

**Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of  
the Sha Tin District Council in 2021**

**Date** : 11 March 2021 (Thursday)  
**Time** : 2:30 pm  
**Venue** : Sha Tin District Office Conference Room 441  
 4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Time of joining the meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Time of leaving the meeting</u></b>
Chairman : Mr CHING Cheung-ying, MH	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Vice-Chairman : Mr WONG Hok-lai, George	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Members : Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung	2:30 pm	3:30 pm
Mr CHAN Nok-hang	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr CHAN Pui-ming	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr CHAN Wan-tung	2:30 pm	3:20 pm
Mr CHENG Chung-hang	2:30 pm	4:44 pm
Mr CHENG Tsuk-man	3:18 pm	4:51 pm
Mr CHEUNG Hing-wa	2:30 pm	4:31 pm
Mr CHIU Chu-pong	2:30 pm	3:30 pm
Mr CHOW Hiu-laam, Felix	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr CHUNG Lai-him, Johnny	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr HUI Lap-san	2:30 pm	4:44 pm
Mr HUI Yui-yu	2:30 pm	3:59 pm
Mr LAI Tsz-yan	3:57 pm	4:31 pm
Dr LAM Kong-kwan	2:42 pm	3:45 pm
Mr LI Chi-wang, Raymond	2:30 pm	4:31 pm
Mr LI Sai-hung	2:30 pm	3:25 pm
Mr LI Wing-shing, Wilson	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr LIAO Pak-hong, Ricardo	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr LO Tak-ming	2:30 pm	3:42 pm
Mr LO Yuet-chau	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr LUI Kai-wing	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Ms LUK Tsz-tung	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr MAK Tsz-kin	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr MAK Yun-pui, Chris	3:18 pm	4:21 pm
Mr MOK Kam-kwai, BBS	2:41 pm	3:45 pm
Mr NG Kam-hung	2:30 pm	4:30 pm
Ms NG Ting-lam	3:18 pm	4:51 pm
Mr SHEK William	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr SIN Cheuk-nam	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr TING Tsz-yuen	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Mr TSANG Kit	2:30 pm	4:32 pm
Ms TSANG So-lai	2:59 pm	4:51 pm
Mr WAI Hing-cheung	2:30 pm	4:51 pm
Ms WONG Man-huen	2:30 pm	3:30 pm
Mr YAU Man-chun	2:30 pm	4:49 pm
Mr YEUNG Sze-kin	2:30 pm	4:31 pm

**Present**

Mr YIP Wing  
 Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael  
 Secretary : Mr HO Kin-nam, David

**Time of joining  
the meeting**

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

**Time of leaving  
the meeting**

4:14 pm  
 4:51 pm

**In Attendance**

Dr WONG Chin-kiu, Janet, JP  
 Mr LAM Fong-tat, James  
 Ms WONG Yuen-shan, Candice  
 Mr LEUNG Tsz-kin, Percy

Ms CHOI Nga-wing, Jacqueline

Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric

Ms NGO Po-ling

Ms LEUNG Yee-lee, Maggie

Ms WONG Kam-lai

Mr YIP Kam-ming, Dick

Ms WONG Sau-kuen, Joe

Mr KWONG Ka-yin

Mr HAR Sung-fu, Haven

Ms CHU Kam-seung

Mr WONG Kwok-wai, Wilson

Ms WONG So-man, Katrina

**Title**

District Officer (Sha Tin)  
 Assistant District Officer (Sha Tin) (1)  
 Assistant District Officer (Sha Tin) (2)  
 District Commander (Shatin) /  
 Hong Kong Police Force  
 Police Community Relations Officer (Shatin  
 District) / Hong Kong Police Force  
 District Environmental Hygiene  
 Superintendent (Sha Tin) (Atg) /  
 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
 Senior Housing Manager (Tai Po, North and  
 Sha Tin 1) / Housing Department  
 District Social Welfare Officer (Shatin) /  
 Social Welfare Department  
 Chief School Development Officer (Sha Tin) /  
 Education Bureau  
 Deputy District Leisure Manager (District  
 Support) Sha Tin / Leisure and Cultural Services  
 Department  
 District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin) /  
 Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
 Chief Transport Officer / New Territories East /  
 Transport Department  
 Senior Engineer / 7 (North) / Civil Engineering  
 and Development Department  
 Administrative Assistant / Lands (Atg)  
 (District Lands Office, Sha Tin) /  
 Lands Department  
 District Lands Officer / Sha Tin /  
 Lands Department  
 Executive Officer I (District Council)3 /  
 Sha Tin District Office

**In Attendance by Invitation**

Mr LEUNG Siu-ming, David  
 Mr WONG Kam-fat, Andy

Mr CHAN Ying-ho, Gary

**Title**

Architect (Works)8 / Home Affairs Department  
 Architectural Assistant / Ho & Partners  
 Architects, Engineers & Development  
 Consultants Limited  
 Senior Architect / Ho & Partners Architects,  
 Engineers & Development Consultants Limited

**Absent**

Mr WONG Ho-fung

(Application for leave of absence received)

Mr SHAM Tsz-kit, Jimmy

(No application for leave of absence received)

**Action**

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the first meeting of this year.

