

## **Minutes of the 4th Meeting in 2024 of Tai Po District Council**

Date: 2 July 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:35 a.m. – 11:19 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 (“SWD”)
Ms. CHAN Sin-yee	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Tai Po / North) 1 / 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. WONG Po-kit, Jeffrey	Senior Town Planner / Tai Po 2 / Planning Department (“PlanD”)
Ms. CHENG Nga-see, Ellen	Chief Engineer / N3 / Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”)
Ms. SZE Tsz-ping, Christine	District Lands Officer / TP (Atg.) (District Land Office, Tai Po (“TPDLO”)) / Lands Department (“LandsD”)
Mr. TSUI Chun-sing	Administration Assistant / Lands / TPDLO / LandsD
Mr. FOCK Wai-wa	Chief Manager / Management (TNS) / Housing Department (“HD”)
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. LIU Wan-chi	Senior School Development Officer (Tai Po) 2 / Education Bureau (“EDB”)
Miss YU Wing-lam, Phoebe	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) / HAD
Miss CHAN Sui-king, Madeline	Senior Executive Officer (District Management) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. LUI Kan-man, Raymond	Senior Liaison Officer (1) / TPDO / HAD
Ms. WONG Sze-man, Queenie	Senior Liaison Officer (2) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. CHOW Tsz-yan, Daniel	Executive Officer (District Council) / TPDO / HAD

The Chairman welcomed District Council Members (“Members”) and representatives of government departments to the fourth meeting of the 7th Tai Po District Council (“TPDC”), and announced that Ms. SZE Tsz-ping, Christine, District Lands Officer, TP (Atg.), was attending the meeting in place of Mr. LAM Chi-ming, Kempis, District Lands Officer / TP, who had retired at the end of last month.

**I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting in 2024 of the TPDC on 7 May 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. Social Welfare Department Tai Po & North District Social Welfare Office Work Plan 2024-2025**

(TPDC Paper No. 18/2024)

3. Ms. FUNG Man-yu, May, went through the captioned paper.
4. Ms. LOK Siu-luen suggested that in addition to collaborating with Members to enhance the promotion and publicity of mental health, the SWD could consider organising talks with different themes and working with the District Services & Community Care Teams (“CTs”) to strengthen home visit service.
5. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung suggested that the department strengthen liaison with organisations providing outreaching service to offer more assistance to youth at risk.
6. Mr. LEE Hon-cheung asked whether the department would exchange the number of domestic violence cases with the Police on a regular basis in order to analyse the groups involved in the cases, thereby enabling the provision of services and follow-up work to be more precise.
7. Mr. MUI Siu-fung suggested that the department co-operate with the TPDO in organising professional training or certificate courses for the CTs in the district, Members or the local community, with a view to enhancing their ability and confidence in dealing with community problems.
8. Mr. WONG Wai-tung said that he had noted that the facilities in some elderly centres in the district were old and outdated, and hoped that the department would provide assistance to facilitate smooth operation of the organisations.
9. Mr. LEE Man-kit suggested that the department enhance support for carers, say, by organising related talks to provide them with professional knowledge.
10. Ms. LEE Sai-yin, Jeanne, suggested that the department organise activities to promote inter-generational inclusiveness so that the elders could give full play to their talent and pass on their craftsmanship.
11. Mr. LAM Yick-kuen said that the department was welcomed to collaborate with the Rural Committees (“RCs”) in future to provide comprehensive services in rural areas. He suggested that the department provide professional training to the RCs, village representatives and village heads to enhance their service standard.

12. Mr. LO Hiu-fung said that to his understanding, there were only about 7 300 users of Community Care Service Voucher Scheme for the Elderly (“CCSV Scheme”) in Hong Kong in May this year. He asked about the number of elders who had benefited from the CCSV Scheme in Tai Po District and whether the department would step up publicity in the district.

13. Mr. YU Chi-wing suggested that the department could consider involving the CTs to assist in meal delivery service, and that Hong Kong Children & Youth Services (“HKCYS”) could provide more performing opportunities to the youth in future.

