

Minutes of the 1st Meeting in 2026 of Tai Po District Council

Date: 6 January 2026 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:34 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Tai Po District Council

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Withdrawal</u>
<u>Chairman</u>		
Ms. CHAN Hau-man, Eunice, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Members</u>		
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, MH	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, MH, 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
<u>Secretary</u>		
Ms. HUEN Lai-yan, Sara	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. KONG Wing-cheung, Kelvin	District Commander (Tai Po) / Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”)
Ms. LAW Wan-yee	Police Community Relations Officer (Tai Po) / HKPF
Ms. FUNG Man-yu, May	District Social Welfare Officer (Tai Po / North) / Social Welfare Department (“SWD”)
Mr. FUNG Hon-wa, Harris	District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) / Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”)
Ms. WONG Yee-fang, Eva	Chief Transport Officer / New Territories East / Transport Department (“TD”)
Mr. TSANG Wing-keung, Rico	District Planning Officer / Sha Tin, Tai Po and North / Planning Department (“PlanD”)
Mr. WAT Wai-ching, Stephen	Senior Engineer / 11 (North) / Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”)
Mr. LIU Sin-hing, George	District Lands Officer / TP (District Land Office, Tai Po (“TPDLO”)) / Lands Department (“LandsD”)
Mr. CHEUNG Chi-hing	Administrative Assistant / Lands (TPDLO) / LandsD
Ms. SZETO Hau-yan, Esther	Chief Manager / Management (TNS) / Housing Department (“HD”)
Mr. YIM Kwok-ching, Timothy	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 (“EDB”)
Mr. KWOK Chun-chai, Johnny	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) / HAD
Miss TSANG Hok-yau, Bibiana	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) (Designate) / HAD
Mr. LUI Kan-man, Raymond	Senior Liaison Officer (1) / TPDO / HAD
Ms. WONG Sze-man, Queenie	Senior Liaison Officer (2) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. LEUNG Kim-bong	Senior Executive Officer (District Management) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. CHOW Tsz-yan, Daniel	Executive Officer I (District Council) / TPDO / HAD

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 6th meeting in 2025 of TPDC on 4 November 2025

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

II. Proper follow-up action on the arrangements for the relief and support work on the fire at Wang Fuk Court

3. The Chairman said that she understood DC Members' ("Members") deep concern about the arrangements for the relief and support work on the fire at Wang Fuk Court ("the fire"). She would invite Members to speak first.

4. Mr. MUI Siu-fung's comments were as follows:

- (i) Service had been suspended at Kwong Fuk Bus Terminus since the fire, and multiple bus routes had to be diverted, in particular KMB route 71K. He hoped that the department could expedite the resumption of public transport services of Kwong Fuk Estate.
- (ii) Many Wang Fuk Court residents hoped to return to their residence to collect valuables. He suggested that Government staff be arranged to accompany residents to go upstairs under safe conditions to collect property.

5. Mr. LO Hiu-fung's comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) At present, residents hoped that the Government would expeditiously announce a medium to long-term rehousing plan and an implementation timetable, consolidating different public views to study for a viable plan with timing, feasibility and residents' ease of mind as principles. He suggested the public housing development project at Chung Nga Road West as a location for rehousing. The relevant location had already been commissioned as a spade-ready site for the public housing project, and the neighbourhood was supported by comprehensive transport and community facilities, which would allow residents to continue living in the district while maintaining a certain distance from the fire site. He asked whether the relevant development project could be completed by 2030.
- (ii) Members of the Wang Fuk Court owners' corporation ("OC") worked on a voluntary basis, and were incapable of handling complex rebuilding or compensation issues. Residents generally supported the Government in handing over the matter to a professional organisation. On the Government's plan to establish a special task force, the commissioned management company was obligated to report to owners and provide assistance. He hoped that the Government would disclose more relevant information as soon as possible.
- (iii) Some residents reflected the hope that the Government could expeditiously arrange for local rehousing for flat owners of Wang Fuk Court in light of the actual situation.

6. Mr. LAM Yick-kuen said that the Government had to assist residents in regaining a sense of security and confidence, in addition to helping them rebuild their homes. Residents had different wishes regarding the long-term rehousing arrangement, and the Government had to get to know their views to put forward an adequate plan. He suggested that residents' comments be collected through "one social worker per household" ("OSWPH") and that different plans be proposed for the choice of residents. The Legislative Council would also have to monitor the use of the relevant funding and increase transparency for the rebuilding plan to gain the trust of residents and the public.

7. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu's comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) She expressed deep sympathy to the thousands of flat owners affected by the fire, as well as sincere condolences to the families of the victims.
- (ii) Some elderly residents reflected the hope to regain a residence, while others worried that moving to another district would distance them from their family and that they would not adapt to the new environment. They hoped to live at a location near Wang Fuk Court and continue to maintain the community network. It was hoped that the Government would expeditiously announce a clear rehousing plan and timetable, so that residents of Wang Fuk Court could continue to live in Tai Po with dignity.

8. Mr. MUI Ching-hung said that the Government could safeguard residents' interests as a whole and demonstrate a sense of commitment by dissolving the OC to hand over the matter to a professional management company. He hoped the relevant plan could be implemented expeditiously.

9. Ms. LOK Siu-luen said that residents had a lot of negative emotions and reactions subsequent to experiencing the fire, and suggested that emotional support for residents be stepped up. She also hoped that the Government would expedite the implementation of a long-term rehousing plan. In addition, she opined that the prevailing Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance should be comprehensively reviewed to avoid the occurrence of further unfortunate incidents.

10. Mr. WONG Wai-tung's comments were as follows:

- (i) He hoped that the Government would put forward a complete medium to long-term rehousing plan as soon as possible.
- (ii) He hoped to know more about the progress of the relocation of Tai Po Baptist Public School ("TPBPS") to the campus of the former Church of Christ in China Kei Ching Primary School ("former Kei Ching Primary School"), as well as the works details.

- (iii) He suggested that the Government introduce a function to its supplies donation online platform for members of the public to sign up for volunteer service.

11. Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex's comments were as follows:

- (i) Wang Fuk Court had a large number of elderly residents and ownership was complex. He hoped that the Government would handle the relevant work with a compassionate, practical and lawful approach. He suggested that residents' comments on the long-term rehousing plan be collected through OSWPH, and that they would be provided with options. The rehousing plan should also include Wang Chi House residents.
- (ii) He hoped that the Government would expeditiously identify spade-ready sites that had been formed in the district for some of the residents to be locally rehoused. He supported using the Chung Nga Road West site for rehousing purposes.

12. Mr. MAK Shing-ho, Gary's comments were as follows:

- (i) He suggested that the Government provide diversified feasible plans when planning for the long-term, so that Wang Fuk Court residents could make suitable arrangements based on the actual situation. In addition, planning for rebuilding should take into consideration the housing court as a whole and must include Wang Chi House residents.
- (ii) As TPBPS had to relocate, families of affected students had to bear extra expenses. He suggested that the relevant department actively look into and step up the support for the affected school and families of affected students.
- (iii) He hoped that the Government would consider the needs of various parties from a forward-looking perspective, expeditiously devise and announce a complete plan that covered all affected groups and respected residents' right to choose, as well as provide sufficient financial support for residents to resume a normal life.

13. Mr. CHAN Pok-chi said that some Wang Chi House residents had reflected that they hoped the Government would improve the arrangements for their return to collect property at their residence, increasing the time and the number of people from each household allowed to go upstairs. It was also a worry that Wang Chi House had yet to be included in future rebuilding plans. Even with OSWPH assistance, residents still felt anxious about the future. Having a professional management company assist in handling matters such as various cumbersome procedures and insurance claims could provide residents with support. He hoped that the Government could step up efforts and handle various major decisions through residents' meetings.

14. Ms. LEE Sai-yin, Jeanne said that there should be different options for the long-term rehousing plan of Wang Fuk Court residents. In addition, she suggested that education on fire safety be stepped up, such as promoting the use of various fire service equipment.

15. Mr. YU Chi-wing said that Wang Fuk Court residents had different views on the long-term rehousing plan, and hoped that the department would listen to and get to know their wishes through OSWPH. In addition, in terms of fire safety, he hoped that a lesson could be learnt from this experience and that existing fire service facilities would be improved.

16. Mr. CHAN Kin-kwan's comments were as follows:

- (i) The Government should continue to communicate with residents and provide diversified long-term rehousing plans for their choice, so that they could decide according to their needs and live more stably in the future.
- (ii) Residents complimented the OSWPH arrangement. They would immediately contact social workers upon learning that the Government had announced a new policy or arrangement, in hopes to grasp the latest information. However, social workers might not be familiar with the new policy or arrangement, and it was hoped that the SWD would provide them with information ahead of the introduction of new plans, and maintain closer liaison with them.
- (iii) He supported the Government's arrangement regarding the OC to alleviate the workload of OC members, so that they could focus on rebuilding their home.

