

Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (2024-2027) of  
the Tuen Mun District Council

---

Date : 12 December 2024 (Thursday)

Time : 2:34 p.m.

Venue : Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

**Present**

Mr TSUI Fan, MH (Chairman)	TMDC Member
Mr TSANG Hin-hong, MH (Vice Chairman)	TMDC Member
The Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth, SBS, MH, JP	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Yau-hoi, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo, MH	TMDC Member
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member
Mr YIP Man-pan, MH	TMDC Member
Ms LAI Ka-man	TMDC Member
Mr HO Jun-hang, Benton	TMDC Member
Mr LI Chiu-hung	TMDC Member
Mr LAM Tik-fai	TMDC Member
Ms CHAN Mang-yi	TMDC Member
Dr CHAN Kwai-wao	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Tsim-heng	TMDC Member
Mr CHUI King-hang	TMDC Member
Mr FUNG Yuk-fung, MH	TMDC Member
Mr TSANG Hing-chung	TMDC Member
Mr YIP Kat-kong, Kenneth	TMDC Member
Mr IP Chun-yuen	TMDC Member
Mr CHENG Yin-kwan, Andy	TMDC Member
Mr TSOI Shing-hin	TMDC Member
Mr TSE Wing-hang	TMDC Member
Ms TSE Yuk-ling	TMDC Member
Mr CHUNG Kin-fung	TMDC Member
Mr NG Ka-chun	Co-opted Member of TMDC Member
Mr YAN Chi-hong	Co-opted Member of TMDC Member
Ms LAM Hau-yi, Natalie (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)3, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department

## **By Invitation**

Mr WONG Ho-hon, Wilfred

Senior Superintendent of Police,  
Deputy District Commander, Tuen Mun District,  
Hong Kong Police Force

Mr WU Chun-ho, Joey

Chief Inspector of Police, Assistant Divisional  
Commander (Operations) (Castle Peak),  
Hong Kong Police Force

Ms WONG Sau-ling, Vicky

Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun) 2,  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

## **In Attendance**

Ms. HUNG Mei, Eunice

Senior Liaison Officer (2), Tuen Mun District Office,  
Home Affairs Department

Mr TSANG Chun-wang, Roy

Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional  
West)1, Environmental Protection Department

Mr FUNG Koon-yue

District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent  
(Tuen Mun), Food and Environmental Hygiene  
Department

Mr CHAU Man-sang

Chief Health Inspector (Tuen Mun)1,  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms CHAN Wan-ching

Chief Health Inspector (Tuen Mun)2,  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms CHAN Pik-shan, Eva

Senior Land Executive/Land Enforcement 3, District  
Lands Office, Tuen Mun, Lands Department

## **I. Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed all to the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (2024-2027) (FEHC).

## **II. Absence from Meeting**

2. The Secretary reported that no applications for leave of absence had been received from Members.

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

3. As Members proposed no amendments to the minutes of the last meeting, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the FEHC (2024-2027) were endorsed.

## **IV. Discussion Items**

### **(A) Enquiry about Snake Sightings at Tuen Mun Park**

**(FEHC Paper No. 34/2024)**

**(Written Response from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department)**

**(Written Response from the Hong Kong Police Force)**

**(Written Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department)**

**(Written Response from the Hospital Authority)**

4. The Chairman welcomed Mr Wilfred WONG, Senior Superintendent of Police, Deputy District Commander, Tuen Mun District, and Mr Joey WU, Chief Inspector of Police, Assistant Divisional Commander (Operations) (Castle Peak), of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), and Ms Vicky WONG, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun) 2, of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to the meeting.

5. The first proposer of the paper expressed concern over the presence of snakes in Tuen Mun Park. He said that he learnt that additional warning signs had been placed near the locations of the snake sightings reported in the paper, and he asked the LCSD about the circumstances of the three snake encounters in Tuen Mun Park. He pointed out that play equipment for children was nearby, close to the areas where snakes had been spotted. He also asked about the current snake-catching plan and the measures in place to ensure public safety.

6. Members' comments and enquiries on the captioned matters were summarised as follows:

- (i) Members asked whether government departments had adopted seasonal preventive measures in snake-prone locations such as rural areas, parks and bushes to reduce snake presence;
- (ii) Members asked if the LCSD had taken sufficient measures to protect the public in areas where snakes were spotted. Members also asked about the general public's perceptions on the measures;
- (iii) To minimise the likelihood of encountering snakes, Members suggested stepping up administrative and cleaning efforts at Tuen Mun Park and the ball courts in the Tuen Mun District to combat rodent infestation, which served as a food source for snakes;
- (iv) Members suggested stepping up promotion during seasons when snake encounters were common; and
- (v) Members suggested that government departments use technology to study the use of robots for tasks such as catching snakes and driving off snakes and mosquitoes.

