For information on 24 November 2022



Sha Tin District Council

Report on the meeting of the Culture, Recreation and Sports and Community Facilities Management Committee held on 1 November 2022

- (1) The nomination for election of the Vice-Chairman of the Committee and the result were as follows:
 - as the Secretariat did not receive any nomination form by the end of the nomination period, the office of Vice-Chairman of the Committee was vacant.
- (2) The Committee discussed the motion on requesting the Government to reopen public campsites in Sha Tin District, and passed the motion as follows:

"Background

In view of the progressive subsidence of the epidemic situation in Hong Kong, a number of anti-epidemic measures have been relaxed. However, the designated campsites in Sha Tin District under the management of the Agriculture Fisheries and Conservation Department remain closed, making them one of the few places that are now still completely closed under the restrictions on infection control. This situation is in contradiction with the recently relaxed policy. Furthermore, as these campsites are popular places for leisure activities of members of the public, the implementation of the measure is only forcing them to turn to private sites and bear extra costs, which in turn deprives the grassroots, who lack financial means, the opportunities to use public facilities for leisure and enjoyment. Worse still, the continuous closure of public campsites has caused some campers to set tents on their own in the countryside, burn land to make fire and leave refuse behind, resulting in damage to the environment. Looking back to the epidemic peak, no cluster outbreaks were found related to private campsites. This demonstrates that opening such places does not carry high infection risks, and does not contradict the anti-epidemic direction the Government advocates.

Motion

The Committee demands that the Agriculture Fisheries and Conservation Department reopen the designated campsites in Sha Tin District under its management to let the society resume normal as early as possible, and give the general public back the right to use the above public facilities." (Unanimously passed)

- (3) The Committee noted the following:
 - (i) the papers submitted by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, including "Report by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on Organisation of Cultural Activities and Utilisation of Facilities in Sha Tin District (3rd and 4th Quarters of 2022)", "Report and Plan by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on Organisation of Recreation and Sports

Activities and Management of Facilities in Sha Tin District (3rd and 4th Quarters of 2022)", and "Report and Plan on Public Libraries Promotion Activities Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Sha Tin District (3rd and 4th Quarters of 2022)"; and

(ii) Progress Report on 2022-2023 District Facilities and Improvement Works.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat STDC 13/55/55

November 2022