

(Translation)

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of Tsuen Wan District Council (1/2024)

Date: 5 January 2024

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Mr AU Ka-shing, Billy, JP (Chairman)

Ms WONG Shuk-fan, Luparker

Mr KOO Yeung-pong, MH

Mr NG Chun-yu

Mr CHU Tak-wing, MH

Ms LAM Yuen-pun

Mr CHOW Sum-ming

Mr YAU Kam-ping, BBS, MH

Ms CHEUNG Man-ka, Marcella

Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond, MH, JP

Mr CHAN Chun-chung

Ms CHAN Shun-shun

Mr CHAN Sung-ip, BBS, MH

Mr MOK Yuen-kwan

Mr CHAN Hiu-chun, MH

Mr TSANG Tai

Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum

Ms WAH Mei-ling

Mr WONG Wai-kit, MH

Mr WONG Kai-chun

Mr KOT Siu-yuen, MH

Mr LAU Chung-kong

Mr CHENG Chit-pun

In Attendance:

Mr LEE Soeng-him, Sean

Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office

Ms TAM Wing-sze, Winnie

Senior Liaison Officer (1), Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr HO Kwok-yan, Philip

Senior Liaison Officer (2), Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr YUNG Ho-wai, Anthony

Senior Liaison Officer (3), Tsuen Wan District Office

Mr KWONG Chi-wing, Denis

Senior Executive Officer (District Management), 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), 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 NG Kam-yim	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

Action

I Item 1: Chairman's Welcoming Address and Appointment of Secretary of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC)

The Chairman said he was pleased to convene the 1st meeting of the seventh-term TWDC together with the new-term Members. He was honoured to chair the meeting as the Chairman of the TWDC for the first time. He also sent congratulations to elected Members, and welcomed appointed Members and ex officio Members.

2. The Chairman stated that this District Council (DC) election was of utmost significance since it was the first large-scale territory-wide election held after the Government's efforts to improve the district governance system and reform the DCs, enabling the DCs to return to their positioning as advisory organisations which were not organs of political power in accordance with Article 97 of the Basic Law and fully implementing the principle of "patriots administering Hong Kong".

3. The Chairman pointed out that the new-term DCs possessed a number of characteristics. Firstly, the reform of the DCs embodied the principle that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) should practise executive-led governance as stipulated in the Basic Law. The functions of the new-term DCs reverted to their original positioning laid down in the Basic Law, which were set out under section 4A of the District Councils Ordinance.

4. Secondly, the chairmanship of the DCs would be taken up by District Officers of the respective districts who would assume a leading and coordinating role to coordinate the work of the DCs, the “three committees” (i.e. the Area Committees, the District Fight Crime Committees and the District Fire Safety Committees) and the Care Teams so that all parties would complement one another to achieve synergy, thereby improving the governance at the district level and enhancing the capacity to mobilise community forces.

5. Thirdly, acting as partners and companions of the HKSAR Government under the principle of executive-led governance, the new-term DCs should work as a bridge between the Government and the public by, on one hand, explaining government policies to people and implementing the policies at the grassroots level, and on the other hand, conveying locals’ views to the Government, assisting the Government in improving the governance and effectively responding to people’s aspirations. In this connection, the Government and the public had higher demands on and expectations of the new-term Members. Members should continuously enhance their analytical skills, critically evaluate government policies and monitor the implementation of policies, as well as proactively furnish the Government with additional recommendations and proposals which were practicable and down-to-earth for the benefit of the public.

6. Fourthly, a performance monitoring system for DC Members would be introduced to the reformed DCs. The objective was to continuously monitor the performance of Members, ensuring that they duly performed their duties and lived up to people’s expectations. Investigations would be conducted against Members whose conduct and performance fell short of public expectations with a view to enhancing the accountability of Members and the transparency of their work.

7. The Chairman continued that the Chief Executive had outlined four requirements for the new-term Members when addressing the oath-taking ceremony for Members of the seventh-term DCs:

- (1) sincerely upholding the Basic Law and bearing allegiance to the HKSAR, and always remembering to work dutifully with absolute integrity;
- (2) ensuring effective communication between the Government and the people by serving as a connection between the two;

- (3) implementing the principle of “patriots administering Hong Kong” at the district governance level and shouldering the important responsibility of safeguarding national security; and
- (4) adopting a people-oriented approach to bring tangible improvements to the community, and be fully responsive to the public’s demands.

8. The Chairman said he firmly believed that the new-term Members were fully capable of meeting the aforesaid requirements, and that they would perform their duties with dedication to convey opinions of the public, serve them diligently and support the Government’s implementation of policies. Members’ concrete achievements would demonstrate to the public that the new-term DCs had started a new chapter, thereby enhancing the sense of happiness and contentment of the public.