17. Mr. CHAN Yung-wa said that the Government quickly took responsibility in this incident, and Members should monitor the development of the situation together with residents, listen to residents' views and support the Government in handling the incident properly.

18. Mr. LEE Hon-cheung's comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Many Wang Fuk Court residents hoped to return to their residence to collect property. He understood that investigation and collection of evidence took time, and hoped that the relevant departments could provide a definite timetable.
- (ii) Some residents worried that property would be stolen after their flat had been broken in. He had reached out to the Police to learn about the situation and found that the security measures at the flats were very comprehensive. He had explained to residents and they had been reassured. He suggested improving the method of communication between the department and residents and of dissemination of information through technology. Such improvements could also aid OSWPH.

- (iii) Many merchants hoped to provide Wang Fuk Court residents with shopping discounts, and he hoped that the Government could coordinate.
- (iv) He agreed that the rehousing plan should include Wang Chi House residents and suggested that the Government listen to their voices and expeditiously provide multiple plans for their choice.
- (v) In addition to OSWPH, he suggested that there be professional matching through various organisations or Care Teams to provide residents with volunteer support.
- (vi) He supported the Government in applying to take over the OC through the Building Management Ordinance, to provide professional property management service free of charge and handle complex compensation claims, as well as the issue of future management.
- (vii) He asked the EDB about the details of various support measures for affected students and their families, on resumption of schooling, the cost of relocating TPBPS and rebuilding the school's fences, as well as transportation and lunch arrangements for affected students, etc.

19. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung said that he supported the use of the spade-ready site at Chung Nga Road West to expedite the arrangement for local rehousing.

20. Mr. WAN Koon-kau said that many Wang Fuk Court residents hoped for local rehousing. He hoped that the Government would announce the relevant arrangements expeditiously.

21. Mr. LEE Man-kit said that he hoped the SWD would assist Wang Fuk Court residents staying temporarily at community halls in getting allocated a flat as soon as possible, so that the relevant community facilities could be reopened for the use of residents. A medium to long-term rehousing plan for residents must also be arranged.

22. Mr. Rex LI said that an elderly relative of his was a Wang Fuk Court resident, and hoped that the Government could resume the property title of the flat and allocate a public housing estate flat for her residence.

23. Mr. WU Cheuk-him's comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Some Wang Fuk Court residents reflected that they hoped the Government would provide support in handling mortgage and insurance claims.
- (ii) Some residents worried that valuables would be stolen from their flat, and hoped to know more about the Police's security arrangements at the scene.
- (iii) Some residents had already paid the first instalment of tax, and hoped to enquire about the relevant tax refund arrangements.

- (iv) Some families that had moved to transitional housing in another district had to send their children to school in Tai Po and pick them up. He hoped that the Government would provide connecting transport service to travel to Tai Po during morning rush hours before school.
- (v) Some residents reflected that their children were about to enter primary school and had to choose the district of the school in which to enrol according to the long-term rehousing plan to be announced by the Government. There were also elderly residents who hoped to return to live in a familiar community. He hoped that the Government could announce a long-term rehousing plan with a clear timetable as soon as possible, so that residents could plan according to their own situation. The plan should also come with different options. In addition, the Wang Fuk Court recovery plan should include Wang Chi House.

24. Mr. LEE Hon-cheung said that the Government should consider various plans to resolve the issue of property titles.

25. Mr. LI Yiu-ban said that multiple rehousing plans should be provided for Wang Fuk Court residents, such as keeping Wang Chi House for the continued residence of some of the residents, relocation to another district, and identification of a site for rebuilding. He welcomed residents to seek assistance from Members.

26. Mr. KONG Wing-cheung, Kelvin, of HKPF responded as follows:

- (i) Regarding Wang Fuk Court residents' concerns over the flats' security arrangements, the Police had not received any reports on suspected theft of property within the flats. The Police would ensure the safety of property within Wang Fuk Court flats. There was a 24-hour outer cordon at Wang Fuk Court, ensuring that only authorised persons could enter, and the ground levels of the buildings were also locked round the clock. At present, various Government departments were collecting evidence and carrying out scaffolding removal works within the cordoned area of Wang Fuk Court. All persons must be accompanied by Police officers when going upstairs for work.
- (ii) Since the fire on 26 November, the Police and other departments had been reopening roads in response to the progress of rescue, investigation and collection of evidence, with safety concerns as first priority. The Police understood that public transport facilities were very important to nearby residents, and had therefore opened the bus terminus next to Kwong Fuk Sitting-out Area on 8 December for 37 bus routes to resume service. In addition, the Police had matched the temporary reopening of some of the roads with the hours before and after class and during which lunch boxes were delivered for S.K.H. Yuen Chen

Maun Chen Jubilee Primary School, to reduce impediment to the school's operation. The vehicle park near Kwong Fuk Shopping Centre had also been reopened to facilitate commercial tenants to load and unload goods. Members and the community were welcome to express their views to the Police. The Police would strive to provide assistance.

