

(Translation)

Minutes of the 21st Meeting of Tsuen Wan District Council (2/2023)

Date: 25 July 2023

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 WONG Ka-wa

Mr KOT Siu-yuen, MH

Mr LAU Cheuk-yu

In Attendance:

Mr AU Ka-shing, Billy, JP

District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr LEE Soeng-him, Sean

Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), 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-yea, Money

District Lands Officer/Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department

Ms YEUNG Sien-ching, Susana

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

Mr HO Kai-ho, Stanley

Chief Engineer/West 4, Civil Engineering and Development Department

Ms LIM Ting-ting, Sylvia

Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms NG Kam-yim	District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
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

For discussion of item 1:

Ms CHAN Wing-shiu, May, JP	Commissioner for Labour, Labour Department
Miss FUNG Lai-hing, Karen	Senior Labour Officer (Employment Services) (Operation), Labour Department

For discussion of item 4:

Mr WONG Kong-yeung	Chief Highway Engineer/New Territories West, Highways Department
Mr KWOK Kam-hung, Calvin	Senior Maintenance Engineer/South West, Highways Department
Mr SIN Ka-ki	Senior Landscape Architect/D (New Territories), Highways Department
Mr LIN Weidong, Eldon	Maintenance Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Highways Department

For discussion of item 5:

Mr CHAN Wing-chow, Edwin	Senior Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Transport Department
Mr WONG Hei-long, Ken	District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Highways Department

For discussion of item 6:

Mr CHAN Wing-chow, Edwin	Senior Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Transport Department
Mr WONG Hei-long, Ken	District Engineer/Tsuen Wan, Highways Department

For discussion of item 7:

Mr CHIU Yat-ming, Atwood	Country Parks Officer (Central), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Mr YAN Tung-hin, Borze	Engineer/New Territories West (Headworks 3), Water Supplies Department

Action

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the 21st meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) and introduced:

- (1) Ms YEUNG Sien-ching, Susana, Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing) (Acting) (AA/Lands (DLO) (Atg.)), Lands Department (LandsD), who attended this meeting on behalf of Mr YU Hok-chi, Raymond; and

- (2) Mr TANG Kwok-hung, Stephen, District Commander (Tsuen Wan) (Acting) (DC(TW) (Atg.)), Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), who attended this meeting on behalf of Mr NG Cheuk-hang, Almerick.

2. The Chairman reminded Members that according to sections 17(1) and 27 of the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders (the “Standing Orders”), any Member who wished to move a motion or ask any question at a meeting of the Council was required to give the Secretary a notice in writing ten clear working days before the meeting. Thus, he reminded Members that the date of the next meeting was 26 September 2023 and the deadline for submission of papers was 11 September 2023. In addition, according to section 28 of the Standing Orders, unless otherwise agreed by the Chairman, Members could only speak once on each agenda item at the meeting and each Member could speak up to 1.5 minutes. A maximum of five Members could speak on each agenda item. If more than five Members spoke on an agenda item, he would shorten the speaking time of each Member. The Member(s) who had submitted a paper would have 2 minutes to give an introduction and 1.5 minutes to draw a conclusion. The representatives of the departments would have up to 2 minutes to give a response.

II Item 1: Visit of Commissioner for Labour to Tsuen Wan District Council

3. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHAN Wing-shiu, May, JP, the Commissioner for Labour, to the TWDC. She would brief Members on the work of the Labour Department (LD). Another representative from the LD attending the meeting was Miss FUNG Lai-hing, Karen, Senior Labour Officer (Employment Services) (Operation).

4. The Commissioner for Labour introduced the work of the LD to Members.

5. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said that public enquiries on labour rights were currently handled by staff of the branch offices of the Labour Relations Division under the LD. However, in order to use the consultation services, members of the public had to visit a branch office in person, which was rather inconvenient for certain persons (e.g. pregnant women). Some people had relayed to him that staff of the “1823” manning the LD’s enquiry hotline (i.e. 2717 1771) at present were unable to answer public enquiries on more complicated issues. He thus advised the LD to set up a hotline for enquiries on labour issues to be managed by Assistant Labour Officers I. Besides, he proposed that the administrative arrangements for the consultation services at the branch offices should be enhanced with a view to further offering the general public with greater convenience. Staff of officer grade should also directly answer enquiries from people who visited the branch offices in person where necessary. Noting that the establishment of the Labour Relations Division (Tsuen Wan) comprised one Labour Officer, three Assistant Labour Officers I and one Assistant Labour Officer II, he suggested expanding the staff establishment so as to provide better services to the public. Additionally, the persons-in-charge of some owners’ corporations had told him that due to a shortage of security guards nowadays, they had to hire part-time security guards by paying high wages. Yet, the quality of part-timers could not be assured. He enquired whether the LD could provide assistance accordingly. Finally, he urged the LD to enhance the dissemination mechanism of the Heat Stress at Work Warning.

6. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu said he was seriously concerned about the issue of false self-employment. He said that he was the only Member who had raised labour issues on his personal webpage, e.g. enquiring about a concert incident occurred earlier at the Hong Kong Coliseum (HKC). He pointed out that food delivery and logistics services with app-based platforms were emerging industries nowadays, but the Government had not yet defined the employment relationship between deliverers and delivery platforms. The Labour Tribunal had earlier ruled that an employer-employee relationship existed between a petitioning deliverer and an app-based logistics company. The LD had stated back then that it would review the prevailing policies. He thus enquired of the LD about the progress of the review. Furthermore, quite a number of private housing estates situated in his constituency. The frequent changes of property management companies resulted in turnover of security guards, adversely affecting the neighbourhood relations. He enquired whether the LD would formulate appropriate measures to attract and retain talents in the security services industry.

7. Mr KOT Siu-yuen said he was highly concerned about occupational safety and labour rights. He pointed out that many workers seeking assistance from the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions (FTU) had very limited knowledge of the Employment Ordinance. As a result, disputes would easily arise between employers and employees. He suggested that in order to minimise labour conflicts, the LD should redouble its efforts to promote the understanding of the Employment Ordinance by setting up on-street booths. He said that the FTU had all along been striving to extend the duration of the paternity leave to seven days, and urged the LD to consider this proposal.

