

**Sha Tin District Council**  
**Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of**  
**the Health and Environment Committee in 2021**

**Date** : 6 July 2021 (Tuesday)  
**Time** : 2:46 pm  
**Venue** : Sha Tin District Office Conference Room 441  
 4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Time of joining the meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Time of leaving the meeting</u></b>
Mr CHAN Pui-ming (Chairman)	DC Member	2:46 pm	7:53 pm
Mr CHING Cheung-ying, MH	DC Chairman	2:46 pm	7:46 pm
Mr WONG Hok-lai, George	DC Vice-Chairman	2:46 pm	5:52 pm
Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung	DC Member	2:46 pm	2:55 pm
Mr CHENG Chung-hang	”	2:46 pm	7:53 pm
Mr CHEUNG Hing-wa	”	2:46 pm	7:53 pm
Mr CHIU Chu-pong	”	5:26 pm	6:19 pm
Mr CHOW Hiu-laam, Felix	”	2:46 pm	7:53 pm
Mr CHUNG Lai-him, Johnny	”	2:46 pm	7:50 pm
Mr HUI Lap-san	”	2:46 pm	7:53 pm
Mr LAI Tsz-yan	”	4:35 pm	5:33 pm
Dr LAM Kong-kwan	”	2:46 pm	3:55 pm
Mr LI Chi-wang, Raymond	”	3:07 pm	6:47 pm
Mr LI Sai-hung	”	2:46 pm	6:48 pm
Mr LI Wing-shing, Wilson	”	2:46 pm	5:22 pm
Mr LO Tak-ming	”	2:49 pm	2:53 pm
Mr LO Yuet-chau	”	2:46 pm	4:25 pm
Ms LUK Tsz-tung	”	2:46 pm	7:41 pm
Mr MAK Tsz-kin	”	2:46 pm	7:46 pm
Mr NG Kam-hung	”	2:46 pm	5:29 pm
Ms NG Ting-lam	”	2:46 pm	5:32 pm
Mr SHEK William	”	3:11 pm	5:12 pm
Mr SIN Cheuk-nam	”	2:46 pm	5:36 pm
Mr WAI Hing-cheung	”	2:46 pm	7:53 pm
Mr WONG Ho-fung	”	2:46 pm	6:47 pm
Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael	”	2:46 pm	7:53 pm
Ms LEE Yin-ching, Karen (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)3, Sha Tin District Office		

<b><u>In Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>
Ms WONG Yuen-shan, Candice	Assistant District Officer (Sha Tin)2
Mr CHAN Ka-kui	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sha Tin), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric	Chief Health Inspector (Sha Tin)3, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms WONG Pui-wan, Cecilia	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional North)4, Environmental Protection Department
Mr LI Ho-yin, Simon	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

**In Attendance**

Ms CHAN Yuen-chi, Jess

Mr HO Kin-nam, David

**In Attendance by Invitation**

Dr CHOI Yu-sze, Cissy

Dr LAI Sheung-siu, Florence

Mr WU Yeung-key, Jimmy

Dr LEUNG Wai-yiu, Anthony

Ms YEUNG Yu-shan, Alice

Mr MOK Wai-kee, Kenneth

Mr LEE Cheuk-hei

Dr LUI Siu-yun

Dr LEUNG Kwan-wa, Maria

Dr CHEUNG Nai-kwong

Ms TAI Yuet-ling

Ms LIU Kit-han

Ms NG Yuk-mun

Ms LEE Siu-ha

Mr CHAN Tsz-wai

Ms WONG Yuen-mei

**Absent**

Mr LUI Kai-wing

Mr MOK Kam-kwai, BBS

Ms TSANG So-lai

Mr YEUNG Sze-kin

Mr CHAN Nok-hang

Mr CHAN Wan-tung

Mr HUI Yui-yu

Mr LIAO Pak-hong, Ricardo

Mr MAK Yun-pui, Chris

Mr SHAM Tsz-kit, Jimmy

**Title**

Housing Manager (Tai Po, North &amp; Shatin 3),

Housing Department

Senior Executive Officer (District Officer) (Atg),

Sha Tin District Office

**Title**

Head (Primary Healthcare Office),

Food and Health Bureau

Associate Consultant (Primary Healthcare Office) 1A,

Food and Health Bureau

Director (District Health Centre Team),

Food and Health Bureau

Veterinary Officer (Avian Influenza Surveillance),

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Senior Field Officer (Avian Influenza),

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Senior Engineer/Drainage Projects 3,

Drainage Services Department

Engineer/Drainage Projects 19,

Drainage Services Department

Medical &amp; Health Officer

(Emergency Preparedness and District Relations)2,

Department of Health

Chief of Service, Department of Family Medicine,

New Territories East Cluster, Hospital Authority

Deputy Hospital Chief Executive (Operations),

Prince of Wales Hospital

Manager (Communications and Community Relations),

Prince of Wales Hospital

Director (Rehabilitation),

The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation

Head (Allied Health),

The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation

Project Co-ordination Manager,

The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation

Waterworks Executive Director, Hong Kong,

AECOM Asia Company Limited

Engineer, AECOM Asia Company Limited

**Title**

DC Member (Application for leave of absence received)

" ( " )

" ( " )

" ( " )

" (No application for leave of absence received)

" ( " )

" ( " )

" ( " )

" ( " )

" ( " )

**Absent**

Mr TSANG Kit

Mr YAU Man-chun

Mr YIP Wing

**Title**

DC Member

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(No application for leave of absence received)

( ” )

( ” )

**Action****Election of Chairman of the Committee**

The Chairman of the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) said that the office of the Chairman of the Health and Environment Committee (HEC) of the STDC was going to be vacant on 1 June this year. According to Order 34(4) and 4(2) of the Sha Tin District Council Standing Orders (the Standing Orders), if the office of Chairman becomes vacant, Members must elect a Chairman from amongst themselves at the first meeting of the Council after the office becomes vacant. The Chairman of the STDC shall preside over the meeting until the Chairman of the Committee is elected. The election procedure would be conducted in accordance with Appendix II to the Standing Orders (Procedure for Election of District Council Chairman and Vice Chairman). The STDC Secretariat (the Secretariat) served all members with nomination forms for the office of Chairman of the HEC and the election procedure on 22 June this year. The deadline for nomination for the office of Chairman of the HEC was 1:30 pm on the day of this meeting.

2. The Chairman of the STDC announced that the election for the Chairman of the HEC began.

3. By the end of the nomination period, the Secretariat had received one nomination form for the office of Chairman of the HEC:

Candidate  
Mr CHAN Pui-ming

Nominator  
Mr Michael YUNG

Seconders  
Mr CHEUNG Hing-wa  
Mr LI Sai-hung

4. Since there was only one candidate, the Chairman of the STDC announced that Mr CHAN Pui-ming was elected *is po facto* as the Chairman of the HEC.

(The Chairman of the HEC, Mr CHAN Pui-ming, was going to preside over the ensuing meeting.)

5. Mr CHAN Pui-ming was the incumbent Vice-Chairman of the HEC. As being elected as the Chairman of the HEC, Mr CHAN Pui-ming resigned as the Vice-Chairman with the STDC. The office of the Vice-Chairman became vacant with immediate effect. The HEC was required to elect a Vice-Chairman at the next meeting.

**Applications for Leave of Absence**

6. The Chairman said that the Secretariat received the applications for leave of absence in writing from the following members:

Mr MOK Kam-kwai  
Mr YEUNG Sze-kin

Official commitment  
”

Mr LUI Kai-wing  
Ms TSANG So-lai

Sickness  
”

7. Members unanimously endorsed the applications for leave of absence of the members above.

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting**

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 4 May 2021  
(HEC Minutes 3/2021)

8. Members unanimously endorsed the above minutes of the meeting.

**Matters Arising**

Responses of the Relevant Government Departments to Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting  
(Paper No. HE 24/2021)

9. Members noted the above paper.

**Discussion Items and Questions**

Refurbishment of Lek Yuen General Out-patient Clinic

Question to be Raised by Mr CHAN Pui-ming on COVID-19 Testing and Specimen Collection in Sha Tin District  
(Paper No. HE 31/2021)

Question to be Raised by Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael on Operation of Community Testing Centres and General Out-patient Services in Sha Tin District  
(Paper No. HE 32/2021)

10. The Chairman suggested re-arranging the order of agenda according to the attendance of the representatives of the government departments and the questions. He asked whether members agreed to discuss the following agenda items together, namely “Refurbishment of Lek Yuen General Out-patient Clinic”, “Question to be Raised by Mr CHAN Pui-ming on COVID-19 Testing and Specimen Collection in Sha Tin District”, “Question to be Raised by Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael on Operation of Community Testing Centres and General Out-patient Services in Sha Tin District”.

11. Members unanimously agreed to re-arrange the order of agenda.

12. Dr CHEUNG Nai-kwong, Deputy Hospital Chief Executive (Operations) of the Prince of Wales Hospital (PWH) and Dr Maria LEUNG, Chief of Service, Department of Family Medicine, New Territories East Cluster of the Hospital Authority (HA) briefed members on the paper.

13. Mr LO Yuet-chau asked for clarification as to whether the evening out-patient service would be relocated to the Yuen Chau Kok General Out-patient Clinic (Yuen Chau Kok Clinic) during the refurbishment of the Lek Yuen General Out-patient Clinic (Lek Yuen Clinic).