7. In response to Members' comments, Ms Vicky WONG of the LCSD gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) If snake traces were found following public notification or during routine venue inspections, the Department would immediately contact the Police for assistance and post a notice in the affected areas to inform the public. Last year, the LCSD received three reports of snake encounters at Tuen Mun Park. The first happened on 27 April, near a flower bed outside the Tuen Mun Park Office; the second on 10 June, near a flower bed outside the Amphitheatre; and the third on 24 July, near a changing room outside the Children's Play Area. During inspections, venue staff would watch out for snakes near flower beds; and
- (ii) The LCSD would step up cleaning and anti-rodent efforts at ball courts

and relevant venues. The Department currently arranged weekly cleaning operations to clear refuse and remove fallen leaves and debris from flower beds, as well as monthly rodent prevention and control work, such as placing rodent baits at various venues.

8. To reduce snake encounters, rodent and mosquito infestations, the Chairman hoped that the LCSD and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) would work more closely with the management and cleaning companies of the housing estates in the district during the year-end clean-up campaign in the coming year.

**(B) Proposal to Optimise the 2025 Lunar New Year Fair at Tuen Mun Tin Hau Temple Plaza to Boost Local Economy**

**(FEHC Paper No. 35/2024)**

**(C) Proposal to Enhance Measures for the Lunar New Year Fair at Tuen Mun Tin Hau Temple Plaza**

**(FEHC Paper No. 36/2024)**

**(D) Brief on the Tuen Mun District Lunar New Year Fair**

**(FEHC Paper No. 40/2024)**

9. The Chairman said that since discussion items (B) and (C) as well as information item (A)(iv) were related, they would be discussed together.

10. Mr FUNG Koon-yue of the FEHD provided a briefing on Paper No. 40/2024 regarding the arrangements for the 2025 Tuen Mun District Lunar New Year Fair.

11. The first proposer of Paper No. 35/2024 agreed with the FEHD's waste reduction concept, citing unsold New Year flowers as the primary source of waste after the fair. He went on to say that the low sales at the 2024 Lunar New Year Fair could be attributed to one-way crowd management measures, and he would like to re-evaluate the arrangement. He also suggested deploying technology such as artificial intelligence to monitor footfall. In addition, he suggested reviewing the number of stalls and adjusting how the stalls were set up, as well as widening the passageways to provide members of the public with a more comfortable venue to explore, in order to boost local economic development.

12. The first proposer of Paper No. 36/2024 was concerned about poor sales of New Year flowers at the 2024 Lunar New Year Fair owing to congestion, as reported by stall operators. In this context, he hoped that the FEHD, the Police and other government departments would review the existing measures to alleviate the situation. He said that he would continue to communicate with the public and relay their views in order to promote the concept of “tourism is everywhere in Hong Kong” and give impetus to the local economy. He hoped that the Government would consider the suggestions put forward in the paper in order to tackle the relevant issues and optimise the Lunar New Year Fair arrangements.

13. Members’ comments and enquiries on the captioned item were summarised as follows:

- (i) Members asked about the differences in road closure arrangements for the Lunar New Year Fairs in 2024 and 2025, and suggested moving the waiting area to the closed carriageway to provide more space for the public to stroll around the Lunar New Year Fair;
- (ii) Members suggested increasing the number of stalls to enhance the appeal of the Lunar New Year Fair;
- (iii) Members suggested providing temporary parking places near the industrial area to facilitate those driving to the fair;
- (iv) Members asked if the FEHD had kept record on the number of visitors at the venue every hour;
- (v) Despite satisfactory visitor flow and order outside the venue, Members said that the Lunar New Fair was fairly packed during peak hours, making it difficult for some members of the public to access;
- (vi) Members suggested that the Department consider locations that were more accessible and capable of accommodating more stalls, such as Siu Lun Sports Ground, Tuen Mun Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground and San Wo Lane Playground, for hosting the 2026 Lunar New Year Fair;
- (vii) Members said that implementing one-way visitor flow amid congestion

discouraged the public from staying at the stalls and reduced their willingness to spend money. Members asked about the threshold of footfall at the fair venue that would need the implementation of crowd control measures, and whether public announcements and instructions would be made to inform the public of such measures;

- (viii) Members asked about the feasibility of adjusting crowd control measures to optimise the Lunar New Year Fair arrangements, such as providing additional exits for members of the public to leave the venue after shopping and enforcing crowd control at different times;
- (ix) Members recognised the necessity of crowd control and aimed to balance public safety and convenience. Members also sought to change the layout of the waiting area. They highlighted the importance of safety first, and suggested that the Department refer to previous years' Lunar New Year Fair arrangements, as well as crowd control measures implemented in other districts;
- (x) Members believed that the Lunar New Year Fair would preserve traditional Chinese culture and promote the local economy by attracting both locals and visitors from the Mainland;
- (xi) Members suggested upgrading the Lunar New Year Fair decorations to enhance the festive atmosphere;
- (xii) Members suggested setting up additional stalls for non-profit organisations and youth groups to promote cultural and creative arts, encouraging youth participation in community activities;
- (xiii) Members suggested enhancing communication with representatives of business associations and flower farmers to review future arrangements for the Lunar New Year Fair; and
- (xiv) Members suggested that the FEHD launch promotional initiatives sooner to promote the Lunar New Year Fair.