2. The Chairman informed all attendees that the press, being present as observers, was taking photographs and making video and audio recordings.

3. The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments, including Mr Ric YAN, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sha Tin) (Atg) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; Mr KWONG Ka-yin, Chief Transport Officer / New Territories East of the Transport Department; Ms NGO Po-ling, Senior Housing Manager (Tai Po, North and Sha Tin 1) of the Housing Department (HD); Mr David LEUNG, Architect (Works)8 of the Home Affairs Department (HAD); Mr Gary CHAN, Senior Architect and Mr Andy WONG, Architectural Assistant of the Ho & Partners Architects, Engineers & Development Consultants Limited (Consultant), to the meeting.

**Application for Leave of Absence**

4. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received application for leave of absence in writing from the following Member:

Mr WONG Ho-fung

Official commitment

5. The Council approved the application for leave of absence submitted by the Member above.

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 6 October 2020**

(STDC Minutes 9/2020)

6. The Chairman said the Secretariat did not receive any proposed amendment as at before the meeting.

7. The Council endorsed the above minutes unanimously.

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 19 November 2020**

(STDC Minutes 10/2020)

8. The Chairman said the Secretariat did not receive any proposed amendment as at before the meeting.

9. The Council endorsed the above minutes unanimously.

## **Discussion Items**

### **The Sha Tin District Council (STDC) to Serve as Event Supporter** (Paper No. STDC 1/2021)

10. The Chairman asked Members to consider whether they would endorse the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) to serve as the event supporter of the “12<sup>th</sup> ‘Quit to Win’ Smoke-free Community Campaign” organised by the Hong Kong Committee on Smoking and Health, and authorise the committee to display the logo of the STDC in the related publicity activities and on the publicity materials. He said the organiser invited Members to attend the event to be held on 23 March this year. Interested Members could contact him or the Secretariat.

11. The Council endorsed the STDC to serve as the event supporter of the “12<sup>th</sup> ‘Quit to Win’ Smoke-free Community Campaign”, and authorised the committee to display the logo of the STDC in the related publicity activities and on the publicity materials.

### **Updated Membership List of Committee under the STDC** (Paper No. STDC 2/2021)

12. The Chairman said the Secretariat received Mr Chris MAK’s application for withdrawing from the District Facilities Management and Security Affairs Committee (DFMSC) on 25 February this year. Members were then asked to consider whether they would endorse the updated membership list of the DFMSC.

13. The Council endorsed the above paper unanimously.

## **Funding Application**

### **2020-2021 District Facilities and Improvement Works Proposals** (Paper No. STDC 3/2021)

14. The Chairman said the total cost of the works project was preliminarily estimated to exceed \$3 million, and the proposal would be recommended by the Working Group on District Facilities and Improvement Works (Working Group) via the DFMSC to the STDC for its consideration. Members were asked to consider whether to endorse and confirm the said funding amount. He asked whether Members had any question about the works proposal, and reminded them of 2 rounds of speaking on this item per Member at most.

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

- (a) he said the Working Group and the DFMSC had discussed the works proposal thoroughly and the attendees overall had no objection to the implementation of the works. However, he was concerned that the proposed walkway cover would not be connected to the existing cover at the exit of Hung Mui Kuk Road Playground. He had approached the Works Section of the HAD for information, but it said it had yet to consult the Advisory Committee on the Appearance of Bridges and Associated Structures (ACABAS) of the Highways Department regarding the proposal;
- (b) he said the Works Section, after preparing for another district minor works project named ST-DMW378 which was to build a walkway cover from Tai Shui Hang MTR Station to Kam Tai Court, consulted the ACABAS which in the end

recommended that a continuous cover be built. He was worried that the funding amount would probably have to be increased due to other recommendations from the ACABAS in the future despite endorsing the works proposal at today's meeting;

- (c) he said he and other Members were invited by the Secretariat to conduct a site visit at Hung Mui Kuk Road, but the Secretariat did not invite Mr Raymond LI, the convenor of the Working Group. He asked the Secretariat about its criteria for inviting which Members to conduct the site visit;
- (d) he asked whether the Works Section had a backup plan;
- (e) he was dissatisfied with the performance of the Works Section; and
- (f) he wished to know the over-commitment status of the STDC funding this year.

16. Mr Gary CHAN said he already conducted a site visit at Hung Mui Kuk Road on 5 March this year with District Council Members of the involved constituency and the adjacent areas, the proponent and Mr Raymond LI, the convenor of the Working Group. After discussion, the presentees unanimously agreed to keep the original proposal.

