

Minutes of the 7th Meeting of
the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (2016-2017) of
the Tuen Mun District Council

Date : 20 January 2017 (Friday)

Time : 9:32 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 LEUNG Kin-man, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Chairman	9:37 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, MH	TMDC Vice-chairman	9:36 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr SO Shiu-shing	TMDC Member	10:07 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KWU Hon-keung	TMDC Member	9:38 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TO Sheck-yuen, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHU Yiu-wah	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	11:17 a.m.
Ms KONG Fung-yi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr NG Koon-hung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	11:04 a.m.
Ms WONG Lai-sheung, Catherine	TMDC Member	9:40 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:43 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LAM Chung-hoi	TMDC Member	9:34 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	11:46 a.m.
Ms CHING Chi-hung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Man-wah, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo	TMDC Member	10:15 a.m.	End of meeting
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	9:34 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 KEUNG Kai-pong	Co-opted Member	9:47 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr PAK Hon-pan, Henry	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	11:47 a.m.
Mr LEE Wai-lam	Co-opted Member	9:37 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Chun-bang	Co-opted Member	9:45 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KWAN Daina Ho-yin	Co-opted Member	10:00 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 TAM Chun-yin TMDC Member

By Invitation

Ms CHEUNG Miu-han, Betty Assistant Director (Environmental Infrastructure), Environmental Protection Department

Mr NG Kai-ming, Alfred Office-in-charge (Restored Landfill Revitalisation), Environmental Protection Department

Mr CHIU Wing-leung, Gary Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Restored Landfill Revitalisation)1, Environmental Protection Department

Dr Winnie LAW Wai-yi Member of the Steering Committee on Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme

In Attendance

Ms CHAN Hoi-ting, Gillian Acting 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 Environment Hygiene Department

Ms BOW Lok -sin, Rosaline Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr CHAN Pui -shing, Michael Engineer/Tuen Mun 4, Drainage Services Department

Mr NG Hei Hung Assistant Housing Manager/T(TM1), Housing Department

Mr LIO Kit-wah Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)14, Environmental Protection Department

Mr TANG King-yan, Sunny Town planner/Tuen Mun 4, Planning Department

Ms CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl Engineer/15 (New Territories West), Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr MOK Hing-cheung Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tuen Mun), Lands Department

I. Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the 7th meeting of the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (“EHDDC”). He also welcomed representatives of government departments who were in attendance to the meeting.

2. The Chairman reminded Members that any Member who was aware of a personal interest in a discussion item should declare the interest before the discussion. She would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the TMDC Standing Orders, decide whether the Member who had declared an 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. New Members

3. Mr LEUNG Kin-man, Chairman of the TMDC had joined this committee on 1 January this year.

III. Absence from Meeting

4. The Secretary reported that no application for leave of absence had been received from Members.

IV. Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting

5. As Members proposed no amendments to the minutes of the 6th meeting of the EHDDC (2016-2017), the Chairman announced that the minutes were confirmed.

V. Matters Arising**(A) PWP Item No. 268RS – Cycle Track between Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun**

(EHDDC Paper No. 57/2016)

(Paragraphs 15 to 18 of the Minutes of the 6th Meeting of the EHDDC (2016-2017))

(Written Reply of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”))

6. The Chairman remarked that the EHDDC had discussed the subject issue at the last meeting and had expressed the hope that the CEDD would consider the comments of Members and report to the EHDDC at this meeting. The CEDD had provided a written reply in this regard, indicating that since it took time for the department to examine and enhance the design, it had, substantially and specifically, no new options or ideas on which the EHDDC needed to be briefed or consulted for the time being, therefore no representatives had been sent to this meeting.

7. A Member remarked that at the last meeting, Members had unanimously criticised the alignment option of the cycle track submitted by the CEDD, and queried why the department had continued to appoint the design consultant with public money.

In this regard, a Member enquired whether the tender description was in line with the principle of “dealing with the easier sections first” as requested by the EHDDC. Another Member suggested that the CEDD should follow the principle of “dealing with the easier sections first” and commence the works at sections with less controversy first.

