

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of
the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee of
the Tuen Mun District Council

Date : 30 September 2016 (Friday)

Time : 9:34 a.m.

Venue : Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

<u>Present</u>		<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Ms LUNG Shui-hing, MH (Chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KAM Man-fung (Vice-chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, MH	TMDC Vice-Chairman	9:34 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr SO Shiu-shing	TMDC Member	9:40 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KWU Hon-keung	TMDC Member	9:35 a.m.	11:46 a.m.
Mr TO Shek-yuen, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHU Yiu-wah	TMDC Member	9:40 a.m.	12:07 p.m.
Ms KONG Fung-yi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms WONG Lai-sheung, Catherine	TMDC Member	9:40 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:35 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LAM Chung-hoi	TMDC Member	9:44 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member	9:31 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHING Chi-hung	TMDC Member	9:36 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Man-wah, MH	TMDC Member	9:33 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHU Shun-nga, Beatrice	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 YIP Man-pan	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr Yeung Chi-hang	TMDC Member	9:30 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 KEUNG Kai-pong	Co-opted Member	9:36 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr PAK Hon-pan	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Wai-lam	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Chun-bang	Co-opted Member	9:35 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KWAN Daina Ho-yin	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms LEE Wen-choi, Winnie (Secretary)	Executive Officer I (District Council) ² , Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department		

Absent with Apologies

Mr NG Koon-hung TMDC Member

Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo	TMDC Member
Mr HO Kwan-yiu, JP	TMDC Member
Mr TO Teng-shu	Co-opted Member

By Invitation

Mr Darwin LEUNG	Senior Project Officer, Policy for Sustainability Lab of Faculty of Social Sciences of The University of Hong Kong (Programme Director of the Public Engagement)
Ms Joyce CHOW	Project Manager, Policy for Sustainability Lab of Faculty of Social Sciences of The University of Hong Kong (Programme Director of the Public Engagement)
Mr WONG Kwok Yiu, Eric	SEO(Sustainable Dev)1, Environment Bureau

In Attendance

Mr TSANG Hin-hong	TMDC Member
Mr LO Chun-hang, Simpson	Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)1, Home Affairs Department
Mr LEUNG Kam-wai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr TSE Lai-chi	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tuen Mun), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms BOW Lok-sin, Rosaline	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Teun Mun)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHAN Pui-shing, Michael	Engineer/Tuen Mun 4, Drainage Services Department
Mrs LEUNG LUK Mei Yin	Housing Manager/Tuen Mun1, Housing Department
Mr POON Tsz Ming	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)1, Environmental Protection Department
Mr TANG King-yan, Sunny	Town planner/Tuen Mun 4, Planning Department
Mr MOK Hing-cheung	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tuen Mun), Lands Department
Ms CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl	Engineer/15 (New Territories West), Civil Engineering and Development Department

I. Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the 5th meeting of the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (“EHDDC”) and welcomed representatives of government departments to be in attendance.

2. The Chairman asked Members to note that any Member who was aware of a personal interest in a discussion item should declare the interest before the discussion. The Chairman would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”) Standing Orders, decide whether the Member who had declared the interest might speak or vote on the matter, might remain in the meeting as an observer, 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 Secretariat reported that it had not received any applications by Members for leave of absence.

III. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

4. As there were no amendments to the minutes, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 4th meeting of the EHDDC 2016-2017 were endorsed.

IV. Discussion Items

(A) Council for Sustainable Development - Public Engagement on Promotion of Sustainable Consumption of Biological Resources

(EHDDC Paper No. 45/2016)

5. The Chairman welcomed Ms. CHOW Wing-chi, Joyce, Project Manager and LEUNG Ti-him, Darwin, Senior Project Officer of the Policy for Sustainability Lab, School of Social Sciences, University of Hong Kong and Mr. WONG Kwok-yiu, Eric, Senior Executive Officer (Sustainable Development) 1 of the Environment Bureau to the meeting.