14. The views of Mr SIN Cheuk-nam were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know if the information note of the HA could be uploaded to the STDC website for public inspection after the meeting; and
- (b) he said that the users of Lek Yuen Clinic were mainly elderly living in the neighbourhood. Seeking medical consultation from other places would cause inconvenience to them. He would like to know whether the Authority could handle simple medical procedures, such as wound cleansing, through mobile clinic.

15. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know if the clinic service could be moved back to its original location in the first quarter of 2023 as scheduled; and
- (b) as some of the services had been temporarily relocated to the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic, he would like to know if the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic would extend the service hours and increase manpower accordingly.

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

- (a) he said that the relevant works had not been discussed by the New Territories Regional Advisory Committee of the HA. He only came to know about the matter through the notice and banner outside the clinic. After reviewing the documents, he found that the HA had mentioned the plan in its budget. He thought that the Authority had not communicated with the STDC on the plan;
- (b) he considered that the services provided by Lek Yuen Clinic, such as evening consultation service and holiday consultation service, were convenient to residents as Lek Yuen was located in the centre of Sha Tin. He said the locations of the Sir Yue-kong Pao Centre for Cancer and the Lady Pao Children's Cancer Centre (Cancer Centre) at the PWH and Yuen Chau Kok Clinic were not as convenient as Lek Yuen Clinic. He would like to know what support services were available to assist the public to seek medical consultation at the above places, such as shuttle bus service;
- (c) he would like to know what services were originally provided on the first floor of the Cancer Centre and where the services would be relocated; and
- (d) he would like to know how many consultation rooms were available in the Cancer Centre and whether they were enough to provide services that covered the whole Lek Yuen Clinic. He hoped that the Authority would provide more detailed documents and briefing notes for members to pass the information to the public.

17. The views of Mr WAI Hing-cheung were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know whether the Authority had received any comments and responses from the public after the announcement of the refurbishment project;

- (b) he hoped that the Authority would explain clearly what kinds of service would be affected, and he would like to know whether the clinic would still provide some of the services during the refurbishment;
- (c) Lek Yuen Clinic had a daily attendance of 800 currently. He would like to know whether the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic and the Cancer Centre could meet the demand; and
- (d) he said that the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic would increase the number of consultation rooms and rationalise various medical procedures, and so on. He would like to know how many members of the public could be served by Lek Yuen Clinic each day after the refurbishment.

18. The views of Mr Raymond LI were summarised below:

- (a) he said that members had learnt about the refurbishment works only after seeing a notice outside Lek Yuen Clinic. He pointed out that members had all along hoped to set up evening consultation service at Yuen Chau Kok Clinic. However, the Authority had not responded. He hoped that the Authority would consider the arrangements of refurbishment and relocation in detail to facilitate the public's access to healthcare services; and
- (b) he would like to know apart from posting notices outside the clinic, what other means the Authority had employed to inform the nearby residents of the refurbishment project. He asked whether the Authority had informed stakeholders in the vicinity, such as owners' corporations (OC), mutual aid committee and village representative. He would like to know whether the Sha Tin District Office (STDO) had received any relevant information.

19. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) it was known that the daily consultation quota at Lek Yuen Clinic and Yuen Chau Kok Clinic were 700 and 360 respectively. He asked for more information on the current proportion of new patients to follow-up patients at Lek Yuen Clinic and the consultation quota at Yuen Chau Kok Clinic in future;
- (b) he said that when checking the HA's work plan in recent years, the works concerned could not be identified. The issue was only mentioned in this year's Legislative Council Budget. He said the interior of Lek Yuen Clinic had been refurbished and he wished to know how urgent the current works were;
- (c) he said that there was no direct transport service to the other 3 out-patient clinics in some places of Sha Tin District. He would like to know if the Authority had discussed the relevant traffic arrangements with the Transport Department (TD);
- (d) based on the current population ratio in Sha Tin, there should be six clinics/health centres, but there were only four. He asked whether the Authority would consider setting up additional clinics at the development site reserved in Ma On Shan, Tai Wai Complex or Fo Tan Joint-user Building;

- (e) he would like to know whether the evening consultation service at Yuen Chau Kok Clinic would remain available after the completion of the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic;
- (f) he pointed out that collection service of deep throat saliva specimens in the district was not available on Saturdays and Sundays. He asked whether the Authority would consider setting up additional specimen collection points at Yuen Chau Kok Clinic as it currently provided holiday consultation service; and
- (g) he would like to know whether the Secretariat could provide the HA's briefing notes to members after the meeting for reference.

20. Dr CHEUNG Nai-kwong gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) he said that information on the whole project had been released in accordance with the HA's consultation procedures. He thanked the Chairman for inviting them to brief the STDC on the plan;
- (b) he said that the refurbishment works might cause inconvenience to the public, but the general out-patient services in the district would not be diminished; and
- (c) it was known that members of the public had shown understanding after learning about the temporary relocation of the service, and had not expressed concern about great inconvenience caused by the temporary relocation of the service.

21. Dr Maria LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the refurbishment works were confined to the ground floor of the general out-patient clinic of Lek Yuen Health Centre. Services on the first floor or above would not be affected. The follow-up treatment services for chronic patients with regular follow-up consultations would be relocated to the first floor of the Cancer Centre at the PWH, while the out-patient service for patients with episodic illness (including services provided during evening, on Sundays and on public holidays) would be relocated to the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic. As the refurbishment of Yuen Chau Kok Clinic had been completed in the second quarter of this year, the Authority expected that the arrangement would be able to meet the service demand during the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic;
- (b) she noted that the clinic had to deal with a large number of wound cleansing cases every day, in which a series of infection control measures should be attended to. Therefore, mobile clinic could not cope with the demand. The Yuen Chau Kok Clinic currently had sufficient space to provide wound cleansing services. Treatment rooms and blood collection rooms would also be set up in the Cancer Centre to provide treatment services related to chronic diseases;
- (c) the Authority would liaise closely with the Works Division and closely monitor the progress of the works. The project was expected to be completed by the end of next year and the clinic service was expected to be moved back in the first quarter of 2023;

- (d) the Authority would deploy sufficient manpower to the Cancer Centre and Yuen Chau Kok Clinic to cope with the service demand;
- (e) the Authority had informed the public of the temporary service relocation since early this year. The public also supported the refurbishment project. The services would not be affected by the refurbishment; and
- (f) upon completion of the refurbishment, the number of consultation rooms would increase and more treatment services would be provided accordingly. Headquarters would adjust the volume of services in response to regional needs and human resources, etc. The Authority had also reflected to the headquarters the demand for general out-patient clinics in Sha Tin District.

22. Ms TAI Yuet-ling, Manager (Communications and Community Relations) of the PWH gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Authority had been disseminating information on the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic to Sha Tin residents through various channels, including the banners displayed outside the clinic and the notices issued to patients in the first quarter of this year. She said the arrangement was well received and understood by the public. Relevant information would be disseminated on the websites of the PWH and New Territories East Cluster. Posters had also been produced for public reference and download. Press releases would be issued in August this year to inform the public of the matter; and
- (b) she indicated that the briefing notes could be circulated to members through the Secretariat.

23. Ms Candice WONG, Assistant District Officer (Sha Tin)<sup>2</sup> said that if the HA or the Department of Health (DH) needed to disseminate project-related information through the STDO, the STDO would provide appropriate assistance.

24. Dr LUI Siu-yun, Medical & Health Officer (Emergency Preparedness and District Relations)<sup>2</sup> of the DH gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the DH operated a Maternal and Child Health Centre, an Elderly Health Centre, an office of School Immunisation Team and a Clinical Pathology Laboratory Centre at Lek Yuen Health Centre. During the refurbishment of Lek Yuen General Out-patient Clinic, the clinics and facilities under the DH would continue to provide services without any impact, and measures would be taken to minimise the impact of the refurbishment on patients; and
- (b) the collection point of the DH for COVID-19 testing specimen in Sha Tin District was set at the Yuen Chau Kok Chest Clinic from 9 am to 1 pm and from 2 pm to 3 pm from Monday to Friday; from 9 am to 11 am on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

25. The views of Mr LO Yuet-chau were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know when the out-patient services for evening, Sunday and public holidays would be relocated to the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic; and

- (b) he would like to know whether the services relocated to Yuen Chau Kok Clinic would be suspended upon completion of the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic. He was worried that it would lead to public discontent if the evening consultation service at Yuen Chau Kok Clinic was suspended.

26. The views of Mr Raymond LI were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the information provided by the Authority did not reflect that the temporary relocation service could meet the demand in the district. He hoped that the Authority would provide relevant data;
- (b) he was of the view that the duration of consultation and notification period of the refurbishment works was inadequate. He said that some residents were concerned about the matter; and
- (c) he would like to know how the Authority was going to help the public to use services at other clinics more conveniently during the construction period, such as providing shuttle bus service and additional instructions. He pointed out that not all members of the public could access the internet, so the Authority could disseminate relevant information to residents through District Council Members and the STDO.

