

**Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of
the Sha Tin District Council in 2017**

Date : 23 March 2017 (Thursday)
Time : 2:30 pm
Venue : Sha Tin District Council Conference Room
 4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of joining the meeting</u>	<u>Time of leaving the meeting</u>
Chairman : Mr HO Hau-cheung, BBS, MH	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Vice-Chairman : Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas, SBS, JP	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Members : Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James	3:03 pm	3:56 pm
Ms CHAN Man-kuen	2:39 pm	3:56 pm
Mr CHAN Nok-hang	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr CHENG Tsuk-man	2:40 pm	3:56 pm
Mr CHING Cheung-ying, MH	2:38 pm	3:56 pm
Mr CHIU Chu-pong, Sunny	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr CHIU Man-leong	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr HUI Yui-yu, Rick	2:38 pm	3:48 pm
Mr LAI Tsz-yan	2:43 pm	3:56 pm
Mr LEE Chi-wing, Alvin	2:30 pm	2:39 pm
Mr LEUNG Ka-fai, Victor	2:35 pm	3:56 pm
Mr LI Sai-hung	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr LI Sai-wing	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr LI Wing-shing, Wilson	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr MOK Kam-kwai, BBS	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr NG Kam-hung	2:39 pm	3:56 pm
Ms PONG Scarlett Oi-lan, BBS, JP	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr PUN Kwok-shan, MH	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr SIU Hin-hong	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr TING Tsz-yuen	2:42 pm	3:56 pm
Mr TONG Hok-leung	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Ms TSANG So-lai	2:43 pm	3:56 pm
Ms TUNG Kin-lei	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr WAI Hing-cheung	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr WONG Fu-sang, Tiger	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr WONG Hok-lai	2:41 pm	3:56 pm
Mr WONG Ka-wing, MH	2:30 pm	3:54 pm
Ms WONG Ping-fan, Iris	2:30 pm	3:42 pm
Mr WONG Yue-hon	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr YAU Man-chun	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr YIP Wing	2:30 pm	3:56 pm
Mr YIU Ka-chun	2:39 pm	3:56 pm
Ms YUE Shin-man	2:30 pm	3:56 pm

Present

Secretary : Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael
Mr YUEN Chun-kit, Derek

**Time of joining
the meeting**

2:30 pm
Senior Executive Officer (District Council) /
Sha Tin District Office

**Time of leaving
the meeting**

3:56 pm
Senior Executive Officer (District Council) /
Sha Tin District Office

In Attendance

Ms CHAN Yuen-man, Amy, JP
Mr WONG Tin-pui, Simon

Mr Angus Guy PULLINGER

Mr Sean LIN

Ms HO Yuet-ping, Jolie

Ms Rosanna TSE

Mr NG Kok-hung

Mr YUEN Tat-yung, Zorro

Ms CHU Ha-fan, Jessica

Ms KWOK Wai-ying, Candy

Ms LO Lai-fong, Jackie

Ms LAW See-ngar, Briget

Ms TSANG Mei-ying, May

Ms NG Sheung-han, Alice

Mrs LEE CHEUNG Yat-wai, Gloria

Mr TSAI Yu-sing, Eric

Dr HO Wing-chuen

Mrs TANG FUNG Shuk-yin

Ms CHENG Ka-po, Theresa
Ms LEUNG Wai-shan, Cecilia

Title

District Officer / Sha Tin District Office
Assistant District Officer /
Sha Tin District Office
District Commander (Shatin) (Acting) /
Hong Kong Police Force
Police Community Relations Officer (Shatin
District) / Hong Kong Police Force
OC (District Intelligence Section) (Shatin) /
Hong Kong Police Force
District Lands Officer / ST (District Lands
Office, Sha Tin) / Lands Department
Administration Assistant / Lands (District
Lands Office, Sha Tin) / Lands Department
Chief Engineer / New Territories East 3 /
Civil Engineering and Development
Department
District Planning Officer (Sha Tin, Tai Po and
North) / Planning Department
Principal Transport Officer (New Territories) /
Transport Department
District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin) /
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Assistant District Leisure Manager (District
Support) Sha Tin / Leisure and Cultural
Services Department
Senior Manager (New Territories East)
Promotion / Leisure and Cultural Services
Department
Manager (New Territories East) Marketing and
District Activities / Leisure and Cultural
Services Department
District Social Welfare Officer (Shatin) /
Social Welfare Department
District Environmental Hygiene
Superintendent (Sha Tin) / Food and
Environmental Hygiene Department
Chief School Development Officer (Shatin) /
Education Bureau
Chief Manager / Management (Tai Po, North
and Shatin) (Acting) / Housing Department
Chief Liaison Officer / Sha Tin District Office
Senior Liaison Officer (West) /
Sha Tin District Office

