

Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
Commerce, Industry and Housing Committee (2018-2019)  
Tuen Mun District Council

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Date: 20 August 2018 (Monday)

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Venue: Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

<u>Present</u>		<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Ms CHING Chi-hung (Chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo (Vice-chairman)	TMDC Member	9:35 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kin-man, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, BBS, MH	TMDC Vice-chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TO Shek-yuen, MH	TMDC Member	9:38 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KONG Fung-yi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms WONG Lai-sheung, Catherine	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:31 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms LUNG Shui-hing, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Man-wah, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
The Hon HO Kwan-yiu, JP	TMDC Member	9:39 a.m.	10:54 a.m.
Ms CHU Shun-nga, Beatrice	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSANG Hin-hong	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr MO Shing-fung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YEUNG Chi-hang	TMDC Member	11:04 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YAN Siu-nam	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TAM Chun-yin	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr FUNG pui-yin	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Ka-tai, Gary	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms LAI Ka-man	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr WONG Yu-kei	Co-opted Member	9:37 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LAW Wai-hung	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Chui-wan, Ida (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council) 1, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department		

By Invitation

Mr KWAN Kin-keung	Head of Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau, Customs and Excise Department
Mr LAU Yuk-lung	Group Head (Unfair Trade Practice Investigation), Customs and Excise Department
Mr KO Po-wai	Senior Health Inspector (Joint Office), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

In Attendance

Ms YAN Yuet-han, Fion	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Ms Rene CHAK	Liaison Officer i/c Building Management & Town Centre, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr CHOI Chi-man, Michael	Senior Building Surveyor/E5, Buildings Department
Ms CHENG Chui-king, Christine	Housing Manager/Tuen Mun 4, Housing Department
Ms WA Lei-chun, Winnie	Senior Community Relations Officer/ICAC Regional Office (NTNW), Independent Commission Against Corruption
Mr TAM Kwok-leung	Administrative Assistant/Lands (Acting), District Lands Office, Tuen Mun, Lands Department

Absent with Apologies

Mr AU Chi-yuen	TMDC Member
Mr NG Koon-hung	TMDC Member
Mr CHEUNG Hang-fai	TMDC Member
Mr KAM Man-fung	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Ho-ting	Co-opted Member

**I. Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all present to the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Commerce, Industry and Housing Committee (“CIHC”).

2. The Chairman reminded Members that Members who were aware of their personal interests in any matters discussed at the meeting should declare the interests before the discussion. The Chairman would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”) Standing Orders, decide whether the Members who had declared interests might speak or vote on the matters, might remain at the meeting as observers, or should withdraw from the meeting. All cases of declaration of interests would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

**II. Absence from Meeting**

3. The Chairman said that according to Mr CHAN Ho-ting, he was also a member of the Youth Development Commission and had been appointed by the Home Affairs Bureau to serve as an advisor to a tour to Ireland under the Funding Scheme for International Youth Exchange from 18 to 23 August 2018, so he was unable to attend the meeting. In this connection, she asked whether Members accepted Mr CHAN Ho-ting’s application for leave of absence.

4. A Member said that according to the TMDC Standing Orders, the TMDC might accept a Member’s application for leave of absence if the Member attended a meeting or activity on behalf of the TMDC. She asked whether Mr CHAN Ho-ting was attending an activity related to the TMDC.

5. The Chairman said that if a Member attended a meeting or activity on behalf of the TMDC, the CIHC could accept the Member’s application for leave of absence without having to discuss it at a meeting. The activity mentioned by Mr CHAN Ho-ting was irrelevant to the TMDC, so only with the consent of the majority of Members present at the meeting could the CIHC accept his application for leave of absence. In this regard, a Member reckoned that the question of whether the TMDC should accept a Member’s application for leave of absence from a meeting for other reasons should be discussed at a meeting of the Finance, Administration and Publicity Committee.

