

(Translation)

Minutes of the 17th Meeting of Tsuen Wan District Council (4/22-23)

Date: 29 November 2022
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly (Chairman)
Mr YAU Kam-ping, BBS, MH (Vice Chairman)
Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH
Mr CHAN Sung-ip, BBS, MH
Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio
Mr KOT Siu-yuen, MH
Mr LAU Cheuk-yu

Absent:

Mr WONG Ka-wa

In Attendance:

Mr AU Ka-shing, Billy, JP	District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr KWONG Chi-wing, Denis	Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (Acting), Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr TANG Kwok-hung, Stephen	District Commander (Tsuen Wan) (Acting), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr FUNG Chi-ho, Eric	Police Community Relations Officer (Tsuen Wan), Hong Kong Police Force
Ms WONG Siu-fan, Phoebe	District Social Welfare Officer (Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing), Social Welfare Department
Ms HO Mun-ye, Money	District Lands Officer/Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Mr YU Hok-chi, Raymond	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (Acting), Lands Department
Mr MOK Ka-sing, Mark	Chief Transport Officer/NT South West, Transport Department
Mrs LAI CHAN Wai-fan, Clara	Chief Manager/Management (Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi and Tsuen Wan), Housing Department
Mr HUNG Sai-kit	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tsuen Wan), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms TANG Ho-yan, Joyce	Senior Engineer/2 (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms LEE Mei-sheung, Dickie	District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Miss CHAN Pui-ying	Chief School Development Officer (Tsuen Wan & Kwai Tsing), Education Bureau

Mr LIM Kuen (Secretary)	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Tsuen Wan District Office
Miss LEUNG Tsz-wai, Apple	Executive Officer I (District Council), Tsuen Wan District Office
<u>For discussion of item 3:</u>	
Ms YOUNG Bick-kwan, Irene, JP	Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr LEUNG Yat-king	Assistant Director (Operations)3, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
<u>For discussion of item 4:</u>	
Mr TO Kam-biu, David	Principal Project Coordinator/Tsing Yi-Lantau Link, Highways Department
Mr LAI Lim-chun, Keith	Senior Engineer 1/Tsing Yi-Lantau Link, Highways Department
Mr TSANG Wai-shun, Wilson	Engineer 1/Tsing Yi-Lantau Link, Highways Department
Mr CHO Wing-hin, Issac	Engineer/Tsuen Wan 2, Transport Department
Mr KWAN Chi-fai, Samuel	Project Manager, Ove Arup and Partners Hong Kong Limited
<u>For discussion of item 6:</u>	
Mr CHO Wing-hin, Issac	Engineer/Tsuen Wan 2, Transport Department
<u>For discussion of items 7 and 8:</u>	
Mr CHAN Ka-wang, Eric	Senior Forestry Officer/Tree Management Group, Architectural Services Department
Ms ENG Pui-yan, Rosanna	Landscape Architect/Tree Management Group, Architectural Services Department
Mr CHAN Tak-hong, Eric	Senior Engineer/5, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr WONG Chun-pong	Engineer/54, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr LEUNG Kwong-chung	Senior Engineer/Mainland South 2, Drainage Services Department
Mr HO Kit-ming	Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, Drainage Services Department
<u>For discussion of item 9:</u>	
Mr CHAN Pak-woon	Senior School Development Officer (Tsuen Wan)2, Education Bureau
Ms LI Wing-shan, Joanmi	Senior Maintenance Surveyor (School Premises Maintenance)2, Education Bureau
Mr LEUNG San	Maintenance Surveyor (School Premises Maintenance)21, Education Bureau

Action

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the 17th meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC), and introduced Ms TANG Ho-yan, Joyce, Senior Engineer/2 (West) (SE/2(W)), Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD), who attended this meeting on behalf of Ms LIU Tze-kwan, Fiona. He said that Mr WONG Ka-wa was absent with apologies for Members' information.

(Note: Mr MAN Yu-ming joined the meeting at 2:36 p.m.)

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 16th Meeting held on 27.9.2022

2. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received one proposed amendment from Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio prior to this meeting. The proposed amendment was set out as follows:

- (1) he proposed that in line 2 of paragraph 70 of the minutes of the 16th meeting held on 27 September 2022, “他建議安排相關部門代表作出署任安排，以保持與議員的緊密聯繫。” (He suggested the representatives of the departments concerned make arrangement of acting appointments so as to maintain close liaison with Members.) should be amended as “他建議相關部門盡力做好署任安排，即使是休假期間相對短的情況，以保持與議員的緊密聯繫，以及確保部門服務不會受損。” (He suggested the departments concerned strive to make proper arrangement of acting appointments even if the leave period was relatively short so as to maintain close liaison with Members and ensure that the services provided by the departments would not be disrupted.).

3. The Chairman enquired whether Members would like to immediately put forth proposed amendments. No Member immediately put forth a proposed amendment.

4. The Chairman enquired whether Members endorsed the minutes and the relevant proposed amendment. Members unanimously endorsed the minutes and the relevant proposed amendment.

III Item 2: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

5. The Chairman said that there were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

IV Item 3: Visit of Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene to Tsuen Wan District Council

6. The Chairman welcomed Ms YOUNG Bick-kwan, Irene, JP, Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (DFEH) to the TWDC, who would brief Members on the work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). The representatives from the FEHD attending the meeting were:

- (1) Mr LEUNG Yat-king, Assistant Director (Operations)³; and
- (2) Mr HUNG Sai-kit, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tsuen Wan) (DEHS(TW)).

7. The DFEH introduced the work of the FEHD with a focus on its efforts in relation to the improvement of the environmental hygiene and pest control in the district which had been matters of concern to Members.

8. Mr KOT Siu-yuen welcomed the DFEH to the TWDC. He complimented the FEHD on its work in Tsuen Wan district in aspects including hawker control, street cleaning and pest control, and remarked that the FEHD had all along been maintaining close liaison with the district. Serving as the Chairman of the Environment, Health and Climate Change Committee, he expressed deep concern about the operations conducted by the Government to tackle the hygiene black spots in the district (including Lo Tak Court, Sam Pei Square, Yi Pei Square and the old areas around Yeung Uk Road). He was glad that the FEHD had actively supported the “Hong Kong New Cityscape” campaign by strengthening street management and law enforcement against shop tenants involving in illegal street obstruction. He understood that officers of the FEHD often encountered difficulties in law enforcement, and extended his sympathy to those who had been injured when dealing with uncooperative shop tenants. In addition to continuing to redouble their efforts in conducting rodent control work, he believed that the overnight rodent control teams should also adopt new technologies for rodent control. The FEHD was welcome to try out more new technologies in Tsuen Wan for testing their effectiveness with a view to enhancing the level of environmental hygiene in the district. Besides, in November 2022, a large number of foreign domestic helpers packed goods at Lo Tak Court for shipping them back to their hometown before the festive season, causing serious street obstruction. He said that such situation was very common, especially when the festive seasons were approaching. He understood that many foreign domestic helpers had a need to pack goods. However, considering that Lo Tak Court was situated at the town centre, the noise nuisance caused to residents by such a behaviour could not be dismissed. He was aware that the FEHD had liaised with several departments including the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) and Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO) to conduct joint operations. He wished that more departments would join hands and cooperate with each other to properly solve this problem and improve the environment of the area concerned. He hoped that the departments concerned would explore solutions such as relocating the site for packing of goods by the foreign domestic helpers to other areas far from the town centre (e.g. industrial areas) or limiting the period within which packing activities were allowed to avoid causing noise nuisance to the residents.

9. Mr CHAN Sung-ip welcomed the DFEH to the TWDC. He affirmed the FEHD’s recent work on combatting street obstruction caused by shop tenants and shop front extension, and wished that such work would be continued. He expressed gratitude for the law enforcement actions taken by officers of the FEHD in the district, which brought about enhancement to the environmental hygiene in the vicinity of Chung On Street and Chuen Lung Street.

10. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio thanked the officers of the FEHD and its District Office for their efforts made in tackling the problem of shop front extension. As far as he knew, since October 2021, the FEHD and HKPF had changed their strategy by conducting more joint operations. The problem of shop front extension was consequently improved, manifesting the increasingly significant effect of such

operations. At present, the black spots of street obstruction in Tsuen Wan town centre were rendered free from obstruction and the outcome was commended by the residents. He found that a number of 660-litre large refuse bins had been placed on the streets, including the location at Vision City near Citywalk 1. These refuse bins, which might be provided by conglomerates, often attracted pests and affected the environmental hygiene. He wished that the FEHD would address the problem promptly. Besides, he said that since 17 November 2022, the arrangement of presenting the “Vaccine Pass” for entry into public markets under the FEHD by members of the public had been changed from “active checking” to “passive checking”. He had visited Yeung Uk Road Market for inspection. Although more elderly persons were interested in visiting the market again following the relaxation of anti-epidemic measures, 80% of the stall owners remarked that their business remained slack and only 10 to 20% reflected a slight increase in their business turnover. He suggested that the Government should lift the requirement of using the “LeaveHomeSafe” mobile application for entry into markets by members of the public. Additionally, he said that under the Government’s current arrangement of extending rent concessions, shop tenants in markets had to first make a full payment of the rent in order to receive a subsequent refund equivalent to the rent concession from the Government. This caused inconvenience to the shop tenants. He urged the FEHD to improve the approach of implementing the measure of rent concessions. Incidentally, he said that many members of the public were unclear about the proper ways of handling various types of waste such as general domestic waste, used electronic appliances, used furniture and construction waste, giving rise to the situation of indiscriminate disposal of used furniture and construction waste. He suggested that the FEHD should discuss with the Environmental Protection Department the production of publicity leaflets and redouble its efforts in publicity, education and law enforcement in this regard. He was willing to give a hand in the distribution of publicity leaflets with a view to reminding the public of relevant legislation and proper ways of handling waste. He pointed out that some shops in shopping centres or some people would discharge wastewater into stormwater drains or onto pavements out of convenience. He opined that there was a need to strengthen publicity, education and law enforcement concerning this problem.

11. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu complimented the FEHD on its work efficiency. He said that when compared with private markets, markets operated by the Government offered goods at affordable prices and were thus more popular among the locals. He suggested that the Government should lift the requirement of using the “LeaveHomeSafe” mobile application for entry into markets by members of the public to minimise the impact on the public. In addition, he was a Member of the Market Management Consultative Committee (MMCC) of Heung Che Street Market. Many residents relayed to him their wish for installation of canopies at the market. He urged the FEHD to continue following up on this issue. In his opinion, installation of canopies was of utmost importance to shop tenants in sustaining patronage and operating business under rainy weather and blazing sunlight. Although the FEHD had adopted a temporary measure by providing shades to shop tenants, he still deemed it necessary to discuss with the departments concerned and come up with an alternative promptly. He opined that the patronage of Heung Che Street Market was reducing, and urged the FEHD, being the managing department of the market, to provide a favourable environment for business operation so as to bring

convenience to members of the public in using the market. Incidentally, he learnt that the FEHD had earlier launched a trial scheme to provide refuse bins near Chung On Street to enable residents in sub-divided units to dispose of refuse properly. However, he considered that the publicity of the scheme was not comprehensive enough, rendering the scheme ineffective. He welcomed the FEHD to contact him and was willing to give advice on publicity. Additionally, he enquired of the FEHD about its law enforcement against street obstruction caused by the packing of goods at Lo Tak Court.

12. The Chairman thanked the FEHD for its work in the district. He said that as markets were one of the premises where members of the public were required to put on masks at all times, the chance of virus transmission was relatively low. Therefore, he agreed that the requirement of using the “LeaveHomeSafe” mobile application for entry into markets by members of the public should be lifted. He suggested installing additional devices for ventilation and air changes such as air-conditioners or fans in the markets to improve the environment for tenants to facilitate their business operation and attract more visitors. He remarked that the problem of rodent infestation was serious in the old areas, especially in the buildings located above the markets. He urged the FEHD to step up its efforts in mosquito and rodent control in such places. He also suggested installing rat guards at the pipes of the buildings in the old areas to stop rats from climbing into residential premises through the pipes. In addition, he opined that it took time for the economy to recover and wished that the Government would extend the measure of rent concessions for market stall tenants for a year. Incidentally, he expressed concern over the gathering of foreign domestic helpers at Lo Tak Court which was frequently seen during public holidays and weekends. They would collect and distribute goods thereat and block the roads, causing noise and environmental hygiene problems. He urged the FEHD to liaise with relevant departments for coordination and joint efforts in solving the problem.

13. The DFEH responded as follows:

- (1) she thanked Members for recognising the FEHD’s work, and said that such work had yielded fruitful results thanks to Members’ efforts in relaying opinions from members of the public. She expressed gratitude for Members’ recognition of the FEHD’s work and welcomed Members to put forth views any time;
- (2) previously, as public markets were government premises, members of the public were required to use the “LeaveHomeSafe” mobile application before entering public markets under the FEHD, and officers of the FEHD would conduct active checking of the “Vaccine Pass”. The arrangement of active checking of the “Vaccine Pass” at public markets by officers of the FEHD was the same as that implemented in other premises subject to active checking. Recently, the Health Bureau had relaxed the arrangement and officers of the FEHD would no longer conduct active checking on the “Vaccine Pass” of the persons entering public markets. Subject to the development of the epidemic, the Authority would conduct timely review and study whether it was possible to further relax the anti-epidemic measures;

- (3) the FEHD noted Member's concern about Heung Che Street Market. To alleviate the effect of rainy weather and sunlight upon business operation of the outdoor stalls near Heung Che Street Market, the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) proposed adding roof covers to the accesses on both sides of Heung Che Street Market in lieu of the proposal of installing canopies on the external walls of the market that had been originally endorsed by the MMCC. The new proposal could satisfy the shop tenants' demand for extension of the canopies, but it would be necessary to make an application to the Lands Department (LandsD) for extension of the current lot boundary of Heung Che Street Market, which would involve the arrangement of application for short-term land allocation and land grant. The FEHD was currently following up on such issues with the ArchSD and LandsD;
- (4) the FEHD had stepped up publicity and education on rodent infestation. Recently, the FEHD had compiled and distributed guidelines, code of practice and checklist, etc. on prevention and control of rodent infestation to property management companies with a view to strengthening their ability to curb rodent infestation. The FEHD would also render timely assistance to management companies of private buildings in need;
- (5) the FEHD noticed that during weekends and public holidays, it was common to see people gathering at the area outside Lik Sang Plaza in Lo Tak Court, Tsuen Wan. A number of logistics and transport companies were located in the vicinity, providing shipping service of parcels for foreign domestic helpers. The packing and shipping activities involved would thus cause street obstruction. However, obstruction caused by illegal occupation of public places was a problem fell under the scope of street management, which involved the jurisdictions of multiple government departments. Coordinated by the District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (DO(TW)), the FEHD liaised with the government departments concerned for cooperation and joint efforts in tackling the problem. In November 2022, the FEHD strengthened patrols during weekends and liaised with such relevant departments as the TWDO, HKPF and Fire Services Department (FSD) to conduct a number of inter-departmental joint operations. During the operations, the FEHD issued a total of 15 fixed penalty notices, 32 warning notices and 1 summons against public cleanliness and illegal shop front extension, and handled more than four tonnes of miscellaneous articles at the scene. As Christmas was approaching, the packing and shipping activities would be more intense. The FEHD was aware that the DO(TW) was proactively coordinating inter-departmental operations and exploring temporary solutions to coordinate the efforts of various departments concerned in maintaining a clear passage and environmental hygiene. The Government would study on the proposals to solve the problem at source. Members were also welcome to put forth views;