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

- (a) he thought that the department should clearly explain the arrangements and provide relevant data, such as the number of consultation rooms provided by the Cancer Centre;
- (b) he said that his question had asked about the number of patients receiving medical consultations in various clinics, but the Authority had not responded;
- (c) he would like to know whether the area of the works would be separated from other facilities of the DH in Lek Yuen Health Centre during the refurbishment period, and whether the DH had assessed the impact of the works on patients; and
- (d) he pointed out that the change of contractor of the Community Testing Centre at Lek Yuen Community Hall and the cessation of the Community Testing Centre at Ma On Shan Sports Centre happened at the same time, resulting in the suspension of sampling service for three days in Sha Tin District. He would like to know whether it was possible to avoid time overlap when changing contractors in future so as to facilitate the testing of the public in need.

28. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the department had not responded to the existing service arrangements of the Cancer Centre, the number of consultation rooms for serving patients from the temporarily-relocated clinics, the consultation quotas and consultation rates, the transport arrangements and the plan to build more clinics in Sha Tin. He hoped that the department would respond; and

- (b) he pointed out that after the cessation of the Community Testing Centre at the Ma On Shan Sports Centre, members of the public in designated groups still needed to be tested regularly. However, there were only a small number of distribution points for the specimen collection packs in Ma On Shan. He wanted to know what improvement measures the department had put in place.

29. Dr CHEUNG Nai-kwong gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) he pointed out that the new service point of Lek Yuen Clinic at the Cancer Centre was originally a Children's Cancer Centre, and the original service had been relocated to the Hong Kong Children's Hospital. As a result, extra space was made available. The chronic patient service and the episodic out-patient service of Lek Yuen Clinic had been temporarily relocated to the Cancer Centre and Yuen Chau Kok Clinic respectively, so it was able to cover the entire service capacity of Lek Yuen Clinic; and
- (b) he said that the HA had to consider the overall demand for evening consultation services in Sha Tin for arrangement and deployment.

30. Dr Maria LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the services of Lek Yuen Clinic were going to be officially relocated to Yuen Chau Kok Clinic and Cancer Centre on 15 August this year;
- (b) there were two clinics in Sha Tin providing evening consultation service, including Ma On Shan Family Medicine Centre and Lek Yuen Clinic. For deciding whether to provide evening consultation services at other clinics, the Authority had to take into account the overall manpower arrangement, ancillary facilities and demand for service in the district and so on. Enhancing the evening consultation service at Lek Yuen Clinic after its refurbishment might be more cost-effective;
- (c) the Lek Yuen Clinic had seven consultation rooms for chronic diseases, while more than 10 consultation rooms at the Cancer Centre were available. In addition, Lek Yuen Clinic had one or two consultation rooms for handling episodic diseases. The services concerned would be relocated to Yuen Chau Kok Clinic, where sufficient space was available to provide the services;
- (d) hoardings would be erected around the area of the works during the refurbishment to ensure safe access to Lek Yuen Health Centre for other patients. The Works Division would also closely monitor the environmental indices during construction to ensure compliance with the relevant regulations of the Environmental Protection Department;
- (e) she said that the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic and the Cancer Centre were close to the MTR stations. The Authority had also included the bus routes in the information flyers for patients to facilitate them taking public transport; and

- (f) it was known that the Authority would actively consider the possibility of setting up a general out-patient clinic in the development project of Tai Wai Tsuen Nam Road planned by the Housing Department (HD) and the STDO. The Bureaux would further consider whether to build other clinics in reserved sites of Ma On Shan.

31. Dr LUI Siu-yun gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) during the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic, the DH would take note of the impact of the works on patients attending the clinic. The HA would also take corresponding measures to minimise the impact of the works on them;
- (b) the pharmacy of the Lek Yuen General Out-patient Clinic had been providing dispensing service to patients of the Maternal and Child Health Centre and Elderly Health Centre in Lek Yuen Health Centre. During the construction period, the Department planned to set up a temporary pharmacy in Health Centre for dispensing medication to patients; and
- (c) she said that the Community Testing Centre and Mobile Specimen Collection Stations were not under the purview of the DH. The Food and Health Bureau (FHB) was responsible for matters concerned. Members might convey their views to the FHB.

32. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he said that Ocean View, Yan On Estate and Mei Tin Estate had no direct buses to the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic or Cancer Centre, and were far away from MTR stations. He would like to know if the Authority had taken into account such situation; and
- (b) he had written to the FHB and the DH regarding the cessation of the Ma On Shan Community Testing Centre and the collection of virus specimen. The DH advised that the issue was outside its jurisdiction. He said that the government was working as a whole, the Department should refer the matter to the relevant departments for follow-up action, rather than answer questions by claiming that the issue was out of its ambit.

33. The views of Mr Raymond LI were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know how many rooms had been added to the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic to provide out-patient services for episodic diseases, and whether the clinic could provide the same service capacity as Lek Yuen Clinic;
- (b) he thought that the provision of transport information to the public was not sufficiently effective in assisting the public to seek medical consultation at the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic and the Cancer Centre. He considered that assistance should be provided to wheelchair users; and

- (c) he would like to know how many additional evening consultation quotas would be provided in Lek Yuen Clinic by the Authority after the refurbishment works, and whether the Authority had considered providing evening consultation services at the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic.

34. Mr WONG Ho-fung said Lek Yuen Clinic was more frequently used by residents of Mei Tin Estate because of its convenient location compared with the Sha Tin (Tai Wai) General Out-patient Clinic. He pointed out that there was no direct public transport to Yuen Chau Kok Clinic and the PWH from Mei Tin Estate. He hoped that the Authority would discuss with the TD on improvement measures.

35. Mr LO Yuet-chau said the HA had not informed the STDC of the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic as early as possible. Members had learnt about it through the banners outside the clinic. He was of the view that the HA had not disseminated sufficient information on the issue.

36. Dr CHEUNG Nai-kwong said that the Authority had disseminated information to the public in accordance with the guidelines and had provided additional information to the public. He would relay the members' views to the Authority.

37. Dr Maria LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) having listened to members' views, the Authority would consider providing better transport information in the banners and information flyers to facilitate the public to visit the Yuen Chau Kok Clinic and the Cancer Centre; and
- (b) she pointed out that two additional consultation rooms had been set up at Yuen Chau Kok Clinic to meet the service demand during the refurbishment of Lek Yuen Clinic.

38. The Chairman hoped that if there was going to be similar works in the future, the Authority would be able to listen to the views of districts as soon as possible.

39. The Chairman ended the discussion of this agenda item.

District Health Centre Scheme - Sha Tin District Health Centre Express  
(Paper No. HE 25/2021)

40. Mr Jimmy WU, Director (District Health Centre Team) of the FHB and Ms LIU Kit-han, Director (Rehabilitation) of the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation briefly introduced the paper.

41. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) he thanked the department for briefing the STDC on the District Health Centre (DHC) Scheme. He believed that the primary healthcare service would help relieve the pressure on the healthcare system and hoped to take forward the scheme in Sha Tin as soon as possible;
- (b) he would like to know what services, such as blood collection services, would be provided by the DHC Express so as to attract more target service providers to participate in the scheme;

- (c) it was known that members of the public were required to use eHealth APP to enable service providers to access the information through the system. He asked whether members of the public could enjoy the services of the Health Centre Express if they did not use eHealth APP;
- (d) it was reported that the utilisation rate of the DHC in Kwai Tsing was not as expected. He would like to know how the Authority had enhanced its publicity and education efforts and implemented the scheme in Sha Tin District; and
- (e) he would like to know whether remote health management would track patients' diet and health habits through an APP. He believed this approach could be effective in helping people with chronic diseases to manage their health.

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

- (a) he pointed out that the DHC in Kwai Tsing was a pilot scheme. He would like to know more about the current arrangements and its service hours;
- (b) he knew about the location of the Health Centre and wanted to know when the service hours would be extended;
- (c) he would like to know more about the cooperation between the DHC and specialist out-patient clinics in facilitating case referrals in order to enhance the cooperation between the healthcare and medical systems;
- (d) he believed it was necessary to pay attention to the mental health of the public. He would like to know how the DHC Express collaborated with organisations related to mental health; and
- (e) he would like to know the criteria for the award of operation contracts for Health Centre, and whether the Authority would take into account other technical factors instead of deciding solely on price.

43. Mr NG Kam-hung would like to know whether the Health Centre Express provided medical services or only provided health information. He said the DC offices also provided health information to the public. He was concerned about duplication of resources.

44. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) it was known that the Health Centre Express was expected to be in service in October this year. He would like to know whether the operator was required to provide the service by the end of October this year under the operation contract. If the operator was unable to provide the service by the end of October, whether the service would be extended. In addition, he would also like to know the operation contract period; and
- (b) he would like to know the specific funding mode and whether there would be a limit.

45. Mr Jimmy WU gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Authority understood that some members of the public might not know how to use eHealth APP. Staff of the Health Centre Express would assist the public in registering and explain how to use eHealth APP to them;
- (b) he pointed out that the DHC in Kwai Tsing was a pilot scheme. The Authority had commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong to conduct a study to help review the services and progress of the DHC Scheme and to make recommendations for improvement. The DHC in Kwai Tsing was in service for six days a week from 10 am to 8 pm. In subsequent tenders, the Authority had requested the operators to extend the service hours, such as extending the service hours to 9 pm for two days a week and providing services for six days a week, in order to make it convenient for commuters;
- (c) according to the current criteria for selecting operators, the price accounted for 30% of the assessment criteria, while the quality of the proposed service accounted for 70%. He said that the assessment criteria were open to the public so that members of the public could learn about the assessment criteria from the letter of invitation to tender;
- (d) he pointed out that Health Centre provided not only health information, but also health assessments and chronic disease screening by doctors. If medical treatment was needed, the Centre would follow up according to the referral of doctors, with advice and support provided by allied health professionals;
- (e) the operator of the Health Centre Express would provide services by the end of October this year. The Authority would maintain close communication with the Society for Rehabilitation to ensure that the service could be provided on schedule; and
- (f) the FHB would conduct publicity through newspapers, radio and television, etc. in the fourth quarter of this year. The Society for Rehabilitation would also work with various organisations in the district to promote the relevant scheme in Sha Tin.