In Attendance

Mr HO Kin-nam, David

TitleExecutive Officer I (District Council)1 /
Sha Tin District Office**Absent**

Ms LAM Chung-yan

(Application for leave of absence received)

Mr MAK Yun-pui

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Action

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments and organisations to the meeting.

2. The Chairman informed all attendees that media representatives and members of the public, being present as observers, were taking photographs and making video and audio recordings.

3. The Chairman represented the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) to welcome: Mr Angus Guy PULLINGER, District Commander (Shatin) (Acting) representing Ms KWAN Chui-ching, Catherine, District Commander (Shatin), and Ms Jolie HO, OC (District Intelligence Section) (Shatin) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF); Mrs TANG FUNG Shuk-yin, Chief Manager / Management (Tai Po, North and Shatin) (Acting) of the Housing Department (HD); Ms Jackie LO, District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin) representing Ms HEUNG Ching-yee, Alice, Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories East), Ms Briget LAW, Assistant District Leisure Manager (District Support) Sha Tin, Ms May TSANG, Senior Manager (New Territories East) Promotion, and Ms Alice NG, Manager (New Territories East) Marketing and District Activities of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD).

Application for Leave of Absence

4. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received the applications for leave of absence in writing from Members below:

Ms LAM Chung-yan

Sickness

Mr MAK Yun-pui

Official commitment

5. The Council approved the applications for leave of absence submitted by Members above.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 26 January 2017

(STDC Minutes 1/2017)

6. The Secretariat received a revised proposal submitted by Mr SIU Hin-hong before the meeting. The revised proposal had been placed on the conference table.

7. Mr SIU Hin-hong proposed to revise paragraph 13 to:

- (a) **he pointed out that it was probably due to changes in the biophysical environment of country parks in recent years that monkeys, wild pigeons, wild boars, etc. which had been bothering Sha Tin residents could not forage**

and inhabit in the wild. It was proposed that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) consider providing permanent habitats for them in the country parks;

- (b) in terms of agriculture, he **asked the AFCD how it verified that the vegetables were organic;**
- (c) **he said he had repeatedly dealt with complaint cases of illegal felling. Though there was video evidence showing the felling in progress, the AFCD left it unsettled.** In dealing with the problem of illegal felling, was **the AFCD** entitled to prosecute and indict? If yes, please provide **the number of persons successfully prosecuted** over the past year; and
- (d) he lauded the AFCD for their work on conserving the country parks, **and** suggested that **more promotion** of the country parks be done, **Hoi Ha Wan Marine Park** be opened to **the public for snorkeling and sightseeing**, and **country parks be improved for special activities for the public such as** paragliding and **flying fields for model airplanes.**

8. The Council accepted the revised proposal above and endorsed the revised minutes.

Discussion Items

The Sha Tin District Council (STDC) to Serve as Event Supporter
(Paper No. STDC 14/2017)

9. The Council unanimously endorsed that the STDC would serve as Event Supporter of the 8th “Quit to Win” Smoke-free Community Campaign organised by the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health and the “Hong Kong Water Race 2017” organised by the Wofoo Social Enterprises, and permitted their use of the STDC’s logo on the relevant promotional materials. Besides, the Council unanimously endorsed the display of the STDC’s logo on the works of the paper-cutting programme held by the Great China Intangible Cultural Heritage Association.

Draft Estimates of the STDC for 2017-2018
(Paper No. STDC 15/2017)

10. The Chairman stated that, according to the 2017 Policy Address, an additional \$100 million would be provided for the Community Involvement Programme while the actual amount of funding allocated to the STDC for 2017-2018 was to be confirmed. After the Home Affairs Department confirmed the amount, a proposal of the revised estimate would be submitted to the STDC via the Finance and General Affairs Committee.