6. At the request of the Chairman, the Secretary added that according to Order 42 of the TMDC Standing Orders, the TMDC might accept a Member's application for leave of absence from a TMDC meeting due to sickness, the Member's attendance at another meeting on behalf of the TMDC, the wedding of the Member or his/her immediate family member or the funeral of the Member's immediate family member, or the Member's performance of statutory civic duty (e.g. serving as a juror). As the reason for Mr CHAN Ho-ting's absence from the current meeting was irrelevant to the above four points, the CIHC had to seek Members' opinions as to whether to accept his application for leave of absence.

7. The Vice-chairman opined that it was common for a Member to hold different public service positions. He asked whether the TMDC and its committees had accepted any Member's application for leave of absence from a meeting on other grounds. Another Member reckoned that Members should keep a sense of perspective and consider on their own whether to attend a meeting, and there was no need to apply for leave of absence on other grounds.

8. The Chairman invited Members to vote on whether to accept Mr CHAN Ho-ting's application for leave of absence. As there was no majority of Members agreeing to accept Mr CHAN Ho-ting's application, the Chairman announced that the CIHC did not accept his application for leave of absence.

### **III. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting**

9. As Members proposed no amendments to the minutes, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CIHC (2018-2019) were confirmed.

### **IV. Matters Arising**

#### **(A) Proposal Regarding Improvement to Territory-wide Overcrowding Relief Transfer Exercise** **(CIHC Paper No. 15/2018)** **(Paragraphs 15 to 21 of Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of CIHC (2018-2019))** **(Written Response from Housing Department)**

10. The Chairman said that at its previous meeting, the CIHC had made different comments on the Living Space Improvement Transfer Scheme and the Territory-wide Overcrowding Relief Transfer Exercise and asked the Housing Department ("HD") to consider related suggestions. She was dissatisfied with the department's failure to send representatives from the relevant section to the meeting to answer Members' questions, and asked the HD to give an explanation.

11. Ms Christine CHENG of the HD responded that the Applications Section was very busy and it had used its best endeavours to provide a detailed written response.

12. A Member held the view that it was the duty of every bureau and department to attend meetings to explain policy objectives and contents to Members, and it was unacceptable not to attend meetings on the grounds of busy official duties. The Member therefore reckoned that the CIHC should write to the Transport and Housing Bureau (“THB”) raising the matter.

13. The Chairman said the CIHC would write to the THB expressing Members’ views on the Living Space Improvement Transfer Scheme and the Territory-wide Overcrowding Relief Transfer Exercise, and also their dissatisfaction with the HD’s failure to send representatives from the relevant section to the meeting. Secretariat

(Post-meeting note: The above letter was sent on 28 September 2018.)

## V. Discussion Items

### (A) Request Operators of Bike-sharing Service to Properly Handle Balance of Accounts of Customers (CIHC Paper No. 19/2018) (Written Response from Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department)

14. The Chairman welcomed Mr KWAN Kin-keung, Head of Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau, and Mr LAU Yuk-lung, Group Head (Unfair Trade Practice Investigation), of the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department (“C&ED”) to the meeting.

15. Mr KWAN Kin-keung of the C&ED thanked the CIHC for inviting the C&ED to the meeting. He said the C&ED had received complaints of the same nature too and was much concerned about the situation. Since the case was under investigation, constrained by operation reasons and the law, it was not appropriate for the C&ED to disclose the details of the case; still, it could provide Members with information relating to the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (“TDO”). Then he gave a PowerPoint presentation (Annex 1)\* to introduce terms on unfair trade practices in the TDO and share relevant cases.

\*Only available in Chinese version.

16. The first proposer of the paper thanked the C&ED for handling the captioned matter in a prompt manner. She expressed grave concern about the cessation of the operation of the bike-sharing company as many people were affected by the incident. She suggested the C&ED further step up efforts to promote the TDO to let more people know the relevant information.