8. Mr WONG Ka-wa said that despite the continuous implementation of infrastructure projects in Hong Kong over the years, the construction industry had been troubled by a shortage of manpower all along. He pointed out that foreign workers should be imported on the premise of ensuring the employment priority of local workers. He urged the LD to coordinate with the departments concerned to enhance the manpower training for the construction industry. For example, the enrolment quota of programmes for training technical workers responsible for operating heavy machinery and equipment should be increased. As far as the transport industry was concerned, he pointed out that since many older minibus drivers wished to receive social welfare allowances for the elderly, they chose to stop working although they were still fit for work. He urged the LD and departments concerned to examine the feasibility of relaxing the income limits for social welfare allowances of such applicants in order to encourage them to stay in work. Moreover, regarding the Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work issued by the LD, he opined that the measure was rolled out quite hastily and there were also difficulties in implementation. For instance, when the Heat Stress at Work Warning was in effect, employers should take corresponding measures (e.g. arranging extra manpower to cover for employees while they were taking a break) to prevent negative impacts on the work progress or service quality.

9. Mr CHAN Sung-ip said that the construction industry had all along suffered from a shortage of manpower. Besides, subcontracting was a common practice in

the construction industry. Yet, poorly managed multi-layer subcontracted projects often led to subcontractors' failure to pay wages to construction workers on time. He proposed that the LD should step up the monitoring to protect employees from adverse impacts caused by wage arrears. For example, it should implement measures to require principal contractors, superior subcontractors, or superior nominated subcontractors to settle unpaid wages on behalf of subcontractors upon workers' provision of attendance records. Additionally, he pointed out that safety officers played a pivotal role in ensuring safe implementation of works. He advised that in an effort to minimise the occurrence of industrial accidents, the LD should review the safety standards and enhance its monitoring to ensure that contractors had engaged safety officers in compliance with the regulation.

10. Mr MAN Yu-ming opined that the abolition of the "offsetting" arrangement under the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) system would pose a heavy financial burden on micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). The Government had stated that it would implement a Government Subsidy Scheme offering subsidies of over \$10 billion in total to share employers' expenses on post-transition portion of severance payment (SP)/long service payment (LSP). Although the financial commitment made by the Government was considerable, he was still concerned about the sustainability of the subsidy scheme. Moreover, he pointed out that the Government had amended the penalties of the occupational safety and occupational health legislation. The maximum fine for committing related serious offences had been increased from \$500,000 to \$10 million. While agreeing that the imposition of heavier fines could achieve a better deterrence effect, he held that the Government should concurrently enhance the monitoring and inspection work with a view to minimising injuries and accidents at work.

11. The Chairman stated that he was gravely concerned about cases of industrial injuries and fatalities. In his opinion, such injuries and fatalities would cause irreparable damage to the families involved. Thus, he urged the LD to enhance inspections, take preventive measures and carry out educational work apart from increasing the fine levels. Also, he noted that some workers had to work in a dusty environment but did not wear personal protective equipment (e.g. ear muffs, masks or goggles) when performing duties which involved drilling the ground and welding. The failure to do so might cause damage to their health and hearing, resulting in family, social, health and medical problems in the long run. He urged the LD to make further efforts to give advice to workers and employers, and to supervise contractors at construction sites in order to mitigate workers' risk of injuries and fatalities arising from occupational accidents. Moreover, he hoped that the LD would provide clearer information on its Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work so that both employers and employees could learn about the measures they should take when the warning was in effect. Finally, some job-seekers had conveyed to him that unscrupulous employers would post misleading vacancy information on the recruitment platform of the LD. It was not until the final stage of recruitment or the victims had taken up the job that they discovered the actual wages and remuneration packages were different from those stated on the recruitment advertisements. Their time was therefore wasted. He hoped that the LD would review the situation and strengthen its monitoring.

12. The Commissioner for Labour responded as follows:
- (1) the LD attached great importance to industrial safety, especially the construction industry which had a relatively large number of accidents. She stated that in response to the problems of unsafe workplaces/dangerous conduct, the LD would send officers to conduct inspections on a regular basis. The LD's officers would immediately request contractors to make improvements and issue written warnings to them once contraventions of regulations were identified, thereby ensuring the occupational safety of workers. While the LD placed heavy emphasis on inspections, it was impossible for the LD's officers to visit and inspect all workplaces. Therefore, the LD accorded a higher priority to enhancing the publicity to remind all stakeholders (including contractors, safety officers and workers) to fulfil their responsibilities. They should duly perform their respective duties and take precautionary measures as appropriate in order to prevent the occurrence of accidents;
 - (2) apart from the lack of security guards mentioned by the Member, the problem of manpower shortage had also been experienced by different sectors. In view of the situation, the Government had endorsed the implementation of a series of measures, including enhancing the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS) of the LD, in order to ease the shortage of manpower across various sectors. Under the Enhanced Supplementary Labour Scheme, the general exclusion of 26 job categories as well as unskilled/low-skilled posts from labour importation under the SLS would be suspended for two years. The LD would scrutinise each application for importation of labour, and employers were also required to carry out a four-week local recruitment exercise in an open manner to ensure that the employment of local workers was prioritised;
 - (3) the LD would keep an eye and stringently follow up on the alleged posting of false vacancy information by employers on the department's recruitment platform;
 - (4) regarding the changes of career paths and retraining of local job-seekers, the Labour and Welfare Bureau would regularly hold meetings with the LD, Employees Retraining Board and Vocational Training Council. At the meeting, the LD would convey to the departments concerned the Member's views on enhancing the retraining for local workers, such as the provision of training and education to help young people interested in joining the construction industry or other emerging industries to acquire new job-related skills;
 - (5) there were local precedent cases on which the rulings made by the Court of Final Appeal could help determine whether a person was self-employed. When ascertaining whether two parties had an employer-employee relationship, the court would take into account an array of criteria or factors, e.g. the degree of control exercised by the alleged employer over the work of the alleged self-employed person, as well as whether the alleged self-employed person was free to hire helpers to assist with the work, had to provide his or her own equipment/tools required for the work, and was exposed to financial

risk. Moreover, the LD had consulted the Department of Justice (DoJ) on the concert incident occurred at the HKC. The DoJ held that an employment relationship existed after drawing reference from the principles adopted by the Court of Final Appeal in the precedent cases concerned. Additionally, the LD and DoJ would study the details of the case which the Labour Tribunal ruled in favour of the deliverer who worked for the app-based logistics company as mentioned by the Member. The LD noted that other regions had taken various measures to protect the rights of digital platform workers. It learnt that some countries were studying the necessity to introduce legislation in this regard. While relevant rulings had been handed down by foreign courts, the courts had also stipulated that those rulings were only applicable to respective cases. Hence, all aspects of the relationship between two parties should be examined in order to determine whether the relationship was an employer-employee one. In view of the ever-increasing number of digital platform workers nowadays, the LD had designated officers to study and draw reference from the approaches of different countries. The LD was currently studying a range of viable options to address this complicated issue, e.g. giving consideration to the introduction of guidelines or legislation. It would also seek views from various parties in a timely manner;