17. Mr David HO, Senior Executive Officer (District Council) (Atg) of the Sha Tin District Office (STDO) said, based on the established practice, the Secretariat would invite DC Members of the involved constituency and the proponent to conduct a site visit. Thus, it invited Mr TSANG Kit, DC Member of the involved constituency, and Mr HUI Yui-yu, the proponent, to the site visit at Hung Mui Kuk Road.

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

- (a) he opined that the Secretariat handled it inappropriately. It should have invited Mr Raymond LI, the convenor of the Working Group, to the site visit. He said he did not attend the site visit because Mr LI had not been invited; and
- (b) he reiterated that it was necessary for the consulting firm to have a backup plan. If extra consultant's fees were to be incurred because the ACABAS recommended changes to the original proposal, the fees should be borne by the consulting firm.

19. Mr David LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) he thanked Mr Michael YUNG for his suggestions;
- (b) he said the consulting firm had conducted a feasibility study on the proposal and the extra construction costs involved;
- (c) the consulting firm already explained the situation to the DC Members present at the site visit on 5 March this year;
- (d) he asked Members to refer to the estimated works schedule set out on page 22 of the annex of Paper No. STDC 3/2021. He said the works proposal was required to be endorsed at the first stage, before opinions of the ACABAS would be consulted at the second stage;

- (e) the preparation work of Project No. ST-DMW378 had entered the fourth stage, and had been improved based on the ACABAS's recommendations;
- (f) based on previous experience, the ACABAS rarely gave no improvement recommendation on works proposals. For instance, it had given 7 to 8 recommendations on Project No. ST-DMW378. Thus, it would be difficult to say for sure whether it would be necessary to increase or decrease the funding for the works proposal;
- (g) the consulting firm would amend the works proposal based on the ACABAS's recommendations;
- (h) it would be difficult for the consulting firm to predict what improvement recommendations the ACABAS would give regarding the works proposal; and
- (i) the original proposal for the new walkway cover was a proposal almost identical to Project No. ST-DMW134 which had been approved by the ACABAS, carried out and connectable. Hence, he believed adopting the said project would facilitate the ACABAS's endorsement of the works proposal.

20. The views of Mr HUI Yui-yu were summarised below:

- (a) the existing cover at Hung Mui Kuk Road Playground was only a rain shelter, not a cover for the walkway leading to other places;
- (b) if Mr Michael YUNG's suggestion was accepted, it would take at least half a year to conduct a feasibility study again;
- (c) he opined that Mr Michael YUNG's suggestion was not cost-effective;
- (d) he suggested asking the ACABAS to review its recommendation after conducting a site visit if it recommended that the proposed walkway cover be connected to the cover at Hung Mui Kuk Road Playground;
- (e) he questioned if it was necessary to connect the proposed walkway cover to all the other walkway covers in the vicinity; and
- (f) he suggested endorsing the original proposal.

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

- (a) he said he took part in the site visit that day;
- (b) he said he respected the opinions of Mr TSANG Kit, DC Member of the constituency, and Mr HUI Yui-yu, the proponent; and
- (c) he hoped the STDO would enhance communication with the HAD as well as the relevant government departments and organisations, so as to understand the needs and views of different people in a bid to facilitate smooth endorsement of the works proposal at the ACABAS and its implementation.

22. Mr Gary CHAN noted Mr Raymond LI's suggestion and would enhance communication with the relevant parties.
23. Mr David HO noted Members' opinions on the Secretariat's arrangements for inviting Members to the site visit.
24. The Council unanimously endorsed the above funding application.

### **Information Items**

#### Reports of Committees under the STDC

##### Traffic and Transport Committee

(Paper No. STDC 4/2021)

(Paper No. STDC 5/2021)

25. The views of Mr CHAN Pui-ming were summarised below:
- (a) he asked about the arrangements for the briefing session on the Bus Route Planning Programme; and
  - (b) Members had discussed the proposal for extending Bus Route No. 286M to Tsz Wan Shan at the Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC) meeting. He wished to know the follow-up progress.
26. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:
- (a) the briefing session on the Bus Route Planning Programme would be held at Heng On Estate Community Centre at 3 pm on 24 March this year;
  - (b) the agenda for the special meeting was currently under preparation. The proposal for adjusting Bus Route No. 286M would be included;
  - (c) based on past experience, it would take a relatively long time for Members to discuss the Bus Route Planning Programme. He was worried that including the "universal accessibility" programme in the agenda might make the special meeting too lengthy;
  - (d) the consulting firm had already arranged the briefing session on the "universal accessibility" programme to be held at Sha Tin Town Hall. Members would be informed of the time of the event in due course;
  - (e) Mr YAU Man-chun submitted his question to the Secretariat as early as November last year. The TTC meeting had been repeatedly postponed until February this year due to the pandemic. Yet, Mr YAU left the meeting early due to official commitment that day and his question was hence not addressed at the meeting;
  - (f) he previously requested that the Secretariat include Mr YAU Man-chun's question in the special meeting but was rejected. He wished to know why; and

- (g) he said that according to the “Sha Tin District Council Standing Orders”, Chairmen of committees had the right to decide to convene a special meeting and set the agenda.