17. Members made different comments and enquiries on the C&ED's brief introduction, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member pointed out that visitors would not stay in Hong Kong for a long time and asked whether the C&ED would expedite prosecution so that visitors could help in enforcement and appear in court as witnesses when required. Besides, the Member suggested a mediation mechanism be put in place to resolve disputes between visitors and traders as quickly as possible;
- (ii) A Member said that while a number of complaints had been made to the C&ED about the sale of illicit cigarettes at Kin Sang Shopping Centre and Kin Sang Light Rail Stop in Tuen Mun, the problem had been lingering on for months but remained unaddressed;
- (iii) A Member noted that the closed bike-sharing company had said deposits could be refunded to its customers, but no contact information had been provided and hence there was nowhere for the customers to make enquiries. Besides, the Member asked whether the C&ED would put a mechanism in place to facilitate the bike-sharing company's payment of refunds to its customers;
- (iv) A Member asked which department would take up the duty if the bike-sharing company that had announced the cessation of operation failed to dispose of the abandoned bicycles;
- (v) A Member said that besides deposits, there were also balances remaining in the accounts of the bike-sharing customers, but the company concerned merely arranged to refund deposits to its customers, inflicting losses on consumers. The Member suggested the C&ED put in place a relevant mechanism to handle cases of this kind and prevent similar cases happening again; and
- (vi) A Member reckoned that when bringing in bike-sharing, InvestHK had not thought out the arrangements for bicycle parking and payment of refunds to

customers. The Member opined that the relevant department should devise relevant policies as soon as possible.

18. Mr KWAN Kin-keung of the C&ED responded to Members' comments as follows:

- (i) The C&ED would continue promoting the TDO with no effort spared by, for example, attending and giving brief introductions at the meetings of different district councils to strengthen communication with districts. Moreover, the C&ED would cooperate with other government departments and put up posters and banners at government venues to raise the public's awareness of consumers' rights and interests;
- (ii) To promptly handle and follow up on complaints about suspected violation of the TDO lodged by short-term visitors to Hong Kong, the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau had formed a Quick Action Team to take swift action by, for example, taking statements from visitors at the scene when necessary upon receipt of visitors' complaints. In addition, the C&ED had a sound mechanism in place to invite visitors to come to Hong Kong to assist in investigation and appear in court as witnesses;
- (iii) The Consumer Council ("CC") had responsibility for promoting the TDO to the public and mediating disputes between consumers and traders. In addition to enforcement, the C&ED set great store by compliance promotion and public education to traders. Regular meetings with representatives from different trades were held from time to time to encourage them to draw up various measures to step up protection for consumers (e.g. the introduction of voluntary cooling-off periods and mediation mechanisms);
- (iv) The C&ED had always been working hard to combat illicit cigarettes, and it would raise the matter concerning the sale of illicit cigarettes at Kin Sang Shopping Centre and Kin Sang Light Rail Stop in Tuen Mun with the relevant section;
- (v) The C&ED was unable to disclose the details of the case about the cessation of the operation of the captioned bike-sharing company as it was still under investigation. However, the C&ED knew the contracts of some bike-sharing companies specified that balances in customers' accounts were property belonging to the companies, and the refund arrangements for deposits and balances were also specified therein. He said the C&ED would

continue to follow up on the captioned case and related complaints and keep in close contact with the CC; and

- (vi) Amid changes in business environments and industrial ecology, it was possible for businesses to close down in different industries, and if there were cases involving unfair trade practices, the C&ED would initiate investigations and take enforcement action when necessary.

19. The Chairman thanked the C&ED for its detailed responses. She said she hoped Members could understand that it was not appropriate for the C&ED to disclose too much information as the captioned case was still under investigation. She added that the CIHC would write to the Transport Department expressing views on the formulation of bike-sharing policies and the disposal of abandoned bicycles on streets. Secretariat

(Post-meeting note: The above letter was sent on 28 September 2018.)

**(B) Request for Reviewing Technology and Procedures for Testing Water Seepage to Expedite Process of Handling Water Seepage Cases (CIHC Paper No. 20/2018) (Written Response from Joint Office of Buildings Department and Food and Environmental Hygiene Department)**

20. The Chairman welcomed Mr KO Po-wai, Senior Health Inspector (Joint Office) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”), to the meeting and said the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (“EHDDC”) had discussed similar matters relating to water seepage for many times.