- (6) having listened to stakeholders' views, the Government had increased the total financial commitment of the Government Subsidy Scheme to over \$33 billion with a view to sharing employers' expenses on SP/LSP after the abolition of the "offsetting" arrangement. As for cases in which the total SP/LSP expenses payable by employers were below \$500,000 annually, the SP/LSP expenses payable by employers to each employee would be capped (i.e. the "capped amount") in the first nine years after the abolition of the "offsetting" arrangement, and the "capped amount" was as low as \$3,000 per employee in the first three years. The Government estimated that the SP/LSP expenses of nearly 90% of MSMEs would not exceed \$500,000 per year, and therefore MSMEs could benefit from this arrangement in general;
- (7) the Government had re-examined the Designated Savings Account Scheme. Upon an in-depth study, the Government held that the scheme brought limited benefits and the contributions were insufficient to sustain its implementation in the long run. The statutory obligation of employers to pay SP/LSP was laid down in the Employment Ordinance. As interest rates were rising at present, the Government understood that employers wished to retain capital at their disposal and therefore did not mandate employers to make contributions. Under the enhanced Government Subsidy Scheme, employers should be able to afford the extra expenses following the abolition of the "offsetting" arrangement. Also, the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund provided a safety net for employees, protecting their SP benefits to a certain extent when employers closed their businesses. Taking these factors into consideration, the Government had decided not to pursue the Designated Savings Account Scheme any further;

- (8) as the Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work had only been introduced for a short period of time, the LD was still monitoring the implementation of the guidance notes. The guidance notes specified measures employers and employees should take when the Heat Stress at Work Warning was in force, and were applicable to indoor workplaces (without an air-conditioning system) or those outdoor. The guidance notes not only encouraged employers to arrange rest breaks for employees, but more importantly served the function of urging them to properly take measures to prevent heat stroke among employees. For instance, employers should provide employees with cooling vests, portable fans, shaded rest areas and sufficient drinking water. If employers had duly adopted the relevant measures, they could adjust rest breaks according to the guidance notes. It was not necessary for employers to arrange rest breaks for employees on an hourly basis under certain circumstances. She understood that some workers might find the guidance notes relatively complex. The LD would carry out publicity through various channels. For example, it would make TV announcements and organise talks with a view to enhancing the publicity;
- (9) the LD had printed a collection of pamphlets (e.g. “A Concise Guide to the Employment Ordinance” and “Employment Ordinance at a Glance”) to introduce the contents of the Employment Ordinance to the public. It also distributed the pamphlets through multiple channels with the assistance of the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres in various districts and workers’ unions. Recently, the LD had also organised recruitment activities with the use of on-street booths. If this publicity approach proved effective, the LD would consider adopting it in a wider scope of work; and
- (10) she thanked the Member for his views on the LD’s enquiry hotline and the consultation services offered at the branch offices. The LD would gain a deeper understanding of the issues and follow them up accordingly.

13. The Chairman thanked the Commissioner for Labour for her responses. He said that Members who wished to put forth additional views could contact the department concerned after the meeting.

III Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes of the 20th Meeting held on 30.5.2023

14. 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 6 of paragraph 43 of the minutes of the 20th meeting held on 30 May 2023, “交通燈燈號” (the traffic signals) should be amended as “前有交通燈標誌” (the Traffic Signals Ahead sign).

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

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

IV Item 3: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

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

(Note: Mr WONG Ka-wa left the meeting at 3:39 p.m.)

V Item 4: Streetscape Beautification at Footpath around Lo Tak Court in Tsuen Wan

(TWDC Paper No. 10/2023)

18. The Chairman stated that the Highways Department (HyD) would brief Members on the work progress of the streetscape beautification at the footpaths around Lo Tak Court. The representatives from the department attending the meeting were:

- (1) Mr WONG Kong-yeung, Chief Highway Engineer/New Territories West (CHE/NTW), HyD;
- (2) Mr KWOK Kam-hung, Calvin, Senior Maintenance Engineer/South West (SME/SW), HyD;
- (3) Mr SIN Ka-ki, Senior Landscape Architect/D (New Territories) (SLA/D(NT)), HyD; and
- (4) Mr LIN Weidong, Eldon, Maintenance Engineer/Tsuen Wan, HyD.

19. CHE/NTW, SLA/D(NT) and SME/SW of the HyD introduced the paper.

20. Mr KOT Siu-yuen said that the location concerned fell within his constituency. He agreed that the paving blocks of the footpaths warranted replacement and repairs. Yet, he considered the colours used in the design rather garish and hoped that the department would make improvements accordingly. Besides, he supported the use of thematic manhole covers but was discontented with the design concept. He noted that the design of overseas manhole covers would feature landmarks and cultures of respective regions. Tsuen Wan had developed into a new town for 61 years already. In his opinion, the walled-village-themed design adopted by the HyD failed to accentuate the young and energetic image of Lo Tak Court. In addition, he opined that there was also room for improvement in the design of planter stickers.

21. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu said he used to live in Lo Tak Court when he was young. He opined that the design of the paving blocks would make people feel dizzy. Also, he had never seen squirrels in Tsuen Wan. He thus did not understand why the department included a squirrel motif in the conceptual images of manhole covers. In his opinion, the department concerned was unfamiliar with the unique features of Tsuen Wan. He also enquired whether the HyD had sought views from Members and residents of Tsuen Wan during the design stage. Besides, he enquired about the cost of the streetscape beautification project, and was concerned about the impact on the public when the project was being implemented.

22. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said he welcomed the concept and direction of the streetscape beautification project, and enquired about its cost. However, he opined that the patterns of the paving blocks would make people feel light-headed. He was concerned whether such patterns would cause dizziness or falls among the elderly. Besides, he hoped that the streetscape beautification project would be extended to other areas in Tsuen Wan with a relatively high pedestrian flow, e.g. Yeung Uk Road and Hoi Shing Road, in the future. He reminded that the department concerned should conduct another consultation on the design before implementing the project. Finally, he had received views from a visually impaired resident in Tsuen Wan on the metal bollards at the safety islands in Lo Tak Court and outside McDonald's on Tai Ho Road. While believing that these waist-high bollards performed the function of preventing illegal parking or out-of-control vehicles from ramming onto the safety islands, the resident opined that blind people were likely to bump into the bollards because the bollards reached up to one's waist and danger was thus posed. If the HyD planned to install additional metal bollards or alter the existing ones under the streetscape beautification project, he urged the HyD to take into account the aforesaid views or consult organisations for the visually impaired first in order to refine the design of metal bollards.

23. Mr MAN Yu-ming agreed on the overall design concept of the project. However, as there were many diners in Lo Tak Court, he was concerned about whether the beautification works would impede the street cleansing work. Moreover, he approved the incorporation of walled-village elements into the design to showcase Tsuen Wan's transformation from a rural village into a new town. Also, he supported beautifying planters on the street, but pointed out that the hygiene condition of planters in the district had all along been unsatisfactory. Hence, apart from the design, importance should also be attached to the management and maintenance work. While supporting the implementation of streetscape beautification projects in other areas in Tsuen Wan, he was more concerned about the post-construction management and maintenance work of the department concerned.

24. The Chairman said that Lo Tak Court was home to quite a number of diners despite its small area. Many people would queue up to buy culinary delights round the clock and enjoy their food on the spot. In his opinion, the actual situation should be taken into consideration under the project. For instance, paving blocks should not be laid unevenly; otherwise, pedestrians would trip and fall easily. Also, as styrofoam boxes and bamboo sticks might be thrown into planters, he held that the number of planters should be kept to a minimum as far as possible to prevent environmental hygiene problems. Regarding the design, he opined that filling a relatively small place like Lo Tak Court with excessive colours would make people feel dizzy. It might be difficult for the public to grow accustomed to the transformation. Moreover, he considered the design of the manhole covers too fancy. The patterns might give an illusion that flowers had fallen on the manhole covers. He requested the HyD to carefully study and put together amendment proposals after listening to Members' views.

25. CHE/NTW of the HyD responded as follows:
- (1) the HyD would replace the paving blocks at the location concerned on a small scale and in phases with a view to minimising the impact on pedestrians. The works were anticipated to commence in the third quarter of 2023 and would be completed in about three or four months. As the area in need of replacement of paving blocks measured several thousands of square metres, the project would cost around \$5 million;
 - (2) regarding the replacement of paving blocks, the HyD would regularly send staff to inspect the construction sites to prevent paving blocks from being laid unevenly. The HyD would also discuss with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in order to enhance the inspections of planters and the street cleansing work;
 - (3) waist-high bollards performed the functions of preventing illegal parking and enhancing road safety. As a serious traffic accident had occurred at the junction of Tsuen Wan Market Street and Tai Ho Road in the past, the Government had installed waist-high bollards at the locations concerned to ensure the safety of pedestrians. The HyD would re-examine the situation together with the Transport Department (TD) and adjust the number of waist-high bollards where necessary;
 - (4) the HyD planned to initially implement streetscape beautification projects at three locations in Hong Kong. Having learnt from the experience, the HyD would then study improvements to the project and extend it to other districts; and
 - (5) the HyD thanked Members for their input, and would give due consideration to their views when implementing the beautification works or other related projects.

26. The Chairman urged the HyD to consider Members' views on the design and utility in order to improve the design of the project and where necessary, to consult the Member of the constituency concerned again.

VI Item 5: Strong Request for a Study on the Construction of Pedestrian Crossing Facilities to Provide a Convenient and Direct Linkage between Hoi Shing Road and Tsuen Wan Harbourfront
(TWDC Paper No. 11/2023)

27. The Chairman stated that Mr LAU Cheuk-yu submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr CHAN Wing-chow, Edwin, Senior Engineer/Tsuen Wan (SE/TW), TD; and
- (2) Mr WONG Hei-long, Ken, District Engineer/Tsuen Wan (DE/TW), HyD.

Besides, the consolidated written reply of the TD and HyD was tabled at the meeting.

28. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu introduced the paper.

29. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said he supported the proposal in principle. However, the reply from the government departments indicated that multiple constraints and challenges were identified in the proposal. If the proposed construction of a footbridge was unviable, he enquired about the feasibility of

constructing a subway instead. He also proposed setting up exists/entrances of the subway near residential premises and linking those exists/entrances to Exit A2 at the lobby level of Tsuen Wan West Station. This approach was similar to that adopted at Causeway Bay Station for connecting Exit A and Times Square through a long underpass.

30. SE/TW of the TD responded as follows:

- (1) the HyD had considered the proposed alignment connecting Hoi Shing Road to Tsuen Wan West harbourfront via Footbridge B when working on the design of Footbridge B under the Extension of Footbridge Network in Tsuen Wan. However, the technical requirements were extremely stringent for the works concerned. The proposed alignment ran through the carriageway at Tai Chung Road where major drainage channels had been laid underground. It was thus difficult to install piles of the footbridge at Tai Chung Road. Also, a substation of the CLP Power Hong Kong Limited coupled with a heavy presence of underground public utilities was located near the west of the proposed alignment, whereas the implementation of construction works was restricted in the east of the proposed alignment because Clague Garden Estate was located nearby. Besides, the traffic was very heavy at the roundabout on Tai Chung Road and the vehicular access to/from Tsuen Wan Road near the proposed alignment. The construction works concerned would therefore bring about a huge traffic impact. The alignment and height of the footbridge would also be constrained. Moreover, the construction of a subway would also meet with the same or even greater technical difficulties; and
- (2) the current proposed alignment of Footbridge B could effectively connect the footbridge to the existing pedestrian walkways. Footbridge B would offer convenience to the public around Tai Chung Road and Hoi Shing Road as a covered footbridge leading to Tsuen Wan West Station along these two roads. Upon deliberating over the technical and cost-effectiveness issues, the TD had no plan at present to connect Hoi Shing Road and Tsuen Wan West harbourfront by adopting other alignment alternatives.