6. Mr. LEUNG of the University of Hong Kong briefed on the content of the paper with slideshow. Members offered their views on this, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) With the development of the society, a commercial society would lead to excessive consumption. It was suggested instilling the importance of treasuring resources and changing citizens' mode of consumption by education publicity (e.g. short film on the internet). Another Member suggested that the government should change the citizens' mode of consumption by economic incentive or from health considerations, or refer to overseas award schemes;
- (ii) The promotion of sustainable use of biological resources was supported but it was opined that the paper had focused on the level of consumers. The government, suppliers and the consumers had individual responsibilities. The government should launch certification system and assist the related industries. Suppliers should reduce the products which did not meet the principle of sustainable use;
- (iii) It was suggested referring to overseas policy and seek legislation to go with it. For example, there should be legislation to request that lunch boxes, plastic bottles and beverage cartons should be manufactured by environmentally friendly material;
- (iv) Focusing on the promotion of individual items would produce greater effect;
- (v) The promotion schemes in which the public can participate should be simple and implemented in phases. For example, the labels concerned should be easy to identify, there should not be English instructions only and avoid too many types of labels. On short-term measures, it was suggested printing leaflets listing the common foods which should be avoided; and
- (vi) The government's recycling work was not adequate in the past. From time to time, the recovered materials were dumped in landfills. The policy on the recycling of old clothes was lagging behind. It was suggested that the government should increase recycling bins and co-operate with the industry for promotion of recycling. Moreover, a Member said recycling lacked regulation, thus affecting the environmental hygiene. The government was requested to provide proper regulation.

7. Mr. LEUNG of the University of Hong Kong added that the Council for Sustainable Development was currently collecting views from the public and

stakeholders, and would submit recommendations to the government in light of the views collected.

8. Mr. WONG of the Environment Bureau said the suggestion on the recycling of old clothes would be followed up by the division concerned of the department or the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”). Mr. POON Chi-ming of the EPD also said that Members’ reflection that the recycling materials were delivered to landfills would be followed up for improvement by the department’s division in charge of promotion of recycling.

9. The Chairman asked Members to complete the questionnaires distributed at the meeting and return them to the Secretariat, who would then forward them to the Council for Sustainable Development.

(B) Issue of Hawker Licence to Unlicensed Tradesmen
(EHDDC Paper No. 46/2016)

10. Mr. TSE Lai-chi of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”) briefed on the content of the paper. Members offered their views on this, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) Several Members supported the issue of licence and opined that issuing licences to tradesmen like Chinese facial cosmeticians, watch repairers and cobblers would help maintaining the economic diversity of local culture and economy. However, a Member worried that re-issuing hawker licences would have significant impact in future. Once the licence was issued, the quantity would be difficult to control;
- (ii) Several Members offered their views on the location. A Member opined that it would be better if the Chinese facial cosmeticians ran the business under the footbridge than beside the lift in Luk Yuen Street considering the outlook of the street and types and number of customers. Another Member worried that there would be disputes easily when the two stalls were close to each other so it was suggested that the two stalls should be separated. Besides, a Member said the tradesmen could not do business when there was wind and rain and the department could not regulate on the area of the tradesmen’s paraphernalia. It was suggested that the department should consider arranging the tradesmen to run their business at the vacant stalls in a market. A Member opined that the department should designate a

business location for the tradesmen and not allowing them to choose themselves for better management in future. However, a Member opined that if the tradesmen wanted to run business at the original location, it should be supported;

- (iii) It was enquired whether the department had an overall evaluation and statistics of the number of on-street tradesmen in Tuen Mun District. It was also enquired about the criteria the department used to screen the tradesmen for the issue of licence and how to let the tradesmen know the policy concerned;
- (iv) It was enquired about the criteria for deciding on the fees for the fixed term licence, renewal and the related fees, period of the licence, and the management for the tradesmen's cease of operation and the arrangement of the issue of new licence in future;
- (v) The EHDDC should discuss the principle and system of the issue of licence and not discuss individual cases. It was suggested that the department should submit a good planning and schedule to the EHDDC for consideration;
- (vi) It was suggested that the department should consult the DC Member of the constituency concerned; and
- (vii) It was enquired about the department's plan on the management of stalls and market.