- (iii) At the present stage, roads that remained closed included the section of Plover Cove Road between Kwong Wang Street and the bus terminus in both directions and Kwong Wang Street and Island House Lane in both directions. As there were removal works of scaffolding and scaffold nets underway at Wang Fuk Court, Kwong Wang Street and its bus stop could not yet be reopened at the present stage. The Police would maintain close liaison with other Government departments and make arrangements accordingly to facilitate members of the public to travel.
- (iv) On 3 and 4 December, the Police had arranged in conjunction with the TPDO, the SWD and civil service volunteers for residents to return to Wang Chi House flats to collect personal belongings. As the other seven buildings had neither electricity supply nor lift service for the time being, arrangements would be more complicated. The relevant authorities would take safety as first priority in the consideration for reopening. Since collection of evidence and removal works of scaffolding and scaffold nets were underway at the scene, there was certain danger to the public; as such, it could not yet be arranged for residents to return to their flat at the present stage. The Police would continue to maintain close liaison with other Government departments and review the progress of the collection of evidence and the works. It was hoped that arrangements could be made expeditiously to minimise the impact on residents.

27. Ms. FUNG Man-yu of SWD responded as follows:

- (i) On the day of the fire, the SWD had immediately sent social workers, clinical psychologists and supporting staff to various temporary shelters and inter-departmental help desks at public hospitals in the district to provide affected persons with emotional counselling and emergency support, as well as arranged for short-term residential care for elderly and disabled persons in need. At the early stages of the rescue, the department had prioritised helping the families of the casualties, arranging for designated social workers and clinical psychologists to accompany family members of the deceased when claiming bodies and handling funeral matters.
- (ii) The Government had introduced the OSWPH special support measure, under which the SWD was arranged to match each affected household with a designated social worker, who together with two to three civil servants composed a small team to provide support service to each household. OSWPH provided residents with

various information, assisted in the disbursement of financial assistance, provided emotional support and carried out assessment, offering referral to clinical psychological or Hospital Authority services where necessary, so that residents could get assistance as soon as possible.

- (iii) On the disbursement of financial assistance through OSWPH, the Support Fund for Wang Fuk Court in Tai Po provided a token of solidarity of HK\$200,000 and a funeral grant of HK\$50,000 to the families of each deceased; an injury grant of HK\$50,000 to HK\$100,000 to injured persons; a living allowance of HK\$100,000 to each affected household; a grant of HK\$100,000, an annual rental grant of HK\$150,000 for two years, and a one-off relocation grant of HK\$50,000 to the owners of each flat; while tenants would be given a one-off relocation grant of HK\$50,000. The relocation grant would be disbursed to residents when they relocated from housing arranged by the Government to flats rented by themselves. Funds were already being disbursed in phases to verified cases.
- (iv) The SWD had also coordinated amongst various charitable institutions, commercial agencies and district organisations to distribute allowances and relief supplies, such as the Jockey Club Emergency Relief Fund and the Community Chest Tai Po Fire Relief Fund, etc., to families of the deceased and injured, owner-occupiers or tenants.
- (v) At present, the SWD's OSWPH had made contact with over 1 980 affected households, and was maintaining close liaison as well as sharing the latest Government information with them. The department would step up the dissemination of information, and households could contact social workers any time. The SWD had also always worked closely with different departments, and would expeditiously disseminate information relevant to departmental arrangements to households through social workers.
- (vi) As for the small teams supporting social workers, at present, in addition to civil servants, social workers from non-Government organisations also provided residents with support.
- (vii) On support related to housing, the department would introduce residents and arrange visits to transitional and interim housing of the Housing Bureau ("HB") and the Housing Department ("HD"), flats provided by the Hong Kong Housing Society ("HKHS"), as well as hotels and youth hostels coordinated by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau ("HYAB"), etc. Social workers would assist residents in need in matters such as relocation and acquisition of home appliances.
- (viii) On long-term housing arrangements, the SWD would support the Task Force on Emergency Accommodation Arrangements ("Task Force") established by the Government and collect residents' views with the assistance of OSWPH. While households were living stably for now as relief measures had been implemented

one by one, there was still a lot of follow-up work to be handled. The teams of social workers would continue to provide assistance according to residents' actual situations and needs.