31. DE/TW of the HyD stated that the HyD had nothing to add since the TD's representative had already detailed the relevant factors for consideration.

32. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu opined that there was always a way to get the proposal off the ground, except that the departments should take into account its cost-effectiveness. In his opinion, the high pedestrian flow of the walkways between Hoi Shing Road and Tsuen Wan West reflected the residents' strong demand for a footbridge at the location concerned. He advised the departments concerned to explore suitable proposals again with a view to providing convenience for the public.

VII Item 6: Request for Introduction of Long-term Measures for Improvement of Air-Conditioning to Solve the Problem of High Temperature in the Enclosed Footbridge/Walkway Connecting Nina Mall 2 and Ocean Pride Mall
(TWDC Paper No. 12/2023)

33. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio submitted the paper. The representatives from the departments responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Ms HO Mun-ye, Money, District Lands Officer/Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), LandsD;
- (2) Ms YEUNG Sien-ching, Susana, AA/Lands (DLO) (Atg.), LandsD;
- (3) Mr CHAN Wing-chow, Edwin, SE/TW, TD; and
- (4) Mr WONG Hei-long, Ken, DE/TW, HyD.

Besides, the written replies of the LandsD and HyD were tabled at the meeting.

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

35. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said that Tsuen Wan district had been hailed as the “City of Footbridges”, but the extremely hot and stuffy environment of the enclosed footbridge/walkway mentioned in the captioned paper had become a subject of criticism by its users. Besides the residents of Parc City and Ocean Pride, residents from other areas of Tsuen Wan (including Belvedere Garden, The Pavilia Bay, City Point and The Dynasty, etc.) would also use the walkway concerned to access shopping malls for shopping and dining. However, the temperature still reached 29 to 30 degrees Celsius upon the installation of air coolers in the walkway, which was an unacceptable situation from his perspective. He hoped that the representatives from the departments concerned would provide professional advice on the residents’ suggestion of retrofitting air curtains at the location concerned. In addition, he suggested that the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO) should coordinate and steer the work of various departments and invite representatives from departments, such as the LandsD and TD, and relevant organisations to conduct an on-site inspection so as to discuss solutions to the problem.

36. AA/Lands (DLO) (Atg.) of the LandsD responded as follows:

- (1) as illustrated in the attached figure in the LandsD’s written reply, the yellow area was the footbridge connecting Nina Mall 2 and Ocean Pride Mall. It was constructed in accordance with the land lease conditions by the developer of Tsuen Wan Town Lot No. 417 (i.e. Nina Mall 2). The property owner of Nina Mall 2 was responsible for the management and repairs of the footbridge concerned at present; and
- (2) the walkway indicated in blue and orange colour in the attached figure was located within the area of the private land of Tsuen Wan Town Lot No. 401 (i.e. Ocean Pride Mall). The area in blue colour (i.e. the pedestrian walkway) was managed and maintained by the property owner of Ocean Pride Mall, while that in orange colour was within the area of MTR Tsuen Wan West Station. There was no clause in the land leases of the two land parcels requiring the property owners to carry out improvement works on the air-conditioning systems.

37. SE/TW of the TD responded that the captioned footbridge was managed and operated by the relevant property owner, not by the TD. The TD had nothing further to supplement.

38. DE/TW of the HyD responded that the main functions of the HyD were to construct and maintain public roads and ancillary facilities under its purview. The HyD was not responsible for the maintenance of the captioned footbridge so it had no further comment.

39. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu said that he lived near the location concerned and thanked the Member for raising the captioned issue for discussion. In his opinion, areas of the MTR station and Nina Mall were well-equipped with air-conditioning systems, yet the walkway providing linkage to Ocean Pride Mall was stiflingly hot. As the temperature difference between the two locations was about 7 to 8 degrees Celsius, pedestrians passing through those locations might feel as if they had undergone a freezing winter and a scorching summer in a short period of time. He understood that the location concerned was not under the purview of government departments, and there was no legislation requiring the relevant property owners to install air-conditioning equipment. Taking Discovery Park as an example, the mall was retrofitted with fans to improve the problem of insufficient air-conditioning. He suggested that the TWDO should coordinate with relevant departments to study ways to alleviate the problem of temperature difference at the location concerned.

40. Mr CHAN Sung-ip said that as the weather was relatively hot in 2023, and there was a substantial difference in temperature between the captioned footbridge/walkway and the malls it connected, pedestrians may sweat heavily when passing through those locations. Since different property owners were involved at the locations concerned, he suggested that the TWDO should carry out coordination work.

41. The Chairman noted the very high temperature in the pedestrian walkway concerned, and said that the location in question was connected to a high-end shopping mall owned by a large developer. If the developer could make improvements by being socially responsible, more visitors might be attracted to the mall. Therefore, he suggested the TWDO coordinate with other departments to discuss improvement measures and invite representatives from relevant developers to attend the on-site inspection.

42. District Officer (Tsuen Wan) of the TWDO responded as follows:

- (1) he had inspected the location concerned and noted Members' views on the problem of high temperature in the captioned pedestrian walkway; and
- (2) the location concerned was private property that the Government could not force the relevant property owners to install air-conditioning equipment thereat. However, the TWDO would convey Member's views to the property owners and encourage the property owners to introduce facilitation measures. As expenses might be incurred for the installation and maintenance of air conditioning equipment, the TWDO would relay the opinions or considerations of the property owners to the TWDC for further discussion.

43. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio proposed arranging an on-site inspection after the meeting, and suggested that the TWDO and DLO should coordinate with various government departments and relevant organisations to take both long-term and short-term measures so as to effectively reduce the temperature at the location concerned to a comfortable level.

(Post-meeting note: The TWDC conveyed Members' views to the MTR Corporation Limited and the property owners of Nina Mall 2 and Ocean Pride Mall in writing on 2 August 2023, and conducted an on-site inspection with the relevant property owners, the TWDO, DLO and TD on 23 August 2023.)

VIII Item 7: Enhancement of Facilities in Shing Mun Country Park, Tsuen Wan
(TWDC Paper No. 13/2023)

44. 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.