11. Mr. TSE of the FEHD replied to Members' enquiries, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) The department would gradually issue licences to the on-street tradesmen in the district under the principle of not affecting the environmental hygiene or causing any obstruction to pedestrians. As the area of business currently occupied by some of the qualified tradesmen was too large, the department needed to continue observing their actual operation before further considering whether to issue them licences;
- (ii) The department would consult the Fire Service Department, Hong Kong

Police Force, Transport Department, Highways Department, Tuen Mun District Land Office and Tuen Mun District Office before issuing the licences. The District Council (“DC”) would also be consulted;

- (iii) There were not so many qualified on-street tradesmen in the district. Before the licences were issued, there had to be consent from the Tuen Mun District Council;
- (iv) On the suggestion that the tradesmen should be assisted in moving into a market, it was opined that they might not be prepared to pay rent at market value for the stalls when they became tenants of a market;
- (v) The current location was selected after considering the wish of the Chinese facial cosmeticians who wanted to run business at the original location. Besides, they were told that they should not build any structure at the location of business;
- (vi) The adjoining Chinese facial cosmetician had run business at the location for a long time. After the licence was issued, the tradesmen’s mode of business would not be changed so it was expected there would not be any dispute;
- (vii) The department would regulate on the area of business and enforce the law seriously. The paraphernalia needed by the said Chinese facial cosmetician was simple so there would not be any illegal extension of business area;
- (viii) The term of the licence was one year. The application fees for a tradesman licence and the renewal fees were \$3,458 respectively. The licence could not be inherited; and
- (ix) Members’ views were noted for consideration. The EHDDC would be consulted again after examination of the arrangement for the issue of licences to the tradesmen in the district.

12. The Chairman concluded by requesting that the department should submit a detailed plan for the arrangements on the issue of licence for consideration again.

FEHD

(C) Request for Strengthening the mosquito elimination and prevention work in Tuen Mun District

(EHDDC Paper No. 47/2016)

(Reply from Food and Environmental Hygiene Department)

13. The proposer of the paper said June and July were the time when mosquitoes lay eggs. It was hoped that the FEHD would strengthen the mosquito elimination and prevention work, and enhance publicity on mosquito prevention work by paying visits to different areas with district councillors. Besides, he said the department's elimination of mosquitoes at the perimeter of private buildings might worsen the mosquito infestations at private buildings. It was hoped that the department would communicate or conduct joint operation with the incorporated owners and management office of the private buildings, or the department could subsidise the mosquito elimination work at private buildings.

[The Chairman left the Conference Room temporarily. The meeting would be held by the Vice-chairman.]

14. Other Members offered their views on this issue as follows:

- (i) The working attitude of the department's workers was careless and not hard working while the supervisor failed to improve the above situation;
- (ii) There should be additional resources for mosquito elimination in Tuen Mun district as there were more greening areas in Tuen Mun district. There were also more estates under Home Ownership Scheme which had greening environment but the mosquito elimination work was not satisfactory. The department was requested that they should have a better understanding of the mosquito elimination work of the incorporated owners of the estates under the Home Ownership Scheme and provide advice;
- (iii) It was noted that the department had contacted the private buildings for co-ordination before conducting mosquito elimination work as suggested by Members some time ago. However, it was suggested that the department should consider working together with the several private buildings nearby when planning the mosquito elimination campaign for greater effectiveness;
- (iv) The infestation of the *Aedes albopictus* had improved but the problem of other species of mosquitoes or midges seemed having no improvement;

- (v) There should not be exceedingly high expectation on the FEHD. The Territory-wide Anti-Mosquito Campaign recommended in the paper might not be able to be handled by the Tuen Mun District Environmental Hygiene Office. Private buildings might not be willing to go with the mosquito elimination work of the department;
- (vi) It was suggested that the department should conduct full mosquito elimination work in country parks; and
- (vii) Some time ago, Members requested that the department should increase the overall resources. It was enquired about the current progress.

15. Mr. TSE of the FEHD replied to Members' enquiries, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) The department had a higher ovitrap index in the north Tuen Mun. Of them, 30% ovitraps were located in public places and 70% were in the places fell within the management of the public or private bodies or other government departments. The FEHD was mainly responsible for the problem of mosquito infestations in public places but would also take follow-up action on the situations in other places. After knowing the problem of mosquito infestation, the FEHD had invited the representatives of the public and private bodies and the department concerned to attend a meeting of the inter-departmental task force to discuss the causes of mosquito infestation, provide technical advice and send officers to examine the effectiveness. The department had made co-ordinations for the locations of which effectiveness was bad and also send mosquito elimination teams to private places and provide assistance.
- (ii) On the attitude of the workers, the department would instruct the unit concerned to strengthen supervision. The officers from inspectors to chief inspectors would conduct spot checks. If any workers were found to be against the discipline, it would be handled seriously;
- (iii) Private buildings would work out their mosquito elimination schedule so they might not be willing to go with the department's operation but the department would try to co-ordinate;

