non-subvented service units also provided support to the elderly in the district.
- (ii) Apart from disbursement of allowance, the Department was considering distributing anti-epidemic supplies to social welfare units which provided

community care service.

- (iii) In view of a large number of service users in some rehabilitation service units such as the integrated vocational rehabilitation services centres, the rehabilitation training services would be resumed in a gradual and orderly manner to reduce the infection risk.
- (iv) For the time being, the Department did not maintain the data on the increased service demand for social welfare organisations during the epidemic.
- (v) During the epidemic, although the visiting arrangement for the residential care homes was suspended, various approaches such as the use of conference meeting software would be adopted so that the elderly people in the residential care homes could maintain contact with their families. The residential care homes would also pay more attention to the emotion of the elderly and persons with disabilities and provide support in a timely manner.

83. The Chairman concluded as follows: (i) the Committee considered that the support from the Social Welfare Department (“SWD”) to service users, in particular the emotional support, was inadequate during the epidemic; (ii) it was hoped that SWD would be aware of the potential service users in the community; (iii) it was hoped that SWD would report to DC the follow-up work on the epidemic in a timely manner, especially the support provided by SWD to social welfare organisations.

(e) Report by LCSD on recreational and sports activities organised in Sham Shui Po District (CAC Paper 28/20)

84. Ms Elsa TSENG introduced Paper 28/20.

85. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted the content of the report.

(f) Report by LCSD on Tao Arts Sham Shui Po – Community Arts Scheme and other arts and cultural activities (CAC Paper 29/20)

86. Ms Marianna HO introduced Paper 29/20, and said that the opening performance scheduled for 7 June was postponed to 11 July due to issues concerning venue.

87. Mr WAI Woon-nam said that regarding the 19 district free entertainment programmes, he enquired why the categories of the programmes to be jointly organised by some selected organisations were not the categories of their choices in their applications.



88. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu enquired whether the Department would consider setting quotas on venues for the lot-drawing of the district free entertainment programmes so that the venues of the programmes would be evenly distributed within the district.

89. Ms Marianna HO gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) When the organisations submitted their applications, they would first select a month suitable for them and choose a category of the programme they wished to organise. The Department would make arrangements according to the priority for lot-drawing and the intention of the organisations.
- (ii) The Department welcomed members to raise their suggestions on the arrangements for the Community Arts Scheme. Suitable suggestions would be implemented next year.

90. Mr YEUNG Yuk enquired about the number of applicant organisations of this year.

91. The Chairman hoped that members could put forward their views or suggestions on the arrangements for the lot-drawing at this meeting for the Department's consideration.

92. Ms Janet NG hoped that the venues of the programmes would be evenly distributed within the district so that more residents could participate in the programmes.

93. Ms Marianna HO gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (i) The Department had received 38 applications this year. One of the applications had been received after the deadline, thus it was regarded as an invalid application. Four applicant organisations had withdrawn their applications afterwards, thus there were only 33 applications in the lot-drawing procedures.
- (ii) If an organisation in the top 19 of the lot-drawing result chose not to jointly organise the activity, the slot would be filled by the subsequent organisation according to the sequence of the lot-drawing result.

94. Mr YEUNG Yuk said that a rather small number of applications were received, he hoped that the Department would boost the organisations' incentives to submit their applications.

95. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu hoped that the Department would submit documents on improving the above situations.

96. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted the content of the report, it was hoped that the Department would respond to members' suggestions after the meeting.

(g) Report by LCSD on the extension activities and utilisation of public libraries in Sham Shui Po District (CAC Paper 30/20)

97. Ms Grace YEUNG introduced Paper 30/20.

98. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu said that when the district mobile libraries were idle at the parking locations, he enquired whether district organisations or DC could use the electricity supply facilities there. He also enquired whether the Department would consider allowing district organisations to use the above electricity supply facilities and whether the organisations needed to pay the electricity tariff if they used the facilities.

99. Ms Grace YEUNG said that regarding the application for the use of electricity at the parking locations of mobile libraries, district organisations or DC needed to first enquire the government departments or the organisations to which the locations belonged whether it was permitted to provide services at the concerned locations. Concerning electricity supply facilities, the Department would follow up on the matter based on the information on the applications received. Besides, the organisations which consumed the electricity were required to pay the tariff.

100. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted the content of the report and requested the Department to provide information about the opening up of electricity supply facilities after the meeting for members' information.