45. The Acting Chairman stated that Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly submitted the paper. The representative from the department responsible for giving responses were:

- (1) Mr CHIU Yat-ming, Atwood, Country Parks Officer (Central) (CPO(C)), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD); and
- (2) Mr YAN Tung-hin, Borze, Engineer/New Territories West (Headworks 3) (E/NTW(H3)), Water Supplies Department (WSD).

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

46. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio pointed out that since the resumption of normal operation of country park barbecue sites for public use by the Government on 3 November 2022, the utilisation rate of barbecue facilities had been persistently low. He presumed that it was due to the dilapidation of facilities. Therefore, he urged the AFCD to repair, renovate and reconstruct the facilities in Shing Mun Country Park as soon as practicable.

47. Mr MAN Yu-ming said that he had repeatedly requested the department concerned to promptly renovate the dilapidated or damaged facilities in Shing Mun Country Park, and hoped that the project could be implemented as soon as possible. Besides, he said that a group of wild boars had been spotted in Shek Wai Kok earlier, and he commended the AFCD staff for their prompt arrival and assistance. He held that owing to the vast expanse of Shing Mun Country Park, it would be difficult for the AFCD to take enforcement actions against illegal activities including feeding wild animals (such as monkeys and wild boars). He said that wild boars often appeared in groups and were aggressive in comparison to monkeys, posing a threat to the safety of the public. Hence, he urged the AFCD to strengthen publicity and law enforcement against illegal feeding of wild animals.

48. Mr CHAN Sung-ip proposed that the AFCD should install CCTV cameras controlled by wireless network in Shing Mun Country Park with a view to tracking the movements of wild boars and the situation of illegal feeding of wild animals.

49. CPO(C) of the AFCD responded as follows:
- (1) the AFCD set up more than ten pavilions at various recreational venues in Shing Mun Country Park to provide visitors with shelter from the sun and rain. Owing to the constraints imposed by the natural environment, not all locations were suitable for building pavilions. The AFCD welcomed the public's opinions on the construction of pavilions. Where conditions permitted, the AFCD would take such opinions into consideration when planning new sites. In addition, the AFCD was currently removing the covers of some pavilions in the park for reconstruction and improvement works. The AFCD was aware that one of the pavilions undergoing repairs had a high utilisation rate, therefore a large tent would be set up thereat for visitors to use during the construction period;
 - (2) the AFCD reviewed the condition of the recreational facilities under its management on a regular basis and carried out enhancement works having regard to the actual circumstances and needs. The AFCD had repaired or replaced the barbecue facilities near the main dam at Shing Mun Country Park in batches in the second quarter of 2023;
 - (3) before the typhoon season every year, the AFCD would conduct tree inspections at locations in country parks where large crowds were gathered to ensure the safety of park visitors. The annual tree inspections for 2023 conducted in Shing Mun Country Park before the typhoon season had been generally completed. The AFCD would carry out risk mitigation measures based on the results of the tree risk assessment, such as branch pruning or removal of dead trees, etc. During the tree inspections conducted earlier, the AFCD had recorded trees with risk of tree failure and taken risk mitigation measures for the trees concerned in July 2023. The AFCD would continue to keep track of the condition of the facilities and trees in Shing Mun Country Park and carry out assessments and follow-up actions in a timely manner;
 - (4) the drainage facilities in Shing Mun Country Park were managed by different departments. If the AFCD identified cases of blocked drains during inspections or received relevant complaints from the public, it would work with relevant departments or assist in referring the cases to other departments for follow-up. As for the drains mentioned in the document with the problem of accumulation of water, the AFCD had conducted clearance work promptly;
 - (5) since 2007, the AFCD had conducted contraceptive and sterilisation operations for monkeys in Kam Shan Country Park, Lion Rock Country Park and Shing Mun Country Park, and had monitored changes in monkey populations every year. Thus far, over 1 900 monkeys had undergone minimally invasive sterilisation. According to population survey conducted by the AFCD, the birth rate of monkeys was on a downward trend, and the total number of monkeys was about 2 000. The AFCD was reviewing the prevailing contraceptive programme so as to control the population of monkeys in the long run and ensure that they would not become locally extinct.

The AFCD would assign enforcement officers to patrol feeding black spots in country parks. It would also deploy additional manpower to patrol country parks during holidays or at different time slots when necessary. If any irregularities were found, law enforcement actions would be taken;

- (6) the AFCD was currently working together with the Environment and Ecology Bureau to propose legislative amendments to the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance, including raising the maximum penalty and introducing fixed penalty for illegal feeding, with a view to achieving a stronger deterrent effect. It was expected that the proposed legislative amendments would be introduced into the Legislative Council for consideration within this year;
- (7) the AFCD had been committed to disseminating the message of no-feeding of wild animals to the public through publicity and education activities. Since 2018, the AFCD had entrusted the Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong with the task of organising ecological education activities and guided tours. These activities had been extended to kindergartens, primary schools and communities in the vicinity of feeding black spots in 2019, with the aim of educating citizens of different age groups, especially students, on the prevention of wild animal nuisance and no-feeding of wild animals;
- (8) in addition to the fixed toilets in Shing Mun Country Park, the AFCD had placed nine mobile toilets at different locations for visitors to use. Some mobile toilets were equipped with photovoltaic systems to improve lighting and ventilation. The AFCD would continue to review the facilities in Shing Mun Country Park and make improvements in a timely manner;
- (9) the AFCD would deploy manpower to clean up animal faeces on forest tracks and hiking trails;
- (10) if abandoned vehicles were found within country parks or at nearby locations, the AFCD would notify relevant departments to assist in handling; and
- (11) the AFCD noted members' opinions regarding the installation of CCTV cameras in country parks to combat illegal feeding of wild animals and would convey the opinions to relevant divisions for consideration.

50. E/NTW(H3) of the WSD responded as follows:

- (1) the WSD would regularly inspect the waterworks in Shing Mun Country Park, including the main dam, catchwaters and waterworks facilities on the slope, to ensure the normal operation of the water supply system. Given the rainy weather recently, the WSD had removed weeds around the main dam's drainage system to ensure smooth drainage discharge. As for the complaints about accumulation of water, the WSD was working with the departments concerned to follow up on the issue; and
- (2) if the WSD found abandoned vehicles within waterworks areas, it would notify relevant departments for handling.