11. The Council unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Funding Applications

Proposed District Free Entertainment Programmes from April 2017 to March 2018 Jointly Organised with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (Paper No. STDC 16/2017)

12. Mr Michael YUNG said that, due to the extension of Yan On Estate, the HD would study the utilisation arrangements for the basketball court there. He suggested that the LCSD check with the HD before arranging events to see if the court would be closed for the relevant time slots. Since the football pitch was farther away from the residential area, the attendance might be affected.

13. Mr PUN Kwok-shan said that there used to be three performances held at Lung Hang Centre and asked why the number would be reduced to two.

14. The Chairman said that due to various objective factors, there were relatively fewer venues for holding activities in Tai Wai. It was hoped that the LCSD would find suitable venues for the relevant activities.

15. Ms May TSANG gave a consolidated response as follows::

- (a) there were three performances held in Lung Hang Centre. In view of the fact that there was a relatively larger newly developed area in the Sha Tin District and more venues had been established, they would evenly share the number of activities held in the Tai Wai District. There would be six venues in Tai Wai in 2017-2018, with each holding two activities on average; and
- (b) she would discuss with the HD and try their best to hold activities in the basketball court in Yan On Estate for the residents in the time slots unaffected by the construction works.

16. The Council unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Proposed Recreation and Sports Activities from April 2017 to March 2018 Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Sha Tin District (Paper No. STDC 17/2017)

17. Mr SIU Hin-hong opined that the amount of funding was comparatively large while the creativity for the activities was unsatisfactory. He suggested that the LCSD cater for the youth's interest when planning activities.

18. Ms Jackie LO thanked Mr SIU Hin-hong for his opinion. She pointed out that the LCSD had always taken into consideration different social classes and age groups when planning activities. A new project for the Sha Tin District in 2017-18 would be a park orientation activity designed for kids and parents. The LCSD would in future keep an eye on the people's comments and the social trend in order to keep abreast of the times.

19. The Council unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Extension of Opening Hours of Community Halls in Sha Tin
(Paper No. STDC 18/2017)

20. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he stated that the opening hours of 12 community halls / centres would be extended and the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall would be opened soon. He thanked the Sha Tin District Office (STDO) for organising visits and explaining the arrangements for partitioning venues. He asked when the STDO or the working group would review the utilisation rate of the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall so that the opening hours would be extended to meet a certain utilisation level accordingly, whether an estimate had been prepared for the extension of opening hours, and whether the expenses had been reserved in the additional funding provided by the Home Affairs Bureau for the Community Involvement Programme; and
- (b) the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall was said to be opened in April at the earliest. The third round of application offered to group applicants should be in line with the schedule. He was worried that the utilisation rate of the first three months might not be able to reflect the future situation because users were still getting accustomed. Hence, he asked if the review on the utilisation rate would be postponed so as not to affect the decision on extending the opening hours.

21. Mr SIU Hin-hong said that he had never rented a community hall / centre, but he had taken part in the relevant activities. He opined that community halls / centres were now mainly used for holding gatherings or performances. The general public or groups might not know they could rent a community hall / centre via district offices. He asked if consideration would be given to expanding the functions of community halls / centres so as to benefit more people. In his opinion, the STDO should provide the public with more information so that they would be well informed of the functions and availability of community halls / centres.

22. Mr WONG Yue-hon asked about the arrangements for partitioning venues at the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall and when the arrangements would be announced to group applicants.

23. Mr Simon WONG, Assistant District Officer of the STDO gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Working Group on the Management of Community Halls and Libraries (the Working Group) had included the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall in the discussion about the extension of opening hours. Opinion in the Working Group had it that after the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall had been put into service, the utilisation rate should be reviewed as soon as possible (such as after three months) and the arrangements for extending the opening hours should be discussed. The STDO would report to the Working Group and the District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC) as soon as it got hold of the data on the utilisation rate for them to discuss the arrangements for extending opening hours;

- (b) the functions of community halls / centres were not confined to organising classes. Some groups applied for using them for seminars and conferences. The Working Group could discuss how to promote the use of community halls / centres. The existing *Guidelines on Using Sha Tin Community Centre / Hall* (the Guidelines) clearly stated the eligibility for group application and the forbidden activities. Other activities not in violation of the Guidelines would be permitted to take place in community halls / centres; and
- (c) the STDO was now studying the arrangements for partitioning the venues in the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall and would soon pilot them. It would discuss them with the Working Group before explaining them at the DFMC meeting to be held in April 2017. Once the DFMC endorsed them, the STDO would notify groups as soon as possible.