46. Dr Cissy CHOI, Head (Primary Healthcare Office) of the FHB said that the service contract period of DHC Express was three years. The Authority would invite tenders for the Health Centre in due course and arrange to link up with the Health Centre Express.

47. Dr Florence LAI, Associate Consultant (Primary Healthcare Office) 1A of the FHB gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Authority had requested the operators to offer blood test for diabetes screening for the public who were at risk of diabetes, such as obese people aged 45 or above, people with familial genetic risk, high blood pressure, high blood lipid or chronic steroid users. Their cholesterol levels could also be tested when necessary; and
- (b) the DHC Express in each district was provided with an annual subsidy of about \$18 million.

48. Ms LIU Kit-han gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Health Centre Express operated under the concept of “community connection”. The Society for Rehabilitation would establish community connection with public housing estates, private housing estates, social service agencies, district organisations and DC offices. She said that the promotion of primary healthcare required reaching out to the public in the community. Health promotion activities, such as screening and health education, were regularly held at major housing estates and landmark locations in the district to reach more people;
- (b) screening for people at risk of diabetes or hypertension was planned to be conducted and appropriate health services would be arranged afterwards;
- (c) the Health Centre Express would follow up with the participants of the emotional health promotion campaign and refer the cases to the Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness (ICCMW). When necessary, they would liaise with private doctors to provide referral assistance; and
- (d) some members of the public might not be able to use the service during the service hours of the Health Centre Express because of their work. The Health Centre Express would provide health management information to the public through mobile phones or other means of communication to educate them on self-management of health. The Health Centre Express would also make phone calls to the public to strengthen follow-up service of cases.

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

- (a) he was glad to see that assessment criteria for tender were not based solely on price. He considered that service quality accounting for 70% could enable the public to obtain services at affordable prices;
- (b) he would like to know whether the \$18 million subsidy was the operator’s trading fund and whether the operator was required to claim the expenses of the Health Centre Express on an accountable basis; and
- (c) he pointed out that ICCMW were under the management of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB). He asked whether the LWB and the FHB had communicated on the allocation of relevant resources.

50. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know whether the amount of \$18 million was subsidy or the trading fund for Health Centre Express. Based on the experience of the DHC in Kwai Tsing District, how many people could be served by the subsidy per month; and
- (b) it was known that the manpower of home care services was currently under great pressure. He would like to know whether the Health Centre Express would provide home care services for stroke patients in need or refer them to the relevant district organisations for follow-up.

51. Dr Cissy CHOI gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) she said that representatives from the FHB and the LWB had participated in the Steering Committee on Primary Healthcare Development. The demand for emotional health services would be reflected by the relevant representatives in the Committee; and
- (b) if members of the public required allied health treatment at home due to health condition, the Health Centre Express might be able to provide outreaching services and support.

52. Dr Florence LAI said that the \$18 million represented the overall annual trading fund of each DHC Express. A rent ceiling was set for each DHC Express by the Authority to ensure appropriate use of the fund.

53. Mr Johnny CHUNG wanted to know whether there was a fixed staffing requirement for the Health Centre Express team and whether the operators could flexibly re-allocate staff. In addition, he would like to learn about the criteria for determining the remuneration level. He asked whether the social worker in the team was a degree holder or a diploma holder.

54. Mr Jimmy WU said the team should have at least one registered nurse and one registered social worker. In addition, the operator would deploy additional staff according to service needs. The operator would hire staff according to the remuneration level.

55. Dr Cissy CHOI added that operators were also required to report to the FHB on their service status and manpower arrangements regularly. Operators should notify the FHB and obtain consent of the Authority before any manpower change or redeployment. The Authority would continue to monitor its manpower deployment to ensure that the services would not be affected.

56. Ms LIU Kit-han said the social workers in the team were degree holders.

57. The Chairman ended the discussion of this agenda item.

Strategy and Work for Improvement of Environmental Hygiene in Hong Kong  
(Paper No. HE 26/2021)

58. Mr SIN Cheuk-nam said he hoped that the Department would simplify the procedures for testing water seepage in buildings and fully adopt new testing technologies in Sha Tin.

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

- (a) he pointed out that water seepage in private buildings was more difficult to deal with. It was known that the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) applied infrared thermography and microwave tomography and other new testing technologies at eight pilot districts. He would like to know when the above new testing technologies would be used in other districts;
- (b) he pointed out that in private buildings, fresh water pipes were more often installed in the walls, and that lead pipes with a longer service life were more prone to leakage. He said that the JO would only refer the case to the Water

Supplies Department (WSD) when such situation was identified. He hoped that the Department and the WSD would improve the approaches to the problem of water seepage involving fresh water pipes;

- (c) he pointed out that the problem of shop front extension in Grandway Garden involved public and private land, and suggested that the Department should work with the relevant private management companies to combat shop front extension;
- (d) climate change resulted in the increasing mosquito infestation. He would like to know whether the placement of mosquito traps and ovitraps would be susceptible to interference, and whether other new technologies would be considered; and
- (e) he pointed out that some construction companies had disposed of construction waste outside the refuse collection points at Tai Shui Hang Village. As the municipal solid waste charging would soon be implemented, he would like to know what measures the Department would have in place to optimise the rural refuse collection points.

60. The views of Mr Johnny CHUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he thanked the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) for their efforts in tackling the problem of sundries in public areas in the district. He hoped that the Department would follow up;
- (b) he pointed out that some members of the public had reported that the JO had visited the unit for investigation and found that the moisture at the seepage locations was higher than 35%. However, the case had to be closed as the source of the seepage could not be identified. He said that the new testing technologies were not yet fully implemented in Sha Tin. He would like to know the JO's criteria for using the new testing technologies; and
- (c) he pointed out that most of the public places in the constituency were managed by private companies where the FEHD had no right to carry out anti-rodent work. He asked if the Department could provide advice on rodent control to the management company concerned.

61. The views of Mr Raymond LI were summarised below:

- (a) he pointed out that the rodent infestation in Wo Che Estate was serious. He hoped that the Department would strengthen cooperation with other departments and stakeholders to tackle the rodent infestation in the district;
- (b) it was known that the Department had indicated that it would enhance the anti-rodent outcome through technology. He would like to know more about the effectiveness of anti-rodent technology. He said the Department would monitor the rodent infestation by means of infrared technology. He wanted to know more about the usage and effectiveness of the technology in Sha Tin; and

- (c) he said that the hygiene and odour of Shing Mun River would affect the residential areas in the vicinity. He would like to know if the Department had stepped up cleaning of the river during the epidemic and summer.

62. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) he thanked the frontline staff of the FEHD for their efforts in clearing the streets and places visited by the confirmed cases during the peak period of the epidemic;
- (b) he said that some residents of Kau To Village had reported the serious rodent infestation recently, but some locations where baits should be placed had not be baited. He hoped that the contractor would step up placing baits;
- (c) he pointed out that a large number of estate agents had recently put up bills indiscriminately at the above-station area of Fo Tan Station. He hoped that the Department would step up enforcement action;
- (d) he understood that the existing ordinance did not regulate the illegal feeding of wild animals and it would be difficult for the Department to prosecute. He hoped that the Department would carry out blitz enforcement action against the black spots of feeding animals, such as Tin Sam Village, Carado Garden and the riverside of Shing Mun River; and
- (e) he was worried that after the implementation of the municipal solid waste charging, members of the public would dispose of their rubbish at rural refuse collection points to avoid the levy. He wanted to know how the municipal solid waste charging would be implemented in rural areas.

63. The views of Mr MAK Tsz-kin were summarised below:

- (a) it was known that the FEHD had set up detecting cameras in the district to detect the activities of rodents. Some members of the public had reported that they would like to know the operating hours of the cameras and whether there would be privacy concerns; and
- (b) he pointed out that some of the old buildings in the area had difficulty in identifying the source of water seepage through conventional detection techniques. Regarding the cases with unknown source, he advised the Department to give priority to new testing techniques to detect the source of seepage.

64. Mr CHAN Ka-kui, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sha Tin) of the FEHD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Department would set up the New Territories East JO at the end of this year to enhance the efficiency of handling water seepage complaints;

- (b) the JO would conduct a water seepage survey in three phases. If the source of water seepage could not be identified after the first and second phases of the survey, the JO would conduct a professional survey in the third phase. The Department would reflect the situation to the JO and review the suitability of individual cases for the use of the new testing technology;
- (c) he said that a dedicated team had been set up at the FEHD Headquarters to look into ways to optimise the operation of the JO and its coordination with other departments;
- (d) he pointed out that the colour water test was only applicable to sewers. If there was any suspected leakage of fresh water, it would be referred to the WSD for follow-up action;
- (e) the FEHD was mainly responsible for street cleaning and hawker management. Subject to the availability of resources, the FEHD would work with the relevant management companies to rectify the problem of shop front extension;
- (f) he indicated that upon receipt of a water seepage complaint, the JO would arrange a colour water test if the moisture at the seepage location was 35% or above. If the colour water test could not identify the source of the seepage, the JO would conduct the third phase test according to the circumstances of the case; and
- (g) regarding the indiscriminate posting of bills, the Department would arrange staff to step up inspection and prosecution.