8. The Chairman remarked that the CEDD had contacted her before the meeting. She had reminded the department to incorporate Members’ views into the tender description and had requested it to follow up the cycle track works according to the principle of “dealing with the easier sections first”. She also said that since the EHDDC had not resolved to shelve the cycle track at the last meeting, she could not stop the department from commencing the tender exercise. In view of Members’ concerns, the Chairman asked the Secretary to write to the department, reiterating the views of Members on the item.

Secretary

[Post-meeting note: The letter was sent on 27 February this year, and the CEDD provided a reply (see Annex 1) on 6 March this year.]

VI. Discussion Items

(A) Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme (“the Funding Scheme”) (EHDDC Paper No. 1/2017)

9. The Chairman welcomed Ms Betty CHEUNG, Assistant Director (Environmental Infrastructure), Mr Alfred NG, Office-in-charge (Restored Landfill Revitalisation) and Mr Gary CHIU, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Restored Landfill Revitalisation)¹ of the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”) as well as Dr Winnie LAW, Member of the Steering Committee on Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme (“Steering Committee”) to the meeting.

10. With the aid of a slide presentation, Ms Betty CHEUNG and Mr Gary CHIU of the EPD briefed Members on the uses proposed in the applications regarding the Pillar Point Valley Landfill (“PPVL”). Members put forward their comments on the issue which were summarised as follows:

- (i) An enquiry was made on the assessment criteria. It was opined that consideration should be given to the degree of public participation (it was undesirable if the projects were restricted to member participation only) as well as the financial and management capability of applicants. Another Member opined that information provided to the EHDDC by the department was not detailed enough, and that the selection of projects by Members was unfair to both Members and applicants. Members suggested that the department should provide information on terms of operation, operational experience of applicants, financial capability, etc., and carry out detailed analysis on the applications;

- (ii) An enquiry was made on the implementation schedule, including the lead time for assessing the applications, the time required from planning to commencement of the works, and the operation period of the projects;
- (iii) It was opined that projects which were non-conforming with the land use, involved safety issue or could not provide sufficient information should be given a lower priority. Another Member viewed that the Lions Nature Education Centre in Sai Kung was well received by the public and suggested making reference to its operational arrangements;
- (iv) An enquiry was made on the arrangements to deal with the scenario in which none of the projects in this round of application were conforming to the requirements, and the penalties on applicants not taking forward their projects as planned;
- (v) It was pointed out that the PPVL lacked water sources and suitable roads, and that the underground methane gas, safety issue of the helipad nearby, etc., also imposed constraints to the projects. Therefore, it was suggested that the Steering Committee should first conduct a preliminary selection in respect of the feasibility of the projects. Members opined that the Government should undertake the construction of suitable roads and the provision of proper traffic ancillary facilities with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of community participation;
- (vi) While recognising the original intention to allow non-profit making organisations to put forward innovative proposals on the uses of the restored landfill, Members opined that the site was quite large and the land should be properly allocated. Another Member pointed out that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) was responsible for operating other restored landfills, and opined that the Government should play a leading role in the utilisation of land to avoid any delay in the development. A Member opined that while the Government should take the lead in implementing the projects, collaborators could also be invited in this regard;
- (vii) It was suggested that facilities occupying a larger area and involved no construction of large buildings, such as golf centres, public riding schools and archery ranges should be relocated to the restored landfill, and the sites originally occupied by these facilities could be allocated for the construction of other facilities;
- (viii) An enquiry was made on the Government’s funding disbursement arrangements and whether support in the areas of publicity, legal issues, etc., would be provided by the Government continually during the operation of the projects; and

