For information on 23 November 2017



Sha Tin District Council

Report on the meeting of the Development and Housing Committee held on 2 November 2017

- (1) The Committee discussed the following:
 - (i) the replies of the Office of the Communications Authority and the District Lands Office/Sha Tin to the question on "payphone kiosks";
 - (ii) the replies of the Development Bureau, the Planning Department, the Housing Department (HD), the Drainage Services Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Architectural Services Department, the Transport Department, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Sha Tin District Office, the Education Bureau and the MTR Corporation Limited to the question on "the vision to develop Fo Tan, Sha Tin into 'a community of hope and happiness'". The following provisional motion was endorsed:

"The several public housing projects in Fo Tan carried out by the Government, together with the private residential projects, would lead to a significant increase in the future population, tightening the existing community resources which are already strained. In order to improve and safeguard the present and future living quality of the residents in the district, the Development and Housing Committee of the Sha Tin District Council strongly requests all relevant government departments to adopt the innovative and groundbreaking approach proposed by the 2017 Policy Address to review anew the existing community recreation facilities from the perspectives of geographical locations and local characteristics, and to expedite the revitalisation of the open space at Fo Tan Nullah, the provision of art and creative spaces in the community, the setting up of a building of recreation, sports and culture, the improvement of ancillary transport facilities and the accessibility of roads." (Unanimously passed); and

(iii) the reply of the HD to the question on "the influence on the waiting time for Public Rental Housing (PRH) due to the conversion of PRH flats in Fo Tan, Sha Tin to Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme (GSH) flats". The following provisional motion was endorsed:

"Due to the gradual population growth in Fo Tan in recent years and the imminent completion of a number of residential projects such as the privately-owned development projects on Au Pui Wan Street and the GSH flats on Wong Chuk Yeung Street and Kwei Tei Street, the population in the district is bound to surge in the future. In spite of the tremendous population growth, the ancillary facilities such as transport and recreation in Fo Tan have yet to meet the residents' needs. In this connection:

The Development and Housing Committee of the Sha Tin District Council strongly requests the Transport and Housing Bureau to ease the problems such as deficiencies in the surrounding transport planning and provision of recreation ancillary facilities, before the completion of 4 800 subsidised housing flats in Fo Tan." (Unanimously passed).

(2) The Committee endorsed the following:

- (i) "Public Works Programme (PWP) No. 196WC Water Intelligent Network (WIN) Stage 2 (Sha Tin District Pipeworks)" submitted by the Water Supplies Department; and
- (ii) the motion on providing additional community facilities to the growing population:

"The Government has been significantly increasing the number of public and private housing estates in recent years, but without corresponding increase in community facilities, particularly car parking spaces, public markets, libraries, study rooms, clinics, etc. This has resulted in negative influences on the community and living environment of the residents. In this connection, the Development and Housing Committee of the Sha Tin District Council urges the Government to update the *Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines* and the relevant town planning guidelines, set up a dedicated fund on optimised community facilities and wisely utilise idle government facilities and land so as to expedite the provision of community facilities, e.g. car parking spaces, public markets, libraries, study rooms, clinics, etc., in different districts, with a view to

synchronising with the population growth and responding to residents' request for an optimised community living environment. It is also necessary for the Government to reserve fiscal and administrative resources and draw up a specific timetable so as to realise the provision of all relevant facilities expeditiously." (Unanimously passed).

(3) The Committee noted the following:

- (i) the responses of government departments and the relevant organisations to matters arising from the previous meeting;
- (ii) the reports of working groups;
- (iii) the financial position and activity progress of Expenditure Head 2 (Development, Housing, Industrial and Commerce); and
- (iv) Population of Public Housing Estates and Private Sector Participation Scheme Courts in Sha Tin.

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Sha Tin District Council Secretariat
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