28. Ms. SZETO Hau-yan, Esther, of HD responded as follows:

- (i) The HB and the HD were very concerned about the housing needs of affected residents, and had collaborated with various operating organisations of transitional housing, the HKHS and relevant government departments on the night of the fire to fully assist residents in gradually resuming normal lives. If necessary, affected flat owners residing at transitional housing, HKHS projects or Po Tin Interim Housing could stay there for a longer period of time. The Government would provide a rental grant for two years totalling HK\$300,000 which, based on the current average monthly rent of HK\$4,000 for transitional housing, would be sufficient to cover the rent of transitional housing for six years or more. The bureau was confident that the long-term rehousing plan could be made ready within six years. Before implementing long-term accommodation arrangements, the Government would continue to support affected residents in terms of accommodation.
- (ii) Although there were currently more than 1 000 flats available for affected residents to stay for a longer period, some accommodation projects in Tai Po District and urban areas were already full or nearly full. Therefore, the HB encouraged residents in need to consider moving into Po Tin Interim Housing, CONCORDIA Sheung Yue River, CONCORDIA Tsat Sing Kong, THE STEP or Pok Oi Sing Ping Village.
- (iii) Regarding Members' suggestion for the Government to resume property titles and allocate public housing flats to elderly owners, the HD would fully collaborate and provide appropriate support for affected residents after the Government announced the long-term rehousing options and arrangements for Wang Fuk Court residents.

29. Mr. TSANG Wing-keung, Rico, of PlanD said that the Government had now established the Task Force on Emergency Accommodation Arrangements headed by the Deputy Financial Secretary. At this stage, the first priority was to listen to the views of all residents of Wang Fuk Court, study in detail and put forward appropriate plans. The department had noted Members' views, such as using spade-ready sites to expedite progress, but such plans had to take into account planning factors. The Task Force would also coordinate different bureaux and departments in proposing options suitable to residents' needs, and would announce the plans when available. He hoped to assist affected families in resuming normal lives as soon as possible.

30. Ms. WONG Yee-fang, Eva, of TD responded as follows:

- (i) The department would maintain close communication with the Police and, where feasible, resume bus stop service at the original locations as soon as possible for the convenience of Kwong Fuk Estate residents.
- (ii) The TD had been steering public transport service operators to strengthen services by deploying additional vehicles and manpower to support Wang Fuk Court residents who had moved into transitional housing projects. Take Good House in Tai Po as an example, residents' bus route NR540 plying between Good House and MTR Tai Po Market Station ("TPM Station"), as well as a shuttle bus service connecting Good House, Tai Po Centre and Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital had been introduced. For Lok Sin Village in Tai Po, a shuttle bus service plying between Lok Sin Village and TPM Station had been introduced. Moreover, the service of Green Minibus ("GMB") routes 20B, 20C and 20G in the area along Ting Kok Road had been strengthened, and three buses had been added to operate KMB route 75K to increase bus frequency, with the last departure from Tai Mei Tuk to TPM Station extended from 11:40 p.m. to 00:05 a.m. the following day. As for Trackside Villas in Tai Po, the frequency of residents' bus route NR50 had been increased. For transitional housing outside the district, such as CONCORDIA Sheung Yue River and CONCORDIA Tsat Sing Kong in Yuen Long, residents' bus route NR977 plying between CONCORDIA Sheung Yue River, CONCORDIA Tsat Sing Kong and TPM Station had been introduced, and one more vehicle had been added to operate KMB route 77K to increase service frequency. For THE STEP, a supplementary service of residents' bus route NR976 plying between THE STEP and TPM Station had been introduced, and the service of KMB route 79K for Pok Oi Sing Ping Village in North District had been strengthened. The TD would continue to closely coordinate with the operating organisations of relevant transitional housing projects and public transport service operators to cater for the travel needs of residents.
- (iii) The TD had made arrangements for Wang Fuk Court residents to apply for duplicates and renewals of driving licences and vehicle licences, and had waived fees for services such as the TD's vehicle examination for commercial vehicles required for licence renewal. The fee waiver arrangement was valid from 26 November 2025 to 31 December 2026, and details could be found on the website of Support Services for Wang Fuk Court in Tai Po.