- (6) the Government had announced the measure on rent concessions for stall tenants in public markets. The FEHD would implement the relevant measure accordingly; and
 - (7) the FEHD would follow up on the enhancement of its publicity efforts and education work, including educating members of the public on the proper ways of disposing of waste. The FEHD would contact Members for advice or assistance on publicity if necessary.
14. DEHS(TW) of the FEHD responded as follows:
- (1) regarding the placement of 660-litre large refuse bins by the roadside or near shops by private refuse collectors for collection of refuse disposed of by these shops, the FEHD had requested the refuse collectors concerned to remove the refuse bins and taken action last week to clear out the refuse bins placed on carriageway without being removed by their owners. The FEHD would continue to monitor the situation to prevent street obstruction by objects and maintain environmental hygiene;
 - (2) regarding the improvement works of the covered walkway at Heung Che Street Market, the FEHD would continue following up the issue with the LandsD upon the completion of the design layout by the ArchSD;
 - (3) the FEHD noted Members' views on enhancement of the arrangement of rent concessions for stall tenants in public markets; and
 - (4) the FEHD was willing to continue the discussion with Members on how to strengthen its publicity efforts in relation to public education about the proper ways of disposing of refuse after the meeting to enhance the effectiveness of publicity.
15. DO(TW) of the TWDO responded as follows:
- (1) the TWDO had coordinated with other departments to jointly tackle the problem of packing of goods by foreign domestic helpers around Lo Tak Court. The following actions had been taken: the TWDO had invited the FSD to participate in the joint operations to keep the fire escapes clear upon the receipt of complaints about blockage of fire escapes; the TWDO had also conducted joint operations with the departments concerned to prevent the blockage of passage caused by the packing activities of foreign domestic helpers; and in view of the loading/unloading activities of goods vehicles at the locations near Castle Peak Road – Tsuen Wan, the HKPF had also provided assistance in maintaining smooth traffic at the major routes; and
 - (2) ten-odd logistics operators were situated around Lo Tak Court near Lik Sang Plaza. The scale of operation of these logistics operators was massive as they had to accommodate the surging demand for packing and shipping of goods from foreign domestic helpers during festive seasons. Therefore, the departments concerned had to overcome various difficulties when dealing with the problem in question. According to the preliminary figures, around 200-odd people packed goods at the same time during the peak period, and 1 000 or so people would involve in such an activity daily. The TWDO would explore

long-term solutions to the problem together with the departments concerned, and Members were welcome to put forth views. The TWDO would also consult members of the local community at the same time.

16. The Chairman thanked the DFEH and DO(TW) for their work in the district. He wished that the FEHD would consider Members' views, including improving the environment of the markets, extending the arrangement of rent concessions, enhancing relevant implementation details, lifting the requirement of using the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile application for entry into markets by members of the public, and strengthening the mosquito and rodent control work. He also urged the departments concerned to proactively tackle the problem of the packing of goods by foreign domestic helpers at Lo Tak Court. He opined that the relatively remote location of the industrial area might not provide sufficient incentives for the foreign domestic helpers to relocate their site of packing of goods thereto. He urged such departments as the FEHD, TWDO, HKPF and District Lands Office (DLO) to study on the problem after the meeting.

17. The DFEH responded that as a Hong Kong citizen, she was concerned about the issue of improvement of environmental hygiene just as much as Members. She would request colleagues of various districts to adhere to the principle of "responding actively to aspirations from the people of Hong Kong" by fulfilling their duties and being responsive to the demand from members of the public, so that Hong Kong citizens could see an improvement to the environmental hygiene and recognise the Government's determination and efforts in enhancing the living environment of the public. She pointed out that the public's cooperation was conducive to ensuring a prolonged effect of the FEHD's work. The TWDC served as a major channel for assessing and reflecting the public opinions in the district, rendering it an important working partner of the FEHD. She thanked the TWDC for giving views and providing support for the FEHD's work.

V Item 4: Tsing Yi – Lantau Link
(TWDC Paper No. 36/22-23)

18. The Chairman said that the Highways Department (HyD) would brief Members on the preliminary alignment design of Tsing Yi – Lantau Link (TYLL) and the next stage of study. The representatives from the departments and corporation attending the meeting were:

- (1) Mr TO Kam-biu, David, Principal Project Coordinator/Tsing Yi-Lantau Link (PPC/TYLL), HyD;
- (2) Mr LAI Lim-chun, Keith, Senior Engineer 1/Tsing Yi-Lantau Link (SE1/TYLL), HyD;
- (3) Mr TSANG Wai-shun, Wilson, Engineer 1/Tsing Yi-Lantau Link, HyD;
- (4) Mr CHO Wing-hin, Issac, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 2 (E/TW2), Transport Department (TD); and
- (5) Mr KWAN Chi-fai, Samuel, Project Manager, Ove Arup and Partners Hong Kong Limited (OAP).

19. PPC/TYLL and SE1/TYLL of the HyD introduced the paper.

20. Mr CHAN Sung-ip was glad that the HyD would construct TYLL between Ma Wan and Tang Lung Chau. He said that at present, when major emergencies occurred on Tsing Ma Bridge, Kap Shui Mun Bridge or Ting Kau Bridge and led to traffic congestion, residents of Ma Wan would not be able to travel to and from urban areas and had no choice but to take ferries for access to Central Pier. If residents wished to travel to Tsuen Wan Pier, temporary arrangement of ferries would be required and the process would take considerable time. He also pointed out that the previous term of Government had announced the development of residential buildings at the site in Ma Wan South. If the project was implemented, there would be a surge in the number of residents in Ma Wan South. Therefore, he suggested that the Government should consider adding a feeder road in TYLL for connection to Ma Wan South so as to satisfy the traffic demand from the residents therein and improve the public transportation network of Ma Wan.

21. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said that he had repeatedly made enquiries about the progress of the widening of Tsuen Wan Road at the meetings of the TWDC. He noticed that officials from the HyD had just made remarks about the positive effect on the traffic on Tsuen Wan Road brought about by the captioned project in their presentation. He supposed the construction of infrastructures such as TYLL might divert some of the vehicles travelling from Tuen Mun or Yuen Long to urban areas via Tsuen Wan Road originally to these newly constructed highways. He urged the HyD to study the necessity of the widening of Tsuen Wan Road promptly and make a decision on this matter as soon as possible.

22. PPC/TYLL of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) upon the completion of TYLL, vehicles from New Territories Northwest could travel to urban areas via Route 11, TYLL and Stonecutters Bridge. This project not only provided more route options for travel between New Territories Northwest and urban areas, but also reduced the cross-district traffic volume of Tsuen Wan Road generated by vehicles travelling between New Territories Northwest and urban areas via the road. Tsuen Wan Road was a major road in the district. The widening of Tsuen Wan Road aimed to improve the existing Tsuen Wan Road by road widening in order to cater for the future traffic demand. The functions of these two projects were different; and
- (2) The widening of Tsuen Wan Road was one of the major projects under the HyD. The HyD would continue to study the alignment design of TYLL and review the development of Tsuen Wan district in order to evaluate the impact of TYLL on the traffic demand of Tsuen Wan Road.

23. SE1/TYLL of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) roads in Ma Wan had all along been designated as restricted zones, in which only vehicles with permits and emergency vehicles were allowed for access. If a feeder road connecting to Ma Wan was to be added in TYLL, it was necessary to review from the transport planning point of view whether there was sufficient traffic infrastructure in Ma Wan, such as road network, parking spaces and loading/unloading areas, to support such proposal; and

- (2) the Sustainable Lantau Office of the CEDD was currently conducting the “Private Housing Development in Ma Wan South – Feasibility Study”, and would carry out traffic and transport impact assessment. The HyD would convey Members’ views to the CEDD for study and consideration by the project team.

24. The Chairman concluded by expressing his wish for the expeditious completion of TYLL, and asked if Members had any objections. Members unanimously endorsed the preliminary alignment design of TYLL and the next stage of study. The Chairman requested the HyD to consider and follow up on Members’ views.

VI Item 5: Progress Report on Major Works in Tsuen Wan (as at 31 October 2022)
(TWDC Paper No. 37/22-23)

25. The CEDD regularly reported to Members on the progress of the major works in Tsuen Wan district. The representative from the CEDD attending the meeting was Ms TANG Ho-yan, Joyce, SE/2(W).