14. Mr. CHAN Pok-chi suggested that the department update the online information on elderly services in a timely manner and improve the online materials on adolescent mental health. At present, in-person enrolments were required for activities and workshops organised by various Integrated Family Service Centres (“IFSCs”), and it was suggested that the department should make good use of technology to improve the relevant arrangement.

15. Mr. WU Cheuk-him suggested that the department collaborate with building management companies to strengthen training for frontline management and cleansing workers, and to set up a referral mechanism to identify potential needy persons and provide them with assistance. He suggested that the department step up promotion of positive messages and collaborate more with the CTs and local organisations, as well as provide outreaching services at Members’ ward offices to provide support to carers.

16. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu said that the problem of street prostitution in Tai Po Old Market was serious and had cause nuisance to nearby residents. She had repeatedly requested the Police to step up patrol but the problem could not be eradicated. She hoped that the department would explore ways to provide assistance.

17. Mr. WAN Koon-kau expressed his hope that the department would provide more occasional child care service so that parents of single-parent families in the district could join the workforce.

18. The Chairman thanked the department for the detailed introduction. She said that the community activities organised by the CTs could effectively reach out to the community and disseminate information, and that departments were welcomed to enhance collaboration with the CTs.

19. Ms. May FUNG responded as follows:

- (i) The SWD had launched the territory-wide publicity campaign for “Care the Carers Campaign” since 2023. “Beautiful Journey for Carers”, the district-level programme for this year, continued to assist carers and their families in various aspects. The department would prepare care planning tips for carers and provide

relevant district education publicity materials to Members, CTs and people in need. In addition, the department would promote collaboration among the elderly and rehabilitation service units in the district and liaise with property management companies in the district, including those of private housing estates, owners' corporations and CTs, to provide them with training and assistance in the distribution of promotional materials. This could enable them to identify carers of the elderly and persons with disabilities ("PWDs") in need as early as possible, thus enhancing the promotion of carer support in the district. Moreover, through organising visits to district-subvented and self-financing carer support services, such as respite services in day centres or residential care homes for the elderly, the department would enhance public understanding of various services, so that they would feel at ease in using the services when necessary.

- (ii) Regarding the mental health of school children, the EDB had implemented the Three Tier School-based Emergency Mechanism in all secondary schools over the territory since December last year through cross-departmental collaboration with the Health Bureau and SWD, to provide support to students with higher risk as early as possible. In addition, the department had also encouraged Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres to strengthen liaison with Integrated Community Centre for Mental Wellness at the district level and organised relevant courses to provide comprehensive support to the youth. Meanwhile, the department would step up parent education work to strengthen the support network for the youth at home and at school. Should there be any appropriate activities, the department would invite the local community to take part in them.
- (iii) She noted Members' wish for the department to strengthen liaison with organisations providing outreaching services, and would convey their views to organisations providing outreaching and overnight outreaching services in the district. In addition, the department had set up a social platform managed by the youth on the social media platform Instagram last year to post and publicise diversified information on career development. The department welcomed the business sector and different stakeholders to provide employment opportunities or training programmes for the youth.
- (iv) The department had all along been working with the Police, Hospital Authority and relevant social welfare organisations to maintain close exchanges on how to handle domestic violence cases on a regular basis, so as to provide a safety net for the underprivileged and families in need.
- (v) Subvented service organisations would normally apply for a grant from the Lotteries Fund for upgrading their hardware facilities, while some non-subvented service organisations would also apply for funding from different funds. In addition, the department had injected \$1 billion into the Innovation and Technology

Fund for Application in Elderly and Rehabilitation Care last year to subsidise eligible organisations providing services for the elderly and PWDs to purchase technology products. Any units in need might submit applications.