- (ix) It was opined that the TMDC should appoint representatives to attend the meetings of the Steering Committee, and the Steering Committee should convene meetings as soon as possible. In this regard, the Chairman said that she was a member of the Steering Committee, but it had not convened any meeting since her appointment as the representative in the last year.
11. Apart from the above comments, Members also put forward their views on individual projects which were summarised as follows:
- (i) “Environmental Protection Cultural Centre” and “Hydroponic Farm and Hydroponic Farming cum Environmental Protection Education Park”
Support for the project was expressed. It was opined that public education on environmental protection should be strengthened and the hydroponic greenhouse should be open to the public. It was worried that the insurance cost involved in hydroponic farming was high and an enquiry was made on whether subsidies would be provided by the Government;
- (ii) “Aviation Education and Aeromodelling Activity Venue” and “Shooting Training and Competition Facilities”
An enquiry was made on the ways to handle cases in which users violated the Civil Aviation Department’s altitude restrictions on flying/shooting activities. It was requested that the Government should strictly monitor the safety issue; and
- (iii) “Integrated Day Services Centre for the Elderly” and “Cold Store”
While it was understood that the organisation had to set up facilities which involved commercial components with a view to maintaining sufficient operating funds, the Government should exercise proper supervision to avoid the provision of elderly services from being neglected by the organisation as it placed too much emphasis on the development of the commercial part. A Member opined that the area occupied by the cold store should not be larger than that occupied by the integrated day services centre for the elderly.
12. The response of Ms Betty CHEUNG of the EPD in respect of the comments and enquiries of Members was summarised as follows:
- (i) She remarked that when inviting applications from interested organisations, detailed information of the site, including development and land use restrictions, had been provided by the EPD through briefing sessions, site visits and technical information papers. The department had also clearly specified what kind of information had to be submitted by applicants for assessment and consideration. However, there were still some applicants who had not provided sufficient information. On fair grounds, the department would not, at

the present stage, ask individual applicants to submit supplementary information;

- (ii) She pointed out that at the stage of invitation of applications, the Government had prescribed that while the selected organisations would be allowed to use the existing roads during the construction of the facilities, they had to provide suitable roads for public use after the commissioning of the facilities. For the purpose of assessment, applicants should carry out road planning based on the requirements of their projects. Regarding Members' view that the Government should undertake the construction of roads, the Government would give consideration to the request;
- (iii) She remarked that the Government hoped to, through the Funding Scheme, engage the public in the development and utilisation of the landfills (for example the PPVL) after their restoration with a view to encouraging more diverse and creative uses. The Government would exercise prudential supervision and provide support throughout the process. Moreover, the Steering Committee would consider the degree of public participation of the projects during the selection process. The Chairman of the EHDDC could also express her views and exercise supervision on the concerned aspects at the meetings of the Steering Committee;
- (iv) She remarked that the Steering Committee would assess the applications based on a number of criteria, including relevant experience and management capability of the applicants, benefits of the projects and community acceptability, degree of public participation, technical feasibility, financial viability and sustainability of the projects, and so forth;
- (v) She remarked that this consultation aimed at listening to Members' views on whether the proposed uses were in line with the community needs as well as the acceptability of the proposed uses, and relaying the views to the Steering Committee. During the assessment process, the Steering Committee would consider the views of the EHDDC and other assessment criteria. After suitable applicants were selected by the Steering Committee, the EPD would reflect the views of the community to the selected organisations which would then be asked to enhance their projects so that they would be more in line with the needs of the community. The EPD would brief the EHDDC on the enhanced projects and listen to the views of the community;
- (vi) She remarked that a meeting of the Steering Committee in February was being arranged to assess the applications. The lead time from commencing construction to official operation of the approved projects would depend on their nature and scale. Generally speaking, a reasonable time frame in respect of individual projects would be set by the Government. While the length of

the operation period would be subject to the requirements of individual projects, the department viewed that in general, the operation period would not be less than three years and the exact duration would depend on factors such as the performance of the approved projects. An interim review would also be carried out by the Government;