26. SE/2(W) of the CEDD introduced the paper.

27. Mr CHAN Sung-ip said that Project No. 56TF/A – Improvement Works at Shek Tsai Wan Pier (Project No. 56TF/A), which would commence in 2022 and complete in 2026, was too time-consuming as it took four years for completion. The completion date was also delayed, which was later than the date that Members were informed of by the CEDD earlier. He enquired about the reason for the delay and whether it was caused by the need to consider such factors as the tidal movements. He was aware that the tendering exercise for the project was underway and anticipated that the works would commence this year or next year.

28. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio proposed that in page 9 of the captioned paper, the word “已” (already) in the fourth last line of the contents of Project No. 196TB (Footbridge E) – Extension of Footbridge Network in Tsuen Wan should be amended as “以” (so as to). In addition, regarding Project No. 52CG – Greening Master Plans for the New Territories Southwest – Priority Greening Works (Project No. 52CG), he said that he had written to the CEDD in early 2021 requesting the department to expedite the progress of the replacement of plants at the central divider on Sha Tsui Road, so as to tie in with the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the satellite town of Tsuen Wan and beautify the site concerned. He was discontented with the works which were still uncompleted at present. He suggested simply replacing the plants thereat without removing the central divider or considering closing the abovementioned road section at suitable hours for expeditious completion of the works in question.

29. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu was concerned about the latest progress of Footbridge B under Project No. 145TB (Footbridges B & C) – Extension of Footbridge Network in Tsuen Wan (Project No. 145TB). He said that he had been following up the project for two to three years, and considered that the progress of works was slow. He urged

the department concerned to implement the project proposal and provide a reasonable timetable promptly. Besides, he appreciated the efforts made by the CEDD for Project No. 52CG, but pointed out that in comparison with the greening works carried out by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) which were aesthetically more appealing, the plants grown by the CEDD in the project showed signs of withering and wilting. In view of such unsatisfactory result of the greening works, he suggested the CEDD follow up on the situation. Lastly, he enquired whether the relocation of The Church of Christ in China Chuen Yuen First Primary School to Wing Shun Street would be involved in Project No. 356EP – A 30-classroom Primary School in Tsuen Wan West Station (TW7) Development, Tsuen Wan.

30. SE/2(W) of the CEDD responded as follows:

- (1) according to the report of the department concerned, no changes had been made to the completion date of Project No. 56TF/A, i.e. early 2026. In general, the progress of works might be subject to some uncontrollable environmental factors (such as typhoons and rainy weather) during the construction phase. Therefore, the department would generally take into account the possibility of delay and impact on the progress of works when estimating the completion date of works. As funding approval had been granted by the Legislative Council for the project, the project team concerned would commence the works as soon as practical;
- (2) the CEDD would amend the wording in page 9 of the captioned paper according to the Member's suggestion;
- (3) regarding Project No. 52CG, the CEDD proposed tasking the departmental representative responsible for the Greening Master Plans to give response in this regard during the discussion of agenda items 7 and 8;
- (4) the CEDD was aware that Members were highly concerned about the progress of works of Footbridge B under Project No. 145TB. According to the report of the department concerned, Footbridge B was currently at the detailed design stage. The design was anticipated to be completed in mid-2023. The CEDD would relay Members' request for expediting the progress of works to the HyD after the meeting; and
- (5) the CEDD would invite the departments concerned to provide Members with more information about Project No. 356EP after the meeting.

31. The Chairman thanked the CEDD for reporting on the progress of works, and requested the departments concerned to follow up on Members' views.

VII Item 6: Strong Request for Improvement to the Car Parks in Lei Muk Shue Estate

(TWDC Paper No. 38/22-23)

32. The Chairman said that Mr WONG Ka-wa submitted the paper. Since Mr WONG Ka-wa was absent from this meeting, he was entrusted by Mr WONG Ka-wa to introduce the paper. He asked the Vice Chairman to take over the chair temporarily.

33. The Acting Chairman said that the representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mrs LAI CHAN Wai-fan, Clara, Chief Manager/Management (Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi and Tsuen Wan) (CM/M(WT&T)), Housing Department (HD); and
- (2) Mr CHO Wing-hin, Issac, E/TW2, TD.

Besides, the written reply of the HD was tabled at the meeting.

34. Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly introduced the paper.

35. CM/M(WT&T) of the HD responded as follows:

- (1) the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) had, according to the requirements stipulated in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, provided parking spaces in the public rental housing (PRH) estates under its management, which were primarily used for the parking of vehicles by residents of the PRH estates and visitors. The parking spaces under the HKHA were mainly divided into three categories, namely private car, light goods vehicle and motorcycle parking spaces;
- (2) as at September 2022, the HKHA had a portfolio of around 190 car parks, providing a total of about 33 000 car parking spaces in which 89% were monthly parking spaces and 11% were hourly parking spaces. In view of the ever-growing number of users of private cars and light goods vehicles in recent years and the limited supply of parking spaces, the HKHA was currently reviewing the allocation arrangement of monthly parking spaces;
- (3) the HD and various Estate Offices had received a wide spectrum of views on the allocation arrangement of monthly parking spaces. While the review of the aforementioned arrangement was underway, the allocation arrangement of various categories of monthly parking spaces to be implemented in individual PRH estates would remain unchanged in 2023. The HD would announce the arrangement as soon as possible upon the completion of the review so as to facilitate its implementation in the allocation exercise of monthly parking spaces for 2024;
- (4) in view of the keen demand for parking spaces, the HD would adopt various measures to optimise the use of parking spaces, and would provide additional parking spaces and increase the number of parking spaces equipped with electric vehicle (EV) charging facilities subject to the demand and technical feasibility upon obtaining the necessary approval. In January and June 2022, the HD had provided an addition of 20 monthly motorcycle parking spaces in total in Lei Muk Shue (1) Estate, Lei Muk Shue (2) Estate and Lei Muk Shue Estate successively;
- (5) since July 2022, the Amano Parking Service Limited (Amano) had been engaged by the HD to be responsible for the road control of Lei Muk Shue Estate. The HD and outsourced property management company of Lei Muk Shue Estate would monitor the service performance of the Amano. To improve the illegal parking situation,

the HD had requested the Amano to deploy additional manpower for patrols and conducted regular joint operations with the Amano. From January to October 2022, about 40 vehicles had been impounded in Lei Muk Shue Estate by officers of the HD; and

- (6) according to the car park management contract, the Amano was required to replace the entry/exit gates in Lei Muk Shue Estate. The works were anticipated to be commenced in late 2022 to early 2023. Since the parking spaces in Lei Muk Shue Estate were mainly used by private cars and light goods vehicles, the HD so far had no plan to introduce an exclusive parking system using Octopus for coaches or large goods vehicles in the estate. The HD would continue to review the situation.

36. E/TW2 of the TD responded as follows:

- (1) currently, there were 8 metered parking spaces for private cars and vans and 15 motorcycle parking spaces in Lei Shu Road. 5 of these motorcycle parking spaces were commissioned last year; and
- (2) the TD had all along been keeping track of the demand for parking spaces in the district, and had entrusted the HyD with the provision of two parking spaces for disabled persons in Lei Shu Road. The TD would continue to review the parking situation and provide additional parking spaces at suitable locations in a timely manner.

37. Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly requested the provision of additional parking spaces (including parking spaces equipped with EV charging facilities) in Lei Muk Shue Estate, improvement to the entry/exit gates of the car parks, adoption of the previous balloting arrangement for parking spaces in which vans and private cars were put under the same category, and deployment of additional manpower for patrols so as to curb illegal parking. He suggested installing closed-circuit television systems in the car parks to enhance the level of security therein. He also urged the HD to strengthen its monitoring of the performance of the management company of the car parks and maintain close liaison with the officers of the management company so as to enhance its service quality.