- (vi) The theme for 2024-26 “Opportunities for the Elderly Project” also encouraged inter-generational inclusiveness, and schools and social welfare organisations might apply for funding to organise activities. Moreover, District Elderly Community Centres, Neighbourhood Elderly Centres and IFSCs had also organised different activities for the participation by the elders and their family members.
- (vii) She thanked the RCs for their support to the work of the department, and would collaborate with them to take forward appropriate activities in future.
- (viii) The CCSV Scheme adopted the “money-following-the-user” and “users pay in accordance with affordability” funding modes to provide community care services. Elderly persons who had passed the assessments could elect Recognised Service Providers under the CCSV Scheme or receive “day-care centre services” and “home-care services”. The department would discuss with different organisations on how to enhance the publicity of CCSV Scheme so as to benefit more elders in need.
- (ix) She would refer Members’ suggestion of involving the CTs to assist in meal delivery service to the relevant service branch for consideration.
- (x) She would convey Members’ views to HKCYS and thanked different stakeholders in the district for arranging performing opportunities for the youth in order to strengthen their confidence.
- (xi) The department would update the online information from time to time. In addition, it would also review the enrolment method for activities of IFSCs.
- (xii) “大埔小樹” and “北區小哲” were the icon characters created by the department for Tai Po and North District. The department had produced a series of picture books, quotes and other related publicity materials to promote public awareness of mental wellness and positive thinking, and would even step up publicity and promotional efforts at the district level in youth centres and schools this year.
- (xiii) Regarding the concern on the elderly arising from the problem of street prostitution in Tai Po Old Market, the department would discuss with elderly service units in the district to step up their activities in order to attract the elders’ participation.
- (xiv) The department was very concerned about the needs of single-parent families and working families. Child Care Centre services and After School Care Programme were available in the district and parents in need might apply for such services. Information on these services could be found on the SWD website. The department would also promote the relevant services in the district from time to

time.

20. Mr. MA Wai-hing, Adrian, said that the Police had conducted joint operations with the Immigration Department between April and May, during which 46 women involved in vice business were arrested, of whom 19 were street prostitutes. The Police would continue to deploy male and female police officers to conduct undercover operations. If members of the public were harassed by whoremongers, they could report to the Police for assistance. If necessary, the Police could mount subsequent operations after the distribution of leaflets by Members so as to enhance the deterrent effect.

21. The Chairman said that the problem of street prostitution was a regular discussion item of the Tai Po District Fight Crime Committee at which the Police made regular reports on the situation in the district and the relevant enforcement figures. She suggested referring the matter to the District Management Committee or relevant committee for follow-up.

(Post-meeting note: On 11 July 2024, the Special Duties Team of Tai Po District conducted an anti-crime operation at Kwong Fuk Square in Tai Po. During the operation, the police officers arrested a 61-year-old man outside Po Kee Building for “soliciting for an immoral purpose”. The arrested man eventually pleaded guilty to the charge at Fanling Magistrates’ Courts and was sentenced to four weeks’ imprisonment suspended for two years.)

### **III. Meeting between TPDC Members and Legislative Council Members to discuss matters of district concern**

22. The Chairman gave a brief account of the background information of a meeting held between all TPDC Members and Legislative Council (“LegCo”) Members on 31 May for exchange of views and in-depth discussion on affairs and issues in Tai Po District. This was the first meeting held between LegCo Members and Members after the improvement of the district governance and the electoral system. On that day, three major issues, including the construction of a vehicular bridge near Kwong Fuk Bridge, the construction project of Pak Shek Kok Station on the East Rail Line as well as the improvement of ancillary facilities on both sides of Lam Tsuen River, had been discussed. In addition, the Honourable CHAN Hak-kan, Gary, the convenor of the meeting, had arranged for a site visit to Tai Po with other LegCo Members on the morning of 23 July, focusing mainly on two projects, namely, the construction of the vehicular bridge near Kwong Fuk Bridge and the ancillary facilities on both sides of Lam Tsuen River. The Secretariat was in close discussion with the LegCo Secretariat on the arrangements for the site visit. She encouraged Members to attend the site visit so as to seize the opportunity to exchange views with LegCo Members.

23. Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, said that he, together with Messrs. CHAN Cho-leung and YU Chi-

wing, were unable to attend the site visit as they had to attend other activities from 19 to 24 July.

24. The Chairman said that the Secretariat would reflect the situation to the LegCo Secretariat. However, as the date of the site visit was provided by the LegCo Secretariat, and application was now open to LegCo Members for enrolment, it was believed that rescheduling of the date would be unlikely.