- (vii) She pointed out that as public money was involved, the Government would exercise due supervision on the financial arrangements of the projects concerned. The Government had earmarked \$1 billion for implementing the Funding Scheme. In this regard, a maximum of \$100 million capital works funding per approved project would be granted to cover the design and construction cost. Applicants could also use the funding to engage consultants for professional assistance. Selected applicants were required to submit detailed cost estimation of works projects which, after the assessment by the department, would be submitted to the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for funding application. In the long run, the projects had to be capable of being self-financed. To ensure the non-profit making nature of the projects, financial reports verified by professional accountants must be submitted on a regular basis. The financial reports would also be submitted to the Steering Committee to facilitate its supervision;
- (viii) She pointed out that as the operation of a selected project might take time to reach maturity, the Government could provide a grant of not more than \$5 million to cover the start-up cost and the operating expenditure of the first two years if the project was not financially self-sufficient at the initial stage;
- (ix) She remarked that the area to be occupied by a project would depend on its requirements. The Government would issue a Land Licence, of which the terms would be drawn up according to the advice of the Department of Justice, to the selected applicant. The Government had the right to resume the site if the selected applicant violated the terms of the Land Licence;
- (x) She clarified that the selected applicants were not contractors but subsidised organisations. The Government would enter an agreement with the selected applicants, requiring them to operate the projects in accordance with the agreement. The Government would monitor the progress of the projects and release the grant according to the actual progress. While the Government would provide support to the selected applicants, relevant departments such as the Architectural Services Department, the Planning Department and the Fire Services Department would offer professional advice on different aspects of the projects; and
- (xi) The Government was now processing the PPVL applications according to the established procedures. In the event that no suitable projects could be

identified, the Government would resume the site and consider Members' suggestions, including operating projects on the site directly by the Government, relocating the existing facilities to the PPVL and putting the original sites of the facilities to other uses, and so forth.

13. While concluding that it was the EHDDC's hope that the Government could play a leading role in operating the site, the Chairman hoped that the Steering Committee could consider the views of the EHDDC. As a member of the Steering Committee, the Chairman said that she would reflect the views of the EHDDC to it.

[The Chairman left the meeting at this juncture and the Vice-chairman took over the chair.]

(B) Request the Government to Set Standards on Light Pollution to Reduce Light Nuisance and Energy Wastage

(EHDDC Paper No. 2/2017)

(Written Reply from the Environment Bureau ("ENB"))

14. The Member who submitted the paper said that the Policy Address had not introduced any new proposal to combat light pollution. Opining that the problem of light pollution was being neglected, he remarked that quite a number of commercial signboards were too bright and had flickering effect. He also pointed out that the lights of some ball courts had not been turned off even when the ball courts had not been in use, which had not only resulted in energy wastage but had also affected the mental and physical health of the public. He hoped that the Government could enact legislation as soon as possible to exercise control over unnecessary lighting.

15. Mr LIO Kit-wah of the EPD briefed Members on the written reply of the ENB. Members put forward their views on the related issues which were summarised as follows:

- (i) It was opined that the Government attached little importance to the problem of light pollution. It was requested that the Government should play a leading role in resolving the problem, for example installing lampshades for the street lamps, switching to compact fluorescent lamps and turning off the lights of the ball courts when the ball courts were not in use. Opining that the lamp posts in the parks were too close to each other, a Member said that the suggestion of implementing sectional lighting control which had been put forward in the past had not been adopted. Notwithstanding the above, he considered that the Government had followed up on the problem of light pollution and made some improvements in recent years, for example installing lighting systems which were more environmental friendly in the ball courts and switching to light emitting diodes for illumination by the Highways Department;

- (ii) A Member pointed out that the Charter on External Lighting was voluntary in nature and its effectiveness was questionable, and requested the Government to develop a set of standards and a legislative timetable in respect of light pollution. A Member requested the Government to impose restrictions on the turn-on time of lights in the evening. Another Member, however, suggested that a phased enactment of legislation to restrict the luminance of lights should be introduced first because it was less controversial;
- (iii) A concern about the light pollution caused by commercial signboards was expressed and it was pointed out that residents of a building with illuminated curtain wall would be affected by the heat and radiation generated by the lighting. A Member remarked that some drivers had from time to time reflected that their vision had been impaired by light pollution; and
- (iv) It was opined that when imposing restrictions on light pollution, district needs as well as law and order issue should also be considered, and that at present, there were insufficient illumination systems in rural areas.