38. The Acting Chairman urged the departments concerned to consider Members' views.

39. The Chairman resumed the chair.

VIII Item 7: Concern about Tree Safety in Tsuen Wan District & Item 8: Matters Relating to Tree Safety in Tsuen Wan District
(TWDC Paper Nos. 39/22-23 & 40/22-23)

40. The Chairman stated that Item 7: Concern about Tree Safety in Tsuen Wan District (TWDC Paper No. 39/22-23 submitted by Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio) and Item 8: Matters Relating to Tree Safety in Tsuen Wan District (TWDC Paper No. 40/22-23 submitted by Mr YAU Kam-ping) fell within the same scope. He therefore proposed combining the discussion of the two agenda items. Members unanimously agreed to the proposal. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr CHAN Ka-wang, Eric, Senior Forestry Officer/Tree Management Group (SFO/TMG), ArchSD;
- (2) Ms ENG Pui-yan, Rosanna, Landscape Architect/Tree Management Group, ArchSD;
- (3) Mr CHAN Tak-hong, Eric, Senior Engineer/5 (SE/5), CEDD;
- (4) Mr WONG Chun-pong, Engineer/54, CEDD;
- (5) Mr LEUNG Kwong-chung, Senior Engineer/Mainland South 2 (SE/MS2), Drainage Services Department (DSD);
- (6) Mr HO Kit-ming, Engineer/Tsuen Kwai 2, DSD;
- (7) Mrs LAI CHAN Wai-fan, Clara, CM/M(WT&T), HD;
- (8) Mr YU Hok-chi, Raymond, Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (Acting) (AA/Lands (DLO) (Atg.)), LandsD; and
- (9) Ms LEE Mei-sheung, Dickie, District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) (DLM(TW)), LCSO.

Besides, the written replies of the Development Bureau (DEVB), HD, Water Supplies Department, HyD, CEDD, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and LandsD were tabled at the meeting.

41. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio introduced the paper.

42. The Vice Chairman introduced the paper.

43. Mr MAN Yu-ming said that the TWDC had all along been concerned about the issue of tree safety. He pointed out that a large number of slopes in Tsuen Wan district were planted with *Acacia confusa* (*Acacia*). Experts from the Tree Management Office (TMO) under the DEVB had indicated that *Acacia* had a life span of about 40 to 50 years. The *Acacia* planted on the slopes at Shek Wai Kok Road and Allway Gardens had aged. Currently, the *Acacia* on the slope at Shek Wai Kok Road were fastened to nearby railings with cables for stabilisation. He had advised the HD to remove the trees at the said location to prevent the trees from collapsing in adverse weather conditions and suggested that other tree species suitable for planting on slopes should be selected. The HD had replied that the matters concerned would be referred to its Landscape Section for handling. He said that while *Acacia* were fast-growing and could provide shade for pedestrians, they might easily collapse due to the relatively poor vegetation cover on slopes. He opined that tree safety problems would result from the planting of unsuitable tree species, and urged the departments concerned to carefully select tree species suitable for planting on slopes.

44. The Chairman said that tree collapse accidents had frequently occurred in recent days. He pointed out that in general, tree experts would only rely on visual inspection to check and assess trees, therefore they would often fail to identify problems associated with tree roots in a timely manner. He said that the roots of the large-sized trees near the three primary schools in Lei Muk Shue Estate had already been exposed to the air. He urged the HD and departments concerned to attach importance to the issue of tree safety and strengthen the inspection of trees. He opined that in order to ensure people's safety, the departments concerned should take precautions and act in advance without waiting until the typhoon season or when trees began to lean.

45. SFO/TMG of the ArchSD responded as follows:
- (1) the Government adopted an integrated approach for tree management at present and departments were responsible for the management of the trees in the areas under their purview. The ArchSD was mainly responsible for maintaining trees on registered slopes under its management, and there were about 6 000 such trees in Tsuen Wan district. According to the guidelines formulated by the Greening, Landscape & Tree Management Section under the DEVB, the ArchSD would commission qualified arborists to inspect and maintain the trees on slopes. The frequency of inspection varied from tree to tree having regard to the condition of individual trees. The ArchSD would inspect each tree at least once every year. As for old and valuable trees or trees with health problems, the ArchSD would increase the frequency of inspection to two or four times per year. The ArchSD would engage contractors for assigning arborists and independent inspectors to conduct tree inspections and also send its staff to monitor the performance of contractors. If any trees were found with health problems upon inspections, the ArchSD would fell the trees or prune branches and tackle the problems caused by diseases and pests as well as fungal decay; and
 - (2) Acacia was a common tree species in Hong Kong which had a life span of about 40 years. After reaching a certain age, Acacia would enter the senescent stage and its health would decline gradually. Over the past few years, the ArchSD had selected several slopes to carry out the replacement scheme of Acacia every year to keep in line with the policy of the TMO. The ArchSD would inspect the Acacia planted on slopes proactively. If a tree showed signs of declining health or ageing, the ArchSD would remove the tree first and then decide whether a suitable tree should be replanted in situ according to the situation. Tree replanting might not be necessary if there were other plants on the soil of the slope which could cover the location of the removed tree.
46. SE/5 of the CEDD responded as follows:
- (1) the CEDD was carrying out greening works according to the Greening Master Plan for Tsuen Wan District (the “GMP”) to provide extra greening space, improve the air quality and beautify the environment in Tsuen Wan, including planting 400 trees and 200 000 shrubs approximately. The CEDD and consultancy’s resident engineering site team would be closely monitoring various tasks performed by the contractor during the implementation of the greening works under the GMP. The contractor would also engage qualified staff to monitor the planting work and hire independent tree experts to give independent advice on the planting work and growth of trees. On completion of the planting work, the CEDD would provide plant maintenance for one year. During this period, key maintenance work including watering, weeding, fertilisation, and pruning of tree brunches where necessary would be carried out to ensure the healthy growth of the trees. After

one year, the CEDD would hand over the plants to the departments concerned for their follow-up on routine maintenance;

- (2) the CEDD had drawn up the design of the GMP with reference to the Street Tree Selection Guide of the DEVB. Under the principle of “Right Tree, Right Place”, the CEDD had selected species suitable for planting based on factors such as the condition of planting locations, district views and maintenance requirements (e.g. the planting of tree species with highly intrusive roots along a pavement was avoided to prevent overgrown tree roots from lifting the pavement);
- (3) the CEDD had also improved the planting design with reference to past experience, including increasing the planting spaces of tree pits. For example, if there was sufficient space, the CEDD would attempt to connect two or more adjacent tree pits on a pavement to form a continuous planting strip to offer extra underground space with suitable soil for root growth. It could facilitate better development of tree roots, thereby enhancing the trees’ stability and resistance against strong winds. As for the soil adopted under the GMP, organics (e.g. biochar and mature compost) would be added according to the contract requirements. This measure could improve the soil quality and planting environment, facilitating the healthy growth of trees;
- (4) the CEDD would install temporary braces and cables for newly planted trees of which the roots had not fully developed in order to improve their resistance against strong winds and minimise the possibility of tree failure; and
- (5) the greening works under the GMP did not include the planting of Acacia.

47. SE/MS2 of the DSD responded as follows:

- (1) about 120 roadside trees in Tsuen Wan district were under the management of the DSD. The DSD would conduct tree inspections on a yearly basis according to the DEVB’s guidelines. In view of the recent tree collapse incident, the DSD had enhanced the inspection of trees. The latest inspection had been completed on 8 November 2022; and
- (2) the DSD would engage professional arborists for tree inspections. If any trees were found with health problems, the DSD would further examine the health condition of the tree thoroughly and take appropriate measures accordingly.

