

Sha Tin District Council
Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of
the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee in 2025

Date : 24 April 2025 (Thursday)
Time : 2:31 pm
Venue : Sha Tin District Office Conference Room 441
 4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of joining the meeting</u>	<u>Time of leaving the meeting</u>
Ms LO Tai-suen, Ada (Chairman)	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Ms CHAN Man-kuen, MH (Vice Chairman)	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr WONG Wai-shing	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr KU Wai-ping	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr CHU Wun-chiu	2:31 pm	3:23 pm
Mr NG Kai-tai	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Ms LAM Siu-man	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr LAM Yu-sing	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Dr LAM Kong-kwan	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr YIU Ka-chun, MH	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr CHEUNG Pak-yuen	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr LEUNG Ka-wai	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr CHAN Tan-tan	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Miss CHAN Hiu-ying	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Miss MOK Hei-man	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Ms WONG Po-yee	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr YEUNG Ying-hon, Ronald	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Miss TUNG Kin-lei	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Dr LIU Tsz-chung, Michael	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr TSOI Ming-yang	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr CHENG Ka-ho, MH, JP	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr CHOI Wai-shing	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr TANG Siu-fung, Calvin	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Miss LAW Yuen-pui	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Ms KUNG Mei-chi	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr LEE Chun-ho	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Dr CHAN Wai-kai, MH	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr WONG Yan-ming	2:31 pm	3:28 pm
Mr WONG Wai-long, Loren (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)2, Sha Tin District Office	

<u>In Attendance</u>	<u>Title</u>
Mr LEE Man-fai, Dave	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Sha Tin District Office
Ms CHAN Cheuk-yu, Cherry	Executive Officer I (District Council)2, Sha Tin District Office

In Attendance

Ms CHOW Pui-shan, Cindy

Ms KWOK Ka-yu, Kave

Ms SUM Wai-ching, Tammy

Mr WOO Shun-chung, Franko

Ms YIP Wing-shan

Ms LAU Fung-yi, Connie

Mr KAM Pak-yeung

Title

District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin)1,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin)2,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Assistant District Leisure Manager (District Support) Sha Tin,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Senior Librarian (Sha Tin),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Manager (New Territories East) Marketing and District Activities,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Senior Community Relations Officer,

ICAC Regional Office (New Territories East)

In Attendance by Invitation

Ms WONG Chui-shan, Tracy

Ms TAM Sui-laam, Norma

Mr LAM Ping-kwan, Watson

Mr LIU Chi-hong, Andy

Mr WONG Man-hon, Ronald

Mr KU Man-kai, Alex

Mr LEUNG Kong-zing, Chris

Title

Liaison Officer i/c (East)1,

Sha Tin District Office

Liaison Officer i/c (South)2,

Sha Tin District Office

Liaison Officer i/c (West)1,

Sha Tin District Office

Liaison Officer i/c (Special Duties),

Sha Tin District Office

Liaison Officer (North)2,

Sha Tin District Office

Chief Inspector, Investigation and Support Division,

Traffic New Territories South Region, Hong Kong Police Force

Road Safety Officer, Traffic New Territories South Region,

Hong Kong Police Force

Absent

Ms GUO Xuantong

Title

District Council Member

(Application for leave of absence received)

The Chairman welcomed members and representatives of government departments to the meeting of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee.

Application for Leave of Absence

2. The Chairman said that the Sha Tin District Council Secretariat had received an application for leave of absence in writing from the following member prior to the meeting:

Ms GUO Xuantong

Postpartum recovery

3. The meeting unanimously consented to the application for leave of absence submitted by the above member.

Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 27 February 2025
(CCRC Minutes 2/2025)

4. Members unanimously endorsed the above minutes.

Questions

Question Raised by Ms CHAN Man-kuen on the Development of New Sports in Sha Tin District
(Paper No. CCRC 13/2025)