65. Mr Ric YAN, Chief Health Inspector (Sha Tin)<sup>3</sup> of the FEHD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) thermal cameras were installed in the area involved in the anti-rodent operation of the district. The operating hours of these cameras were from 7 pm to 7 am. The cameras would be set up one week before and after the anti-rodent operation. During the operation, baits would be placed based on the data obtained from the thermal camera. After the operation, the effectiveness would be monitored through the thermal cameras. Since the thermal cameras captured thermal photos, it was impossible to identify the portrait from photos;
- (b) regarding the rodent infestation in the vicinity of Wo Che Estate, the Department had been conducting a rodent infestation survey in the vicinity of Wo Che Street since late last year. Besides, on the basis of the survey result, the Department had contacted the relevant management departments and companies of Wo Che Estate, Lek Yuen Estate, Fung Wo Estate, as well as markets and shopping centres within the estates covered in the survey areas, for on-site inspection and technical advice on rodent prevention and control. The relevant management departments and companies carried out immediate rodent prevention and control measures, and the rodent infestation index had improved in subsequent rodent surveys;

- (c) if the Pest Control Advisory Section found the tampering of gravidtraps, the data collected from the those gravidtraps would be removed from the mosquito infestation index survey and, if necessary, the Section would find a new suitable location for placing the mosquito traps;
- (d) the Department would arrange contractors to salvage garbage from the Shing Mun River every day during the rainy season and every other day during the dry season. About 1 tonne and 1.38 tonnes of floating garbage had been collected in April and May this year respectively;
- (e) the FEHD would take four enforcement action every month against the behaviour of making public places dirty due to feeding of wild birds or animals. The FEHD also hoped to enhance the deterrent effect through the enforcement action; and
- (f) the Department would deploy additional manpower to conduct surprise inspections and instigate prosecution against those who were found to illegally dispose of refuse at rural refuse collection points. The Department would also consider installing internet protocol cameras at refuse collection points where illegal disposal of refuse was found frequently. He said the internet protocol cameras had been installed at the refuse collection points in Tai Shui Hang Village.

66. Mr Michael YUNG said that the FEHD could only use colour water testing to identify the source of water seepage. However, the pressure gauge testing or other new testing techniques were required for the leakage of fresh water pipes. He would like to know when the JO would fully implement the new testing technology in Sha Tin and when the WSD would take part in the JO.

67. Mr Johnny CHUNG reported a case which had to be closed after testing by the JO because of the failure to locate the source of water seepage. He asked about the follow-up measures taken by the JO.

68. The Chairman said he had learnt that the water seepage investigation was a long process and the case would be further delayed by referring to the WSD only after completing the investigation. He hoped that the WSD could participate in the preliminary water seepage investigation of the JO, such as the meter reading, so as to expedite the handling of water seepage cases.

69. Mr CHAN Ka-kui said the JO would refer the case to the WSD for follow-up action at the same time if the water seepage was suspected to be related to leakage of the feeding water main. He would report to Headquarters the members' views on having the WSD to join the JO.

70. The Chairman ended the discussion of this agenda item.

#### Arrangement for the Closure of Fo Tan Cooked Food Markets (East and West)

71. Mr CHAN Ka-kui said the FEHD was conducting a comprehensive review of the existing markets, including the utilisation and development potential of cooked food markets, with a view to formulating appropriate development plans to achieve the policy objective of optimising the use of land, benefiting the public and promoting district development. Currently,

there were 24 and 15 stalls in the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East) and Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West) leased out to 12 and 5 tenants respectively. Two of the tenants leased stalls from both cooked food markets at the same time. According to the information provided by the Development Bureau (DEVB) and the Government Property Agency (GPA), the playground and temporary car park adjacent to Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West) were proposed to be developed as a joint-user government complex under the “single site, multiple use” mode. The government would consider to incorporate the vacated site of the cooked food market into the development area of the complex. The DEVB and the GPA were studying and discussing with relevant bureaux and departments on the development of the land, in order to formulate the best proposal for the mixed land use of “Government, Institution or Community”. In addition, it was planned to consult the STDC on the proposed joint-user government complex as soon as possible later this year. Regarding the future use of the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East), the government would follow the established procedures to formulate proposals for optimising the use of the land. The government would make an announcement when the preparations were ready. The FEHD had commenced discussions with the tenants and stakeholders on the closure plans of the two cooked food markets, and would continue to listen to their views and announce the detailed arrangements in due course.

72. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) he thanked the Chairman for arranging an agenda to discuss the matter;
- (b) he had expressed concern about the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East) in the past. However, the FEHD was unable to provide the latest information for the time being. He hoped that the Superintendent would release the relevant information as soon as possible. He pointed out that both the Cooked Food Markets (East and West) would be closed. Only the land of Cooked Food Market (West) would affect the joint-user complex, while there was no clear development direction of the Cooked Food Market (East). He said that closing the two cooked food markets together would have a great impact on the community and would also affect tenants’ businesses and plans; and
- (c) he proposed to identify a site nearby for the relocation of the cooked food market. Noting that there was a vacant site near Shan Mei Street, he advised the Department to consider setting up a temporary location for stall tenants during the construction of the joint-user complex.

73. The views of Mr MAK Tsz-kin were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know what follow-up measures had been put in place since the Department commenced discussions with the tenants at the end of May this year, and when the Department would confirm with the GPA whether to relocate the cooked food market;
- (b) he would like to know the progress of the plan to close the cooked food market. It was known that the Department had indicated that the cooked food market would be closed by 2024. He was worried that tenants would have difficulty in making plans if the market was requested to be closed next year. He therefore hoped that the Department would announce the details of the closure plan as soon as possible; and

- (c) he would like to know the Department's intention to close the Fo Tan Cooked Food Markets (East and West) in phases. He said that closing the two cooked food markets together would have a big impact on tenants and nearby residents.

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

- (a) he pointed out that most eateries in the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East) were "dai pai dong" while most eateries in Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West) were restaurants. He said he understood the Department's need to close the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West) for the joint-user complex. He predicted that the sites of Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East) and Sui Fai Factory Estate would be used for public housing development;
- (b) he said that the cooked food market was frequented by the nearby residents and tenants hoped that the cooked food market would be replaced upon completion of the joint-user complex. He would like to know how much area in the joint-user complex the Department had requested to be allocated to the FEHD, and whether that area was sufficient to accommodate hawkers in the cooked food market;
- (c) he would like to know whether the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (West) could be cleared first and relocation of tenants of the two cooked food markets would be arranged in one go after the joint-user complex was completed; and
- (d) he pointed out that there was a podium at Kwei Tei Street near the Yale Industrial Centre. He wished to know whether a temporary cooked food market could be set up there.

75. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the site of Fo Tan Cooked Food Market (East) would not be used for joint-user complex and he would like to know more about the development of the site; and
- (b) it was known that the project was being followed up by another team of the FEHD. He hoped that the Department could provide relevant information.

76. Mr CHAN Ka-kui gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) he said that the development plan involved the DEVB, the GPA and other relevant bureaux and departments. He noted that members were concerned about the progress of the project. However, there was no update at the moment. He would also reflect members' views to the Headquarters; and
- (b) he said that the construction of the joint-user complex would take several years and that the cost-effectiveness might be considered if finding a place for a temporary cooked food market.

77. Mr Michael YUNG was of the view that cost-effectiveness should not be the only consideration.

78. The Chairman ended the discussion of this agenda item.

Drainage Services Department Consultation Paper: Drainage Improvement Works in Sha Tin – Investigation

(Paper No. HE 27/2021)

79. Mr Kenneth MOK, Senior Engineer/Drainage Projects 3 and Mr LEE Cheuk-hei, Engineer/Drainage Projects 19 of the Drainage Services Department (DSD) briefly introduced the paper.

80. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) it was known that the improvement works involved lying pipelines at Kau To Hang to relieve the flood. Some villagers reported that the carrying capacity of the river channel was relatively low, and that there was a lot of silt blocking the river channel, affecting the flood discharge capacity. He asked whether the Department would remove the fill to deepen the channel so as to enhance its flood drainage capacity;
- (b) he pointed out that the proposed new pipelines were located next to Jade Villas. According to the land lease, the access road was government land under the management of Jade Villas. He wanted to know who would be responsible for the maintenance and management of the road section if the pipelines were laid by the Department;
- (c) it was known that the flood storage pond in the Sha Tin Town Centre was proposed to be built within Sha Tin Park, and he would like to know whether the entire Sha Tin Park would be enclosed during the works and what measures would be in place to minimise the impact on park users; and
- (d) he was concerned about the impact of the Tai Po Road drainage improvement works on traffic.