- (iv) The Agricultural, Fisheries and Conservation Department was responsible for the mosquito elimination work in the country parks but the FEHD had maintained contacts with the department and would invite them to attend the meeting of the task force in order to monitor the effectiveness of mosquito elimination work and provide advice;
- (v) When considering the resources required for the mosquito elimination work in Tuen Mun district, the overall situation in the district had also been considered. Different districts would have allocated different resources depending whether they were located in rural area, the number and areas of the private buildings and greening zone; and
- (vi) On the increase of resources, there was an additional contract team of mosquito elimination in July. In August, there would be 12 more contract cleaners and a team of workers who were responsible for washing streets with high pressure water guns.

16. The Vice-chairman thanked Mr. TSE of the FEHD for his replies.

[The Chairman returned to the conference room and continued holding the meeting)

17. Before coming to the Reporting Items, the Member who submitted Paper No. 33 at last meeting (i.e. Stepping Up Enforcement Actions against Canopy and Environmental Hygiene Issues at Lee Fat Path) said the Tuen Mun District Land Office did not reply to the paper at last meeting. He enquired the Chairman whether there would be follow-up on this again. Mr. MOK Hing-cheung of the Tuen Mun District Land Office said he would take follow-up action with the proposer of the paper after the meeting. The Chairman said the EHDDC would consider follow-up action again if the proposer of the paper had any views on the department's reply.

Tuen
Mun
District
Land
Office

III. Reporting Items

(A) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches (EHDDC Paper No. 48/2016)

18. Members made enquiries about the content of the report, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) It was enquired about the meaning of “*”;
- (ii) It was enquired about the absence of data for some of beaches on individual days, which were marked with “---”;
- (iii) It was enquired whether the water quality of the Butterfly Beach was suitable for swimming, and whether the department informed citizens of the water quality; and
- (iv) There was continuously white floatable substance on the Tuen Mun River near the Choi Yee Bridge. It was enquired whether any illegal sewage disposal was involved and how it could be improved. Another Member said quite a few people went fishing at Tuen Mun River. It was worried somebody sold unclean fish, thus affecting the health of citizens. It was suggested that the department should pay more inspection.

19. Mr. POON of the EPD replied to Members’ enquiries, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) The “*” in the report was the additional information requested by Members some time ago as a Member had opined that the range of the count of E. coli represented by Grade 2 (i.e. fair level) was relatively wide. The “*” mark represented the data which was near the good level;
- (ii) The department would test water quality once at all the beaches every week. If the water quality at individual beach was very poor, the department would conduct additional test at the beach the next day. As the water quality of the Butterfly Beach had been “very poor”, the department conducted several additional tests at the beach;
- (iii) When the water quality of individual beach was “very poor”, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) would be informed, who would fly red flags immediately to show that it was not suitable for swimming at that place. The EPD and the LCSD conducted investigation immediately and opined that the water quality was caused by hill water on both sides of the Butterfly Beach washing down pollutants to the reservoir near the beach which then became sediment. The department had tested that the water quality at the location was poor

indeed. The ebb and flow might cause the pollutants to flow into the beach. The EPD had immediately requested the LCSD to clean the location so the situation had improved. The department would continue follow-up on the water quality at the Butterfly Beach together with the LCSD, and noted that the LCSD was discussing short to medium term improvement measures with the Architectural Services Department in order to improve the water quality at the beach; and

- (iv) There would be follow-up action on the white floatable substance in the Tuen Mun River with the Member who had offered views.

20 A Member said EPD's explanation on water quality was unconvincing. It was queried that the situation concerned was related to the obnoxious facility nearby. The department was requested to properly monitor the sewage disposal of the obnoxious facility. On this, Mr. POON of the EPD said the water quality at the beach used the count of E. coli as the objective. The pollutants discharged from that type of facility did not involve such objective so the discharge of the facility concerned would not affect the data of the water quality of the beach. The department would continue follow-up action with the LCSD.