21. Members made different comments and enquiries on the contents of the paper, which are summarised as follows:

- (i) A Member said the hygiene problems caused by seepage in buildings were a headache for many residents, but the Joint Office (“JO”) of the Buildings Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department often failed to identify the sources of water seepage during their visits to units with seepage and, when residents requested the JO to use infrared equipment to detect the sources of seepage, the office’s staff replied that such equipment was not available. In this connection, the FEHD had mentioned at an EHDDC meeting that consideration would be given to using infrared equipment to investigate seepage cases. The Member therefore asked whether the JO had infrared equipment or not and under what circumstances



the equipment would be used to investigate seepage cases;

- (ii) A Member opined that the JO took too long to investigate seepage cases and the technologies it used were outdated, leaving a large number of cases unresolved. In his view, the main reason was that the consultant appointed by the JO was still using highly conventional methods to identify the sources of seepage, which were a far cry from the technologies commonly used by loss adjusters in the market. In a case involving seepage from a bath-tub, he had contacted the JO for seven times before the source of seepage could be finally identified. He therefore considered it necessary for the JO to upgrade technologies without delay;
- (iii) A Member knew that the JO was carrying out a pilot programme in Kowloon City, Central and Western District and Wai Chai, under which infrared, microwave and radar technologies were used to identify sources of seepage and, in about 40% of the cases, the seepage sources were successfully identified. Thus, the Member enquired how effective the pilot programme was and when the JO would extend the pilot programme to the whole territory;
- (iv) A Member held the view that the JO should not only purchase equipment for investigation of seepage cases but also strengthen staff training to ensure effective use of the equipment. Also, the relevant departments that handled seepage cases (e.g. the FEHD, the Water Supplies Department and the BD) should improve the procedures and technologies for case investigation, so as to speed up the handling of seepage cases; and
- (v) A Member noted that seepage cases were solved promptly in Tsuen Wan and Mei Foo, but seepage cases in Tuen Mun had been lingering on for years with the sources of seepage remaining unidentifiable. The Member felt JOs in different districts varied considerably in terms of work efficiency. She said that in a previous case of dealing with seepage for residents, the JO had visited the unit with seepage only to find that water at the seepage area had dried up, so it had closed the case; and it was not until two weeks later when seepage had occurred again in the unit that the JO had reopened the case and followed it up. She felt that the JO had not investigated the seepage case carefully.

22. The Chairman requested the JO to provide the number of seepage cases

where advanced testing equipment had been used and explain under what circumstances advanced equipment would be used for investigation. Moreover, she said she knew that the JO would close the cases in which the seepage sources could not be identified by the dye-tracing test. She therefore requested the JO to provide the number of cases of this kind and the number of seepage cases still under investigation in Tuen Mun.

23. Mr KO Po-wai of the FEHD responded to Members' comments and enquiries as follows:

- (i) For better handling of seepage cases, the JO had formed a special team co-headed by an FEHD Coordinator and a BD Senior Professional Officer to comprehensively review and improve the JO's operation, so as to satisfy the public's expectations;
- (ii) To enhance FEHD-BD communication and thus boost the JO's efficiency, the JO would set up four regional joint offices in 2019 for concerted effort to handle seepage cases;
- (iii) The BD had appointed a consultant to review whether to use advanced equipment to investigate seepage cases and examine relevant technologies, and it planned to use advanced equipment to investigate seepage cases in Wai Chai, Central and Western District and Kowloon City first. The JO would review the effectiveness of the programme in 2019 and extend it to all districts in Hong Kong if the results were satisfactory;
- (iv) The consultant appointed by the JO would consider whether to use advanced equipment for investigation in the Stage III investigations of seepage cases, including seepage cases in Tuen Mun, having regard to the circumstances, and the FEHD would, subject to the circumstances, seek advice from the BD. In view of Members' requests, the FEHD would strengthen communication with the BD and consider increasing the use of advanced (e.g. microwave and infrared) equipment for investigation of seepage cases in Tuen Mun;
- (v) The numbers of cases closed due to the seepage sources being unidentifiable by the dye-tracing test and seepage cases still under investigation in Tuen Mun would be provided after the meeting; and
- (vi) It was not appropriate to use advanced equipment to detect seepage sources in cases involving falls of concrete or seepage in covered locations.