48. CM/M(WT&T) of the HD responded as follows:

- (1) the HD had planted about 88 000 trees in PRH estates across the territory, of which about 1 800 were located in Tsuen Wan district. Besides engaging professional contractors for tree maintenance services, the HD would also hire tree consultancies to review the work conducted by the said contractors (including the annual tree risk assessment (TRA) and tree risk mitigation measures). Currently, the HD had commenced a new round of annual TRA for PRH estates with a view to ensuring that the trees in PRH estates would receive timely and proper maintenance; and

- (2) in view of the tree collapse incident of a flame tree in Ho Man Tin this year, the HD had completed the inspections of all flame trees and other large-sized trees in PRH estates in Tsuen Wan district at the end of October 2022. The HD had also commenced the related follow-up work such as clearing withered branches and pruning overgrown branches. The HD would pay continued attention to tree safety in Tsuen Wan district.
49. AA/Lands (DLO) (Atg.) of the LandsD responded as follows:
- (1) the LandsD was responsible for arranging non-routine plant clearance or maintenance as required on unleased and unallocated government land which was not under the daily management of other government departments. Having learnt about a tree problem or received a complaint, the LandsD would request its plant maintenance contractor to send qualified arborists to conduct an on-site inspection. If the problematic tree was confirmed to be located in an area under the LandsD's purview, the department would take appropriate follow-up measures such as pruning branches, removing the tree and weeding, and would give a reply to the complainant. The LandsD was currently reviewing the complaint mechanism concerned, and would put forth improvement proposals; and
 - (2) the LandsD's plant maintenance contractor had conducted an on-site inspection and assessment of a tree on Yeung Uk Road near Kwu Hang Road. Subsequently, it was confirmed that the tree was located on a site covered by Government Land Licence No. 15. The designated team of the LandsD had issued a letter to the licensee, reminding him/her that the tree on the site required appropriate maintenance. The LandsD had previously confirmed the licensee's receipt of the letter. The licensee had stated that follow-up work would be carried out for the tree in question, and the LandsD would also continue to follow up on the matter.
50. DLM(TW) of the LCSD responded as follows:
- (1) according to the DEVB's guidelines, the LCSD conducted the TRA for the trees under its management on a yearly basis. The trees would be inspected visually by the LCSD officers during TRA to evaluate their health condition and put the TRA's results on record. If the trees were found with health problems, the LCSD would take appropriate mitigation measures for the trees immediately. For example, it would treat the diseased or pest-infested trees, prune branches or remove withered branches;
 - (2) the LCSD would also conduct inspections for trees to see if their health problems were caused by the soil or other external factors (e.g. collision). If no improvement was shown in the health condition of the trees after the implementation of the mitigation measures concerned, the LCSD would conduct further investigations with the aid of equipment to check whether there were potential hazards. If the trees were found withered, they would be remove by the LCSD immediately; and

- (3) the LCSD had earlier completed the inspection of all relatively large-sized flame trees under its management in Tsuen Wan district. No flame tree had been found with problems after the inspection.

51. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said that the representative of the LandsD failed to positively respond to the enquiry as to whether the wire mesh around the tree on Yeung Uk Road near Kwu Hang Road could bear the weight of the tree if it collapsed. As far as he knew, the holder of Government Land Licence No. 15 was the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). He was concerned about whether the SPCA could properly handle the problem concerned on its own, and hoped that the LandsD would provide support for the SPCA. Moreover, a silk oak had collapsed at Yeung Uk Road off Indi Home earlier, and about five other silk oaks at Yeung Uk Road had been removed out of safety concerns. He thus urged the CEDD to replant trees at the location concerned as soon as possible. Besides, he enquired about the progress of the replacement of plants at the central divider on Sha Tsui Road. He was disappointed that there had been no progress in the replacement work so far and hoped that the Police would provide assistance for the applications related to the greening project for the central divider on Sha Tsui Road.

52. The Vice Chairman thanked the representatives of the departments for their responses. He hoped that when addressing tree safety problems, the departments concerned would make every effort to ensure people's safety besides placing emphasis on the tree maintenance work.

53. SE/5 of the CEDD responded as follows:

- (1) the design team of the CEDD had completed the design for the greening project at Yeung Uk Road and submitted the proposal to the departments concerned for approval. The CEDD would replant trees at the location concerned as soon as practicable after the approval was granted; and
- (2) regarding the greening project for the central divider on Sha Tsui Road, the CEDD had encountered difficulties in the application for road traffic control. The CEDD would continue to discuss solutions with the departments concerned.

54. District Commander (Tsuen Wan) (Acting) (DC(TW) (Atg.)) of the HKPF responded that the Police would give support to and facilitate the greening work for the central divider on Sha Tsui Road.

55. AA/Lands (DLO) (Atg.) of the LandsD responded that the LandsD was liaising with the SPCA. The SPCA stated that it currently had no plan to fell the tree in question and would engage an expert to inspect the tree. The LandsD had reminded the SPCA to engage professionals to assess the health condition of the tree and to consider the necessity of reinforcing the wire mesh around the tree. Also, the LandsD would send its staff from the designated team to support the SPCA.

56. The Chairman urged the departments concerned to pay attention to the issue of tree safety and conduct tree inspections in an active manner, and opined that they should take follow-up actions proactively upon the receipt of any complaints on tree

safety. Also, he suggested that the departments concerned should take the initiative to handle older trees once identified with a view to preventing accidents.

(Note: Mr KOT Siu-yuen left the meeting at 4:19 p.m.)

IX Item 9: Request for Improvement to the Security, Environment and Facilities of Three Primary Schools in Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan
(TWDC Paper No. 41/22-23)

57. The Chairman said that as the paper of this agenda item was submitted by him, he asked the Vice Chairman to take over the chair temporarily.

58. The Acting Chairman stated that Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Miss CHAN Pui-ying, Chief School Development Officer (Tsuen Wan & Kwai Tsing) (CSDO(TW&KwT)), Education Bureau (EDB);
- (2) Mr CHAN Pak-woon, Senior School Development Officer (Tsuen Wan)², EDB;
- (3) Ms LI Wing-shan, Joanmi, Senior Maintenance Surveyor (School Premises Maintenance)² (SMS(SPM)²), EDB;
- (4) Mr LEUNG San, Maintenance Surveyor (School Premises Maintenance)²¹, EDB;
- (5) Mrs LAI CHAN Wai-fan, Clara, CM/M(WT&T), HD; and
- (6) Mr TANG Kwok-hung, Stephen, DC(TW) (Atg.), HKPF.

Besides, the written replies of the HD and EDB were tabled at the meeting.

59. Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly introduced the paper.

60. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio pointed out that law and order situation in Tsuen Wan district was deteriorating recently. A restaurant in Tai Pa Street had become the victim of a burglary with a reported loss of \$58,000 on 28 September 2022. Seven units in Fu Yuen Industrial Building at Fui Yiu Kok Street had been broken into on 19 October 2022. Fortunately, no damage to property had been caused. A robbery had taken place near former Lung Wah Theatre at No. 101 Chung On Street in the small hours on 28 October 2022. He hoped that the Police would step up patrols to deter crimes.

61. CSDO(TW&KwT) of the EDB responded as follows:

- (1) currently, there were about 900 public sector schools in Hong Kong. Their school premises were built in different times according to the school building standards at the time of construction. The standards had changed over the years. School premises currently in use should meet the requirements of building safety set out in the prevailing regulations. The EDB attached importance to the safety of school premises and also understood that the public was concerned about old school premises. Hence, the EDB had all along been enhancing school facilities as needed by the schools through various measures with a view to improving the teaching and learning environment. These measures mainly included the completed School Improvement

Programme and the ongoing ones such as the reprovisioning programme, redevelopment/extension programme, as well as the annual major repair and emergency repair mechanism. Under the school-based management policy, schools could also alter the use of certain school facilities where necessary in order to cater for students' needs and to suit the overall school development;

- (2) the EDB had carried out campus improvement works for the three primary schools in question, which included retrofitting of air-conditioning systems, ventilation improvement works and replacement of old taps with sensor-activated taps. These projects had been completed successively. The EDB was arranging the installation of a lift in S.K.H. Chu Oi Primary School (Lei Muk Shue) and the related tender exercise was currently underway. The installation works were expected to commence in the first quarter of 2023 and to be completed in the third quarter of 2024 subject to the progress of the tender exercise and the works commencement date at the construction site;
- (3) regarding the malfunctioned flagstaff of S.K.H. Chu Oi Primary School (Lei Muk Shue), the EDB learnt that a removable flagstaff had been set up on campus. The school was able to hold the flag-raising ceremony regularly and display the national flag every day. It could therefore meet the EDB's requirements for schools in respect of the display of the national flag to strengthen students' sense of national identity. As the malfunctioned flagstaff was located outside the school, the EDB had discussed the matter with the HD and would continue to maintain liaison with the departments concerned for appropriate follow-up; and
- (4) regarding the enhancement of school security facilities, the EDB received an application for emergency repairs from one of the schools on the date of this meeting. The EDB would process the application according to the mechanism concerned.