5. The Vice Chairman's further enquiries were as follows:
- (a) starting from this year, Mei Lam Sports Centre was included in the “Trial Scheme on Opening up the Arena of Selected Sports Centres for Booking by Individuals for New Sports Activities” for booking by the public to do new sports. Referring to the booking records for new sports from January to March 2025, she asked the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) whether the booking situation of new sports was satisfactory;
 - (b) since 15 January 2025, the LCSD had opened seven free outdoor hard-surface badminton courts for the public to play pickleball. She enquired whether the reason why there were no available outdoor venues for pickleball in Sha Tin District at present was due to the shortage of venues or the lack of suitable venues; and
 - (c) District Services and Community Care Teams had previously organised different new sports activities in the community for residents to join, including Mölkky. She pointed out that this kind of new sports was not only popular among the public but also suitable for the elderly, many of whom gave positive feedback after coming into contact with Mölkky and enquired when the next activity would be held. Therefore, she wished to know whether Mölkky would be included in the new sports for venue booking by the elderly.
6. A representative of the LCSD gave a consolidated response as follows:
- (a) the LCSD actively promoted new sports and was gradually regularising the scheme, extending available sessions of arenas for booking by individuals to peak hours. The LCSD selected these six new sports based on their popularity and suitability of the venue environment. The representative of the LCSD would further study with relevant sections and review whether or not to include other new sports;
 - (b) there had been 18 bookings for new sports on record up till now with the majority of them being pickleball, and the public were generally positive about using the facilities. As Mei Lam Sports Centre had only been included in the “Trial Scheme on Opening up the Arena of Selected Sports Centres for Booking by Individuals for New Sports Activities” for a short time, it was difficult to give an overall assessment on the result of the scheme at this stage. The LCSD would conduct a review later on;
 - (c) with regard to identifying outdoor venues, the LCSD had to study the surrounding environment of a venue and collect views of relevant sports associations in order to decide whether the venue was suitable. Currently, there was an outdoor badminton court located

in Tsang Tai Uk Recreation Ground. It was not included in the “Trial Scheme on Opening up the Arena of Selected Sports Centres for Booking by Individuals for New Sports Activities” as the LCSD had to consider the possible impacts on nearby pedestrians while carrying out the activities at the outdoor venue. The LCSD would keep in view the situation concerned and make appropriate arrangements; and

- (d) the LCSD had noted the member’s view about Mölkky. The view would be forwarded to relevant sections and its feasibility would be explored subject to the availability of resources.

7. The Chairman announced the end of discussion on the agenda item.

Question Raised by Mr YEUNG Ying-hon, Ronald on Evaluating the Usage of Road Safety Town and Adventure Cycling Area, and the Effectiveness of Enhancing Road Safety Awareness in Sha Tin District (Paper No. CCRC 14/2025)

8. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) to the meeting.

9. Members’ further enquiries were as follows:

- (a) members suggested that all departments jointly review how to further utilise the existing venues effectively, especially the Adventure Cycling Area and the Road Safety Town, in order to promote more diverse and effective public education, hence raising the public awareness of road safety. Citing the example of bicycles, members suggested that the LCSD consider adjusting the current activity mode and holding some road safety courses targeting students, teenagers or elderly people jointly with the HKPF or other departments at the Adventure Cycling Area;
- (b) Adventure Cycling Areas and Road Safety Towns under the LCSD served as important platforms to promote cycling and pedestrian safety. However, the LCSD had arranged only one cycling-related activity in the plan for recreation and sports events this year, which was far from adequate in meeting the demand of the public and teenagers for road safety education, revealing that these venues had not been fully utilised; and
- (c) regarding pedestrian safety, members suggested that the HKPF consider further utilising the Road Safety Town by including a mandatory improvement course in the punitive measures so as to mandate repeat offenders to visit the Road Safety Town to attend the improvement course. Members hoped that all departments could integrate existing resources to raise the public awareness of road safety.

10. Members’ suggestions and views were as follows:

- (a) members opined that nowadays children might have little knowledge of the Road Safety Town. In order to enable more children to get to know the Road Safety Town, the LCSD held the Sha Tin District Road Safety Carnival annually for the public to join. Members enquired the LCSD whether the current frequency of holding the carnival once a year was sufficient and asked the LCSD to provide the number of participants in each carnival in the past few years;

[Post-meeting note: The event was suspended due to the epidemic in 2022, whereas there was an average of about 2 000 participants in each event in 2023 and 2024.]