9. The Chairman announced the appointment of Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO) as the Secretary of the TWDC according to section 69 of the District Councils Ordinance.

10. The Chairman stated that there were numerous items on the agenda and therefore asked Members to speak as concisely as possible. Members could speak once and make supplementary remarks once on each agenda item at the meeting. Each Member could speak up to two minutes in the first round of speeches and up to one minute in the second round of speeches.

II Item 2: Registration and Declaration of Interests of District Council Members

11. The Secretary briefed Members on the requirements and arrangements of the registration and declaration of interests set out in Appendix 3 of the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders (the “Standing Orders”).

III Item 3: Committees and Working Groups under the 7th Term TWDC (TWDC Paper No. 1/2024)

12. The Chairman stated that four specified committees, two other committees and a working group would be set up under the seventh-term TWDC. According to sections 71 to 73 and section 87(1) of the Standing Orders, he stated that the membership lists of the committees/working group were set out in TWDC Paper No. 1/2024. He also announced the appointment of the following Members as the Chairmen/Vice Chairmen of the committees and the Chairman of the working group:

District Facilities and Works Committee (DFWC)

Mr WONG Wai-kit (Chairman), Mr NG Chun-yu (Vice Chairman)

Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (FEHC)

Mr KOT Siu-yuen (Chairman), Mr TSANG Tai (Vice Chairman)

Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee

Mr KOO Yeung-pong (Chairman), Mr CHAN Chun-chung (Vice Chairman)

Development and Planning Committee (DPC)

Mr YAU Kam-ping (Chairman), Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum (Vice Chairman)

Traffic and Transport Committee (T&TC)

Mr CHAN Sung-ip (Chairman), Mr CHENG Chit-pun (Vice Chairman)

Social Welfare Committee

Mr CHU Tak-wing (Chairman), Ms LAM Yuen-pun (Vice Chairman)

Working Group on Boosting Local Economy

Mr CHAN Hiu-chun (Chairman)

13. The Chairman stated that the term of office of the Chairmen/Vice Chairmen of the committees was two years and the term of office of the Chairman of the working group was one year. The terms of reference of the committees and working group were also set out in the captioned paper for Members' reference.

IV Item 4: Schedule of Meetings of the TWDC and Its Committees in 2024
(TWDC Paper No. 2/2024)

14. The Chairman said that the schedule of meetings of the TWDC and its committees was set out in TWDC Paper No. 2/2024 for Members' reference. In case of changes to the schedule, Members would be notified accordingly.

V Item 5: "Meet the Public Scheme"
(TWDC Paper No. 3/2024)

15. The Chairman stated that according to paragraph 18(1) of the Performance Monitoring Guidelines for Members of the District Councils (the "Guidelines"), Members should participate in the Meet the Public Scheme (the "Scheme") organised by the TWDC on a weekly basis. Starting from 17 January 2024, the Scheme would take place from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays at DC Members Room, 2/F, Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building, 174-208 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan, New Territories. Members would be on duty in pairs according to a duty roster and each Member could be accompanied by an assistant, if necessary. Members should put up the dates of their respective duty shifts at their offices. The duty roster would also be uploaded to the webpage of the TWDC. The duty roster for January to June 2024 was set out in TWDC Paper No. 3/2024, and that for July 2024 onwards would be announced in due course. He asked Members to notify the Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat (the "Secretariat") as soon as possible if they deemed it necessary to swap duty shifts with one another. The Secretariat would review the arrangement concerned in a timely manner.

16. The Chairman said that the Scheme was originally scheduled to take place from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, except public holidays, starting from 17 January 2024. However, he refined the arrangement in response to the views received. If a public holiday fell on a Wednesday, the Scheme would be postponed to the next working day in order to serve the public more effectively. The Secretariat would announce the updated duty roster after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat notified Members of the updated duty roster, which was set out in TWDC Paper No. 9/2024, on 8 January 2024.)

VI Item 6: Studying Issues of Concern in the Community and Collecting Public Views

(TWDC Paper No. 4/2024)

17. The Chairman introduced the paper. The key community issue was the concern about Municipal Solid Waste Charging (MSW charging) among affected residents in Tsuen Wan district.

18. Ms LAM Yuen-pun suggested that the TWDO should obtain detailed information on MSW charging from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) with a view to laying the foundation for Members' survey.

19. Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond said he learnt that quite a number of people did not welcome MSW charging. They hoped that the implementation of MSW charging would be postponed. He enquired about the direction of Members' survey, through which public views would be collected.