62. SMS(SPM)2 of the EDB responded that for the moment, the EDB had not received any reports on paint peeling off exterior walls and insufficient supply of electricity from the schools in question. The EDB would approach the schools to learn about the situation and continue to follow up on the matters concerned.

63. CM/M(WT&T) of the HD responded as follows:

- (1) since 1 April 2014, the HD had ceased to conduct major and emergency repairs for estate aided schools according to the arrangements for repairs or alteration works for estate aided schools drawn up by the EDB and HD;
- (2) the HD had completed the inspections of the trees and planters around the three primary schools in question and confirmed that the trees were in healthy condition. The HD's contractor of tree maintenance services would pay attention to the growth of the large-sized trees as well as remove withered branches and prune overgrown branches where necessary;
- (3) the HD had all along been concerned about the cleanliness in PRH estates. Estate Offices would send staff to carry out weeding and

anti-rodent work on a regular basis. The HD would also conduct joint cleaning operations together with the relevant government departments and stakeholders; and

- (4) in the light of the burglary which took place in Lei Muk Shue Catholic Primary School on 3 November 2022, the HD had instructed the Estate Office to strengthen patrols around the school premises and would keep a close eye on the relevant situation.

64. DC(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF responded that the Police had earlier sent officers to conduct on-site inspections at the three schools together with Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly. The Police had assessed the security facilities of the schools and offered professional advice to them. For example, relatively obsolete facilities should be upgraded in order to make them compatible with the security system recommended by the Police as well as better protect the safety and property of students and school staff.

65. Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly suggested increasing the height of the fences at the three primary schools to 2.8 metres, which was the standard height recommended by the Police, and installing finer wire mesh at the school premises near the hillsides. He pointed out that the flagstaff of S.K.H. Chu Oi Primary School (Lei Muk Shue) was out of order. The national flag could not be raised and lowered along this flagstaff properly that a janitor of the primary school had to climb up to adjust the national flag on one occasion. At the end, assistance even had to be sought from firemen to defuse such dangerous situation with the aid of an aerial ladder. A principal told him that the flag-raising ceremony could not be held at school due to a malfunctioned flagstaff. The principal was worried that the school might fail to fulfil the obligations set out in the regulations related to the national flag and national emblem. As the flagstaffs of the three primary schools in Lei Muk Shue Estate were all located off campus, he urged the EDB and HD to promptly delineate the responsibility for repairing the flagstaffs. Besides, he requested the EDB to promptly fix the walls with deteriorating paint at Ho Shun Primary School (Sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen) and install taller fences on the relevant floors of the school. Additionally, he requested the removal of the planters at Lei Muk Shue Catholic Primary School because the height of these planters made them ideal steps for thieves to climb into the school. He was also worried that the spalling of concrete and exposed steel bars in the hall of Lei Muk Shue Catholic Primary School would cause potential safety hazards. As it would take time for schools to submit applications for emergency repairs and the department to process such applications, he hoped that the EDB would expeditiously follow up on the said matters. Moreover, a school had called attention to the problem of insufficient power supply years ago, but no improvement had been made so far. As a result, school staff had to bring their own laptops to work on campus. The teaching and learning quality was compromised. He hoped that the EDB would face the situation squarely. Besides, he suggested that the departments concerned should carefully examine the large-sized trees near the schools to prevent tree root problems. In addition, he suggested that the government bureaux and departments including the EDB, HD and HKPF should send staff to conduct on-site inspections jointly with Members at the three primary schools in Lei Muk Shue Estate.

66. The Acting Chairman asked the Secretariat to arrange on-site inspections at the three primary schools in Lei Muk Shue Estate for Members and the government bureaux and departments.

67. The Chairman resumed the chair.

(Post-meeting note: The EDB, HD and HKPF had sent staff to conduct on-site inspections at the three primary schools in Lei Muk Shue Estate together with Members on 21 December 2022. The discussion on the matters concerned would continue at the next meeting.)

X Item 10: Crime Brief for Tsuen Wan District – Comparison of Crime Statistics between August to September 2022 and August to September 2021 (TWDC Paper No. 42/22-23)

68. DC(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF briefed Members on the crime situation of Tsuen Wan district.

69. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio urged the Police to clamp down on illegal gambling in Shek Pik San Tsuen. Moreover, regarding the emission of hammering noise from late-night recycling activities at the location next to Luen Yan Street Refuse Collection Point, the Cleansing Section of the FEHD had stated in the past that it would remind the contractors in question to pay attention to the noise problem. Yet, he had also found that some cleaning workers of private refuse collection contractors had generated noise between 2:00 a.m. and 3:00 a.m. He urged the Police to enhance patrols and issue warnings with a view to reducing the nuisance caused to nearby residents. In addition, some residents pointed out that they had reported late-night domestic noise to the Police in order to seek assistance. However, the police officers had stated that they were unable to provide assistance upon arrival at the scene and the residents felt frustrated. He urged the Police to make all efforts in helping residents resolve problems. Finally, he pointed out that a number of electric bicycles had been seen at Sha Tsui Road and other places. Those electric bicycles did not only travel on pavements but also across pedestrian crossings, causing dangerous situations. He advised the Police to give warnings to the offenders and strengthen law enforcement.

70. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu was concerned about the more-than-tenfold increase in sexual crimes. He said that the problem of on-street solicitation was severe in the Tsuen Wan South constituency. As it was not an offence to engage in sex work according to the laws of Hong Kong, he understood that there were difficulties in law enforcement. He also enquired about the law enforcement against sexual crimes. Besides, triad-related crimes had also doubled approximately. He said that he grew up as a child in Tsuen Wan district and remarked that triad-related crimes were more serious than before. He enquired whether the triad problem had deteriorated again.

71. The Chairman was concerned about street gambling in the district. He also opined that this problem was rather rampant in the PRH estates and parks around Lei Muk Shue and Shek Wai Kok. He noted that the Police would conduct the operation against illegal gamblers at the PRH estates concerned about once a month. Yet, the problem of illegal gambling still occurred every day. He urged the Police to increase

the frequency of the operation. Furthermore, he urged the Police to continue to improve the problem of traffic congestion at Kwok Shui Road. Finally, he was pleased to note the launch of the “Scameter” website by the Police, on which information was consolidated to help the public identify high-risk fraud pitfalls. He also suggested that the Police should conduct decoy operations to arrest the mastermind behind the fraud cases, thereby preventing the public from falling into different types of traps set by fraudsters.

72. DC(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF responded as follows:

- (1) the HKPF would continue to take regular enforcement actions in Shek Pik San Tsuen. The Police faced a shortage of manpower at present. Apart from traffic matters, it should also pay attention to and support other types of cases. Subject to the availability of manpower, the HKPF would properly allocate resources for handling various types of cases;
- (2) the HKPF would remind officers to make every effort to handle public requests for assistance. It would also review and follow up on relevant complaints;
- (3) the anti-epidemic measures were relaxed at present. Hence, many restaurants would operate until midnight in order to solicit business, and the public would also have gatherings more frequently. The Police would enhance patrols accordingly. It would also issue advice to or take enforcement actions against uncooperative persons;
- (4) the HKPF would step up efforts on designated traffic enforcement days to combat unlawful behaviour such as the use of electric mobility devices (e.g. electric bicycles). Two men had been arrested between August and September 2022 by the Police for alleged offences including driving an unlicensed vehicle, driving without a valid license, using a motor vehicle without third party insurance, driving without wearing an approved protective helmet and driving on a pavement. They were fined \$11,000 and \$4,000 respectively. The Police should prove that the users’ electric mobility devices were mechanically propelled in order to meet the evidential requirements. The Police would continue to enhance the efficiency in obtaining evidence and strengthen law enforcement;
- (5) the Police focused resources on enhanced enforcement against sexual crimes this year with a view to preventing the cityscape from being marred. The Police had already increased the frequency of arrest operations. For the time being, it showed no sign that the number of the sexual cases concerned were on the rise;
- (6) members of triad gangs, commonly known as “black societies”, used to blackmail shop operators in the streets. They changed their approach to manipulate upstairs party rooms nowadays. The Police had therefore conducted arrest operations at upstairs party rooms, targeting at the situation in question. The number of triad-related crimes had increased as a consequence of the arrest operations;
- (7) the Police had recently carried out two ambush operations and arrested several elderly gamblers. Previously, the Police had issued penalty notices to offenders pursuant to the Prevention and Control of Disease