- (b) members observed via social media that there were not many official pictures or video clips of the Road Safety Town, hence suggesting that the LCSD enhance publicity on the official website or social media so as to promote the Road Safety Town to more members of the public;
- (c) regarding the number of block bookings mentioned in the paper, members enquired the LCSD whether the total number of users of the Road Safety Town included both block booking visitors and walk-in users;
- (d) at the entrance of the Road Safety Town, there was a notice stating that four sessions were open for block bookings every day, totalling 240 sessions a year. By the calculation based on 252 block booking applications in 2024, there was on average only one group using one session every day and the utilisation rate just reached one fourth. Members enquired about the LCSD's view on the current utilisation rate of the Road Safety Town and asked what measures it would adopt to enhance publicity or encourage more people to visit there;
- (e) members enquired the LCSD and the HKPF whether they held a joint meeting every year to discuss how to effectively utilise relevant venues for promotion and education, so as to reduce the current casualties resulting from cycling and traffic accidents;
- (f) members pointed out that diagonal crossings had not been set up in the Road Safety Town, hence asking whether the HKPF would consider adding related facilities in the future;
- (g) members wished to know whether the LCSD would introduce electric vehicles or driving experiential activities in collaboration with CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP) or the Hong Kong School of Motoring to attract student participation. Noting that there were only some tricycles in the venue at present, members asked whether the LCSD had any plan to introduce more novel and intriguing facilities for public use; and
- (h) members pointed out that while large banners had been set up in many outdoor venues of the LCSD for promotion, there were no large promotional spots in the Adventure Cycling Area in Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground to attract visitors. Members hoped that the LCSD could enhance promotion, allowing more people to get to know the Adventure Cycling Area.

11. A representative of the HKPF gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) in respect of interdepartmental collaboration, the HKPF was adopting such a mode for various issues. Other government departments, non-governmental organisations and the public were welcome to study road safety together with the HKPF. Activities in aspects such as cycling and pedestrian safety had also been organised, enabling all parties to shoulder the responsibility of road safety via collaboration;
- (b) as regards arranging persons who had committed traffic offences to attend a mandatory improvement course at the Road Safety Town, it was necessary to study the feasibility since systemic adjustments would be involved. The HKPF noted and would further explore members' suggestion;

- (c) with regard to the utilisation of the Road Safety Town, in 2024, the Road Safety Office of Traffic New Territories South Region of the HKPF delivered 248 road safety courses for schools, mainly targeting kindergartens;
- (d) regarding the suggestion of setting up diagonal crossing facilities in the Road Safety Town, the HKPF said that relevant content would soon be added to the lectures on road safety. As diagonal crossings were still under a trial scheme at the moment, it was necessary to evaluate whether it was appropriate to introduce this facility to the Road Safety Town at present; and
- (e) the suggestion of introducing electric vehicles in collaboration with organisations such as CLP needed further consideration.

12. A representative of the LCSD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Sha Tin Road Safety Town was a very suitable place for educating students or the public on road safety. The LCSD assisted the Police in organising different activities together for public participation, particularly to enable students and teenagers to understand the importance of road safety. Apart from the annual Sha Tin District Road Safety Carnival, the Police also gave lectures at the Road Safety Town so that schools and organisations could apply and use the facilities in the Town, which was also open to the public;
- (b) many parents or organisations visited the Road Safety Town to educate children about road safety knowledge. Therefore, aside from block bookings, the 160 000 visitors in 2024 also included walk-in users or members of the public;
- (c) members' views were noted. When resources were available, the LCSD would explore with the Road Safety Office of the Police the possibility of providing more activities or introducing other novel activity modes to promote road safety; and
- (d) cycling carnivals would be held at the Adventure Cycling Area, enabling the public to enjoy the sport of cycling. The LCSD would hold more activities for public participation in the future depending on the availability of resources.