27. The Chairman reminded Members to attend the briefing session on the Bus Route Planning Programme to be held in the afternoon on 24 March this year.

28. Mr David HO said the next TTC special meeting would be a resumption meeting of the special meeting held on 2 February. According to the previous practice, a resumption meeting should address the follow-up and relevant items of the last special meeting. Hence, Mr YAU Man-chun’s question would be addressed at the next TTC regular meeting.

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

- (a) he disagreed with how the Secretariat handled things;
- (b) since no more than 5 questions were allowed per committee meeting, including Mr YAU Man-chun’s question in the next regular meeting would reduce other Members’ chances of raising questions; and
- (c) he was worried that the next TTC regular meeting would be terribly lengthy.

30. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to keep following up with Mr Michael YUNG after the meeting on matters concerning the TTC meeting.

District Facilities Management and Security Affairs Committee  
(Paper No. STDC 6/2021)

31. Mr CHAN Pui-ming wished to follow up on the progress on passing the motion on Project No. ST-DMW378 at the meeting.

32. Mr Michael YUNG said the relevant information could be provided for the Chairman and the convenor of the Working Group after the meeting for them to follow up.

Development and Housing Committee  
(Paper No. STDC 7/2021)

33. Mr CHAN Pui-ming said that Members wished to obtain from the Antiquities and Monuments Office a list recording about 8 800 buildings with historic value. He asked the Secretariat about the follow-up progress.

34. The views of Mr CHAN Nok-hang were summarised below:

- (a) he had not received the relevant information and hoped the Secretariat would follow up; and
- (b) regarding the work plan submitted by the HD, he proposed installing safety mats in the area of fitness equipment for the elderly at Fung Shing Court at the meeting dated 30 June 2020. He asked the HD about the follow-up progress.

35. The Chairman asked Mr CHAN Nok-hang to keep following up with the Secretariat after the meeting on the matter concerning the Development and Housing Committee.

36. Ms NGO Po-ling said she would contact Mr CHAN Nok-hang after the meeting to report on the progress on the fitness equipment for the elderly.

Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee

(Paper No. STDC 8/2021)

Health and Environment Committee

(Paper No. STDC 9/2021)

Finance and General Affairs Committee

(Paper No. STDC 10/2021)

37. The Chairman thanked Mr YAU Man-chun for helping arrange the group photo-taking for District Council Members. He said the photos were taken at their own expense.

38. The Council noted the 7 reports of committees above.

Financial Account of the STDC (as at 31 December 2020)

(Paper No. STDC 11/2021)

39. The Chairman said he hoped that the HAD would not cut down on the expenditure and subsequently DC funding in the next financial year because activities were affected by the pandemic last year.

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

- (a) he questioned that the STDO had been delaying informing Members of the STDC funding for the next year because of its work-from-home arrangements;
- (b) the Finance and General Affairs Committee (FGAC) was not able to make corresponding arrangements regarding the STDC funding;
- (c) he was worried that the number of contract staff hired by the STDC would decrease because of the decrease in the STDC funding;
- (d) all working groups hoped to hold meetings expeditiously to discuss work plans for the coming year; and
- (e) he hoped the STDO would account for the usage of Conference Room No. 441 of the STDO during the period when the briefing session was held.

41. Mr David HO gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the HAD had yet to announce the STDC funding amount for the next financial year;
- (b) a number of events were cancelled due to the pandemic last year. The Secretariat therefore would not draw up the financial estimates and the tentative ceiling amounts for the next financial year based on the previous practice of using the funding amount and the actual activity expenses of the past year as a reference;

- (c) the Secretariat would start drawing up the financial estimates and the tentative ceiling amounts after being informed of the STDC funding amount for the next financial year; and
- (d) after the STDC funding amount for the next financial year was announced by the HAD and the financial estimates were endorsed by the STDC, all committees and district organisations could organise activities based on the granted amount. Yet, some of the activities would probably have to be postponed due to the pandemic. It was believed that the activity timetable for the next financial year would be similar to that for the current financial year.

42. Dr Janet WONG, District Officer (Sha Tin) gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) she clarified that the Secretariat's work-from-home arrangements should not be regarded as the reason for the funding delay. The Secretariat had been supporting the STDC during the pandemic and handling extra duties arising from the pandemic;
- (b) she said Members would be informed once the HAD confirmed the funding amount for the next year; and
- (c) according to Section 3.1.1 of the "Procedures and Rules, Forms of Application for Sha Tin District Council Funds", the STDC could use no more than 15% of the granted district funds to hire subject officers. Under such a premise, the FGAC had already endorsed in principle the funding application for hiring contract staff in the next financial year.