[Post-meeting note by LCSD: Regarding the power boxes provided at the mobile library stops by Hong Kong Public Libraries ("HKPL") of LCSD, the design and installation aimed at providing electricity for mobile libraries and providing mobile library service. Since the parking locations of the mobile libraries were not administered by LCSD, district organisations or DC needed to contact relevant government departments or organisations for further enquiries if they wished to use the concerned locations outside the service hours of mobile libraries. Besides, concerning the matter of borrowing the power boxes for use, district organisations or DC had to submit an application to HKPL for borrowing of power boxes for use at the locations which they planned to provide services or organise activities, together with the documents of permission of the government departments or concerned organisations to use the parking locations. LCSD would follow up on the matter and handle the applications on a case-by-case basis provided that public library services and

public safety were not affected. In respect of the arrangement for charging fees on the use of electricity, the Department would charge the borrowing organisations for the tariff of the amount of electricity used and a surcharge of 20% of the amount of the electricity tariff in accordance with the requirements of the Finance and Supplies Circular.]

Agenda Item 4: Reports from Working Groups under the Committee

(a) Vetting Sub-Committee (CAC Paper 31/20)

101. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted and endorsed the above working group report.

Agenda Item 5: Any other business

(a) 2020/2021 Sham Shui Po District Council Allocation Monitoring Programme – LCSD 2nd Quarter Activities Sampling Assessment

102. The Chairman picked the following three activities randomly for monitoring by drawing lots:

Priority/Category	Activities	Date
1. Recreational and sports activities	Aerobic Dance Training Course	4 August to 17 September 2020
2. Tao Arts Sham Shui Po activities	Harmonica Recital (WONG Chi-wing)	26 July 2020
3. Public library extension activities	Storytelling for Children	12 July 2020 <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Based on public health considerations, the concerned extension activity would be postponed.

(b) 2019/2020 Sham Shui Po District Council Allocation Monitoring Programme – LCSD 4th Quarter Activities Assessment Report (CAC Papers 32/20 to 34/20)

103. The Committee noted and endorsed the above three assessment reports.

(c) Funding Applications to the Vetting Sub-Committee (CAC Paper 31/20)

104. The Chairman stated that the Vetting Sub-Committee (“VSC”), at its meeting on 23 April this year, had vetted the applications for reserved funds and non-reserved funds for organising activities during the period from 30 April to 30 June 2020, and endorsed an allocation of \$672,849 of reserved funds for organising 4 activities and an allocation of \$479,541 of non-reserved funds for organising 17 activities. The applications for reserved funds and non-reserved funds were listed in Annex A and Annex B respectively. She asked members to consider whether to endorse the above funding applications and reminded members to make declaration of interests in accordance with the Sham Shui Po District Council Standing Orders.

Application No: 200012 – 200015, 200017 – 200019, 200021 – 200023, 200025, 200028 – 200029, 200031 – 200032, 200035

105. The Committee endorsed the above funding applications.

Application No: 200036

106. Ms Janet NG declared interests, stating that she was the Chairman of Merlin Centre Owners’ Corporation.

107. The Chairman ruled that as there were substantive duties in the position, Ms Janet NG could not participate in the discussion, decision-making and voting, but did not need to withdraw from the meeting.

108. The Committee endorsed the above funding application.

Application No: 200037 - 200039

109. The Committee endorsed the above funding applications.

110. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu raised the following enquiries: (i) whether the organisations which obtained non-reserved funds for the first quarter needed to complete the activities

before 30 June; (ii) whether the application for reserved funds would be invited on a quarterly basis.

111. The Secretary responded that: (i) it was necessary for the organisations to submit written applications to the Secretariat for postponing the activities; (ii) the application for reserved funds had all along been invited on a quarterly basis.

112. The Chairman enquired whether the unused reserved funds for the first quarter could be carried forward to the reserved funds for the second quarter.

113. Mr WAI Woon-nam responded that the organisations could choose the quarter of application for reserved funds based on the date of organising the activities.

114. The Chairman said that the Committee noted the funding applications to VSC, and requested the Secretariat to remind the organisations to submit written applications for postponing the activities as early as possible.

115. Mr CHUM Tak-shing enquired whether a limit on the application amount was set for the organisations which applied for non-reserved funds for the first time.

116. Mr WAI Woon-nam responded that the limit on the application amount was \$10,000 for first-time application for non-reserved funds. However, since VSC members considered that some activities of distributing anti-epidemic supplies held by new organisations were quite meaningful, they had made special arrangements in endorsing the concerned applications.

117. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu suggested that if special arrangements could be made in handling funding applications related to epidemic prevention, the Secretariat should inform the public.

118. The Chairman agreed with the above views.

(d) Arrangements regarding the dedicated funding for arts and cultural activities in Sham Shui Po District (CAC Paper 35/20)

119. The Secretary introduced Paper 35/20.

120. Members did not have any views on the funding arrangements.

121. The Chairman concluded that the Committee endorsed the funding arrangements and the proposed timetable in Paper 35/20 and passed the funding applications to VSC for vetting.

122. The Chairman said that two provisional motions (provisional motions 2 and 3) were received. She asked Mr TAM Kwok-kiu who moved the motion to introduce provisional motion 2 and said that the seconder was Mr Calvin HO.

123. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu introduced provisional motion 2 and it read as follows:

“The passage connecting the entrance/exit of City University of Hong Kong (“CityU”) near Nam Shan Estate and the entrance/exit of The Festival Walk has all along been a necessary passage for residents, especially persons with impaired mobility, to travel between The Festival Walk and Kowloon Tong MTR Station. In view of the improvement in the local epidemic situation, we request CityU to reopen the concerned passage so as to address the needs of the residents, in particular persons with impaired mobility.”

124. Mr Calvin HO added that To Yuen Street was quite steep, he hoped that CityU would reopen the concerned passage so as to facilitate the residents to travel from and to the district.

125. The Committee voted on the motion by open ballot.

126. The voting result was as follows:

For: Ms Eunice CHAU, Mr CHUM Tak-shing, Mr Calvin HO, Mr KONG Kwai-sang, Mr Andy LAO, Ms LAU Pui-yuk, Mr Howard LEE, Mr Leos LEE, Mr Joshua LI, Mr Richard LI, Mr Jay LI, Mr MAK Wai-ming, Ms Carman NG, Ms Janet NG, Mr Jeffrey SIN, Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, Mr Ronald TSUI, Mr WONG Kit-long, Mr LEUNG Man-ho, Mr Patrick FUNG (20)

Against: (0)

Abstain: (0)

127. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and concluded as follows: (i) the views of the Committee would be relayed to CityU; (ii) it was hoped that the concerned passage would be reopened as soon as possible.

128. The Chairman asked Mr Jeffrey SIN who moved the motion to introduce provisional motion 3.

129. Mr Jeffrey SIN introduced provisional motion 3 and it read as follows:

“Hong Kong Police is requested to stay rational and take enforcement actions in a fair manner. In particular on 27 May, the first day of class resumption, the Police must treat Hong Kong students well and must not ‘do whatever they want’ recklessly by making use of temporary regulation 599G.”

130. The Chairman said that the seconder was Mr WONG Kit-long.

131. The Committee voted on the motion by open ballot.

132. The voting result was as follows:

For: Ms Eunice CHAU, Mr CHUM Tak-shing, Mr Calvin HO, Mr KONG Kwai-sang, Mr Andy LAO, Mr Howard LEE, Mr Leos LEE, Mr Joshua LI, Mr Richard LI, Mr Jay LI, Mr MAK Wai-ming, Ms Carman NG, Ms Janet NG, Mr Jeffrey SIN, Mr TAM Kwok-kiu, Mr Ronald TSUI, Mr WAI Woon-nam, Mr WONG Kit-long, Mr YEUNG Yuk, Mr LEUNG Man-ho, Mr Patrick FUNG (21)

Against: Mr Leo HO, Ms LAU Pui-yuk (2)

Abstain: (0)

133. The Chairman announced the voting result: 21 members voted for it, 2 members voted against it and no member abstained; the motion was carried. She concluded that the views of the Committee would be relayed to relevant departments.

134. Mr Calvin HO suggested including the matters concerning the reprovisioning of Shek Kip Mei Health Centre and the district health centre into the follow-up matters of the Committee.

135. Mr TAM Kwok-kiu suggested following up on the items of the last-term DC.

136. The Chairman suggested the Secretariat consolidate a list of follow-up matters after the meeting. Members could raise suggestions to the Secretariat if there were items they would like to follow up in the last-term DC.

Agenda Item 6: Date of next meeting

137. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 9 July 2020 (Thursday).

138. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:11 p.m.

District Council Secretariat  
Sham Shui Po District Office  
July 2020