20. The Chairman understood that some members of the public might have dissenting views on the subject matter. Members should faithfully reflect the community's views they collected. On the other hand, the promotion of the concept of reducing waste at source and the principle of "polluter pays" had been underway for years. He believed that there were people supportive of MSW charging, and encouraged Members to widely canvass various parties for their views. Moreover, MSW charging would be implemented in the near future while its associated legislation had already been passed by the Legislative Council for a certain period of time. He believed that the public were more concerned about the implementation details of the policy, especially the enforcement actions involved. Therefore, in his opinion, it was also crucial to deepen the public's understanding of MSW charging and help them avoid the risk of breaching the law inadvertently.

21. Mr WONG Wai-kit said he agreed that this study should focus on MSW charging because the policy would be implemented shortly. Besides, he wanted to grasp the basic information on MSW charging and the details of its future

implementation before conducting the survey, so that Members would be enabled to collect views and carry out publicity work at the same time. Additionally, different areas of Tsuen Wan had different types of housing. For example, the old areas were home to a greater number of sub-divided flats and tenement buildings, and the rural areas mainly consisted of village houses and squatter structures. As for other areas, in general, there were public rental housing (PRH) estates or private housing estates on a relatively large scale. Hence, he suggested that Members should be respectively assigned to consult stakeholders in communities with which they were more familiar. Finally, he proposed that a standardised questionnaire containing both quantitative and qualitative questions should be drawn up. The data amassed from the survey could therefore be collated to compile a more constructive and systematic report.

22. The Chairman stated that the work on assisting in the promotion of MSW charging could be carried out in phases. During the first phase, Members could promote the EPD's information on MSW charging among the public when canvassing their views. Besides, the EPD would also visit the TWDC to brief Members on MSW charging in due course. He hoped that Members would raise more in-depth questions at that time. After obtaining further information from the EPD, Members could commence the second phase of the publicity work. In addition, he also gave consideration to seeking assistance from the Care Teams in the promotion of MSW charging, and would discuss the related arrangements with the EPD. Moreover, he was open to the proposal for utilising a questionnaire to collect public views. He suggested that several Members should form a core group first to discuss the details of collecting public views through the use of a questionnaire. The core group should subsequently forward the outcome of the discussion to other Members so that they could draw reference from and comment on those details. He invited Mr WONG Wai-kit, the proposer of the proposal concerned, and Mr KOT Siu-yuen, the Chairman of the FEHC, to join the core group.

23. Mr WONG Wai-kit and Mr KOT Siu-yuen accepted the invitation to join the core group. They also encouraged other interested Members to join the core group.

24. Mr CHENG Chit-pun said he had been inundated with numerous enquiries on MSW charging from residents. However, he was unable to answer all the enquiries because he had limited information at hand. Some residents from the rural areas had conveyed to him that as they did not live in village houses, village representatives would not distribute pre-paid designated bags (DBs) to them. He thus enquired where such residents could obtain DBs distributed free of charge. If the Care Teams would undertake the distribution of DBs to residents living in the rural areas, he enquired whether the Care Teams could help those residents to purchase DBs after their stock of DBs had exhausted. This approach could save them the trouble of travelling to the urban areas to make the purchase on their own. Moreover, he pointed out that owing to a tight schedule, Members were unable to commence the

survey after attending the EPD's briefing on MSW charging which would be conducted during its visit to the TWDC. Yet, he hoped that the EPD would provide Members with the related information and the contact details of responsible officers first so that Members could make enquiries where necessary.

25. Mr WONG Kai-chun held that the implementation of MSW charging in the rural areas would pose a tremendous challenge. For instance, many rural areas were connected with hiking trails, and there was frequent littering by hikers near village houses. As such, it would be difficult to request residents of village houses to handle rubbish thrown away by someone else. Besides, some residents' dogs would often bring home foraged food from rubbish dumps in the wild. Those residents were concerned about the responsibility issue related to this type of rubbish. He hoped that the authorities would provide clearer guidelines and adopt humane approaches with respect to the implementation of MSW charging in the rural areas. Additionally, he opined that the publicity and education work should commence as soon as practicable. He suggested that prior to the implementation of MSW charging, the authorities should conduct operations at hygiene black spots in the district to identify repeat offenders of littering and carry out education and publicity work targeted at them.

26. Mr NG Chun-yu opined that the publicity work should be conducted at three levels. Firstly, he suggested that the EPD should invite property management companies and owners' corporations (OCs) of housing estates in Tsuen Wan district to participate in talks and consultation sessions organised by the department. The EPD should subsequently approach those which did not take part in the talks and consultation sessions to learn about their situations. Moreover, regarding the publicity work targeted at "three-nil" buildings, he proposed organising talks in parks in the old areas during which the EPD and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) could introduce their law enforcement work. As for the general public, he recommended setting up on-street booths as well as carrying out publicity work and distributing promotional materials during the consultation period. As Members should promptly complete the collection of public views, they might not be able to prepare promotional materials before the survey. He thus advised the EPD to supply promotional materials to Members as soon as possible.