31. Ms. SIOW Ying-hung, Bonnie, of EDB responded as follows:

- (i) After the fire, the EDB had immediately contacted schools in Tai Po District and the school heads associations in Tai Po, and sent educational psychologists and

officers from the School Development Sections of various districts to the temporary shelters to offer support for affected students. In addition, the bureau had also formed the Tai Po District School Crisis Management Team and a territory-wide education sector support group for special incidents to understand the situation of schools in a timely manner. School-based educational psychologists from the bureau and school sponsoring bodies had also provided support for affected schools. This included assisting in leading crisis management meetings on campus, guiding and supporting schools in conducting special class periods, providing professional individual or group counselling to affected students, and providing telephone consultation services.

- (ii) To support teachers and parents, the EDB had organised a total of 12 online psychological support seminars between late November and mid-December 2025 for teaching staff and parents to understand students' common physical and mental reactions and emotional needs after traumatic incidents, as well as to learn coping strategies and support methods. Regarding medium to long-term support, to assist schools in supporting students in need, the bureau had produced a resource kit targeting the fire incident, which included counselling suggestions for schools and parents, teaching materials for special class periods and reference materials for questions and answers, so that teachers and parents could help students cope with the incident. The resource kit had been uploaded to the EDB's dedicated website of School Crisis Management. The bureau had also mobilised one support team for each school to provide targeted support services for schools more seriously affected, thereby ensuring that such schools and their students received assistance.
- (iii) In terms of resources, after the incident, the EDB had provided each primary and secondary school (including special schools) and each kindergarten in Tai Po District with a Special Incident Assistance Grant of HK\$100,000 and HK\$50,000 respectively. The bureau also assisted the HYAB in granting the Special Support Allowance for Students Living at Wang Fuk Court in Tai Po, providing HK\$20,000 to each student affected by the fire through schools. In addition, the Hong Kong Jockey Club provided HK\$5,000 to each affected student through its Emergency Relief Fund. As some students' textbooks had been burnt or could not be retrieved, around 40 textbook publishers and retailers provided new replacement textbooks free of charge for affected students.
- (iv) TPBPS, which had had to temporarily suspend the use of its campus due to the fire, would remain closed for a period of time. In order to expedite the resumption of the normal teaching routine, the EDB had promptly coordinated with schools in the district to deploy available classrooms and had temporarily arranged for TPBPS students to attend classes by grade level at the school premises of Tai Po Government Primary School and N.T.W.J.W.A Christian Remembrance of Grace

Primary School starting from 15 December 2025 until the end of the current school year. To enable students to attend classes in a continuous and stable learning environment, the bureau had allocated the school premises of the former Kei Ching Primary School, which had been originally planned to be converted into an integrated social service complex, to TPBPS for use in the 2026/27 school year, allowing all classes to resume normal teaching and learning activities at a single school site. Regarding the relocation of the school to the former Kei Ching Primary School premises, the bureau had set up a dedicated working group and had earlier announced the earmarking of HK\$5 million to support the operation of TPBPS and the two above-mentioned schools during the transition. The bureau would continue to provide assistance and support in respect of the school relocation and expected that the renovation work of the former Kei Ching Primary School premises would be completed in the summer of 2026 for TPBPS to use in the 2026/27 school year. The bureau would actively implement the above arrangements, maintain close communication and coordination with various government departments, continue to maintain contact with the schools and provide appropriate support to ensure that the arrangements would be carried out smoothly.

32. Mr. MUI Siu-fung said that as Kwong Fuk Bus Terminus had not yet reopened, he suggested using single-deck buses or GMBs which could make a U-turn at Kwong Wang Street to temporarily replace the affected routes (such as KMB route 71K and the MTR feeder bus routes to and from TPM Station). He hoped that the Traffic and Transport Committee (“TTC”) would follow up on the suggestion. Moreover, as the business of tutorial centres in Kwong Fuk Shopping Centre had dropped significantly due to school relocation, he asked whether the EDB could provide support for these education institutions.

33. Ms. LOK Siu-luen’s comments were as follows:

- (i) She hoped that the EDB would provide information booklets regarding “one support team for each school”, as well as provide computers and Internet services for affected students.
- (ii) She hoped that the PlanD would study feasible solutions as soon as possible.
- (iii) She suggested that the SWD integrate volunteer support services to enhance the service level of OSWPH, and properly allocate various resources to residents in need.