(Prohibition on Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G). However, the difficulty in law enforcement had increased following the relaxation of the anti-epidemic measures. The HKPF considered that a multi-pronged approach should be adopted to address the problem concerned (e.g. taking enforcement actions in tandem with the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement in Public Housing Estates) with a view to achieving a more successful outcome; and

- (8) online shopping was very convenient nowadays. Also, the majority of scam websites were set up outside Hong Kong and the money involved would flow to different countries. As such, decoy operations would require considerable resources. The implementation of the Real-name Registration Programme for Subscriber Identification Module Cards on 1 March 2022 enabled the Police to track down the sources of fraud cases more easily. Besides, quite a number of informants of sexual crimes (e.g. involving activities such as online romance and compensated dating) and investment scams often refused to provide necessary information for the Police out of embarrassment, posing difficulties in law enforcement. The Police had set up the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre against these types of scams. It would also promote the latest anti-fraud information at related meetings in a timely manner.

XI Item 11: Crime Brief for Ma Wan – August to September 2022
(TWDC Paper No. 43/22-23)

73. DC(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF briefed Members on the crime situation of Ma Wan.

XII Item 12: Information Papers

74. Members noted the contents of the following information papers:

- (1) Report of District Planning, Development and Facilities Management Committee
(TWDC Paper No. 44/22-23);
- (2) Report of Environment, Health and Climate Change Committee
(TWDC Paper No. 45/22-23); and
- (3) Report of Traffic and Transport Committee
(TWDC Paper No. 46/22-23).

XIII Item 13: Any Other Business

75. The Chairman said that he had received a letter from the LCSD earlier inviting the TWDC to participate in an exhibition entitled “Green Attractions in 18 Districts” by proposing a highly recommended green attraction in the district. The TWDC could submit relevant photographs or videos or continue to use the information submitted last year. As the TWDC had submitted quite a number of photographs last year, he suggested that it should continue to use those materials to participate in the exhibition. Members unanimously agreed to the arrangement.

76. The Chairman thanked Members and representatives from government departments for attending the on-site inspection concerning the safety issues at Tso Kung Tam. He said that on the day of the on-site inspection, participants had offered

quite a few suggestions for reminding the public that the water at the location concerned was deep and it was dangerous to enter the water. For example, they suggested erecting warning signs at suitable locations or relocating the existing warning signs. He urged the HKPF to enhance the publicity efforts and provide prompt assistance in case of accidents.

77. DO(TW) of the TWDO stated that as a foreigner was involved in the accident at Tso Kung Tam, the TWDO would replace the existing old signs and provide new warning signs printed in different languages. Besides, considering that a relatively deep pond was situated at the accident location, the TWDO would erect a sign next to the location in question and hang a banner at a suitable spot with a view to reinforcing the warning effect.

78. DC(TW) (Atg.) of the HKPF stated that the HKPF was concerned about public safety. He said that as the weather was getting cool and dry in recent days, he anticipated that fewer people would go to the location concerned for water play. However, the Police found that some people would still have a barbecue there, causing a noise problem. As the location was not a designated barbecue site, people having a barbecue there might accidentally set trees on fire and pose danger. In view of this, the Police would send officers to conduct patrols on a regular basis. He suggested that an on-site inspection should be conducted after the installation of the aforesaid signs with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of the precautions concerned and preventing the recurrence of tragedies.

79. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu said that he had previously conveyed the safety issues at Tso Kung Tam to the TWDO and requested an on-site inspection. In his opinion, the TWDO's installation of additional warning signs was a hard measure. He had conducted an on-site inspection with green groups at the location concerned before. Besides, he suggested that the publicity and educational work should be carried out by social welfare groups or members of local communities to raise the safety awareness among the public, thereby improving the problems in question.

80. The Chairman said that he had received feedback from some participants of the on-site inspection. They told him that some individuals at the scene had videoed the speeches of certain participants during the on-site inspection. In their opinion, this practice was undesirable as it might affect the exchange between departmental representatives and Members. He pointed out the difference between an on-site inspection and a TWDC meeting, i.e. the latter was an open meeting which the media and members of the public were permitted to record on video. He enquired about Members' views on individuals making video recordings during the on-site inspection.

81. DO(TW) of the TWDO stated that he was unable to attend the aforesaid on-site inspection. The Secretariat could provide assistance if Members held that it was necessary to put forth suggestions in relation to the arrangements for participating in on-site inspections.

82. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu said that as an elected Member, he should request the Government to disclose details of the discussion during the on-site inspection. Thus,

he was surprised and disappointed at the Chairman's judgement. He pointed out that in a democratic society which was open and civilised, everyone should have the right to make video recordings at a public place. Anyone at the scene who did not wish to appear on camera could make a request to the person who was filming. Moreover, as the Convenor of the Strategy Group on Promotion of Recreational, Sports, Cultural and Arts Activities, he had received many enquiries on the Tsuen Wan Arts Festival. He suggested that the TWDO should provide him with the relevant information.

83. The Chairman opined that it would be more desirable for anyone who wished to make video recordings to obtain consent in advance from the persons at the scene who would be captured on screen. He stated that during an on-site inspection, if any Members or representatives from government departments did not wish to appear on camera, they could request the person in question to stop filming.

84. The Chairman was concerned about the unclear delineation of area of the en-route stop of bus route no. 36 of the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (KMB), which was set up near Lady Trench Polyclinic. He pointed out that some chairs had been set up there. Also, the bus stop sign had been moved elsewhere, confusing the passengers waiting for buses. Disputes and quarrels even broke out among the passengers sometimes. He urged the TD and KMB to follow up on the matter concerned.

85. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio was concerned about the management issues of several temporary car parks next to City Point. He said that some residents of City Point who had been living in Tsuen Wan for years told him about the problems of the car parks, including the accumulation of refuse, broken wire mesh and dusty environment. Even though the residents had filed complaints repeatedly, the situation had not been improved whereas the contractors were allowed to continue to operate those car parks. He had also lodged complaints to the LandsD at least twice, but the improved situation had only lasted for a while. He pointed out that while the District Lands Officer of the DLO had taken up office for about two years, Members' enquiries were mostly answered by the Administrative Assistant of the DLO at meetings. In his opinion, the District Lands Officer was ultimately responsible for handling the relevant matters, he thus urged the departments concerned to seriously follow up on the said problems and resolve the problem of refuse accumulation at the car parks. In addition, under a previous agenda item of this meeting, he had mentioned the site on Yeung Uk Road near Kwu Hang Road where a hazardous tree was planted. This site was temporarily leased to the SPCA at the moment. He had sent letters to the departments concerned to convey the problem of refuse accumulation at the site and request them to enhance the monitoring of the cleaning work there. He urged the departments concerned to proactively tackle the problem and properly handle the affairs within their respective purview, thereby improving the situation and satisfying the residents.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the problems of refuse accumulation and broken wire mesh at the three short-term tenancy car parks next to City Point, the DLO had received the related complaints earlier. The DLO had sent letters to the contractors of the car parks and requested them to make improvements and follow up on the management

issues (e.g. repairs). The problems concerned were followed up during the on-site inspection in early December 2022. The contractors had also put up notices in the car parks, reminding users to refrain from littering. Besides, regarding the accumulation of refuse within the site on Yeung Uk Road near Kwu Hang Road, the DLO had also requested the licensee to follow up on the problem in writing. The licensee had replied the DLO that he/she was aware of the problem and would assign staff to carry out clearing work on a regular basis. This problem was followed up during the on-site inspection in early January 2023.)

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat
January 2023