EPD

21. On EPD's reply to the release of water quality of beaches, a Member suggested informing citizens on the internet as soon as possible. Another Member suggested broadcasting at scene. On this, Mr. POON of the EPD said he would reflect Members' views to the division concerned. Ms. BOW Lok-sin, Rosaline of the LCSD said the department would broadcast and post notices apart from flying red flag upon receipt of the information from the EPD that the water quality was "very poor". There would also be press release by the Government Information Service. The web page of the LCSD would also release the news concerned to inform citizens as soon as possible.

22. On the content of the report, a Member suggested that the department should include the actual count of E. coli. Another Member suggested using another marking to show the finding of the additional test. Mr. POON of the EPD said he would reflect Members' views to the division concerned in order to optimise the expression of the report.

EPD

(Post-meeting note: the EPD said the report on the water quality of beaches would be optimised properly according to Members' suggestions)

(B) Progress Report on Major Public Works Projects in Tuen Mun District (as at 15.8.2016)

(EHDDC Paper No. 49/2016)

23. Members enquired about the situations and progress of several works projects, and representatives of departments also replied, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) Sludge Treatment Facility (Works No: 233DS/A): a Member reflected that the frequency of the shuttle bus service of the T-PARK (i.e. the sludge treatment facility) was low and the landfill nearby had strong pungent smell. It was requested that there should be improvement. On this, Mr. POON of the EPD said he would reflect the views to the division concerned for a study; EPD
- (ii) Government Complex in Tuen Mun Area 14 (Siu Lun) (Works No: 56RG/A): a Member enquired whether the progress of the works was satisfactory. On this, Ms. CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said the works were expected to be completed in February 2019 according to the information provided by the Architectural Services Department. After the meeting, she would contact the Architectural Services Department to have more supplementary information on the progress of the works; CEDD ASD

(Post-meeting note: the Architectural Services Department said the works were in the original progress generally)

- (iii) Sports Ground in Tuen Mun Area 16 (Works No: 3278RS): a Member said sports facilities were very important to the training of athletes and the development of sports events. However, there was a lot of information which was marked “to be confirmed and reviewed” in the report. It was enquired whether the department had further information. If no, it was enquired about the reason why no further information was provided. Ms. CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said there was no supplementary information for the time being according to the information provided by the LCSD;

(Post-meeting note: the LCSD said the technical feasibility study of the works had been examined and approved. The scale of this project was huge. The department

would immediately commence the advance planning works after obtaining the resources concerned, including site survey and concept design)

- (iv) District Open Space in Tuen Mun Area 27 (Sam Shing) (Works No: 426RO/B): a Member enquired how the department estimated the completion date of the works and whether the date was practicable. Ms. CHAM of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said the project consultant of the Architectural Services Department was working on the detailed design and there was no further information for the time being according to the information provided by the LCSD. On this, the Chairman requested that the department should provide more information at the next meeting;

CEDD
LCSD

(Post-meeting note: the LCSD said the date of completion set out in the paper was estimated under the presumption that the project would commence after obtaining resources in 2016. As this project could not obtain resources in 2016 at last, the date of completion of this project needed to be estimated again)

- (v) Technical study of the Reclamation at Lung Koo Tan (Works No: Head:705; Subhead:5101CX): a Member said a citizen had raised objection to the reclamation at that location during the consultation period of the Enhancing Land Supply Strategy some time ago. The department was requested to provide information on this study, and consult the DC upon completion of the study. On this, Ms. CHAM of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said the department had selected five locations which had great potential for reclamation from the Enhancing Land Supply Strategy for further study, and Lung Koo Tan was one of them. The study concerned commenced in October 2015 in order to assess the feasibility of reclamation at Lung Koo Tan. It was expected that it would be completed in the first half of 2017. The department would decide the scope of the further detailed study and the launch schedule according to the finding of the study, and would consult the DC timely; and
- (vi) Recreational Ground in Tuen Mun Area 17 (Industrial City) and Adjoining Land (Works No: 3445RO): a Member said the report showed that the area might be changed to housing development. It was enquired whether the former proposals made by the DC like the facilities of 11 people artificial football pitch, skateboard play area and basketball court would be shelved.