34. Mr. LO Hiu-fung’s comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) He asked whether the roads would only be reopened after the completion of

evidence collection and scaffolding removal works, and hoped to learn about the relevant timetable.

- (ii) Some residents of Wang Chi House reflected that the earlier arrangements for going upstairs to collect belongings were too rush, and hoped that the Police would consider arranging this again.
- (iii) He hoped to learn about the progress of collecting residents' preferences on medium to long-term rehousing via OSWPH.
- (iv) He suggested increasing the frequency of public transport services between various interim housing and Tai Po, as well as providing transport services between Runway 1331 and Tai Po.
- (v) He enquired about the progress of the public housing project at Chung Nga Road West and whether it could be used for local rehousing.
- (vi) He enquired about the number of vacant public housing units in Tai Po District, and suggested arranging for singleton / doubleton elderly households to move in temporarily.

35. Mr. Kelvin KONG of HKPF responded as follows:

- (i) During the period of evidence collection and scaffolding removal works or upon their completion, the Police would timely review and study when to reopen the roads, and would make temporary arrangements with other relevant departments based on the work progress.
- (ii) The Police had arranged for residents of Wang Chi House to return to their flats a week after the fire, during which nearby works were temporarily suspended to ensure residents' safety. As the scaffolding removal works were currently in progress, the Police would communicate with relevant departments and, with safety as the prime consideration, arrange for residents to return to their flats again to collect their belongings in due course.

36. Ms. May FUNG of SWD said that social workers and residents had now become familiar with the communication mode and residents could contact social workers at any time. The Task Force was studying the long-term accommodation plan and the SWD would assist in collecting residents' views.

37. Mr. Rico TSANG of PlanD said that most residents hoped to be locally rehoused, while some residents wished to relocate to other districts. The Task Force would consider different views and announce the plan as soon as possible.

38. Ms. Esther SZETO of HD noted Members' suggestions regarding local rehousing and identification of spade-ready sites for reconstruction purpose. The Task Force was collecting residents' preferences on long-term rehousing via OSWPH, and would put forward suggestions on the long-term plan as early as possible. Moreover, there were residents moving into or out of public housing units every day, and some vacant units had been allocated and were awaiting replies from public housing applicants on whether they would accept the offers. She apologised for being unable to provide the actual number at the moment. However, as Tai Po was a mature and popular district, the supply of vacant public housing units was relatively tight.

39. Ms. Bonnie SIOW of EDB responded as follows:

- (i) School-based professional support staff and Specialists (Education Services) (Educational Psychology) of the EDB would maintain close communication with schools and provide on-site support services according to their individual situations and needs, which included assisting schools with resuming operations during the transition, making teaching and learning arrangements, and providing emotional support for teachers and students.
- (ii) The bureau had integrated information on community resources and support, etc., and had uploaded it to the EDB website for reference.

40. Ms. Eva WONG of TD said that the TD held an open attitude towards the suggestion of resuming the original public transport service arrangements for Kwong Fuk Estate, and would maintain communication with relevant departments as well as study plans with bus companies. The department would also closely coordinate with operating organisations of relevant transitional housing projects and public transport operators, as well as monitor and optimise relevant public transport services in a timely manner.

41. The Chairman said that regarding long-term rehousing arrangements, she understood that Members hoped that relevant departments would announce and implement the plan as soon as possible. At the same time, it was hoped that the rehousing scheme would include all eight blocks at Wang Fuk Court. She thanked Members and departments for their opinions and suggestions regarding the supporting work in the aftermath of the fire.

III. Setting up of a Working Group on Building Management **(TPDC Paper No. 1/2026)**

42. The Chairman said that promoting proper building management was an important part of improving governance at the district level. Through maintaining communication with relevant OCs, property owners and residents, property owners and residents in need could be provided

with assistance to address various issues on building management. The Working Group on Building Management (“WGBM”) served as an effective platform for Members to submit specific suggestions to TPDC after collecting district views, as well as to facilitate sharing and exchange of experience between Members. Considering that buildings’ circumstances varied and might involve residents’ privacy, Members should focus on sharing proper building management methods and issues related to systems and legislation at WGBM meetings.

43. The term of the WGBM would last until 31 December 2027. Please refer to Paper No. 1/2026 for the terms of reference (“ToR”) of the WGBM. As the ToR of the WGBM covered building and property management, the ToR of the Social Welfare, Housing and Development Planning Committee (“SHDC”) would be amended accordingly with effect from January 2026. Please refer to the Annex to Paper No. 1/2026. The first meeting in 2026 of the WGBM was scheduled for 11 a.m. on 8 January 2026 (Thursday). The Secretariat would invite Members to join the WGBM by mail after this meeting.