24. Mr Michael CHOI of the BD gave supplementary responses as follows:
- (i) Advanced equipment would be used in Wai Chai, Central and Western District and Kowloon City first to investigate seepage cases. The contract concerned had a term of one year and would expire in June 2019, following which the department would review the effectiveness of the programme and consider whether to extend it to the whole territory;
  - (ii) By using advanced equipment to investigate seepage cases, JO staff merely needed to carry out investigations on the units below the ones suspected to cause the seepage, and the time required for investigation was thus saved. Yet, the staff had to analyse the infrared and microwave data to ascertain locations of seepage;
  - (iii) If there were concrete falling at or pipe facilities covering a seepage location, it would be inappropriate to use advanced equipment for investigation, and this limited the number of seepage cases where advanced equipment could be used for investigation; and
  - (iv) The JO had formed a working group to conduct a review of its operation, which would cover a workflow review and simplification of work procedures. If necessary, the JO would invite the relevant bureaux and departments to join meetings to offer advice on improvements to the investigation procedures for seepage cases.
25. The Chairman reckoned that the BD reacted too slowly by signing a contract with the consultant for the pilot programme only then, and having only three districts covered in the programme was too few. She enquired whether the BD would share its advanced equipment with the JO if there were serious seepage cases in Tuen Mun.
26. Mr Michael CHOI of the BD responded that infrared and microwave equipment had been used to investigate 13 seepage cases in Tuen Mun, and the JO would consider whether advanced equipment was suitable for use in investigations having regard to the different circumstances of cases.
27. Members made the second round of comments and enquiries on the responses by the FEHD and the BD, which are summarised as follows:
- (i) A Member opined that there were problems with coordination between the

FEHD and the BD in handling seepage cases, and the resources received by the JO were not enough. The Member suggested the Government allocate more resources to the JO to upgrade technologies and purchase advanced testing equipment;

- (ii) A Member said seepage in buildings was a serious problem in Tuen Mun, and enquired why the JO could only set up the four regional joint offices by 2019 and whether Tuen Mun was counted among the regions;
- (iii) A Member said the TMDC had requested at a number of meetings that the JO should review the investigation procedures for seepage cases, but no improvements had been seen thus far. Besides, the Member opined that New Territories should be counted among the regions given priority in the pilot use of advanced equipment for investigation of seepage cases, and suggested the one-year pilot period be shortened so that the review could be carried out and the programme could be extended to the whole territory as soon as possible;
- (iv) A Member noted that the FEHD had been requested to use infrared equipment to investigate cases with the sources of seepage unidentifiable by the dye-tracing test, but the department's staff had said the equipment concerned had not been available. Therefore, the Member opined that the FEHD should have referred the cases to the BD for consideration at that time to avoid the cases being endlessly delayed; and
- (v) A Member said there were a large number of seepage cases in Tuen Mun, but infrared and microwave equipment had been used for investigation in 13 seepage cases only. The Member reckoned that the JO and the consultant should review the situation and strengthen the use of advanced equipment for investigation.

28. Mr KO Po-wai of the FEHD responded to Members' comments and enquiries as follows:

- (i) One of the regional joint offices would be set up in New Territories West and it would also handle seepage cases in Tuen Mun. The JO was waiting for the Government Property Agency to provide a suitable location for the office, and it was expected that the office could be set up by the end of 2019;
- (ii) As said before, only in the Stage III investigations of seepage cases would the

JO's consultant consider whether to use advanced equipment for investigation, but Members were welcome to contact him if they considered it necessary for some cases to be followed up by the JO; and

- (iii) The first three places for pilot use of advanced equipment to investigate seepage cases would be determined by the BD with the aim of obtaining data on different buildings.

29. Mr Michael CHOI of the BD said Members' views would be relayed to the relevant sections.

30. The Chairman asked whether the places for pilot use of advanced equipment to investigate seepage cases would be determined by the BD or the JO.

