

## **Minutes of the 6th Meeting in 2024 of Tai Po District Council**

Date: 5 November 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:40 a.m. – 10:22 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Tai Po District Council

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Time of Arrival</u></b>	<b><u>Time of Withdrawal</u></b>
<b><u>Chairman</u></b>		
Ms. CHAN Hau-man, Eunice, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<b><u>Members</u></b>		
Mr. YU Chi-wing, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LEE Man-kit	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. LEE Sai-yin, Jeanne, BBS, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LEE Hon-cheung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Yiu-ban, BBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WU Cheuk-him	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MUI Siu-fung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MUI Ching-hung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Tsz-kin	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. CHAN Kin-kwan	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Yung-wa	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Pok-chi, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MAK Shing-ho, Gary	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WAN Koon-kau	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WONG Wai-tung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. WONG Pik-kiu, SBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. LOK Siu-luen	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LO Hiu-fung, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>		
Ms. SING Hoi-shan, Wendy	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Senior Executive Officer (District Council) / Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) / Home Affairs Department (“HAD”)		

**In Attendance**

Mr. MA Wai-hing, Adrian	District Commander (Tai Po) / Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”)
Ms. CHOI Ying-tung	Police Community Relations Officer (Tai Po) / HKPF
Ms. FUNG Man-yu, May	District Social Welfare Officer (Tai Po / North) / Social Welfare Department
Mr. FUNG Hon-wa, Harris	District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) / Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”)
Mr. TAM Lai-ming	Chief Transport Officer (Atg.) / New Territories East / Transport Department
Mr. TSANG Wing-keung, Rico	District Planning Officer / Sha Tin, Tai Po and North / Planning Department
Mr. WAT Wai-ching, Stephen	Senior Engineer / 11 (North) / Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr. TSUI Chun-sing	Administration Assistant / Lands / TPDLO / Lands Department
Mr. WONG Man-yum	Senior Housing Manager / Tai Po, North & Shatin 3 / Housing Department
Mr. MA Hing-sum, Patrick	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tai Po) / Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”)
Miss FAN Wing-man	Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Tai Po 2 / FEHD
Ms. SIOW Ying-hung, Bonnie	Chief School Development Officer (Tai Po) / Education Bureau
Mr. SHEN Ka-wai	Assistant Division Officer (Building Improvement Strategy and Special Operations)1 / Fire Services Department (“FSD”)
Mr. TSE Ho-fai	Assistant Division Officer (Support)3 / FSD
Mr. KWOK Chun-chai, Johnny	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) / HAD
Mr. FUNG Ying-wai, Victor	Senior Liaison Officer (1) (Atg.) / TPDO / HAD
Ms. WONG Sze-man, Queenie	Senior Liaison Officer (2) / TPDO / HAD
Miss CHAN Sui-king, Madeline	Senior Executive Officer (District Management) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. CHOW Tsz-yan, Daniel	Executive Officer I (District Council) / TPDO / HAD

The Chairman welcomed District Council Members (“Members”) and representatives of government departments to the sixth meeting of the 7th Tai Po District Council (“TPDC”).

**I. Confirmation of the minutes of the fifth meeting in 2024 of TPDC on 3 September 2024**

2. Neither had the Secretariat received any proposed amendments before the meeting, nor had any participants put forward amendments at the meeting. The minutes of the captioned meeting were confirmed without amendment.

## **II. “Community Emergency Responder Scheme” and Building Improvement Support Centre of the Fire Services Department**

3. Mr. SHEN Ka-wai briefed on the FSD Building Improvement Support Centre (“BISC”) as follows:

- (i) The department established the BISC in December 2023 to enhance the fire safety level of old buildings. The service targets of BISC were the residents, owners or occupiers of old buildings regulated by the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance (Cap. 502), the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (“FS(B)O”) (Cap. 572), and the Fire Safety (Industrial Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 636). The three Ordinances, which were very similar in nature and manner of enforcement, regulated all commercial, composite, domestic and industrial buildings that were constructed or whose building works with plans were first submitted on or before 1 March 1987 respectively.
- (ii) The department and Buildings Department (“BD”) were the enforcement authorities (“EAs”) of the Ordinances concerned. The department would require owners or occupiers to provide common fire service installations and equipment, including automatic sprinkler systems, fire hydrants (“FHs”) and hose reels (“HRs”), manual fire alarm systems and emergency lighting systems, etc. The BD would require owners or occupiers to provide copies of certificates of the fire rated doors, electrical wiring and fire rated enclosures to fixed lights to the windows. The department and BD would conduct joint inspection and issue Fire Safety Directions (“Directions”) to owners or occupiers upon completion of inspections, requiring them to comply with the Directions within the prescribed period (within one year or so). The owners or occupiers might also apply for extending the compliance period of the Directions. Upon implementation and completion of the required fire safety improvement works, the owners or occupiers might inform the EAs for inspection acceptance. Upon confirmation of compliance with the relevant requirements, the EAs would issue a compliance notice to the owners or occupiers and lift the Directions.
- (iii) The department and BD would provide support at various stages, such as assisting in the formation of owners’ corporations (“OCs”), the provision of subsidies and loans, and the relaxation of requirements at technical level, etc. The newly established BISC could provide owners and occupiers with one-stop support services, including the explanation of Ordinances’ requirements, assisting in applying for government subsidies and Smart Tender, and co-ordination of matters relating to building plan approval procedures and acceptance test arrangements.

