

## **Summary of the Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) was held on 25 March 2014. The major issues discussed were summarised as follows:

### **Public Consultation on Enhanced Measures against Shop Front Extensions (SFE)**

2. The Director of Home Affairs briefed Members on the consultation document on enhanced measures against SFE. Members in general welcomed the enhanced measures and supported the implementation of a fixed penalty system and raised concerns about the level of fixed penalty, the implementation details and whether to confiscate the articles which were illegally placed on the streets and caused obstruction. It was expected to strike a balance between maintaining the business environment and tackling the problem associated with SFE more effectively. They also expressed their views on public education, licensing of open air café, inter-departmental cooperation on law enforcement work, black spots of street obstruction by the shops and district councils' involvement. The Director of Home Affairs duly responded to Members' concern and enquiries. She remarked that the views from various sectors of the community would be solicited during the four-month consultation period. Given their knowledge of the district characteristics, District Councils' advice was particularly conducive to identifying the black spots of street obstruction and exercising discretion on handling street obstruction. After all, legislative amendments, provision of guidelines and sufficient training for the front-line officers in enforcement would be required in the next stage before the implementation of the fixed penalty system.

### **Visit of Director of Buildings to Tsuen Wan District Council**

3. The Director of Buildings visited TWDC and introduced the work of the Buildings Department (BD), including the dismantling action against unauthorised building works at rooftop, podiums as well as those in yards and lanes of the buildings, large-scale operation of handling the irregularities of the "subdivided units", law enforcement work of unauthorised building works in the New Territories Exempted Houses, Operation Building Bright, Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (MBIS), Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme (MWIS), Minor Works Control System (MWCS) and Validation Scheme for Unauthorised Signboards. Members suggested BD to review existing testing methods and to consider introducing other testing methods for identifying the source of water seepage and enquired about the scope of

work of MWCS, the criteria for selecting target buildings, frequency of window inspection in private buildings and whether a list of registered contractors for window inspection under frequent complaints be provided under MWIS. They also gave view on the amount of subsidy under the Mandatory Building Inspection Subsidy Scheme, procedures under MBIS, installation of signboards on the external wall of private buildings, assistance provided by BD to help owners to comply with the requirements under MWIS, as well as the manpower and training of Building Surveyors of BD for the above work. The Director of Buildings duly responded to Members' concern in detail and indicated that the work of BD would be carried out according to the relevant laws and regulations.

### **Progress Report on Major Public Works Projects in Tsuen Wan District**

4. The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) reported the progress of the major public works projects in Tsuen Wan district. Members expressed their views and enquiries on the progress of various works projects, including Greening of Yau Kom Tau Outfall of Tsuen Wan Storm-Water Drainage Tunnel, Cycle Track between Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun, Ecological Park (Tso Kung Tam Valley Tsuen Wan), extension works for Tsuen Wan pedestrian footbridge network, mitigation works for landslides on natural hillsides in Sham Tseng and Tsuen Wan Road associated viaduct. The CEDD and Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) duly responded to Members' enquiries. Members' views on the works concerned would also be conveyed to the responsible departments and officers. The CEDD was asked to invite the representatives from relevant departments to attend the meetings of TWDC to respond to Members' enquiries and report the latest progress of the works of Cycle Track between Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun in the next progress report.

### **Request for Regulating the Telemarketing Calls**

5. Two Members raised and discussed their request for regulating the telemarketing calls. Written replies from the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) and Commerce and Economic Development Bureau were tabled on the meeting. Members urged that the representatives from OFCA should attend the meeting and that the relevant departments should regulate person-to-person marketing calls and amend the relevant codes of practice. Members' views would be conveyed to the departments concerned.

**“Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) supports the achievement of universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election by one-person-one-vote as scheduled in**

**2017 and expects to make progress on the constitutional development in Hong Kong. TWDC calls for the various sectors of the community to give recommendations of constitutional reform actively in conformity with the Basic Law and relevant Decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and to promote and achieve the universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election pragmatically and rationally in compliance with the law via non-violent means."**

6. Sixteen Members raised and further discussed the implementation of Chief Executive election by one-person-one-vote in 2017 and expectation of making progress on the constitutional development in Hong Kong. The original motion of "Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) supports the achievement of universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election by one-person-one-vote as scheduled in 2017 and expects to make progress on the constitutional development in Hong Kong. TWDC calls for the various sectors of the community to give recommendations of constitutional reform actively in conformity with the Basic Law and relevant Decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and to promote and achieve the universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election pragmatically and rationally in compliance with the law via non-violent means." was endorsed with a vote of 13 in favour, 1 against and 3 abstention. The endorsed motion would be conveyed to the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

May 2014