13. The Chairman announced the end of discussion on the agenda item.

Question Raised by Mr CHU Wun-chiu on Outdoor Fitness Equipment in Sha Tin District under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department
(Paper No. CCRC 15/2025)

14. Members' further enquiries were as follows:

- (a) outdoor fitness equipment was provided in 35 recreation venues in Sha Tin District, including 33 elderly fitness corners, 8 fitness corners and 4 fitness stations. Members relayed the views of residents in the district that these facilities could hardly meet the demand of young people enthusiastic about street workout. For example, the fitness equipment at A Kung Kok Street Garden near Chevalier Garden was primarily for the elderly; and
- (b) in 2024, the Government introduced some smart fitness equipment at Victoria Park in Wan Chai District, Hoi Fai Road Promenade in Yau Tsim Mong District, Kowloon Tsai Park in Kowloon City District and Hoi Chu Road Playground in Tuen Mun District. Members

wished to know whether relevant smart fitness equipment would be introduced to Sha Tin District in the future in response to the demand of local residents for exercise or workout.

15. Members' suggestions and views were as follows:

- (a) members said that some residents had reported the lack of street workout equipment on Ma On Shan Promenade. They wished to know whether the provision of street workout equipment and the introduction of smart fitness equipment would be considered in the modification works of the park on Ma On Shan Promenade;
- (b) in view that elderly fitness corners accounted for a larger proportion, members wished to know whether there were any underlying special planning arrangements or considerations;
- (c) members asked whether additional outdoor fitness equipment would be provided gradually in Sha Tin District in the future; and
- (d) though fitness equipment was provided in every district, the synergetic effect between equipment was also an important consideration. The placing of fitness equipment did not mean that the public were able to do effective workout, since different types of fitness equipment targeted different training purposes, such as explosive power, stamina, strength, coordination, core muscles, reactions, suppleness and speed. Members suggested simultaneously setting up various types of fitness equipment targeting different training purposes so as to enhance the public's sports knowledge and the results of sports training.

16. A representative of the LCSD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) during the planning for outdoor fitness equipment, the LCSD considered various factors to decide which facilities should be added, for example, the demand of residents in the area, the feedback collected, existing resources and the venue size;
- (b) while the majority of existing outdoor fitness equipment was primarily designed for the elderly, the public could also make use of these facilities for daily exercise and training;
- (c) in regard to the demand for street workout, having noted members' views, the LCSD would explore with relevant sections the suggestion of considering and evaluating the feasibility of adding street workout equipment in parallel with new plans or venue renovations in the future;
- (d) in connection with members' suggestion of targeting different training purposes, all existing LCSD venues with outdoor fitness equipment provided equipment intended for training the upper body, the lower body and balance, etc. Instead of providing only one type of equipment, the LCSD focused on the actual training effectiveness of fitness equipment while regularly renovated the facilities in fitness corners in hope of meeting the public demand as far as possible; and
- (e) as regards the suggestion of introducing smart fitness equipment, the LCSD was launching a trial scheme in other districts at the moment. Depending on the trial situation, the LCSD would consider identifying suitable venues or newly developed areas in Sha Tin District for the inclusion of smart fitness equipment in the development plan for fitness equipment.

17. Members' further enquiries and views were as follows:
- (a) the LCSD responded that it would evaluate whether smart fitness equipment was suitable to be introduced in Sha Tin District. Members wished to know the usage of smart fitness equipment that had already been provided in other districts, as well as the factors that the LCSD would consider when deciding whether to add this kind of facilities in Sha Tin District; and
 - (b) the emphasis of outdoor fitness equipment should be put on basic training such as the combination of aerobic and anaerobic exercise. Professional training could be provided by youth teams or commercial venues, but in respect of workout for the general public, the LCSD could gradually provide more resources to meet the public demand for workout.
18. A representative of the LCSD gave a consolidated response as follows:
- (a) certain smart fitness equipment such as SmartBikes had been provided in some venues in Sha Tin District. Smart fitness equipment had also been installed in Victoria Park and was currently on trial. We would maintain close contact with colleagues of other districts to understand the usage of these facilities;
 - (b) the LCSD would actively study smart facilities in order to cater for the public demand and get in line with the direction of development. If there were suitable locations in Sha Tin District and resources were available, the LCSD would consider providing smart fitness equipment; and
 - (c) the LCSD noted members' views on basic training. At present, the LCSD held Briefings on Outdoor Fitness Training in different districts, helping the public to understand how they could make effective use of outdoor fitness equipment for workout. The LCSD would relay members' views to relevant sections in hope of enhancing the promotion on this kind of activities to meet the demands of people with different needs.
19. The Chairman announced the end of discussion on the agenda item.