43. The Chairman would keep following up with the Secretariat on the STDC funding amount for the next year.

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

- (a) he understood the Secretariat had to handle extra duties during the pandemic;
- (b) he asked whether there was any difference between the number of contract staff in the next year and that at present;
- (c) he asked, in case the number of contract staff for the next year had to be downsized due to reduced STDC funding, whether the STDO would hire those contract staff members without contract renewal via other channels; and
- (d) he asked whether the STDO would make transitional arrangements regarding contract staff members without contract renewal.

45. The Chairman said the FGAC would follow up on the funding arrangements concerning the employment of contract staff.

46. Dr Janet WONG reiterated that the STDC funding was granted by the Home Affairs Bureau via the HAD every year, not decided or arranged by the respective district office.

47. The Council noted the above paper.

**Information Paper**

**Crime Brief of Sha Tin District for 2020**  
(Paper No. STDC 12/2021)

48. The Chairman thanked the police for having prepared the information paper in a short period of time.

49. Mr Percy LEUNG, District Commander (Shatin) of the Hong Kong Police Force briefly introduced the paper, and the main points were as follows:

- (a) the overall crime figure was 3 881 cases in Sha Tin District for 2020, an increase of about 24% when compared with 3 140 cases in 2019. The detection rate was 34.8%, a slight drop of 1.5% when compared with 36.3% in 2019. Put differently, when comparing the crime figure per 100 000 persons, the figure of Sha Tin District was 560.4 cases, which was lower than the territory-wide overall crime rate of 843 cases per 100 000 persons;
- (b) the top 5 types of crime were deception, criminal damage, shop theft, miscellaneous thefts as well as wounding and serious assault, with 1 136, 475, 449, 368 and 235 cases respectively;
- (c) when compared with 2019, the top 3 types of crime with a raising trend were deception, bicycle theft and shop theft, whereas the top 3 types of crime with a downward trend were criminal damage, miscellaneous thefts and burglary;
- (d) there were a total of 1 136 cases of deception in 2020, an increase of 587 cases when compared with 549 cases in 2019. Among which, there were 858 cases of internet fraud, an increase of 478 cases when compared with 380 cases in 2019; 100 cases of telephone deception, an increase of 50 cases when compared with 50 cases in 2019; 3 cases of street deception, an increase of 1 case when compared with 2 cases in 2019; 74 cases of low-interest-rate loan fraud, an increase of 74 cases when compared with 2019; as well as 101 cases of other scams, an increase of 9 cases when compared with 92 cases in 2019;
- (e) internet fraud consisted mainly of 537 cases of online shopping scams, 70 cases of online romance scams, and 175 cases of other social media deceptions;
- (f) regarding telephone deception, the most common modus operandi was “Pretend Officials”, others included “Guess Who”;
- (g) other scams consisted mainly of embezzlement of octopus cards or credit cards, vehicle transactions, and obtaining medical subsidies by deception etc.;
- (h) the Sha Tin police district, the Sha Tin District Fight Crime Committee (DFCC), the Area Committees and members of Senior Police Call distributed anti-scam souvenirs, pamphlets, tissue paper and boxed tissue paper at Bayshore Towers in Ma On Shan, Tai Wai MTR Station and Sha Tin Wai MTR Station respectively between 4 and 6 November last year to raise anti-scam awareness of the public;
- (i) the Sha Tin police district with the DFCC also organised publicity van roadshows in the Sha Tin District, including Shatin Plaza, Ma On Shan Plaza and Tai Wai

MTR Station, from 6 to 10 February this year, and alerted the public to scammers with the mascot “The Little Grape”;

- (j) the Sha Tin police district also spread anti-scam messages on the Facebook page and YouTube channel of Junior Police Call Shatin;
- (k) other publicity methods included distribution of masks to members of the public etc.;
- (l) there were a total of 177 cases of bicycle theft in 2020, an increase of 95 cases when compared with 82 cases in 2019. The police fought crime through patrols by police officers in plain-clothes, and strengthened patrols and installation of closed-circuit television (CCTV) by property management personnel. The police had also arrested 29 persons recently;
- (m) there were a total of 449 cases of shop theft in 2020, an increase of 69 cases when compared with 380 cases in 2019. Among which, 342 cases were solved with a detection rate of 76.2%. Stolen items were mainly food and included others such as personal care products, clothing, and daily necessities. The police arrested a total of 337 persons, 45% (i.e. 152) of whom were aged 65 above who had primarily stolen food;
- (n) there were a total of 90 cases of triad-related crime in 2020, an increase of 60 cases when compared with 30 cases in 2019. The police arrested a total of 82 persons, and the detection rate was 91.1%;
- (o) he mentioned a crime committed in Chun Yeung Estate in December last year. At the time, the police received a report from a manager of a newly opened restaurant, who said that 7 to 8 persons claiming to be triad members had arrived and asked for protection rackets. Uniformed police officers and crime investigation detectives rushed to the scene for an investigation upon the call. In the end, the police successfully arrested 10 persons, 8 of whom were directly related to the case and the other 2 were shadowy string-pullers;
- (p) there were a total of 235 cases of wounding and serious assault in 2020, an increase of 43 cases when compared with 2019. 82 cases of which involved violence among family members, which was more or less the situation of 2019. 180 cases were solved and the detection rate was over 76%;
- (q) there were a total of 38 cases of serious drug offence in 2020, an increase of 17 cases when compared with 21 cases in 2019, and the detection rate was 100%;
- (r) there were a total of 112 cases of domestic violence in 2020, an increase of 14 cases when compared with 2019. Those cases consisted mainly of battery, criminal intimidation, and 33 miscellaneous incidents such as common assault and dispute. 103 cases were solved, and the detection rate was 92%;
- (s) there were a total of 4 cases of serious gambling in 2020, an increase of 3 cases when compared with 1 case in 2019. Those cases consisted mainly of online gambling and manipulated street gambling. The police arrested 15 persons in total, and the detection rate was 100%;