81. The views of Mr CHING Cheung-ying were summarised below:

- (a) he supported the construction of culverts in the vicinity of San Tin Village to divert drainage during heavy rain for reducing the risk of flooding. He hoped that the Department would minimise the impact on the traffic of Che Kung Miu Car Park and the area around Chui Tin Street during the construction;
- (b) he said that the representative of Kak Tin Village had expressed the hope that the Department would reconsider the need for the improvement works to cover the surrounding area of the Kak Tin Village and Golden Lion Garden. He said that there was no flooding risk at that location, and that the flood relief channel next to the Golden Lion Garden was also effective in diverting rainwater during heavy rain. Therefore, he hoped that works would not be carried out on the road section. If necessary, he could arrange for the consultant to renegotiate with the relevant stakeholders; and

- (c) he pointed out that the proposed pump room was located at the Che Kung Miu Football Pitch. He wanted to know the impact of the pump room on the public using the pitch. He hoped that the Department could improve the design of the pump room.

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

- (a) he said that the Department had conducted a “Review of Drainage Master Plan in Sha Tin and Sai Kung - Feasibility Study”. He asked whether the Department could provide copies of the report to the STDC after the meeting;
- (b) he pointed out that the works on the Shing Mun River East were relatively urgent and residents would have difficulty in using the nearby road after getting off at Tai Chung Kiu Road in case of flooding. He wished to know the overall flood discharge capacity and the amount of rainwater that could be handled after the completion of the works;
- (c) he pointed out that the existing drainage system of San Tin Village ran through Hung Mui Kuk Road and discharged into Shing Mun River along Che Kung Miu Road. A drainage system was proposed to discharge into the Shing Mun River along Chui Tin Street and a storm water pump room at San Tin Village would be built as planned. He would like to know the purpose of the pump room at San Tin Village;
- (d) he would like to know whether the drainage reserve for the works at Fui Yiu Ha and Pok Hong Estate was adequate; and
- (e) he noted that the Department intended to build a straight storm water drain to enhance the drainage capacity. He would like to know whether it was because the existing drains at Lai Wo Lane and Tai Po Road were too circuitous.

83. The views of Mr WAI Hing-cheung were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know whether the Department had received any reports from Wai Wah Centre and Man Lai Court about flooding in car parks during inclement weather. He pointed out that the Wai Wah Centre Car Park, adjacent to the traffic interchange under the New Town Plaza, sloped downward. He would like to know whether the flooding in the two areas was due to seawater inundation and whether the proposed drainage improvement works were effective in withstanding flooding caused by storms. He pointed out that the Man Lai Court Car Park was prone to flooding and asked whether the Department had explored ways to improve it;
- (b) he said that the pedestrian subways on both sides of Shing Mun River would be flooded under inclement weather, and he would like to know whether the ways to improve the situation had been explored in this study; and
- (c) he would like to know how many phases the works would be carried out in and how long the works would take after the appropriation application was approved by the Legislative Council.

84. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know the progress and effectiveness of the works of the flood protection wall on the Shing Mun River East. As the works involved tunnels managed by the Highways Department, he would like to know what other follow-up measures the DSD and the Highways Department had put in place;
- (b) he pointed out that the housing estates to the south of the Shing Mun River West would be flooded due to the rise in the groundwater table. He wished to know whether the works would improve the situation, if not, what follow-up measures would be taken; and
- (c) he pointed out that in the works at Fui Yiu Ha Village, Pok Hong Estate and Hang Hong Street, the proposed storm water drains would be connected to the existing ones. He would like to know whether the existing drains would be able to support the load with the new drains. If not, whether the Department would consider carrying out drainage improvement works in the nearby park(s).

85. Mr Kenneth MOK gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the flood protection wall on the Shing Mun River East was proposed to be about 750 metres in length, and more than 500 metres, being about 70 percent, had completed. The Department expected to complete the works by the end of September this year to cope with the winter monsoon and Spring Tide;
- (b) as the Shing Mun River was adjacent to Sha Tin Hoi and Tolo Harbour, the water level of the river would rise due to the winter monsoon and Spring Tide, which was possible to rise above the river banks, causing the water to flow back to the banks and into the pedestrian subway through the cycle tracks and footpaths. Except for the parapet of Regal Riverside Hotel, Hong Kong and Jat Min Chuen, the entire Shing Mun River East was protected by the flood protection wall. The water would flow back to the pedestrian subway through these two gaps. The DSD had replaced the parapet with a flood protection wall to close the gaps. Upon completion of the improvement works, the river water level would rise from 2.7 mPD to 3.5 mPD to prevent flooding caused by the Spring Tide and the winter monsoon;
- (c) the detailed design of the proposed works was expected to be completed in 2023. Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee, the works would commence as soon as possible. The proposed works were to be carried out in two phases. The first phase would deal with locations where flooding had been reported, while the second phase would deal with areas which were at high risk of flooding but had not yet experienced flooding;
- (d) he said that there were various reasons for flooding in private car parks. He did not have sufficient information to respond at the moment. He would contact Department staff responsible for the area for more information; and

- (e) he said that the Department had completed the review of the drainage master plan for Sha Tin and Sai Kung in 2018 and had conducted a comprehensive assessment of the flooding risk in Sha Tin, including the height of the water level, climate change, rainfall and topography. More than 10 locations of the proposed improvement works had made reference to the relevant study results. Reports would be made available to those members who needed them in accordance with the Code on Access to Information.

86. Mr LEE Cheuk-hei gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the Department had liaised with the District Lands Office, Sha Tin (DLO/ST) on the works at Kau To Hang near Jade Villas. As the works were carried out on government land, the Department would confirm the maintenance responsibility with the DLO/ST at the stage of detailed design;
- (b) for the works at Fui Yiu Ha and Pok Hong Estate, the Department would improve the storm water drain at the Fui Yiu Ha and construct a new storm water drain at Pok Hong Estate. The two drains would be connected to discharge the rainwater to the downstream box culvert directly;
- (c) for the pump room works at Chui Tin Street, the proposed pump room would be located next to the pavilion of the Chui Tin Street Soccer Pitch. Because of the box culvert and dense underground wiring under the toilet there, the pump room was more suitable to be located next to the pavilion. Trenchless method would be used to minimise the impact on the car park nearby. He said the storm water pump room would significantly reduce the risk of flooding in San Tin Village; and
- (d) he said that the whole park would not be enclosed during the construction of pump room at Sha Tin Park. Only the works area would be involved. The Department would also conduct a temporary traffic impact assessment and take appropriate measures to allow sufficient space for footpaths.

87. Mr CHAN Tsz-wai, Waterworks Executive Director, Hong Kong of the AECOM Asia Company Limited said that regarding the situation of Kak Tin Playground and the Golden Lion Garden, the whole project was aimed at flood discharge, including the installation of a box culvert at Chui Tin Street to divert upstream rainwater and the construction of a new pump room in the low-lying area of Chui Tin Street near Che Kung Miu. The section from Hung Mui Kuk Road to Lion Rock was sloping while the section of Chui Tin Street was flatter. As a result, rainwater tended to gather there. The proposed construction of a new box culvert at Chui Tin Street was helpful to divert upstream rainwater to the Shing Mun River.

88. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) regarding the works in Kau To Hang, he would like to know how the Department would follow up with the DLO/ST;
- (b) he said that he had earlier briefed the Department on the owner's organisation of Jade Villas and asked whether the Department had contacted the organisation and collected their views on the works;

- (c) he pointed out that there were many vehicles parked at the works area which might be affected during the works and could not be parked there. He would like to know whether the Department had received any relevant objections; and
- (d) he would like to know whether the Department would consider dredging the silt in the river bed of Kau To Hang to enhance the flood discharge capacity of the river channel.

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

- (a) he considered that study reports were not confidential and he hoped that the Department would provide the relevant reports directly. He viewed that relevant information should be provided to members before the meeting;
- (b) he pointed out that Ma On Shan was a new development area, and he would like to know how much the overall drainage capacity would be increased when the existing drainage pipes at Hang Hong Street were improved and connected to the existing underground drainage pipes; and
- (c) he pointed out that Pok Hong Estate was a housing estate under the Tenants Purchase Scheme (TPS). He wanted to know whether the proposed drainage pipes would be located within the boundary of Pok Hong Estate and how the Department would handle the situation.

90. Mr LEE Cheuk-hei gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) regarding the proposed works outside Jade Villas, the Department would not commence the works until they confirmed the maintenance responsibility with the DLO/ST at the detailed design stage;
- (b) he said that the silt in the river bed of Kau To Hang would not increase the flooding risk of the project site. The proposed drainage pipes would help divert the rainwater to the downstream;
- (c) he advised that land resumption was not needed for the works at Pok Hong Estate. The Department had consulted the OC of Pok Hong Estate and briefed the management office on the works. If the works were to be carried out, the Department would inform the OC of the works beforehand; and
- (d) upon completion of the proposed works at Hang Hong Street, the proposed set of drainage system would be able to withstand the 50-year return period rainstorm and meet the existing flood protection standards.

91. The Chairman asked for the report and asked how the Department would follow up.

92. Mr Michael YUNG said that the drainage pipes were buried in the ground, and some of the areas would become part of the drainage system reserve after the completion of the project. He asked whether the arrangement would affect the future development of Pok Hong Estate and whether the Department had explained the situation clearly to the owners.

93. Mr LEE Cheuk-hei pointed out that there was already a box culvert adjacent to the proposed drainage pipes at Pok Hong Estate. The additional pipes would not enlarge the area of the drainage system reserve there.

94. Mr MOK Wai-kee said that in general, requests for relevant reports were subject to the Code on Access to Information, but he would look into the relevant procedures after the meeting and respond later.