Information Papers

Half-yearly Report on Community Involvement Programme of the Sha Tin District Office for 2024/2025 (October 2024 to March 2025)
(Paper No. CCRC 16/2025)

20. A representative of the Sha Tin District Office briefly introduced the paper.
21. Members noted the above paper.

Report by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on Organisation of Recreation and Sports Activities in Sha Tin District in 2024/2025
(Paper No. CCRC 17/2025)

22. A representative of the LCSD briefly introduced the paper.

23. The Chairman suggested the LCSD could add an item for new sports in the information paper reporting on activities so that members could understand the development of new sports activities.

24. Members said that cycling and fencing were very popular among the public, but according to the statistics and activity content in the paper, only one cycling training course and one fencing activity were held in 2024/2025 with approximately 20 participants in each activity. Therefore, members asked the LCSD whether it had the capacity or resources to enhance promotion on these sports in the community.

25. A representative of the LCSD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the LCSD would upload all activity information to its website, yet the activity report in question mainly covered activities funded by the Community Involvement Programme of the Sha Tin District Office but not recreation and sports activities funded by the LCSD;
- (b) the LCSD predicted that about six new sports activities would be held at sport centres under the LCSD between July and December 2025; and
- (c) the LCSD had arranged activities with cycling and fencing elements in some carnivals and there was also a fencing event on Sport for All Day 2024 last year. These events had been included in the item “Carnivals/Sports Carnivals” under the category “Others” in this paper. The activities listed in this paper were primarily regular activities held by the LCSD. As for whether more similar activities would be provided, the LCSD had noted relevant views and would further study the matter.

26. Members noted the above paper.

Report and Plan by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on Extension Activities of Public Libraries in Sha Tin District (2024/2025 and 1st to 2nd Quarters of 2025)
(Paper No. CCRC 18/2025)

27. A representative of the LCSD briefly introduced the paper and the activity “Hong Kong Reading Week 2025 - Read Together for Half an Hour”.

28. Members said that with the exam season underway, the study rooms in many libraries were almost full and some restaurants had expressed their willingness to provide students with venues for studying. Members hoped to learn from the LCSD about the usage of study rooms at the moment and asked whether there were insufficient study room seats in Sha Tin District, resulting in the difficulty for public exam candidates to find suitable study venues.

29. A representative of the LCSD replied that there were students’ study rooms in three public libraries in Sha Tin District, namely Sha Tin Public Library (220 study room seats), Ma On Shan Public Library (144 study room seats) and Yuen Chau Kok Public Library (200 study room seats). Whenever the exam season was underway, libraries would extend the opening hours of study rooms for the convenience of candidates. According to the present utilisation rate, the demand was basically met despite the large number of students using study rooms during the exam period. Moreover, the LCSD would conduct a regular review on the usage of study rooms and a timely review on library facilities.

30. Members noted the above paper.

Report by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on Organisation of Cultural Activities and Utilisation of Facilities in Sha Tin District (2024/2025 and 1st to 3rd Quarters of 2025)
(Paper No. CCRC 19/2025)

- 31. A representative of the LCSD briefly introduced the paper.
- 32. Members noted the above paper.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

- 33. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 pm on 26 June 2025 (Thursday).
- 34. The meeting was closed at 3:28 pm.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat
STDC 13/15/75

June 2025