- (t) there were a total of 1 013 cases of street gambling in 2020, an increase of 657 cases when compared with 356 cases in 2019. The rise was mainly attributed to the frequent reports from members of the public who were concerned that street gambling had breached the order to prohibit group gatherings. The police also issued 415 penalty notices at gambling black spots. He said that Trunk Road T7 off Lee On Estate, Pok Nga Villa and Shing Mun River Promenade Garden No. 1 were the police's key law enforcement areas. Apart from routine law enforcement, the police worked with other relevant departments and property management companies in carrying out law enforcement actions regularly, such as removal of miscellaneous items for gambling purposes, installation of CCTV, and distribution of pamphlets;
- (u) there appeared a downward trend for criminal damage with the figure standing at 475 cases for 2020, a drop of 90 cases when compared with 565 cases in 2019. Among which, 112 cases were solved;
- (v) there were a total of 368 cases of miscellaneous theft in 2020, a decrease of 56 cases when compared with 424 cases in 2019. Those cases were in general victims who suffered losses after leaving their belongings behind carelessly;
- (w) there were a total of 86 cases of burglary in 2020, a drop of 39 cases when compared with 125 cases in 2019. Among which, 15 cases were solved, and a total of 16 persons were arrested. Regarding the places involved, 19 were private housing estates, 9 were village houses, and 16 were public housing estates. The rest included shops, industrial and commercial buildings, and schools. The police mounted 4 large-scale anti-burglary operations last year, including street patrols by uniformed officers and helicopter raids over the hills; and
- (x) there were a total of 6 cases of robbery in 2020, a drop of 2 cases when compared with 2019. Those cases took place in 3 convenience stores, 1 hotel, 1 social welfare organisation and 1 on the street. Among which, 5 cases were knife robbery. The police solved 5 cases and arrested 7 persons in total. Regarding the case where a victim was robbed of luxury watches in Tai Wai MTR Station, the police arrested the offender and the case was set down for trial at High Court.

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

- (a) regarding telephone deception, he would like to know the numbers of phone scams using local real-name SIM cards and prepaid SIM cards;
- (b) he suggested that the police report to the STDC on activities co-organised with the DFCC;
- (c) he would like to know the gambling black spots apart from Lee On Estate and the vicinity of Shing Mun River; and
- (d) he wanted to know more about indoor gambling.

51. The views of Mr Wilson LI were summarised below:

- (a) he expressed his concern regarding the increase in the overall crime rate;

- (b) he would like to know whether triad members had been involved in gambling cases; and
- (c) he wanted to know the details of several serious gambling cases.

52. The views of Mr Chris MAK were summarised below:

- (a) he noticed that the gambling spot of Lee On Estate had been moved to the vicinity of Lake Silver and Kam Ying Court;
- (b) he suggested that the police increase manpower for law enforcement in the vicinity of Lake Silver and Kam Ying Court, and strengthen publicity and education; and
- (c) he worried that the gambling spots were controlled by triad members.

53. The views of Mr TING Tsz-yuen were summarised below:

- (a) as for street gambling, he hoped that the police would step up law enforcement in the vicinity of Lake Silver and Kam Ying Court;
- (b) regarding telephone scams, he would like to know the number of solved cases;
- (c) he wanted to know whether telephone scammers would generally pretend to be Hong Kong or Mainland officials; and
- (d) he would like to know the numbers of mask scams and solved cases.