Ms. CHAM of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said the area was one of the locations that would be considered for housing development as what the Development Bureau and the Planning Department had briefed to the DC in January 2015. The Civil Engineering and Development Department had commissioned a consultant to conduct technical assessment to determine whether the area was suitable for housing development. Pending the completion of the technical assessment and specific recommendation, the Planning Department would consult the DC again. Mr. TANG King-yan, Sunny of the Planning Department added that the current technical assessment was being conducted and the area of the housing development had not been fully determined so the impact to the proposed facilities caused by the housing development was not known. The Planning Department would consult the DC timely upon completion of the study and availability of specific recommendation.

(C) Report of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
(EHDDC Paper No. 50/2016)

24. Members noted all the contents of the report.

(D) Progress Report of Local Public Works and Rural Public Works as at August 2016
(EHDDC Paper No. 51/2016)

25. Members noted all the contents of the report.

(E) Reports of Working Groups under EHDDC
(EHDDC Paper No. 52/2016)

(i) Working Group on Environmental Protection Activities

26. Members noted all the contents of the report.

(ii) Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities

27. The convenor of the working group said no organisation had the intention of working in partnership after the working group sent two invitations to organisations to hold proposed activities jointly. He said other working groups had encountered the same problem. It might be related to the fact that there was insufficient amount of funds, or the organisation which used to work in partnership in the list did not want to hold small-scale activities in partnership with the DC. He enquired whether there was a need to review the current arrangement.

28. The Secretary said Members who found it necessary to review the current arrangement on the invitation to organisation to work in partnership could submit a paper to the Finance, Administration and Publicity Committee (“FAPC”).

29. Mr. LO Chun-hang, Simpson, Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun) 1 said he knew that the organisations invited to work with the DC in partnership in the list were those who used to hold activities with the DC in partnership. As different committees and working groups had encountered difficulties in inviting organisations to work in partnership recently, Members could consider discussing the improvement mechanism at the FAPC, e.g. expanding the list of organisations to be invited to work in partnership to include smaller organisations.

(iii) Working Group on the Development and Complementary Facilities in Area 54

30. The convenor of the working group reported on the progress of the works. He said the five public housing buildings at Site 2 had been named and intake would commence in the second quarter of 2017. It was expected that 45,000 people would move in. He added that originally there should be ten schools but the number was later cut to two for housing development. The Housing Department was following up on the arrangement of the related supplementary measures. There were currently site formation and road works at that location. The Civil Engineering and Development Department had close contacts with the representatives of Siu Hang Village, Po Tong Ha Tsuen, Kei Lun Wai and Kwong Shan Village about the impacts on the roads. Besides, the working group was discussing the works impact on the reception of the TV signals at Sun Hing Village, Ching Tsuen Wai and Tuen Chi Wai. The Housing Department was taking follow-up action on this.

31. There being no enquiries, the Chairman announced that the three reports of the working groups above were endorsed.

(F) Progress Report as at 31.8.2016
(EHDDC Paper No. 53/2016)

(i) Drainage Services Department’s Progress Report on Works in Tuen Mun District

32. Members noted all the contents of the report.

(ii) Environmental Monitoring Report on Mud Pit No. 5

33. Members noted all the contents of the report.

(iii) Water Seepage Report on Buildings in Tuen Mun District

34. A Member reflected that the joint office set up by the Buildings Department and the FEHD (“JO”) had slow follow-up on cases of water seepage. Some cases had been dragged for one month before contacting the complainant, and the number of persecution was low. Apart from affecting the environmental hygiene, water seepage would cause trouble to citizens. It was enquired whether the JO had sufficient manpower and whether instrument had been improved. The JO was asked to examine on the situation.