51. Mr CHAN Yuen-sum, Sumly urged the AFCD to assign staff to conduct tree inspections in Shing Mun Country Park in a proactive manner and to remove the dead

trees as soon as possible. Besides, he urged the AFCD to replace dilapidated or damaged facilities in the park, and increase the number of directional signage, pavilions and restrooms as soon as practicable. He said that as the barbecue area in Shing Mun Country Park lacked a cover, members of the public had nowhere to take shelter in times of rain. Thus, he suggested the AFCD construct additional facilities with covers to provide users with shelter from the sun and rain. In addition, he urged the AFCD to step up efforts in cleaning up weeds, moss and cow dung on pedestrian walkways. Lastly, he hoped that the AFCD would enhance control over the number of wild animals while ensuring that they would not be exterminated, so as to protect the public from the nuisance caused by wild animals. He would invite representatives from relevant departments to conduct an on-site inspection at Shing Mun Country Park after the meeting.

52. The Acting Chairman hoped that the AFCD would enhance publicity among members of the public on the prohibition of feeding wild animals and redouble the efforts in sterilising wild animals. He suggested the AFCD carry out long-term monitoring of the increase in the population of monkeys in Shing Mun Country Park with a view to improving the situation.

IX Item 8: Crime Brief for Tsuen Wan District – Comparison of Crime Statistics between April to May 2023 and April to May 2022
(TWDC Paper No. 14/2023)

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

54. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio said that he would receive scam calls from time to time. He suggested the HKPF strengthen its efforts in cracking down on telephone scams and promoting anti-deception information. He proposed that the Police should set up dedicated hotlines to handle suspected scam calls forwarded by citizens in the hope of achieving similar effects resulted from a decoy operation. He enquired whether it was technically feasible to establish the dedicated hotlines concerned. Moreover, he was concerned about the problem of on-street solicitation in the old areas of Tsuen Wan. He learned that the Police had recently conducted two operations and arrested about ten persons. He suggested the Police redouble its efforts to combat the crime concerned in the light of the actual situation and arrest local and mainland on-street prostitutes holding two-way exit permits. He also voiced concern over the problem of illegal gambling in Shek Pik San Tsuen. He said that the gamblers at the location concerned were arrogant and thus urged the Police to escalate its efforts in combating such illicit activities. In addition, he pointed out that the situation of illegal parking at Wang Lung Street and Yeung Uk Road near Indi Home was rather serious, and advised the Police to step up enforcement actions. Finally, he said that workers of SF Express had been moving goods on the ground floor of Crowning-United Centre at Nos. 127-135 Yeung Uk Road late at night recently, causing persistent noise nuisance until dawn and seriously disturbing the residents nearby.

55. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu said that fraudsters could make scam calls to multiple citizens at the same time through computer programmes. He enquired of the Police whether it had contacted the relevant telecommunications service providers regarding

this issue and whether there were any relevant technological support systems that could intercept such scam calls.

56. The Chairman suggested that the Police should step up enforcement against illegal gambling activities which were rampant in public housing estates and parks. Besides, he said that the village houses in Ho Pui Tsuen, Yeung Uk Tsuen and Kwan Mun Hau Tsuen on Kwok Shui Road had been burgled at midnight lately, causing loss of residents' property. Since the location concerned was close to a hillside, it was easy for burglars to climb into the houses from the slopes. He suggested the Police enhance patrols at the village houses in the district, promote anti-theft messages to residents and arrest habitual offenders as soon as possible to reduce the occurrence of crimes. Finally, he said that members of the public suffered from nuisance caused by scam calls every day. Some residents, who were unable to decline incoming calls owing to their job natures, suffered from mental distress and reduced concentration. He proposed that the Police should obtain information from the fraudsters who made scam calls and even induce them to meet in person in order to make an arrest. It was hoped that in this way, the nuisance experienced by the public would be minimised.

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

- (1) the HKPF understood that members of the public often received scam calls from caller number with leading digit "3". Some citizens might not be able to reject all suspicious calls due to various reasons, so they needed to stay vigilant when answering such calls. The HKPF would collaborate with different government departments and discuss measures to prevent telephone scams with telecommunications service providers, such as sending anti-fraud information to service users through SMS messages;
- (2) members of the public could call the "Anti-Scam Helpline 18222" to seek assistance from officers of the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre, or enter information such as phone number and hyperlink into the "Scameter" to assess the risk of fraud and cyber security threats. He opined that the occurrence of most fraud cases was attributed to the victim's greed for petty advantages, and therefore advised residents to show care and concern to the elderly around them and raise their anti-fraud awareness so as to reduce their chances of being deceived. Citizens should remain calm and stay alert when receiving suspicious calls, be mindful of the flaws in the fraudsters' defrauding tricks, and remember not to be tempted by small benefits and be compromised for the sake of convenience;
- (3) the HKPF was concerned about the problem of on-street solicitation in the district. To meet the legal requirements for proof, the Police had to conduct decoy operations in a conventional manner. The HKPF had conducted enforcement operations in April and May 2023 and arrested more than 40 persons. Some of the persons involved were holders of two-way exit permits, and also local residents and foreign domestic helpers whose contracts with their employers had been terminated were involved. The Police thanked Members for providing information on the locations where on-street prostitutes mainly frequented. The HKPF would take enforcement actions on a

regular basis to clamp down on related crimes persistently, and conduct intelligence analysis in order to smash the crime syndicate controlling such illegal activities from behind;