31. In response, Mr Michael CHOI of the BD said it was clearly stated in the contract for the pilot programme that only in the Stage III investigations of seepage cases would the BD's consultant consider whether to use advanced equipment for investigation. After the meeting, he would ask the relevant section why Tuen Mun was not included in the pilot places under the programme.

32. The Chairman said the CIHC would write to the FEHD and the BD requesting a shorter period for the pilot programme and suggesting Tuen Mun be covered in the pilot programme and seepage cases in the Stage III investigations be followed up as soon as possible.

33. The first proposer of the paper opined that given the large population in New Territories West, the regional joint office to be set up in New Territories West would not suffice to handle seepage cases in Tuen Mun. In his view, the JO should consider setting up a separate regional joint office in Tuen Mun and purchasing necessary testing instruments to handle seepage cases in Tuen Mun independently.

34. The Chairman said the CIHC would also raise the above suggestions with the FEHD and the BD in the letter. A Member doubted the effectiveness of writing letters to the FEHD and the BD, opining that the CIHC should further discuss this matter and invite representatives from the relevant departments to its meeting to give responses, instead of merely expressing Members' views. Secretariat

(Post-meeting note: The above two letters were sent on 24 September 2018.)

35. The Vice-chairman suggested the Secretariat record cases of policy bureaux's and departments' refusal to send representatives to attend CIHC meetings and consider applying the records across all meetings of the TMDC.

36. The Chairman concluded by saying that the CIHC would further discuss this matter in addition to writing to the FEHD and the BD expressing the above views of Members. She requested the FEHD and the BD to respectively send relevant representatives to attend the next meeting to answer Members' questions.

FEHD  
BD

## **VI. Reporting Items**

### **(A) Work Reports by Working Groups under CIHC**

#### **(CIHC Paper No. 21/2018)**

##### **(i) Working Group on Occupational Safety and Health**

37. Members noted the report of the above working group.

##### **(ii) Working Group on Economic Development in Tuen Mun**

38. Members noted the report of the above working group.

##### **(iii) Working Group on Building Management**

39. Members noted the report of the above working group.

40. The Chairman announced that the working group reports in the paper were endorsed.

### **(B) Work Report on Private Building Management in Tuen Mun District**

#### **(CIHC Paper No. 22/2018)**

41. Members noted that above work report.

### **(C) Report by BD**

#### **(CIHC Paper No. 23/2018)**

42. A Member said that during the implementation of the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme, many companies claimed to be contractors authorised by the BD. While the public could confirm whether that was the case on the Internet, many elderly people did not know very well how to use a computer and were thus unable to verify the situation. Moreover, the fees quoted by some companies varied greatly, ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000. She suggested the BD strengthen promotion to remind residents to make careful choices.

43. Mr Michael CHOI of the BD responded that data relating to fees for window

inspection services were provided on the department's website for public reference. Moreover, every window inspector held a QP Card for Qualified Person; if a person offering the services failed to produce the relevant proof or provided false information, the public might reject the services or consider reporting the case to the Police, depending on circumstances.

44. A Member said Lung Mun Oasis had recently joined the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme and the fees quoted by some companies were as high as \$50,000. The Member opined that the BD should strengthen promotion instead of advising the public to visit its website.

45. Mr Michael CHOI of the BD said he would relay Members' views to the relevant section and ask them to consider disseminating the messages concerned to property owners as well upon the issuance of window inspection notices.

(Post-meeting note: The BD said fees for window inspections and repairs were beyond the control of the BD. The information about service fee ranges was provided on the department's website to give the public some related market information for reference. The information was obtained from the quotations/advertising pamphlets provided by qualified persons/contractors, and it was difficult to make generalisations about individual fees which, as a matter of fact, were affected by a number of factors including the qualifications and experience of qualified persons, the quality and modus operandi of service providers, the number, size, and repair and maintenance conditions of windows in households, the prevailing market conditions of the trade and so forth. The public should obtain quotations from different qualified persons and registered contractors for comparison.)

**VII. Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting**

46. There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 11:21 a.m. The next meeting would be held on 8 October 2018.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: 27 September 2018

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