95. The Chairman ended the discussion of this agenda item.

2021-2022 Work Plan of Working Group under the Committee  
(Paper No. HE 28/2021)

96. The Chairman said that the earlier Working Group Meeting had not been convened because of an insufficient quorum. He said that the Working Group had initially discussed the relevant plan in January this year and decided at the meeting that if the activities concerned could not be held in the previous financial year, it would be carried over to the current financial year. He said that members of the Working Group had been consulted before the meeting and they unanimously agreed on the direction of activities.

97. Members unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Updated Membership Lists of Working Groups under the Committee  
(Paper No. HE 29/2021)

98. Members unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Question to be Raised by Mr CHOW Hiu-laam, Felix on the Wild Pigeon Problem in Sha Tin District  
(Paper No. HE 30/2021)

99. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) he said that government departments had no strategy to tackle the problem of nuisance caused by wild pigeons. In the past, government departments had been handling the problem by reducing their food available. At this stage, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) had launched a Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Wild Pigeons. He hoped that the AFCD would draw on the experience of other places to address the problem of wild pigeons in a targeted manner;
- (b) he pointed out that there was only one road between Shatin Race Course and Royal Ascot. He wanted to know whether the wild pigeons in the two areas belonged to the same species group;
- (c) he said that the problem of wild pigeons at Royal Ascot was serious. There were a large number of droppings from wild pigeons on places such as the pipes and air-conditioning ducts of the estates. The estates had to spend a lot of money each quarter to clean up the droppings. However, the problem of wild pigeons could not be rooted out. He would like to know how private housing estates could specifically address the problem of wild pigeons;

- (d) he would like to know the food sources of wild pigeons and the reasons why wild pigeons congregated in certain places. If there were someone feeding wild pigeons, he asked whether there was enough food to feed all species groups of wild pigeons. He said the AFCD should maintain complete data to deal with the problem of wild pigeons in a targeted manner;
- (e) it was known that there was no regulation on people feeding wild animals. In respect of people involved in fouling public places, only fixed penalty notices could be issued under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance which also failed to regulate the relevant behaviours in private places. He hoped that the AFCD would consider feeding wild birds in public places as a prosecutable offence;
- (f) he hoped that the FEHD would increase the number of surprise inspections to feeding black spots; and
- (g) he would like to know the criteria adopted by the AFCD for selecting three congregating spots to use contraceptive drug on wild pigeons. If the congregating spots were close to private housing estates, he asked whether such spots would not be included in the scheme.

100. The views of Mr Johnny CHUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he said he had relayed to the AFCD that a lot of wild pigeons had gathered at Wu Kai Sha Pier in the past six months;
- (b) he would like to know when the bird repellent was first used and its effects; and
- (c) he agreed to the use of contraceptive drug or bird repellent if nuisance caused by inconsiderate people feeding wild animals. However, he was of the view that the number of prosecutions instituted by the FEHD in the past five years was not satisfactory. The Department should step up enforcement efforts from the source. He hoped the AFCD would continue to control the number of wild pigeons while the FEHD could step up inspections and enforcement.

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

- (a) he considered that the Department should understand the motives of the people concerned before taking enforcement action;
- (b) he would like to know the effects of Nicarbazine on other species if they mistakenly take the contraceptive feed;
- (c) he was worried that the contraceptive feed would attract other wild pigeons to congregate;
- (d) he would like to know if the AFCD had adopted other measures to control the number of wild pigeons, such as sterilisation. He asked whether the use of the contraceptive feed was the only way to control the number of wild pigeons;

- (e) he would like to know whether members of the public could hear the sound of the ultrasonic bird repellents and when the Department would conduct the relevant test; and
- (f) he wished to know the effectiveness of the Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Wild Pigeons to decide whether to continue the programme.

102. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) it was known that wild pigeons congregated near clean water sources, and he would like to know if there were water sources in the vicinity of other gathering places of wild pigeons; and
- (b) he would like to know how the bodies of other animals, such as dogs, cats and mice, would respond if they were given contraceptive feed and bird repellent.

103. Dr Anthony LEUNG, Veterinary Officer (Avian Influenza Surveillance) of the AFCD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) according to the literature and observations, people feeding wild pigeons, was the primary reason why they congregated. The wild pigeons relied on those food sources and roosted nearby;
- (b) according to the survey on the number of wild pigeons conducted by the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society, the wild pigeons from Shatin Race Course and Royal Ascot were more likely to belong to two species groups;
- (c) he noted the member's proposal for legislative amendments and would take the relevant views back to the Department for discussion;
- (d) the Department would select the trial spots for the Scheme according to factors such as the number of wild pigeons gathering, the degree of impact on the surrounding environment, the controllability of the environmental factors at the congregating spots, the impact on road users and others. The Department also hoped to select different types of trial spots. He said that under the limited options, the Department would like to give priority to public places. If the programme was effective, it could be expanded to other places as appropriate;
- (e) when feeding the contraceptive feed, Department staff would be deployed to observe and clean up the feed left behind to prevent other animals from taking it by mistake. He said that if other animals occasionally took the contraceptive drug by accident, their reproduction rate would not slow down or speed up;
- (f) he said that the trial spots of feeding the contraceptive drug were the places in which people had fed wild pigeons previously. He hoped that data would be collected to understand the outcome of the programme;
- (g) he said that generally speaking, wild pigeons were seldom sterilized because of the high cost and risk;

- (h) in 2016, the Department had purchased ultrasonic bird repellers, but the results were not satisfactory. Therefore, the Department had not adopted such a method; and
- (i) according to observation, the food source was the main reason for the congregating of wild pigeons.

104. Mr CHAN Ka-kui gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the FEHD could issue fixed penalty notices to offenders who had fouled public places by feeding wild animals or birds. Plainclothes and uniformed staff had been arranged to take part in the enforcement action. However, people became alert to them and had changed the feeding time. The Department would make appropriate adjustments;
- (b) the Department would step up inspection and enforcement at feeding black spots to enhance the deterrent effect; and
- (c) the FEHD would distribute leaflets at the black spots to educate the public to stop feeding wild pigeons and birds.

105. Ms Alice YEUNG, Senior Field Officer (Avian Influenza) of the AFCD said the bird repellent currently used by the AFCD contained natural ingredients and would not affect other animals. As the odour of bird repellent would drive pigeons away, the AFCD had engaged pest control companies to apply the repellent at suitable gathering places for pigeons. The Department had been spraying bird repellent at Wu Kai Sha Pier near the Wu Kai Sha Youth Village Basketball Court for three consecutive weeks to test its effectiveness. The Department would also try out the bird repellent in the vicinity of the car park near Tin Sam Village Public Toilet.

106. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarised below:

- (a) he asked whether the Department had deployed staff to find out whether congregation of wild pigeons in Royal Ascot was caused by feeding, and whether the places for the feeding were private housing estates or nearby villages;
- (b) he said that some members of the public had complained about the unsatisfactory effect of bird repellents; and
- (c) he wanted to know whether wild pigeons being attracted to air-conditioning ducts was because the ducts were warm.

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

- (a) he indicated that Nicarbazine was an anti-coccidiosis drug with side effects of inhibiting growth, lightening the eggshell colour, decreasing the fertilization rate and being sensitive to heat. He wished to know whether the side effects contributed to the contraceptive effect of Nicarbazine, what side effects would be induced in other animals after consumption, and the impact of left-over feed flowing into groundwater and discharging into the sea; and

- (b) it was known that wild pigeons needed to take a high dose of contraceptive feed for a long time to become sterile. He would like to know the dosage that the Department had adopted in feeding.

108. Dr Anthony LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follow:

- (a) food remnants were found during the Department's inspection of the housing estates. The Department had provided appropriate assistance to Royal Ascot in regard to the situation of the estate;
- (b) he said that the contraceptive feed was safe and effective in treating parasites, making wild pigeons healthier. The side-effects could achieve contraceptive effect and would not adversely affect their health. He pointed out that the dose of the contraceptive drug in the feed was low, which had little effect on large animals; and
- (c) studies had shown that the contraceptive drug had a relatively low environmental impact and was more widely used in the poultry industry abroad. Therefore, it was safe to use in the wild pigeons.

109. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were as follows:

“The Health and Environment Committee of Sha Tin District Council has strongly requested:

1. to reduce the food supply for wild pigeons, various government departments should carry out blitz operation at black spots of feeding wild pigeons, and prosecute people who fouled public places by feeding wild pigeons.
2. the government's decision-making authority should consider amending the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance (Cap. 570). It is proposed to regulate the feeding of wild pigeons at public places to enhance the deterrent effect.
3. the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department should actively study the efficacy of the Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Wild Pigeon. If the preliminary results have shown to be effective in reducing the number of wild pigeons, the Department should actively extend the programme to areas seriously affected by wild pigeons in Sha Tin (including and not limited to: Royal Ascot, Sha Kok Estate, Tin Sam Village, Shatin Race Course and Wo Che Estate) to minimise the impact of the congregating of wild pigeons on the community.”

110. The Chairman said that the proposal should be made in the name of the member individually and suggested that “the Health and Environment Committee of Sha Tin District Council” should be deleted.