24. Ms Amy CHAN responded that, according to the current financial status, it should be sufficient to cover the expenses on the extension of opening hours even after the utilisation rate of the Yuen Chau Kok Community Hall reached a certain level.

25. The Council unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Information Items

Reports of Committees under the STDC

District Facilities Management Committee
(Paper No. STDC 19/2017)

Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee
(Paper No. STDC 20/2017)

Education and Welfare Committee
(Paper No. STDC 21/2017)

Development and Housing Committee
(Paper No. STDC 22/2017)

Traffic and Transport Committee
(Paper No. STDC 23/2017)

Health and Environment Committee
(Paper No. STDC 24/2017)

26. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) under the phase two expansion project of the Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH), there was an elderly home in Block E where some residents had yet to move to other elderly homes. He asked the department about the relocation progress;

- (b) the Hospital Authority (HA) said that the premises had to be surrendered vacant before 30 June 2017 for the HA to conduct advance works. He wished to know if it was a must to move out before 30 June 2017. If the residents of the elderly home encountered difficulties, he wondered if the relevant department could negotiate arrangements lest the residents should feel anxious;
- (c) regarding the firefighter's death on duty yesterday, to his knowledge, a helicopter apron was originally designed for the phase one expansion project of the PWH for helicopters to land and take off at the PWH directly. Yet, the helicopter had to land at the Sha Tin Fire Station in this accident before the firefighter was sent to the hospital by ambulance. He asked if the HA would reconsider setting up a helicopter apron in phase two so that patients would be sent to the hospital directly with minimum transportation time and receive medical care as soon as possible;
- (d) some details were not given in the papers by the HA at the meeting. For instance, an additional building would have to be erected at the Shatin Hospital, but the papers did not mention the area of the expansion and how it would be constructed. He requested the STDO or the Secretariat to remind departments to ensure the papers submitted were clear and precise. Besides, on the day of the meeting there was a missing page in an old document posted online, leaving him only eight minutes to read the relevant old documents. He asked how the remaining documents could be digitalised and whether the Secretariat would increase manpower to make it easier for Members to look up information in the old documents and facilitate the quality of deliberations;
- (e) Mrs Gloria LEE, District Social Welfare Officer (Shatin) of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) stated that family members of the elderly home's residents had been contacted to follow up. To his knowledge, the tenancy agreement of the Government Property Agency would terminate on 31 March 2017 and the licence of the elderly home would terminate on the same date. The PWH said that the removal period could only be extended to 30 June 2017 at the latest. He asked if the elderly home would need to submit an application to the SWD for a licence. Otherwise, it would be considered unlicensed if it continued to operate after 31 March 2017. If anything happened, the residents would have to bear certain risks; and
- (f) he believed there was nothing wrong about discussing district issues at the meetings of the District Management Committee (DMC) or the Health and Environment Committee (HEC), but not every Member, or not even the DMC vice-chairman, attended the DMC meetings. In such case, he asked how Members were supposed to follow up on matters effectively. It was not ideal for Members to be informed of the relevant arrangements only through the DMC reports during the DC meetings. He asked if Mr WONG Yue-hon would follow up on this with the committee he chaired.