25. The Secretary said that the site visit would be held on the morning of 23 July. The Secretariat would inform Members of the exact assembly time when it was available.

26. Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen said that he had mentioned his wish for the provision of a pedestrian way to Lam Tsuen Wishing Square, which could facilitate the travel of residents during major festive events held every year.

27. The Chairman said that she hoped that the discussion during this site visit would mainly focus on the information prepared, such as the presentation of Kwong Fuk Vehicular Bridge by the Highways Department (“HyD”). She asked Members to follow up on Rural Public Works Programme (“RPWP”) with Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) (“ADO(TP)”) after the meeting.

28. Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen said that the funding for projects under RPWP was only sufficient for carrying out minor works, and the approval of additional funding would have to be sought from the department. He would discuss with other rural constituency members after the meeting.

29. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung said that if it was hoped that the pedestrian way would run through highway and river and connect to Lam Tsuen, it would exceed the funding ceiling for RPWP.

30. The Chairman said that it took time for the TPDO and relevant departments to grasp the details of the proposal, including the alignment and mode of implementation. She asked Members to follow up with ADO(TP) after the meeting.

31. Mr. MUI Siu-fung suggested that the Drainage Services Department (“DSD”) and Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”) be invited to attend the site visit to address the water quality and ecological problems of Lam Tsuen River together.

32. The Secretary said that apart from the TPDO, five other departments would also be attending the site visit on that day. The LCSD, DSD and EPD would send officers to attend the site visit in respect of the ancillary facilities on both sides of Lam Tsuen River, while the TD and HyD would send officers to attend the site visit in respect of the construction of the vehicular bridge near Kwong Fuk Bridge.

33. The Chairman said that as Members had repeatedly mentioned their wishes of improving



facilities such as jogging trails and cycle tracks on both sides of Lam Tsuen River, she suggested that the HyD send officers to attend the site visit in respect of the ancillary facilities on both sides of Lam Tsuen River at the same time.

34. Mr. WAN Koon-kau said that the traffic flow in Lam Tsuen was extremely high during the Hong Kong Well-wishing Festival every year, and the extension of the pedestrian way to Lam Tsuen Wishing Square would alleviate traffic congestion. As such, he hoped that the proposal would be escalated to the departmental level for discussion.

35. Mr. WU Cheuk-him suggested that the CEDD be invited to attend the site visit.

36. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu said that based on past experience, as a large number of departmental representatives and Members would be attending the site visit on that day, they might not be able to express their views on the spot. She suggested that the discussion be continued at the conference room of TPDC Secretariat after the site visit.

37. The Chairman said that the Secretariat would follow up on the suggestions put forward by Members with the LegCo Secretariat.

#### **IV. Reports of Committees and Working Group under the TPDC** **(TPDC Paper No. 19/2024)**

##### **District Facilities and Works Committee**

38. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu reported that the third meeting in 2024 of the District Facilities and Works Committee was held on 8 May 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**

39. Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen reported that the third meeting in 2024 of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee was held on 8 May 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**

40. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung reported that the third meeting in 2024 of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (“CCRC”) was held on 9 May 2024, and the

discussions on major items were set out in the paper. He added that under the leadership of the Chairman, the DC had participated in the “Run with Hong Kong Athletes” on 23 June 2024. Members noted the contents of the report.

### **Traffic and Transport Committee**

41. Mr. LI Yiu-ban reported that third meeting in 2024 of the Traffic and Transport Committee was held on 9 May 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**

42. Mr. LO Hiu-fung reported that the third meeting in 2024 of the Social Welfare, Housing and Development Planning Committee was held on 10 May 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**

43. Mr. LAM Yick-kuen reported that the second meeting in 2024 of the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy (“WG”) was held on 7 May 2024, and the discussions on major items were set out in the paper. Members noted the contents of the report.