35. Mr. TSE of the FEHD replied to Members’ enquiries, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) For cases of water seepage which involved broken pipes or damaged floors, the JO would requested under the ordinances of the FEHD or Buildings Department that the owner of the establishment should have them repaired for abatement of the nuisance caused by the water seeping. For other cases, the owner might co-ordinate the residents upstairs to handle the problem of water seepage;
- (ii) It was very time consuming in handling water seepage. After the JO received a complaint, the JO needed to send an officer to the complainant's unit for inspection to ensure that water seepage existed. Then the officer would go to the unit upstairs for examination and looked for the source of water seepage;
- (iii) After the JO received a complaint, they would handle the case according to an established mechanism. Normally, the complainant would be contacted and an inspection would be conducted one or two weeks after the complaint was received. However, there would be delays when the residents upstairs did not co-operate. If the JO could not find out the source of water seepage after several attempts, the case would be closed and returned to the owner for further action;
- (iv) Once the source of the water seepage was confirmed, the JO would issue a Nuisance Notice asking the people concerned to have it repaired. Most owners would take follow-up action after receiving the notice. If the owner did not follow up and the JO had sufficient evidence, there

would be prosecution; and

- (v) The water test conducted by the JO should not cause any damage to the unit of the complainant or the other party. Apart from coloured water test or retention water test, new methods such as microwave or infra-red scanning would be used.

(iv) Progress Report on Water Pipes Installation in Tuen Mun District

36. A Member said there would be water pipes installation works at the exit of On Ting Estate towards Tuen Mun Heung Sze Wui Road. It was worried that the traffic would be seriously affected at that time. The Water Supplies Department was requested to examine the impact of the works on the traffic together with the Transport Department and the Hong Kong Police Force.

37. The Chairman said the EHDDC would write to the Water Supplies Department to reflect Members' views. Secretary

(Post-meeting note: the letter concerned was sent on 19 October 2016 and the department replied on 25 October 2016)

(G) Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station
(EHDDC Paper No. 54/2016)

38. Members offered their views on the matter concerned, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) The air quality in Tuen Mun district was worse than other districts. Recently, the problem of air pollution had caused quite a few people with problems on respiratory system to have aggravated conditions. The department was requested to submit a report at every meeting so Members would understand the air quality;
- (ii) It was suggested that the department should provide more detailed information in the report so citizens could take appropriate preventive measures against the impact on health caused by the problem of air pollution;
- (iii) It was enquired whether the highest scale of the air quality health index was "10+", and the reason why the air quality health index suddenly rose.

The department was asked to determine the source of the air pollution and propose improvement measures;

- (iv) It was requested that an air quality monitoring station should be set up in Tuen Mun. Another Member said obnoxious facilities in Tuen Mun district mostly concentrated at Lung Koo Tan and the pier. It was suggested that an air quality monitoring station should be set up there in order to examine the impact of the obnoxious facilities on the air quality;
- (v) It was requested that there should be greater gap between buildings when buildings were constructed to avoid the accumulation of pollutants in the air; and
- (vi) The Environment Bureau had said the major source of pollution in Tuen Mun district was the Pearl River Delta. It was enquired whether the latest finding was the same. The department was requested to provide further information on the Air Emission Policy at the Pearl River Delta by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Guangdong Province. If the arrangement on the emission reduction was not effective, it was requested that there should be a new measure to reduce the problem.

39. Mr. POON of the EPD replied to Members' enquiries, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) The report concerned could be submitted by the department at every meeting;
- (ii) The department would release hourly air quality health index. The web page contained the department's advice to different people on the scales. The information was in detail. Citizens could browse the web page to take appropriate measures;
- (iii) The department would examine the current air quality monitoring network. If it was opined that there was a need for additional monitoring station after the examination, the DC would be consulted on the location of the monitoring station;

- (iv) The short-term air quality would be affected by meteorological and climatic conditions. In July and August, for example, the air quality health index before the eve of typhoon was very high. This condition was not restricted to Tuen Mun district alone;
- (v) The monitoring station on the west of Hong Kong recorded more days with high health risks because the south-west of Hong Kong was susceptible to the regional effect of the Pearl River Delta. On this, the government had worked out an emission reduction target with the mainland to continue improving the regional air quality. There were also many emission reduction measures locally, including lowering the sulphur content in diesel for ships within Hong Kong, restricting overseas ships to use low sulphur fuel while berthed in Hong Kong, and regulatory control on emissions from non-road mobile machinery; and
- (vi) The information on the improvement of air quality on the Pearl River Delta by the Guangdong and Hong Kong government would be supplemented at the next meeting.

40. The Chairman concluded by requesting that the department should submit an air quality report at every meeting. EPD

VII. Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

41. There being no business, the meeting closed at 1:02 pm. The next meeting would be held on 25 November 2016.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: 14 November 2016