54. Mr Percy LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) regarding telephone deception, he said that the number of phone scams using local real-name SIM cards or prepaid SIM cards was not available at the moment;
- (b) he said that information on activities co-organised with the DFCC could be presented at future STDC meetings;
- (c) for street gambling, Pok Nga Villa, Shing Mun River Promenade Garden No. 1, Trunk Road T7 off Lee On Estate, and On Ming Street in Shek Mun were the police's key targeted areas;
- (d) the police would also send officers to park areas of various large housing estates for law enforcement, such as Hin Keng Estate, Chun Shek Estate, Sha Kok Estate, Sun Tin Wai Estate, Tin Sam Village, Mei Lam Estate, Pok Hong Estate, Chung On Estate, Heng On Estate, Yiu On Estate, Wo Che Estate, Kwong Yuen Estate, Lek Yuen Estate, Heung Yee Kuk Building near Tai Chung Kiu Road, Ravana Garden, and other scattered places;
- (e) he stressed that the police would mount routine law enforcement operations in different locations;
- (f) he pointed out that as long as triad members were involved, whether or not their identities were used to commit a crime, the cases would be treated as triad-related crimes;

- (g) in handling deception and bicycle theft cases which saw the greatest upward trend, the police would adopt preventive measures such as publicity van roadshows, distribution of pamphlets, and display of promotional videos in the lobbies of housing estates and hospitals;
- (h) he said that a serious gambling crime referred not to street gambling controlled by a triad society, but operating an unlawful gambling establishment, bookmaking, promoting an unlawful lottery, providing money for unlawful gambling or for an unlawful lottery, possession of property for operating a gambling establishment, and cheating at gambling. The 4 cases of serious gambling last year included 1 case of offshore betting, 1 case of online gambling, and 2 cases of manipulated street gambling;
- (i) he stated that the police fought serious gambling through intelligence-led operations, and combated street gambling with routine law enforcement, publicity and education;
- (j) he hoped that the police and Members would cooperate in fighting triad-related crimes;
- (k) he said that there were a total of 1 136 cases of deception in 2020, 100 cases of which were solved. The difficulty in solving these cases lied in the fact that most offenders had concealed their identities using prepaid SIM cards. However, if offenders had used their personal accounts for frauds, the police would obtain information of account holders from banks for a thorough investigation; and
- (l) he said that no relevant figure of mask scams was available at the moment.

55. The views of Mr CHENG Chung-hang were summarised below:

- (a) he asked whether the Social Welfare Department (SWD) had provided support to street gamblers;
- (b) he would like to know the number of illegal discharge of fireworks by villagers during Lunar New Year;
- (c) he hoped that the government could regulate via legislation on the time and locations of discharging fireworks by members of the public; and
- (d) he was concerned about the low detection rate last year, and therefore wanted to know the difficulty of law enforcement facing the police.

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

- (a) he asked whether the police had analysed the impact of the pandemic on the crime rate;
- (b) he enquired about the reasons for the increase in bicycle theft;
- (c) he enquired about the reasons for the increase in shop theft committed by elderly people;

- (d) the police arrested 10 persons for alleged blackmailing in Chun Yeung Estate, and he would like to know about the details; and
- (e) he asked the police whether law enforcement in relation to street gambling had been carried out in Lung Hang.

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

- (a) he enquired about the reasons for the increase in wounding and serious assault, serious drug offence, burglary such as bicycle theft, deception, triad-related crimes, domestic violence, and serious gambling etc.;
- (b) he wanted to know the number of officers deployed from the Sha Tin police district to the National Security Department (NSD);
- (c) he asked about the reasons for the surge in triad-related crimes and serious gambling compared to last year; and
- (d) he disagreed that most telephone scams originated from local SIM cards. As far as he was aware, most of them were overseas calls. He challenged that even an implementation of a real-name registration programme for SIM cards would not help solve cases. He asked the police for possible solutions.

58. Mr Percy LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) regarding illegal discharge of fireworks, the police would carry out law enforcement actions such as stepping up police patrols at black spots during festivals;
- (b) concerning the low detection rate, it was the overall result of the surge in deception last year and the usual difficulty in solving these cases;
- (c) he attributed the rise in the crime rate to the pandemic, especially the mask scams;
- (d) regarding bicycle theft, he said that the police successfully arrested an offender outside Garden Rivera on 13 January this year. The offender allegedly had been involved in 7 cases of bicycle theft in the district. He stated that the police would handle bicycle theft cases in two approaches, namely law enforcement as well as publicity and education;
- (e) regarding theft committed by elderly people, he said that for members of the public aged 65 or above with no relevant previous conviction and crimes involving an amount not exceeding \$300, the police would handle with discretion under the "Police Superintendent's Discretion Scheme". Additionally, the police also encouraged those senior citizens to join Senior Police Call;
- (f) as for the triad-related crime in Chun Yeung Estate, investigation was ongoing;
- (g) he noted Mr WAI Hing-cheung's view and would step up law enforcement in Lung Hang;

- (h) he said that there were a total of 86 cases of burglary in 2020, a decrease of 39 cases or 31.2% when compared with 125 cases in 2019. Among which, 15 cases were solved and 16 persons were arrested;
- (i) he thanked Mr Michael YUNG for his concern regarding the crime rate. The police would continue to investigate the cases as well as enhancing publicity and education;
- (j) as for the deployment of officers from the Sha Tin police district to the NSD, he said that no relevant figure was available at the moment;
- (k) he stressed that the police would continue to curb triad-related crimes; and
- (l) he said that no relevant figure regarding telephone scams originating from overseas was available at the moment.