4. Mr. TSE Ho-fai briefed on the “Fire Services Department Community Emergency Responder Scheme” (“FSDCER Scheme”) as follows:

- (i) Drawing on experiences from both the Mainland and overseas, the department would launch the FSDCER Scheme (formerly known as the “Fire Safety Ambassador” Scheme) with the aim of enhancing public awareness, response capability and confidence in emergencies and disasters, promoting community emergency response, fire safety, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (“CPR”) and automated external defibrillator (“AED”), as well as assisting in pre-disaster emergency preparedness and post-disaster community recovery.
- (ii) Members of the public could learn about disaster prevention and emergency response knowledge through the FSDCER Scheme for application in emergencies, assist in stabilising the scene, facilitate rescue operations and perform first aid for the injured and sudden cardiac arrest. In addition, pre-typhoon preparedness visits and post-typhoon community recovery would be organised under the FSDCER Scheme, and Fire Safety Ambassador Honorary Presidents would be invited to participate in the work. The department would liaise with representatives of areas with higher risk of flooding (for instance, low-lying areas such as Tai O and Yuen Long District) prior to a typhoon to assist in preparing a list of people in need. The department would mobilise personnel in a short period of time after the typhoon to assist in community recovery as soon as possible, say, by assisting in clearing fallen trees. In addition, the department suggested that large-scale Tree Planting Day and Shorelines Cleanup Day be held for publicity and education purposes.
- (iii) Preparatory work had been carrying out continuously by the department in the first three quarters of this year, including internal training and liaison with various friendly organisations (e.g. Scout Association of Hong Kong, enterprises and tertiary institutions) for promotion, and the department would formally announce the establishment of the FSDCER Scheme in December. Apart from fire prevention education, courses on emergency response and CPR or AED would be introduced under the FSDCER Scheme, with a total of some 7 hours of training in the form of e-learning and practical hand-on sessions. In addition, the department had also launched a new application and membership system for e-learning, training, testing and score accumulation of its members, as well as for big data analysis to promote its activities to target groups.
- (iv) Members of the FSDCER Scheme would also provide community services, such as “post-fire” services, together with the FSD Volunteer Team and Fire & Ambulance Services Teen Connect. In the long term, the FSDCER Scheme would collaborate with the HAD, Care Teams, district organisations, non-

government organisations and voluntary bodies, etc., to provide more community services.

5. Mr. WU Cheuk-him said that it was hard to form OCs in many “three nil” buildings in the district due to fragmented ownership, and fire safety improvement works might not be able to carry out due to building structural constraints. He hoped that the department would deal with these matters in a flexible manner.

6. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu said that some owners of the “three nil” buildings in the district were elderly people who were not clear about the requirements. There had been owners being prosecuted by the government for removing corrugated asbestos cement sheets in the past. She opined that not all buildings could be equipped with fire service water tanks (“FSWTs”), and there was no space for installing HRs in the stairwells of old buildings. The department should not remove FHs on the streets and turn to request the OCs to provide FSWTs. In addition, she suggested that a QR code be provided at different locations of large scale premises so as to facilitate the public to use the nearest AED.

7. Mr. SHEN Ka-wai responded as follows:

- (i) It was understood that owners of “three nil” buildings might encounter difficulties in steering and co-ordination when complying with the Directions. The BISC could provide support to the owners concerned. In addition, the department and BD were working with the Security Bureau to amend the FS(B)O (Cap. 572). Upon completion of the legislative amendment, the department could carry out the default works for buildings regulated by the Ordinance and then recover the relevant works costs incurred from such owners.
- (ii) It was understood that FSWTs could not be installed in many old buildings due to spatial and structural constraints. The owners concerned might apply to the department for the installation of improvised HR system (direct pumping design), which only required the installation of fire pumps underneath the staircases on the ground storey without the need to install FSWTs. Ever since the launch of the improvised HR system in July 2023, 24 applications had been received and there was one successful installation case in Kowloon and on Hong Kong Island respectively.
- (iii) He had to check with the BD on the requirements for removing corrugated asbestos cement sheets. The BD would review whether the relevant buildings were regulated by the FS(B)O (Cap. 572).
- (iv) The FHs on the streets were under the management of the Water Supplies Department, which would map out a management plan for FHs every year.

8. Mr. TSE Ho-fai said that the department continued to actively promote the acquisition of AEDs to different groups or suitable premises so that members of the public could locate the AEDs at the fastest speed in emergencies. The department had launched an online information platform “Centralized AED Registry for Emergency” for public inspection.