27. The views of Mr Thomas PANG were summarised below:

- (a) he asked the HEC chairman if there was any existing supervisory mechanism. He found the environmental hygiene in the district deteriorating, but the problems involved various departments. He voiced hygiene issues concerning the streets about six months ago. Mr Eric TSAI, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sha Tin) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) said around Chinese New Year that he had already known about the problems. However, since the streets concerned were under the purview of the Highways Department (HyD), the FEHD had already asked the HyD to follow up. Yet, six months later, no improvement had been made;
- (b) he had discussed with the HKPF recently the problems of illegal parking, obstruction of walkways by miscellaneous objects (e.g. in the vicinity of Mei Tin Road and Tai Wai Market in Tai Wai), etc. The HKPF said that these problems were mainly handled by the FEHD. If the FEHD encountered violent resistance or confrontations, the HKPF would provide assistance. He believed that many Members would agree that the hygiene issues in the district had not improved because the government departments shirked their responsibilities to one another. If the issues were brought up in the HEC meetings, only three members could follow up on the question. He asked if the HEC chairman could initiate an agenda item of discussing how to enhance the hygiene level of the district to an international one in order to provide a chance for the departments to clarify their duties. He hoped that the HEC would take the lead to elevate the hygiene level of the district to people's expectations. He often emphasised that when Mr TSANG Yam-kuen was the head of the Team Clean, there was no boundary and there was always a department that would take care of the problems. He opined that the issues could be discussed in the meetings of the DMC or discussed as an agenda item raised in the HEC meetings so as to find a solution; and
- (c) he seconded Ms Amy CHAN's proposal to discuss the issues at the DMC meetings. He was out of town when the last DMC meeting was held, and therefore was not able to initiate a discussion then.

28. Mr LAI Tsz-yan stated that, regarding the redevelopment works of the PWH, he had lately received opinions from the residents in the district saying that 70 elderly persons were still residing in Refine Home located inside the PWH and it was difficult for them to find other elderly homes near Sha Tin. The SWD suggested that they try elderly homes with a less impressive reputation in the vicinity or Tai Po. However, the fact was that these elderly people chose Refine Home because other elderly homes were not satisfactory. He asked if the SWD would have any arrangements to help these elderly people and why the papers submitted by the HA at the last HEC meeting did not mention the arrangements for Refine Home.

29. The views of Mr SIU Hin-hong were summarised below:

- (a) he was a member of the PWH's Hospital Governance Committee (HGC). As to Members' request that the PWH set up a community working group to supervise

the works in progress or to express opinions, he had already relayed the message to the HA and discussion would take place at the next HGC meeting. He or the PWH would keep Members updated;

- (b) regarding the helicopter apron, he would also bring up the issue at the next HGC meeting; and
- (c) regarding the issues of Refine Home which was a privately-run elderly home, he believed that its management, in addition to the government departments, was also responsible for taking follow-up action.

30. Mr WONG Yue-hon, the Chairman of HEC gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the majority of the questions raised by Members required answers with data provided by the relevant departments. In terms of work that needed to be jointly handled by several departments as mentioned by the Vice-Chairman, he said the STDC played an advisory role. If it was necessary to liaise with different departments for a joint action, he believed the STDO would be in the best position to take up the coordination work, and so he requested the STDO to respond. He suggested that the Vice-Chairman bring up the relevant opinions at the committee meeting so as to urge different departments to tackle the environmental hygiene issues;
- (b) the questions related to the PWH's redevelopment project should be answered by the relevant departments; and
- (c) regarding issues that needed to be handled in liaison with different departments, it was mentioned that not every Member attended the DMC meetings. He did not mind discussing the issues at the HEC meetings, but he found it necessary to hold post-meeting discussion with the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Council as to whether the issues should be discussed at the DC meetings or the HEC meetings. If the issues needed to be handled with inter-departmental effort, it would be necessary to invite representatives of different departments to a meeting like the DC's, or else the coordination would not be effective. Since the superintendents and the managers of different departments would attend the DC meetings, it would be easier for them to answer Members' questions and needs. If departments only sent representatives to attend the HEC meetings, he was worried that they might only give answers according to protocol and not be able to respond to Members' questions and needs.

31. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he pointed out that the representatives of both the HA and the Department of Health were absent, and asked the STDO and the SWD to respond;
- (b) he opined that the DMC was fully responsible for dealing with the relevant discussion, but not all DC Members attended the committee meetings. The HEC meetings could also act as a platform for members to discuss or give suggestions under a particular agenda item. If there were too many agenda

items at the HEC meetings, there was a precedent for inviting the relevant departments to a themed meeting, e.g. the Planning Department was being requested to convene a themed meeting on issues such as the housing plans in Sha Tin. He would further discuss it with the relevant Members after the meeting;

- (c) he personally gave full support to the Vice-Chairman's suggestion as it had always concerned him that the hygiene problems on footbridges and subways had yet to improve;
- (d) regarding the questions raised by Mr Michael YUNG and Mr LAI Tsz-yan on the phase two expansion project of the PWH, the HEC chairman did not have any response for the moment and neither did the representatives of the relevant departments. He believed the Secretariat would document the questions, and he had learnt that the questions would be dealt with as matters arising at the next HEC meeting. Members would be able to further discuss the issues then; and
- (e) he agreed to discuss a method after the meeting to effectively deal with the environmental hygiene problems raised by Members. He encouraged Members to voice their opinions after the meeting.