16. In response to the lighting condition of the venues managed by the LCSD, Ms Rosaline BOW of the LCSD said that regarding the venues booked in advance, the department would turn on the lights when the venues were in use by the hirers. In respect of the ball courts where advance booking was not necessary, the department would turn on the lights in the evening to facilitate the use of the facilities by the public at any time, and the lights with timer control would turn off automatically when the ball courts were closed. Moreover, the department had closely liaised with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and had switched to environmental friendly illumination systems as far as possible. Currently, environmental friendly systems had been used in most of the venues.

17. Mr LIO of the EPD responded that the Guidelines on Industry Best Practices for External Lighting Installations had provided guidelines on technical measures in respect of the lighting angle, flashing rate and so forth. Government departments had to observe the relevant guidelines, and in case of unsatisfactory situation, Members could inform the department to follow up. He also said that the department would relay Members' views regarding speedy introduction of legislation to the ENB.

18. Mr LIO of the EPD continued that nine light pollution related complaints had been received from Tuen Mun in 2016 and the problem was not serious. At present, though legislation had not been introduced to control the problem, the department would discuss improvement measures with the complainers which, in most cases, were willing to cooperate.

19. The Vice-chairman concluded that as the neighbouring regions had already introduced legislation on light pollution, the EHDDC hoped that the Hong Kong

Government (“HKG”) could enact legislation as soon as possible. He also asked the department to relay Members’ concerns to the ENB.

EPD

[The Chairman returned to the conference room at this juncture to resume chair.]

VII. Reporting Items

(A) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches
(EHDDC Paper No. 3/2017)

20. Members noted the contents of the report.

(B) Anti-mosquito Campaign 2017 (Phase I) in Tuen Mun by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
(EHDDC Paper No. 4/2017)

21. A Member remarked that the mosquito problem in the park (i.e. Tsing Lung Park) located at the seaside near Peridot Court was serious. Since the site was managed by the LCSD, he asked the department to follow up. The Chairman requested the LCSD to keep in view the mosquito problem in the park.

LCSD

(C) Report of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
(EHDDC Paper No. 5/2017)

22. Members noted the contents of the report.

(D) Progress Report of Local Public Works and Rural Public Works as at December 2016
(EHDDC Paper No. 6/2017)

23. Members noted the contents of the report.

(E) Reports of Working Groups under EHDDC
(EHDDC Paper No. 7/2017)

(i) Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities

24. The convenor of the working group briefed Members on the contents of the report.

(ii) Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities

25. The convenor of the working group remarked that the funding allocated to the working group in this financial year was insufficient to organise carnival activities. He hoped that the Chairman could seek more resources for the working group in the next financial year. He continued that this year, to facilitate the Government’s promotion on the newly introduced Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness and Obstruction) Ordinance, the working group would use the funding to produce environmental bags which would be distributed to members of the public with the help of TMDC Members and Co-opted Members.

26. A Member suggested that the EHDDC could conduct publicity programmes jointly with the Tuen Mun District Office (“TMDO”) and the FEHD. The convenor of the working group remarked that the working group would be happy to cooperate if the TMDO had such arrangements.

27. Ms Gillian CHAN, Acting Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)¹ remarked that the TMDO would make use of the additional resources available under the District-led Actions Scheme to strengthen the publicity efforts in addition to the routine actions of the FEHD. In earlier times, the TMDO had proposed a publicity plan for 2017 at the meetings of the District Management Committee and the TMDC, and support from the committee as well as the TMDC had been sought. The TMDO would apply funding from the Home Affairs Department to carry out the work concerned. As regards to the follow-ups of illegal hawking, the TMDO would consider strengthening future cooperation in the light of Members’ comments.