44. Regarding the “Tai Po Dragon Boat Fun Carnival” in the report of WG, the Chairman had the following observations:

- (i) The event was one of the projects organised by the WG to boost the local economy. The DC had included carnival element in the dragon boat race event this year and the result had been satisfactory, with an attendance of more than 12 000. She thanked the LCSD for providing the venue and the Police for its assistance in re-designating the coach car park into parking spaces for private cars, which had improved the supporting facilities for the event and further enhanced public participation. She also thanked the RCs and CTs for their assistance.
- (ii) Food stalls had been introduced to this year’s event and food premises in the district had actively participated in the bidding exercise. As food stalls had potential and room for development, the WG could make reference to them when organising activities to boost the local economy in future.
- (iii) As the large-scale events organised in Tai Po would attract a large number of

visitors every year, the WG could consider improving the ancillary facilities to enhance the experience of participants, so as to provide a greater incentive for the public to visit Tai Po. The WG should also consider how to leverage on the large-scale events to bring more business for restaurants and shops in the district, say, by rolling out attractive offers, to truly achieve the objective of boosting the local economy.

45. The Chairman thanked Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, the Chairman of CCRC, for supporting the DC to participate in the “Run with Hong Kong Athletes” and a total of ten district representatives had participated in the race on that day.

46. Mr. WAN Koon-kau said that members of Tai Po District Dragon Boat Race Committee (“Race Committee”) had reflected that the shortening of the Tai Po Dragon Boat Race course from the previous 1 000 metres to the current 800 metres in recent years was unsatisfactory. They suggested that the starting point of the course be re-located, subject to the provision of relevant ancillary facilities, such as the location of embarkation for contestants and shower equipment. He considered that this would enhance public participation in the long run.

47. The Chairman thanked the Race Committee for taking a serious view and devising ways to enhance the dragon boat race event. The relevant arrangements would be handed over to the Tai Po Sports Association and Race Committee for detailed discussion, and the DC would be glad to make complementary efforts. She hoped that all parties would consider the positioning and characteristics of the district in organising events with a view to presenting projects with local characteristics.

48. Mr. LEE Hon-cheung said that some members of the public had reflected that the shuttle tour bus service was inadequate. He opined that over-promotion of free parking spaces should be avoided in order not to cause an upsurge in vehicular flow.

49. The Chairman said that the issue of tour buses in short supply could be improved by increasing the number of tour buses or changing the route. As free parking was provided for the event for the first time this year, there was no shortage of parking spaces. The TPDO would draw on the experience and continue to improve the arrangements in future, say, by considering the provision of additional parking spaces in the vicinity of Tai Po Industrial Estate.

50. Ms. WONG Pik-kiu commended the national flag, regional flag and lantern decorations outside Tai Po Tung Cheong Street Leisure Building (“Leisure Building”). In addition, she suggested that, upon completion of the preliminary design of banners in celebration of the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (“HKSAR”), the TPDO might invite Members to give views on their size and colour.

51. The Chairman said that the TPDO was responsible for the lanterns and lighting decorations to be hung on both sides of Lam Tsuen River, and two rows of lanterns would be added this year. The TPDO would also install lighting decorations on the lawn at the confluence of Tai Po River and Lam Tsuen River, and display a large sea of national flags outside Tai Po Complex. She thanked the LCSD for its collaboration in providing the decorations outside the Leisure Building. In addition, she added that the banners for celebrating the 27th Anniversary of the Establishment of HKSAR were of overall standardised design for the Government.

52. Mr. WU Cheuk-him suggested that the words be highlighted in designing the banners.

53. Mr. WAN Koon-kau suggested that banners for celebrating the Reunification and the National Day be hung uniformly on bridges near Kwong Fuk Bridge, Po Heung Bridge or Wong Shiu Chi Secondary School during the celebration of the Reunification and the National Day.

54. The Chairman said that part of the banner spots on the streets were open to application by local organisations. Under the existing mechanism, local organisations could, with consultations among them, reach a consensus on the design. The TPDO would discuss with the TPDLO and local organisations on the arrangements for displaying banners in celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the National Day in advance.

#### **V. Any other business**

55. Members did not raise other business.

#### **VI. Date of next meeting**

56. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 3 September 2024 (Tuesday).

57. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Tai Po District Council Secretariat  
August 2024