32. Ms Amy CHAN gave a consolidated response as follows::

- (a) in response to Mr WONG Yue-hon's suggestion that the STDO should be responsible for coordinating issues that needed interdepartmental effort, she said that the STDO had always borne the responsibility for coordinating the relevant work. If a complaint case or a referred case needed interdepartmental effort, the STDO would coordinate it, such as the case regarding connection of canopies to tree trunks at Tai Wai Market. She asked the Vice-Chairman to provide information on environmental hygiene after the meeting for them to follow up on. As to the long-existing problems, Members could bring them up at the DMC meetings held every two months; and
- (b) she said that the DMC was not the only channel to follow up on district problems. Members were welcome to let the STDO know about them. Problems that were relatively straightforward might be solved by the STDO's liaison with the relevant departments or the STDO's convening of an interdepartmental meeting; problems that were more complicated and required clarification of responsibilities might take more time to process.

33. Mrs Gloria LEE gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) regarding Refine Home affected by the expansion project of the PWH, the SWD had sent social workers to contact every resident and/or his/her family members. The Integrated Family Service Centre had also opened cases for them to follow up on. Having learnt that the building would have to be surrendered for the redevelopment works, quite a few residents got transferred one after another. To her knowledge, there were about 70 residents still staying at Refine Home. Family members of some of them had made definite transfer arrangements.

The SWD would keep in close contact with family members of the residents and provide them with appropriate assistance; and

- (b) the SWD understood that it took some time for the elderly to make transfer arrangements. After receiving the request from the operator of Refine Home for extending the tenancy agreement for three months, the relevant departments deliberated to permit the tenancy agreement to be extended to late June. The SWD's Licensing Office of Residential Care Homes for the Elderly would continue to discuss licence renewal with the operator and would renew the licence according to the extended tenancy agreement so as to make things work together. The SWD would continue to keep in touch with the operator and help make proper arrangements for relocating the residents.

Finance and General Affairs Committee
(Paper No. STDC 25/2017)

- 34. The Council noted the above report.

Financial Account of the STDC as at 14 March 2017
(Paper No. STDC 26/2017)

- 35. The Council noted the above paper.

Information Papers

Sha Tin District Police Action Plan for 2017 and Crime Brief for 2016
(Paper No. STDC 27/2017)

- 36. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he requested the police to capture the criminals that had burglarised villages in the district. He asked if they failed to do so, how they would further implement "Project Megafeguard" and "Project CARE"; and
- (b) he thanked the police for promptly notifying the residents of Ma On Shan Tsuen of the closure arrangements for the hill(s). However, he hoped that in future they and the Mutual Aid Committee would announce the information as early as possible.

- 37. The views of Ms Scarlett PONG were summarised below:

- (a) she asked which types of fraud recorded a greater number of cases, whether it was online fraud, and whether there was a report on the relevant cases for other districts' reference so as to prevent similar cases from happening again; and
- (b) there was an increase in the number of bicycle theft in 2016. She asked if the information on the theft locations was available, why the cases took place and how the prevention methods were promoted.

38. Mr PUN Kwok-shan stated that the ground floor of some village houses was used for commercial purposes and air conditioned. However, the shopkeepers did not pay much heed to anti-theft devices for air conditioners. He suggested that the Crime Prevention Bureau produce promotional materials in this regard and distribute them into the shopkeepers' letter boxes in order to alert them.

39. Mr YAU Man-chun thanked the police for taking prompt action against the suspected abduction case at the Salvation Army Tin Ka Ping School and for thwarting rumours.

40. Mr James CHAN stated that a number of teenagers were charged with access to computer with dishonest intent merely because they briefly chattered online. He hoped that the police would work with schools to enhance education and reduce crime rate.