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

28. Members noted the contents of the report.

29. As there were no other enquiries, the Chairman announced that the reports of the above three working groups were endorsed.

(F) Progress Report as at 31.12.2016
(EHDDC Paper No. 8/2017)

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

30. Members noted the contents of the report.

(ii) Report on Environmental Monitoring of Mud Pit V

31. Members noted the contents of the report.

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

32. Members noted the contents of the report.

(iv) Progress Report of Water Main Laying Works in Tuen Mun District

33. A Member pointed out that problems had been identified in the water main replacement works at Lung Mun Road and Wu Chui Road. He said that regarding the replacement works at Wu Chui Road, discrepancy had been found between the water main plan and the actual situation, and hoped that the Water Supplies Department (“WSD”) could explain the situation. He also worried that the frequent bursts of a section of water main at Wu Chui Road would affect the traffic condition and requested the department to resolve the problem completely.

34. The Chairman asked the Secretary to write to the WSD requesting the Secretary

representative of the department to attend the next meeting to explain the situation concerned.

(G) Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station
(EHDDC Paper No. 9/2017)

35. A Member pointed out that during the period from November to December 2016, the number of days when the Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun reached “7” was greater than that of the same period in 2015, which reflected the deterioration of the problem of air pollution in Tuen Mun District. She enquired if the deterioration of air quality was related to the commissioning of the sludge treatment facility or the air quality of the Mainland, and hoped that the department could provide relevant data of the urban areas for comparison and identifying sources of pollution so as to improve the situation. Opining that the air quality of Tuen Mun District was affected by the smog problem in the Pearl River Delta (“PRD”) region of the Mainland, a Member worried that the problem of air pollution would increase the risk of respiratory diseases and enquired if the Government had any improvement measures to address the problem of discrepancy in vehicle or vessel fuel standards between the Mainland and Hong Kong. He also urged the HKG to discuss the handling plans with the Mainland authorities and brief Members on the relevant work.

36. Furthermore, a Member pointed out that the Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station was situated at a relatively high location, and enquired whether the data collected by it would be different from that collected by the roadside monitoring stations, and whether other general monitoring stations were also situated at high location.

37. Mr LIO of the EPD responded that the difference in the air quality data between the period from November to December 2016 and the same period in 2015 might be a short-term fluctuation, and that the analysis on the actual situation of air pollution had to be made based on the observation of a long-term trend. Regarding the long-term trend of the air quality of Tuen Mun District in 2016, a marked improvement over the previous year was shown. In this regard, a Member hoped that the department could provide data on the long-term trend on a yearly or half-yearly basis in future.

38. Mr LIO of the EPD continued that the air quality of Tuen Mun District might be affected by the accumulation of pollutants in the PRD region. The HKG and the Guangdong Provincial Government had set emission reduction targets on air pollutants in the PRD region. The HKG had also signed the Cooperation Agreement on Regional Air Pollution Control and Prevention among Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao with the Guangdong Provincial Government and the Macao Government in September 2014 with a view to fostering further co-operation in improving regional air pollution problem. In respect of Members’ enquires on the comparison between the Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station and the roadside monitoring stations, he remarked that the indices of the general monitoring stations and the roadside

monitoring stations belonged to two different categories. The Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station was a general monitoring station, and there were three roadside monitoring stations in Hong Kong. He continued that Hong Kong had formulated emission reduction measures targeting motor vehicles and cruise vessels, and had imposed controls on the emission of non-road mobile machinery.

39. The Chairman said that as this agenda item was under the Reporting Items, the information prepared by the department might not be sufficient enough to answer Members' enquiries, and that a separate paper could be submitted to the EHDDC if Members wanted to further discuss the relevant issues in details.

VIII. Any Other Business and Date of the Next Meeting

40. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12:17 pm. The next meeting would be held on 24 March 2017. As the Lunar New Year was approaching, the Chairman wished all present a healthy and successful new year.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: 16 March 2017