14. In response to Members' comments, Ms CHAN Wan-ching of the FEHD gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) The organiser of the Lunar New Year Fair adopted crowd control measures to minimise disruption and hazards posed by people going in different directions. In light of this, the FEHD had adopted several enhancement measures, including adjusting the distribution of stalls at the fair to widen the passageways in the middle and near the cooked food stalls at Hung Cheung Road from the previous four metres to six metres, as well as providing additional segregation in front of the cooked food stalls to separate the visitor flow in the dry goods area from that of the cooked food stalls in order to avoid congestion;
- (ii) A number of factors would be considered when revising the auction for stalls at the Lunar New Year fairs, including the situation of past auctions, venue capacity and foot traffic. On 6 November, the auction for the current 57 Lunar New Year Fair stalls was concluded successfully. Increasing the number of stalls would be unjust to those who had already bid, but the Department had taken note of Members' wishes to create a festive atmosphere at the fair. In this regard, the Department would further improve the arrangements for the Lunar New Year Fair in the coming year; and
- (iii) In terms of the setup of the waiting area, a fence was erected to serve as a barrier in the waiting area at the fair venue. The waiting area at Tin Hau Temple Plaza in Tuen Mun would only be open when the number of visitors reached its maximum capacity. Upon reaching this threshold, the Department would install moveable gates in the waiting area to allow the public to enter the venue directly, increasing the number of people inside while decreasing the flow of people outside the venue in a timely way. The Department would remain open to shifting the waiting area to public space outside the venue, and would study the suggestion with relevant departments to make appropriate arrangements.

15. In response to Members' comments, Mr FUNG Koon-yue of the FEHD gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) On crowd control measures, the FEHD had been in close contact with the Police. During the 2024 Lunar New Year fairs, the FEHD applied technology to monitor the 15 Lunar New Year fairs across the territory,



allowing members of the public to know about the crowd conditions in real time on the website. Footfall would be displayed in different hues on the website, allowing members of the public to pick between several Lunar New Year fairs based on the current conditions;

[Post-meeting note: The FEHD said that the crowd and waiting status would be displayed on its dedicated website in a “green, amber and red lights” format. A green light indicated there were few people inside the fair and that there was no need to wait for entry; an amber light indicated that the fair venue was slightly crowded and that the public had to queue for entry; a red light indicated that the fair venue was very crowded and that the queuing time might be longer, in order to help the public understand the crowd conditions at the fairs.]

- (ii) The Department had installed a public address system at the venue and would work with the Police. When the number of visitors reached its maximum and a one-way visitor flow was necessary, members of the public at the site would be immediately notified;
- (iii) To reduce passageway congestion, the position of the stalls at the 2025 Lunar New Year Fair would be altered, and the central passageway would be widened from the previous four metres to six metres;
- (iv) Regarding the choice of venue and number of stalls for next year’s Lunar New Year Fair, the Department had taken note of Members’ opinions and would consider them during event planning; and
- (v) The FEHD invited District Council members to observe the operations of the 2024 Lunar New Year Fair. The Department would later invite District Council members to the 2025 Lunar New Year Fair to inspect the arrangements.

16. In response to Members’ comments, Mr Wilfred WONG of the HKPF gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) The FEHD oversaw crowd control measures at the Lunar New Year fairs. The Police had been working with the FEHD and providing advice on crowd control measures;

- (ii) During the previous Lunar New Year Fair, the Police adopted road closure measures in the industrial area after the night of Lunar New Year's Eve to facilitate public access to the fair. The Police would further study the fair arrangements to be implemented before the night of Lunar New Year's Eve this time;
- (iii) In terms of visitor flow direction, the Police needed to conduct extensive research before finalising the plan and movement routes to prevent accidents both inside and outside the venue, especially since foot traffic at Yip Wong Estate had to be considered for the fair this time, and the majority of visitors would cross the bridge from Tuen Mun Road to the Tin Hau Temple Plaza;
- (iv) The Police would confirm the road closure arrangements based on the crowd conditions and visitor movement. Any changes made inside the venue would affect the Police's parking arrangements outside. To accommodate public demand for driving to the venue, the Police initially planned to implement road closure measures on the road section between Tin Hau Road and San Hop Lane, as well as create a roundabout at San Hop Lane allowing vehicles to turn around and drop off passengers;
- (v) The HKPF would continue communicating with the FEHD regarding the crowd conditions at the venue. Given the small size of the Tin Hau Temple Plaza and the lack of space for a waiting area outside the venue and in the vicinity of the fair, the Police had to close the road outside the venue to facilitate visitor flow; and
- (vi) The Police remained receptive to the suggestion of establishing a waiting area at the road closure area and would continue to communicate with the FEHD.