41. Mr Sean LIN, Police Community Relations Officer (Shatin District) of the HKPF gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) burglary was one of the types of crime that his police district paid close attention to. He said that one of the burglary cases in Tai Shui Hang was still under investigation. The newsletters of Police regularly sent to Members highlighted complicated cases such as burglary solved by the police. He hoped Members would understand their constraints. Effort to prevent and fight crime included "Project Megasafeguard" and "Project CARE". In 2017, in response to the meeting with Members and the Sha Tin District Fight Crime Committee (DFCC), "Project Megasafeguard" would be extended to "three nil buildings" in Tai Wai to help residents install anti-theft devices to deter burglars and minimise burglary risks. Under "Project CARE", the police would continue to communicate with residents via social media and keep in closer contact with the community in order to reduce the inconvenience caused and raise the public's awareness of potential danger;
- (b) he stated that they were very concerned about computer and technology related fraud. Phone scams and social media scams would be one of their focuses this year. He pointed out that victims of phone scams were mainly elderly people and mainland students studying in Hong Kong universities. Hence, the police had since last year liaised with the offices at the Chinese University of Hong Kong which dealt with student affairs and students from the Mainland to spread crime prevention messages. There was also a task force in the Ma On Shan District to talk to students and enhance their awareness of fighting crime. The DFCC had recently made a crime prevention video in Putonghua to be distributed to the students. Besides, since social media scams had no geographical boundaries, investigation was relatively challenging. The number of fraud cases in 2016 was 387, a decrease of 24.3% on 2015, of which computer crime constituted 191 cases and phone scams 97 cases. Victims of computer crime were mainly women and teenagers;
- (c) since the locations of bicycle theft were rather dispersed, the police would keep an eye on the trend of the crime and focus on the black spots;

- (d) as for the cases of air conditioner theft, suspect(s) of a case currently under investigation had been arrested; and
- (e) he said that the police headquarters understood the importance of communication. Hence, on 1 April 2017, there would be an addition of 21 posts respectively in a number of Police Community Relations Offices across the whole territory, of which 10 were inspectors and 11 sergeants. The Police Community Relations Office in the Sha Tin District would add 1 inspector and 1 sergeant specifically in charge of promoting activities related to teenagers including students at university, secondary school, primary school and kindergarten levels.

42. Mr Angus Guy PULLINGER thanked Mr YAU Man-chun for his opinions. He said that the police were very concerned about cases of children abduction, and asked Members to help distribute the relevant promotional materials so as to maintain social stability.

Report of the District Management Committee
(Paper No. STDC 28/2017)

43. Mr Michael YUNG said that residents in the Sha Tin District had reported the problem of traffic congestion in the district. He asked about the progress of “the feasibility study of the review on the traffic condition of major roads in Sha Tin” and when the Council would be updated again.

44. Mr WAI Hing-cheung asked whether the pilot plan to grow mosquito repelling plants referred to the possibility of growing those plants or the study of whether plants could alleviate mosquito problems, when the effectiveness would be proven, thereafter whether the plants would be increased or grown at different locations to enhance the effectiveness, and how the 400 mosquito repelling plants of the pilot project collectively known as “*Pistacia weinmannifolia*” would be handled.

45. Mr Simon WONG said that with the assistance of the LCSD earlier, the pilot growing of 400 mosquito repelling plants collectively known as “*Pistacia weinmannifolia*” took place in a 35m² area in Wong Uk Garden, Yuen Chau Kok to test the effectiveness. The initial plan was to evaluate the Ovitraps index in the vicinity after the rainy season and then determine whether the plants would be grown at other locations to alleviate mosquito problems.

46. Mr Zorro YUEN, Chief Engineer / New Territories East 3 of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said that the consulting agency had in general completed the assessment of the relevant traffic and transportation impact and formulated traffic alleviation measures. Based on the comments from the relevant departments, the design of Trunk Road T4 was currently being improved to minimise the impact on the nearby residents. It was estimated that the Council would be updated on the progress in mid 2017.

47. The Council noted the above paper.

Date of Next Meeting

48. The next meeting will be held at 2:30 pm on 25 May 2017 (Thursday).
49. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 pm.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat
STDC 13/15/50

May 2017