59. Ms Maggie LEUNG, District Social Welfare Officer (Shatin) of the SWD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the SWD now provided the elderly with diversified services such as counselling service, social and recreational activities through District Elderly Community Centres and Neighbourhood Elderly Centres in various districts;
- (b) the mode of service was not limited to within the centres. Social workers would also approach elderly people of the district proactively and provide them with services;
- (c) some non-government organisations provided specific services with subsidies from the Ping Wo Fund, and offered assistance to gambling addicts and their family; and
- (d) she welcomed referrals with welfare needs from Members for the follow-up of the SWD.

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

- (a) he expressed his concern for the illegal road racing in Fo Tan early this year. He asked the police whether law enforcement actions relating to illegal road racing had been carried out; and
- (b) regarding illegal discharge of fireworks, he asked about importation and sale channels of fireworks.

61. Mr YEUNG Sze-kin said that the police now combated street gambling with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Group Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G). He asked about the police's law enforcement actions after the pandemic.

62. The views of Mr CHAN Pui-ming were summarised below:

- (a) he enquired about the numbers of telephone scams and online deception; and

- (b) he hoped that the police could provide the figure of law enforcement actions for illegal road racing at the DFMSC or TTC meeting.

63. The views of Mr Wilson LI were summarised below:

- (a) he said that he had lodged multiple complaints to the police regarding illegal road racing in Ma On Shan;
- (b) he was concerned about the safety and noise issues arising from illegal road racing;
- (c) he hoped that the police would step up law enforcement;
- (d) he hoped that the police would provide the relevant figure of law enforcement actions; and
- (e) he hoped that the police would pay heed to street gambling in Ma On Shan.

64. Mr Percy LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) regarding illegal road racing in Fo Tan, the police would explore joint law enforcement actions with Traffic / New Territories South Regional Headquarters;
- (b) as for illegal discharge of fireworks, the police would gather intelligence and step up patrols during Lunar New Year;
- (c) the police would adopt traditional methods of law enforcement in dealing with street gambling after the pandemic;
- (d) he could provide the numbers of telephone scams and online deception after the meeting;
- (e) the police would refer the noise problem caused by illegal road racing to the relevant departments for follow-up actions;
- (f) he would provide the figure of law enforcement actions in relation to illegal road racing in Ma On Shan after the meeting, and also explore joint law enforcement operations with Traffic / New Territories South Regional Headquarters; and
- (g) the police would work with the SWD and non-government organisations in combating street gambling.

65. Mr SHEK William hoped that the police could provide the numbers of telephone scams using overseas and local SIM cards.

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

- (a) he would like to know whether there was an insufficient staff of frontline officers for law enforcement in the district because of their deployment from the Sha Tin police district to the NSD, which contributed to the increase in the crime rate last year; and

- (b) he wanted to know whether telephone scams mainly originated from local or overseas calls.

67. The views of Mr YAU Man-chun were summarised below:

- (a) he was concerned about street gambling in Shing Mun River Promenade Garden No. 1, and hoped that the police would step up law enforcement; and
- (b) he said that a member of the public had recently claimed that his property had been stolen in Sha Kok Market. He hoped that the police would step up law enforcement.

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

- (a) regarding illegal road racing, he hoped that the police could plan ahead law enforcement actions before specific festivals; and
- (b) as for group gathering, he had notified the police of groups gathering on Chui Yan Street. He questioned the police's low law enforcement efficiency.

69. Mr Percy LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) he would check the numbers of telephone scams originating from overseas and local calls after the meeting;
- (b) he had no further comments regarding the deployment of officers from the Sha Tin police district to the NSD;
- (c) regarding telephone scams, the police would continue to spread anti-scam messages via different means;
- (d) he pointed out that a total of 39 penalty notices in respect of the crowd ban were issued at Shing Mun River Promenade Garden No. 1 last year and that 4 persons were arrested in an anti-street gambling operation;
- (e) he would contact Mr YAU Man-chun later to follow up on the case in which a member of the public's property had been stolen in Sha Kok Market;
- (f) as for illegal road racing, the police would plan law enforcement actions in advance with Traffic/New Territories South Regional Headquarters or strengthen publicity before festivals; and
- (g) regarding group gatherings on Chui Yan Street, he said that he would find out more from the relevant officers.

[Post-meeting note: The police contacted the relevant Members for follow-up actions after the meeting regarding their matters of concern mentioned.]

70. The Council noted the above paper.

**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

71. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 pm on 20 May 2021 (Thursday).
72. The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 pm.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat  
STDC 13/15/15/1

May 2021