17. The Chairman hoped that the FEHD and Police would consider Members' suggestions and provide timely updates on present arrangements to the FEHC. In addition, the Chairman asked the FEHD to arrange a site visit for Members.

[Post-meeting note: The FEHD said that the Department planned to host a promotional activity for the 2025 Tin Hau Temple Plaza Lunar New Year Fair in

the Tuen Mun District on 27 January 2025, during which souvenirs would be handed to the public.]

**V. Item for Information**

**(A) Improvement Works for So Kwun Wat Lee Uk Tsuen Public Toilet and To Yuen Wai Public Toilet  
(FEHC Paper No. 37/2024)**

18. Members noted the content of the captioned report.

**(B) Anti-rodent Campaign 2025 in Tuen Mun District (Phase I)  
(FEHC Paper No. 38/2024)**

19. Members noted the content of the captioned report.

20. Mr CHAU Man-sang of the FEHD said that the second phase of the Anti-rodent Campaign 2024, which ran from 8 July to 13 September 2024, was concluded. The Department planned to launch the Anti-rodent Campaign 2025 in two phases under the slogan “Eliminate Rodent Nuisance, Take Preventive Measures”.

21. Citing concerns about rodent infestation near food premises, notably around Tseng Choi Street and Lung Mun Oasis, a Member asked the FEHD to strengthen communication with commercial tenants. In addition, the Member asked the FEHD to strengthen collaboration with the LCSD to carry out joint rodent prevention and control work in rodent hiding places such as parks, sitting-out areas and flower beds near ball courts.

22. Mr CHAU Man-sang of the FEHD said that Tseng Choi Street was one of the black spots targeted under the anti-rodent campaign. Apart from anti-rodent work and public education initiatives, the Department collaborated with other government departments and owners’ corporations to carry out joint rodent prevention and control operations to eliminate the survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages. In addition, the Pest Control and Environmental Hygiene Sections of the Department would advise food premises on proper waste disposal practice to avoid creating new food sources that might attract rodents.

**(C) Tuen Mun District 2025 Year-end Clean-up**

**(FEHC Paper No. 39/2024)**

23. Members noted the content of the report.

24. A Member reported that San Hui Market had become a black spot for traffic congestion and pedestrian flow towards the end of the year owing to significant illegal shop extension and street obstructions by nearby stalls. He hoped that the FEHD would pay more attention to the situation and expand its manpower to maintain order on the streets during the Lunar New Year.

25. Mr CHAU Man-sang of the FEHD said that the Department would closely monitor the streets near San Hui Market to ensure that stallholders did not place their goods outside of the tolerated areas. Staff from the Department would initially give advice to offenders. If the situation continued, the Department would institute prosecution against the stallholders. The Department would also remind shop operators to shorten the time of loading and unloading goods, instruct contractors to step up street cleansing and urge recyclers not to place recyclables such as cardboard and styrofoam boxes in public places, which could obstruct streets and affect environmental hygiene. During the year-end clean-up, the Department would pay particular attention to the hygiene blackspots near San Hui Market and Chi Lok.

**(D) Report of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
(FEHC Paper No. 41/2024)**

26. Members noted the content of the report.

**(E) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches  
(FEHC Paper No. 42/2024)**

27. Members noted the content of the report.

**(F) Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring  
Station  
(FEHC Paper No. 43/2024)**

28. Members noted the content of the report.

**(G) Tai Shui Hang Water Quality Monitoring Records  
(FEHC Paper No. 44/2024)**

29. Members noted the content of the report.

**(H) Reports of Other Government Departments  
(FEHC Paper No. 45/2024)**

(i) Report on Environmental Monitoring of Mud Pit V

30. Members noted the content of the report.

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

31. Members noted the content of the report.

(iii) Grass Cutting and Spraying Mosquito Oil Works for Government Land in Tuen Mun District

32. Members noted the content of the report.

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

33. There being no other business, the Chairman announced the meeting closed at 4:01 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 20 February 2025 (Thursday) at 2:30 p.m.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: February 2025

File Ref: HADTMDC/13/25/FEHC/23