- (4) as society resumed normalcy and the restrictions under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Prohibition on Gathering) Regulation (Cap. 599G) had been lifted, there were more elders in Lei Muk Shue Estate, Fuk Loi Estate, Shek Wai Kok Estate and Shek Pik San Tsuen taking part in illegal gambling activities during morning exercises. The HKPF would continue to combat the illegal activities concerned by conducting specific targeted operations and deploying additional manpower for patrols at relevant locations so as to ease the mind of the public;
- (5) the HKPF would conduct intelligence-led operations on burglary cases in the district, monitor specific high-risk locations, and investigate habitual offenders who were recently discharged from prison. Although individual residents would install CCTV cameras outside their residences, some village houses were not equipped with such systems. The HKPF advised residents to install CCTV cameras at different locations outside their residences to track the direction in which the burglars escaped after committing burglaries, such act would facilitate the follow-up actions and detection of crimes by the Police. There had been a case in which a store was burgled during typhoon. The HKPF had swiftly solved the case in two months upon obtaining CCTV footage and other information from the victim concerned. Following the return of normalcy in the community, the number of residents traveling away from home to the mainland and other places during summer vacation or weekends had increased. Since village houses were located at relatively remote locations in general, and some residents had not closed the windows when leaving home for maintaining good ventilation, the number of burglary cases had risen consequently. The HKPF would strengthen publicity to remind citizens to lock their doors and windows properly when going out and would increase the frequency of patrols at high-risk locations;
- (6) regarding the problem of noise nuisance mentioned by the Member, he opined that employees of the company concerned should take mitigation measures to reduce the noise emitted during their work at night and avoid causing nuisance to nearby residents. The HKPF would liaise with relevant departments on the problem concerned and assign officers to conduct on-site inspections. Summons would be issued if necessary; and
- (7) with regard to the issue of illegally parked and abandoned vehicles, the HKPF had conducted joint operations with the TWDO and other departments on 12 and 21 July 2023 respectively, and would continue to take actions accordingly upon receipt of reports.

58. The Chairman said that the phone number of some government departments started with “3”, and many elders would mistakenly assume incoming calls from such number to be scam calls and refuse to answer them. He urged the Police to put an end to phone scams so as to reduce occurrence of the above situation.

X Item 9: Crime Brief for Ma Wan – April to May 2023
(TWDC Paper No. 15/2023)

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

60. Mr CHAN Sung-ip asked about the difference between “欺詐罪案” (deception cases) in the captioned paper and “詐騙罪案” (deception cases) in TWDC Paper No. 14/2023, and enquired whether the nine deception cases shown in the captioned paper had taken place at village houses in Ma Wan or residential buildings in Park Island. Besides, he advised the Police Community Relations Office of Kwai Tsing District to pay attention to the crime situation in Ma Wan and enhance the publicity work on anti-deception therein.

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

- (1) the “欺詐罪案” (deception cases) in the captioned paper were of the same nature as the “詐騙罪案” (deception cases) in TWDC Paper No. 14/2023;
- (2) due to the higher population density of residential buildings, victims of deception cases were more often identified to be living in residential buildings. As for the number of crime reports, the HKPF compiled the statistics based on the residential addresses of the victims, which did not indicate that all cases occurred in the area concerned; and
- (3) the HKPF would convey Members’ views of enhancing the publicity work on anti-deception in Ma Wan to the Kwai Tsing Police District.

XI Item 10: Information Papers

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

- (1) Report of District Planning, Development and Facilities Management Committee
(TWDC Paper No. 16/2023);
- (2) Report of Environment, Health and Climate Change Committee
(TWDC Paper No. 17/2023);
- (3) Report of Traffic and Transport Committee
(TWDC Paper No. 18/2023);
- (4) Report of Social Services and Community Development Committee
(TWDC Paper No. 19/2023); and
- (5) Items Resolved by Circulation by the Tsuen Wan District Council during the Period from 20 May to 17 July 2023
(TWDC Paper No. 20/2023).

XII Item 11: Any Other Business

63. The Chairman said that the Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) had recently informed the TWDC that it would continue to provide a funding of \$40,000 in 2023-24 to support promotional activities on occupational safety and health in the district. The themes for 2023-24 were “Prevention of Cerebro-cardiovascular Diseases”, “Heat Stroke Prevention”, “Safety of Work at Height and above Ground”, “Healthy Diet and Exercise”, “Work Stress Management” and “Prevention of Lower Limb Muscle Strain”. The Social Services and

Community Development Committee had discussed the matters concerned at its meeting on 29 June 2023. The Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims and Caritas Community Centre – Tsuen Wan had submitted their activity proposals and applied to the OSHC for a funding of \$20,000 respectively. The Chairman asked if Members agreed to recommend the two aforementioned organisations. Members unanimously agreed to the proposal.

64. The Chairman stated that he had earlier received a written application from The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf inviting the TWDC to become a supporting organisation for the 8th “Hong Kong Sign Language Day 2023” and expressing its wish to use the logo of the TWDC. The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf would organise the “Hong Kong Sign Language Day” on 16 and 17 September 2023. There would be sign language games for the public to learn sign language easily. The Chairman asked if Members agreed that the TWDC should become a supporting organisation for the event concerned and approved the use of the TWDC’s logo by The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf. Members unanimously agreed to the proposal.

65. Mr LUK Ling-chung, Antonio noted that during the discussion of the first agenda item, Mr LAU Cheuk-yu had mentioned that he was the only Member in the district who had collected opinions from the public online, and he wanted to clarify that he had done so as well.

66. Mr LAU Cheuk-yu added that he had consulted public views regarding the labour issues concerned online.

67. The Chairman said that Mr LAU Cheuk-yu had clarified that he was not the only Member who collected opinions online.

68. The Chairman was aware that owners of light goods vehicles (LGVs) residing in public housing estates were unable to apply for the quotas allocated for private car parking spaces in the balloting process, but the number of parking spaces for LGVs was insufficient to meet the demand. Therefore, he requested that the previous balloting mechanism should be adopted (i.e. vans and private cars should be put under the same category), so that LGVs could also share the parking spaces for private cars.

69. Chief Manager/Management (Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi and Tsuen Wan) of the Housing Department (HD) said that the HD noted Members’ concerns on whether LGVs were permitted to be parked at private car parking spaces. The HD would continue to communicate with the Headquarters and make an announcement once the latest update was available.

70. The Chairman said that a big tree was planted near Nos. 4-5 of Yeung Uk Tsuen and Nos. 71-72 of Ma Sim Pai Village respectively. Residents were concerned about the risk of the trees collapsing during the typhoon season. He hoped that the LandsD could send officers to prune the tree in Yeung Uk Tsuen. In addition, he had requested the LandsD to follow up on the tree near Nos. 71-72 of Ma Sim Pai Village. Although the Tree Management Office had concluded that the tree was not in danger of collapse after conducting a risk assessment, he hoped that tree guards could be retrofitted around the tree to ensure public safety.

71. The AA/Lands (DLO) (Atg.) of the LandsD said that she had followed up with the Special Duties Task Force of the LandsD and would convey Members' views.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat
September 2023