44. Mr. LEE Hon-cheung asked which standing government departments would be in attendance at the WGBM meeting.

45. Mr. WU Cheuk-him welcomed the establishment of the WGBM.

46. Mr. LEE Man-kit suggested inviting property owners to attend the meeting.

47. Mr. MUI Siu-fung suggested inviting representatives of the Fire Services Department (“FSD”) and property management companies to regularly attend the meetings. The WGBM would collaborate with the District Fire Safety Committee (Tai Po District) to strengthen the promotion on fire safety awareness in the district.

48. Mr. LO Hiu-fung suggested inviting OCs and property management companies in the district to share and exchange proper building management experience at the meetings. The representatives of the FSD and the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints would explain their departments’ upcoming initiatives at the meeting, namely the Pilot Scheme on the Internet of Things fire detection system and Enhancing the Inspection and Testing Procedures for Handling Water Seepage in Buildings.

49. Mr. WONG Wai-tung said that some residents hoped the Buildings Department and the Urban Renewal Authority would be in attendance at the WGBM meeting to assist OCs in handling work related to the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme.

50. Mr. WAN Koon-kau supported the establishment of the WGBM. He pointed out that many property owners of old buildings and “three-nil” buildings lacked knowledge of building management, and hoped that the WGBM could provide information and facilitate district

communication.

51. Regarding Members' suggestions, the Chairman said that Members could collect proper building management experience through different channels, such as ward offices or the Meet the Public Scheme, and make good use of the WGBM for sharing and communication.

IV. 2026-2027 Committees and Working Group under the TPDC
(TPDC Paper No. 2/2026)

52. The Chairman said that following the establishment of the WGBM, there were currently five committees and two working groups in total under the TPDC. The term of each committee would last until 31 December 2027. The Working Group on Boosting Local Economy ("WGBLE") would extend its term for 12 months until 31 December 2026. The WGBM had a 24-month term till 31 December 2027. The terms of office for the Chairmen of working groups were consistent with those of the working groups.

Chairmen and Vice-chairmen of committees and working groups were as follows:

	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Vice-chairman</u>
District Facilities and Works Committee	Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen	Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex
Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee	Ms. WONG Pik-kiu	Mr. YU Chi-wing
Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee	Mr. CHAN Cho-leung	Ms. LEE Sai-yin, Jeanne
Traffic and Transport Committee	Mr. LI Yiu-ban	Mr. MUI Siu-fung
Social Welfare, Housing and Development Planning Committee	Mr. WU Cheuk-him	Mr. LEE Hon-cheung
Working Group on Boosting Local Economy	Mr. LAM Yick-kuen	/
Working Group on Building Management	Mr. LO Hiu-fung	/

53. The Chairman indicated that the member lists of the committees and working groups were set out in the annex to the captioned paper for Members' reference.

54. Members agreed with the above-mentioned arrangements.

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

(TPDC Paper No. 3/2026)

District Facilities and Works Committee

55. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu reported that the sixth meeting in 2025 of the District Facilities and Works Committee was held on 5 November 2025, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee

56. Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen reported that the sixth meeting in 2025 of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee was held on 5 November 2025, 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

57. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung reported that the sixth meeting in 2025 of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee was held on 6 November 2025, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

Traffic and Transport Committee

58. Mr. LI Yiu-ban reported that the sixth meeting in 2025 of the TTC was held on 6 November 2025, 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

59. Mr. LO Hiu-fung reported that the sixth meeting in 2025 of the SHDC was held on 7 November 2025, 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

60. Mr. LAM Yick-kuen reported that the sixth meeting in 2025 of the WGBLE was held on 4 November 2025, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

VI. Any other business

61. The Chairman reminded Members to pay attention to and observe Sections 14 to 24 of the District Council Standing Orders regarding regulations for registration and declaration of interests in the new year. Particularly for Section 17, if there was any change in a Member's personal interests, the Member shall, within 14 clear working days of any such change, provide the change details in writing to the TPDC Secretariat by using the sample Registration Form on Personal Interests set out in Appendix 3 to the District Council Standing Orders.

VII. Date of next meeting

62. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on 3 March 2026 (Tuesday).

63. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Tai Po District Council Secretariat
February 2026