1 1 1 . Mr Felix CHOW accepted the Chairman's comments and put forward the following revised proposal:

- “1. to reduce the food supply for wild pigeons, various government departments should carry out blitz operation at black spots of feeding wild pigeons, and prosecute people who fouled public places by feeding wild pigeons.
2. the government's decision-making authority should consider amending the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance (Cap. 570). It is proposed to regulate the feeding of wild pigeons at public places to enhance the deterrent effect.
3. the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department should actively study the efficacy of the Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Wild Pigeon. If the preliminary results have shown to be effective in reducing the number of wild pigeons, the Department should actively extend the programme to areas seriously affected by wild pigeons in Sha Tin (including and not limited to: Royal Ascot, Sha Kok Estate, Tin Sam Village, Shatin Race Course and Wo Che Estate) to minimise the impact of the congregating of wild pigeons on the community.

proposed by: Mr Felix CHOW”

1 1 2 . Mr Michael YUNG said that Mr Felix CHOW's proposal had much to recommend it. He would like to know whether the department would provide a reply in matters arising.

1 1 3 . The Chairman invited the departments concerned to provide written replies to the proposal in matters arising.

1 1 4 . The Chairman ended the discussion of this agenda item.

### **Information Papers**

Sha Tin District Anti-Rodent Campaign 2021 (Second Phase)  
(Paper No. HE 33/2021)

Statistical Overview of Sha Tin District Environmental Hygiene Service (as at 31 May 2021)  
(Paper No. HE 34/2021)

1 1 5 . The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the rodent infestation at Chevalier Garden was serious and asked for the Department's follow-up action; and
- (b) he pointed out that there were a lot of drainage works in the district. He wanted to know the progress of the cavern sewage treatment works and hoped that the DSD would step up anti-rodent and anti-mosquito measures within the works area.

116. The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know the mosquito infestation index in Ma On Shan and the areas with more serious mosquito problems; and
- (b) he hoped that the Secretariat would contact the relevant departments and contractors responsible for the works at the Shatin Sewage Treatment Works to understand the handling after the inclement weather.

117. The views of Mr WAI Hing-cheung were summarised below:

- (a) he wanted to know the nature of the eight prosecutions against market stalls in Item 7 of Paper No. HE 34/2021; and
- (b) he pointed out that the recent blockage and burst of drains in the market had resulted in a large amount of effluent outflow, affecting hawkers and the public. He hoped the Department would resolve it. In addition, he hoped the Department would pay more attention to the frequent leakage from the ventilation and air-conditioning systems.

118. Mr HUI Lap-san thanked the FEHD pest control teams for their dedication to their duties. He reflected that some residents had pointed out that the STDO was carrying out an enhanced anti-rodent operation at Yiu On Estate. He asked why Kam Fung Court had not carried out such operation and whether the FEHD had participated in it.

119. Mr Felix CHOW said that some residents had reported serious rodent infestation in recent months in Chek Nai Ping Village and Kau To Village. He hoped that the Department would step up rodent control measures.

120. Mr CHAN Ka-kui gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) he said that he would deploy staff to follow up the situation at Chevalier Garden and maintain liaison with the management office;
- (b) as the mosquito infestation index in Ma On Shan rose in May due to the recent weather, the Department had stepped up anti-mosquito measures in Ma On Shan and those areas with high mosquito infestation index, including placing mosquito traps and conducting fogging operations;
- (c) he pointed out that blocking public access was the nature of the eight prosecutions against market stalls;
- (d) he said he was aware of the situation of Sha Tin Market and could arrange an inspection to the market with Mr WAI Hing-cheung if necessary;
- (e) he said that the STDO was responsible for the anti-rodent campaign at Yiu On Estate. The FEHD did not keep the relevant information; and
- (f) the FEHD would deploy manpower to step up anti-rodent work in Kau To Village and Chek Nai Ping Village, and strengthen anti-rodent education in the villages.

1 2 1 . The Chairman wished to know if the STDO had organised any enhanced anti-rodent operations with housing estates. He would like to know what kind of staff would be arranged by the Office to be responsible for the operation and whether the Office staff had received anti-rodent training to deal with the rodent infestation in the district.

1 2 2 . Ms Candice WONG said that the STDO, in consultation with the FEHD, had launched the enhanced anti-rodent operation in housing estates with serious rodent infestation in the district. The first phase of the operation had been launched last year. Yiu On Estate was on the list of the second phase. The Department would employ pest control contractors to assist the management units in setting up the anti-rodent work in housing estates concerned.

1 2 3 . The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the enhanced district anti-rodent operation was carried out due to the availability of additional funding from the last term. He had known that the operation had been carried out in Pok Hong Estate, Chung On Estate, Yiu On Estate, Hin Keng Estate and Tai Shui Hang. He said that previous activities had been organised by the Working Group and he would like to know the criteria for selecting the operation sites; and
- (b) he would like to know how the Office monitored contractors' work and the outcome of anti-rodent operation.

1 2 4 . The views of Mr WAI Hing-cheung were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know whether all of the eight prosecutions against market stalls were for blockage of access; and
- (b) he wished to know whether the FEHD had received any complaints about foreign domestic helpers cooking in the open area along the Shing Mun River. He said that he had received such complaints. He asked whether there was any legislation to regulate the behaviour of cooking in public places.

1 2 5 . Noting that Yiu On Estate was a housing estate under the TPS, Mr HUI Lap-san would like to know whether the enhanced anti-rodent operation could be extended to Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) courts. He said that the rodent and mosquito infestations in Kam Fung Court and Chung On Estate were serious. He would like to know if the project could be implemented in Kam Fung Court.

1 2 6 . The Chairman would like to know the housing estates covered in the first and second phases of the anti-rodent operation. He hoped that the STDO would provide relevant information and said that the Department could consider attaching relevant information to the FEHD document or providing a separate document.

1 2 7 . Mr CHAN Ka-kui said details of the eight prosecutions against market stalls were not available. Regarding foreign domestic helpers cooking in public places, the Department would conduct on-site inspections and follow up. He would reply to Mr WAI Hing-cheung on the above issues later.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the detail information about prosecutions against market stalls and foreign domestic helpers cooking in the open area along the Shing Mun River, the FEHD had replied to Mr WAI on 13 July.)

1 2 8 . Ms Candice WONG gave a consolidated response as follow:

- (a) she said that the venues for stepping up the district anti-rodent operation had been decided by considering factors such as the number of rodent infestation complaints provided by FEHD and the views of stakeholders in the district, etc.;
- (b) the Department would request contractors on a regular basis to provide figures relating to anti-rodent operations. Besides, it would also share relevant data with the management units responsible for pest control in housing estates to assist them in tackling the rodent infestation in housing estates more strategically; and
- (c) members might reflect the needs of different districts to the Office who would actively consider extending the programme concerned to different districts.

1 2 9 . The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he would like to know if there was an enhanced district anti-rodent programme in all 18 districts;
- (b) whether the programme would cover public housing estates, TPS estates, HOS courts, private housing estates and villages; and
- (c) he would like to know the scope of the first and second phases and whether the STDC would be regularly briefed on the work of the programme.

1 3 0 . The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he said that he could not obtain information about the programme;
- (b) he would like to know whether the relevant departments would take action when the FEHD and the STDO received rodent reports from the public; and
- (c) he would like to know whether the Office staff had the expertise to assess the outcome of the anti-rodent operation.

1 3 1 . Ms Candice WONG gave a consolidated response as follow:

- (a) she said that the first phase of the anti-rodent operation covered the following districts, Wo Che Estate, Chung On Estate, Lee On Estate, Mei Tin Estate, Pok Hong Estate and Kwong Yuen Estate, and the second phase covered Kam Fung Court, Jat Min Chuen, Lek Yuen Estate, Sun Chui Estate, Shek Mun Estate, Yiu On Estate and Kam Hay Court;
- (b) the operation was not carried out on a regular basis and therefore it was difficult to report on a regular basis. The Office would provide relevant information when necessary; and

- (c) the Office would liaise with the management units of the operation site to review the outcome of the operation. Based on the experience of the first phase of the operation, the response of the relevant management units was positive.

1 3 2 . The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the Office had not responded whether the outcome of the operation was assessed by any staff with expertise; and
- (b) some residents reported that the rodent infestation at Chevalier Garden was serious. He hoped that Chevalier Garden would be included in the third phase of the anti-rodent operation.

1 3 3 . Mr HUI Lap-san hoped that the vicinity of Kam Fung Court and Chung On Estate would be included in the third phase of the anti-rodent operation. He hoped that the Office would consult the HEC on relevant issues.

1 3 4 . The views of the Chairman were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the STDO had failed to report to the STDC on the first and second phases of the anti-rodent operations; and
- (b) he pointed out that Lee On Estate and Wo Che Estate were under the management of the HD, and that the district offices of the HD were responsible for monitoring the services of cleaning contractors. He asked why the STDO could hire contractors directly to provide services to the estates. He considered that it would be more appropriate for the HD to provide additional resources to estates under their management.

1 3 5 . Ms Candice WONG gave a consolidated response as follow:

- (a) the Office noted members' views on rodent infestation and would take them into account when carrying out the relevant action in future; and
- (b) the Office would consult the relevant departments on rodent control when necessary, and would deploy staff to conduct on-site inspections to check whether the contractor had provided services as required by the contract.

1 3 6 . The Chairman said that the STDO might be asked to discuss the programme concerned in the HEC meetings in future.

1 3 7 . Regarding the issue of the Office monitoring contractors' work, Mr Michael YUNG said it was still to be clarified.

1 3 8 . Members noted the above paper.

**Date of Next Meeting**

139. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 pm on 7 September 2021 (Tuesday).

140. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat  
STDC 13/15/40

August 2021