9. Mr. WAN Koon-kau suggested that the FSD should strengthen the promotion of the Improvised Hose Reel System Scheme (“IHRS Scheme”) in Tai Po District.

10. Mr. SHEN Ka-wai said that the department had mentioned the IHRS Scheme in press conferences many times since its introduction. When issuing Directions to buildings, the department would provide promotional leaflets and information on the IHRS Scheme, and suggested that the persons concerned call the BISC for assistance should they encounter difficulties in complying with the Directions. The department could provide owners in the district with information on the IHRS Scheme.

11. The Chairman suggested that the department provide Members with leaflets of the IHRS Scheme. Members could contact the FSD for more information or leaflets if necessary.

12. Mr. SHEN Ka-wai said that the brief of the IHRS Scheme could be provided to Members via the Secretariat.

### **III. Follow-up on the improvement proposal for facilities on both sides of Lam Tsuen River** **(TPDC Paper No. 24/2024)**

13. The Secretary briefed on the captioned paper.

14. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu said that the floating stage set up on Lam Tsuen River for “Lam Tsuen River Grand Parade, Drone and Variety Show” earlier was well-received by the public. Some performing groups hoped to perform on floating stages at other major festivals in the future. It was suggested that the LCSO and TPDO fund the construction of floating stages and that Members assist in recruiting performing groups.

15. Mr. WU Cheuk-him suggested that additional signage of landmarks in the district be provided along the cycle tracks, and that the LCSO beautify both sides of Lam Tsuen River to add distinct character to the area.

16. The Chairman said that she was pleased to learn that members of the public were fond of the floating stage, and the TPDO could discuss future event arrangements with Members. In addition, the Secretariat would liaise with the departments concerned to follow up on Mr. WU’s suggestions, which would be handed over for follow-up at TPDC meetings.

**IV. The meeting timetables of TPDC and its Committees, as well as the duty roster of “Meet-the-Public Scheme” in 2025**

(TPDC Paper Nos. 25/2024 and 26/2024)

17. The Chairman said that the TPDC meetings in 2025 were scheduled to be held on the first Tuesday working day of the odd months, and meetings of its five Committees would be held within two weeks after the TPDC meeting. Members were requested to continue to attend on time.

18. Members noted the contents of the captioned papers.

**V. Reports of Committees and Working Group under TPDC**

(TPDC Paper No. 27/2024)

19. The Chairman said that Ms. Ng Bun-bun, Catherine, was appointed as a co-opted member of the District Facilities and Works Committee (“DFWC”) in October. There were currently eight co-opted members in the Committees under TPDC in total, and the list was as follows:

Mr. LEONG Chung-ming	District Facilities and Works Committee
Ms. Ng Bun-bun, Catherine	District Facilities and Works Committee
Ms. CHAN Ching-yin	Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee
Mr. CHENG Sze-wang	Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
Mr. YIP-yan	Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
Mr. MEI Di-wen	Traffic and Transport Committee
Ms. LAU Shui-ping, Daisy	Social Welfare, Housing and Development Planning Committee
Ms. WONG Yan-yan, Jannie	Social Welfare, Housing and Development Planning Committee

**District Facilities and Works Committee**

20. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu reported that the fifth meeting in 2024 of the DFWC was held on 4 September 2024, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

**Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee**

21. Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen reported that the fifth meeting in 2024 of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee was held on 4 September 2024, and the discussions on major items were set

out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

### **Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee**

22. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung reported that the fifth meeting in 2024 of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee was held on 5 September 2024, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

### **Traffic and Transport Committee**

23. Mr. LI Yiu-ban reported that the fifth meeting in 2024 of the Traffic and Transport Committee was held on 5 September 2024, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

### **Social Welfare, Housing and Development Planning Committee**

24. Mr. LO Hiu-fung reported that the fifth meeting in 2024 of the Social Welfare, Housing and Development Planning Committee was held on 6 September 2024, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

### **Working Group on Boosting Local Economy**

25. Mr. LAM Yick-kuen reported that the third meeting in 2024 of the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy was held on 3 September 2024, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

## **VI. Any other business**

26. The Secretary advised that the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau (“HYAB”) had launched the “HKYouth+” youth mobile application to disseminate comprehensive information on youth development and activities. Young people could register for various activities via the application and enjoy different concessions by registering as a member. Each DC Member would be allocated with 200 “HKYouth+” publicity leaflets for distribution to the public, and he/she could promote to young people when setting up street counters and encourage them to install the application. In addition, Members might borrow easy-mount frames and other publicity materials of “HKYouth+” from the Secretariat.



27. Mr. MUI Siu-fung asked whether it was necessary for him to apply to the HYAB if he wished to have the QR code of the application printed on his publicity materials.

28. The Secretary said that she would check with the HYAB and revert to Members.

**VII. Date of next meeting**

29. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on 7 January 2025 (Tuesday).

30. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

**Tai Po District Council Secretariat**  
**November 2024**