

Summary of the Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council

The 5th Meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) was held on 31 July 2012. The major issues discussed were summarised as follows:

Visit of Director of Water Supplies to Tsuen Wan District Council

2. The Director of Water Supplies briefed Members on the work of the Water Supplies Department (WSD), water resources in Hong Kong and the WSD's Total Water Management Strategy. Some Members praised the WSD's efforts in utilisation of water resources in Hong Kong, provision of stable water supply, replacement of water pipes and drainages, as well as expeditiously handling rupture and leakage of water pipes, while others put forth enquiries and recommendations on issues such as reclaimed water, desalination and seawater flushing problem. In response, the Director of Water Supplies stated that reclaimed water would not be categorised as drinking water, the study on desalination was aimed at exploring water resources to better prepare for potential regional water shortage in future and the WSD would follow up the seawater flushing problem of old buildings in Yuen Long.

Introduction to Tsuen Wan District Council on Civil Engineering and Development Department's Role and Works in Tsuen Wan District

3. The Director of Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) briefed Members on the CEDD's organisation structure, scope of service, role and works in Tsuen Wan district. Members expressed their concerns over the cycle track between Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun, widening of Tsuen Tsing Interchange, retrofitting of noise barriers on Cheung Pei Shan Road, slopework in Sham Tseng, tree species of greening projects, optimisation of the existing waterfront promenade, etc. In addition, some Members supported the CEDD's move of including Tsuen Wan into the Greening Master Plan for the New Territories and its greening works in the district. The Director of CEDD duly responded to Members' concerns and committed to facilitate better communication with the general public and report to the TWDC the latest progress of the cycle track between Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun.

Request the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to Cater for District Needs Immediately by Proactively Assisting in Assigning Animal Experts to Capture Wild Monkeys so as to Resolve the Existing Nuisance Caused by Wild Monkeys in Riviera Area

4. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) stated that it would maintain its collaboration with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to undertake

measures to tackle the nuisance caused by wild monkeys in the district. Members made recommendations on ways to resolve the problem in the Lei Muk Shue Estate and urged the AFCD to take proactive follow up action. The AFCD elaborated that demonstration and talks were provided to property management companies in handling monkey nuisance, whereas posters and leaflets were distributed to promote methods to prevent and handle nuisance caused by monkeys.

Request for Provision of an Access to Cheung Shan Estate near the Hill behind Block 3 of Lei Muk Shue Estate

5. Regarding the request for provision of an access, members put up their views on road facility improvement, public order, pedestrian safety, etc. District Lands Office (Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (DLO) explained that the subject road would pass by a slope managed by the Housing Department (HD), part of unleased Government land and an access of Tsuen Wan No. 2 Fresh Water Service Reservoir under the WSD. The HD added that the slope had been enclosed due to safety reason and alteration work of higher fence was underway to prevent public access. The HD further indicated reservation on provision of the access. Given that the access passing by a storm water drain and subject to potential flooding hazard, the TWDO had undertaken a feasibility study on provision of such access several years ago and the proposal was not recommended due to safety reason. The TWDO reiterated that safety would be the prime factor in considering provision of the subject access. The District Commander (Tsuen Wan) remarked that potential risk in law and order could only be anticipated upon completion of a detailed evaluation by the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF). The TWDO would reflect members' opinions to relevant government departments, provide a reply to Members and arrange an on-site inspection when deemed necessary.

Environmental Issues concerning Hawking Activities and Obstruction of Pavements by Shopkeepers and Hawkers in the Vicinity of Chuen Lung Street, Ho Pui Street, San Tsuen Street and Tai Uk Street in Tsuen Wan

6. Members commented on the captioned issues and strongly urged relevant government departments to examine the effectiveness of existing laws and regulations in tackling the problem and seek better resolution. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) responded that strengthened prosecution and inter-departmental operation had been carried out to improve illegal shop front extension in the district. The DLO remarked that specific joint operation could be undertaken upon the Government's recovery of management right over the private lot outside the Concord Square. The District Commander (Tsuen Wan) stated that the issue was of prime concern of the HKPF and inter-departmental action would be conducted on a regular basis. The Transport Department pointed out that traffic accident was incurred by illegal obstruction of pavement and inter-departmental operation would be effective in resolving the problem. The FEHD added that prosecution was currently made under Section 4 of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228) with a maximum fine of \$5,000, but the actual amount of fine would be determined by the courts.

Besides, the TWDO was requested to arrange an on-site inspection for Members and relevant government departments.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

September 2012