27. Mr CHAN Sung-ip suggested that the EPD and FEHD should organise public talks at community halls in the district, detailing the information on MSW charging (including the enforcement work in "three-nil" buildings). The public could therefore gain a deeper understanding of the arrangements concerned.

28. Mr KOT Siu-yuen welcomed the EPD's prompt arrangement of a briefing on MSW charging for the TWDC. He was greatly concerned about the implementation of MSW charging in "three-nil" buildings. He had received a number of cases

concerning the private refuse collectors' cessation of refuse collection services for "three-nil" buildings after the implementation of MSW charging by the Government. He agreed on the proposal for organising briefings, and suggested inviting residents of "three-nil" buildings to join those briefings so that they could learn more about the implementation mode of MSW charging. Finally, serving on the core group as a member, he would solicit views from the public and Members expeditiously.

29. Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum was concerned about the implementation of MSW charging in PRH estates. Currently, many residents of PRH estates were used to the practice of placing rubbish outside their flats for collection by cleansing companies. He had considerable doubts about the implementation of MSW charging, for example, as to what actions the cleansing companies should take in case of residents' failure to use DBs and which department or party (e.g. security guards of PRH estates, the FEHD or the Housing Department) would be responsible for the law enforcement work. Disputes were likely to arise because many residents of PRH estates were unclear about the implementation mode of MSW charging for the time being. Hence, he hoped that the EPD would explain the policy in detail.

30. Mr MOK Yuen-kwan said it was mentioned in the paper that residents of "three-nil" buildings, sub-divided flats and tenement buildings as well as people living in the rural areas and squatter areas were concerned about the subject matter. He had previously assisted other organisations with their applications for the Environment and Conservation Fund with the aim of carrying out education work on MSW charging in private housing estates and conducting relevant studies. He found that private housing estates were also fraught with problems in respect of the implementation of MSW charging. For example, foreign domestic helpers were engaged by many residents in private housing estates. Even if elderly residents successfully learnt to use DBs, their foreign domestic helpers responsible for taking out the rubbish might fail to use DBs because they lacked understanding of the policy or simply did so for the sake of convenience. Also, some residents might start to throw away domestic waste at rubbish bins in shopping malls in their housing estates. The cost of handling rubbish would eventually be transferred to the shopping malls. Besides, some residents had indicated that they would store rubbish for a few days before disposal instead of clearing rubbish daily after the implementation of MSW charging. However, food waste of takeaways should be handled on the same day. If food waste wrapped in a plastic bag which had been used for packing takeaways should still be put inside a DB for disposal, more rubbish would in turn be generated. He suggested that the Government should consider allowing the sale of DBs at restaurants in order to achieve the goal of "one-bag for dual-use". He opined that opinions from the middle-class residents living in private housing estates should be listened, and hoped that such opinions would be taken into account.

31. Ms CHEUNG Man-ka, Marcella said that MSW charging was a hot topic at present. As the disposal of oversized waste would also be charged, she was worried that the public would throw away oversized waste in large quantities before the implementation of MSW charging. She hoped that the FEHD would handle this issue properly.

32. Mr LAU Chung-kong held that conflicts and clashes would unavoidably occur between residents and enforcement departments or other stakeholders, including the Police, the FEHD, security guards of housing estates and workers of cleansing companies. Although a phasing-in period would be put in place under the policy, he was worried about the implementation of MSW charging upon the expiry of the phasing-in period. He hoped that the departments concerned would strengthen their preparedness in order to prevent MSW charging from becoming a self-defeating policy.

33. Ms WAH Mei-ling opined that children were fairly influential in families. Hence, regarding the publicity work, she proposed equipping children with the information on the policy at school so that they could get across the information to their parents effectively.

34. Ms WONG Shuk-fan, Luparker opined that the Government mainly relied on TV advertisements to promote MSW charging for the time being, whereas its publicity work carried out at school was insufficient. She thus agreed on the proposal of Ms WAH Mei-ling that in order to enhance the effectiveness of the publicity work, greater efforts should be made to promote MSW charging among students of kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools before the implementation of the policy.

35. Mr CHAN Chun-chung agreed to study the subject matter and conduct a survey with the aid of a questionnaire. However, he was worried that stress or panic might be caused among the public if the questionnaire contained a large number of quantitative questions. He thus proposed adopting different means to canvass public views and including open-ended questions in the questionnaire for the public to make suggestions for improvement.

36. The Chairman said that it was difficult to have an in-depth discussion on the contents of the questionnaire and other details of the arrangements at this meeting. Members were welcome to furnish the core group with their views, if any, on the contents of the questionnaire.

37. Ms LAM Yuen-pun was worried that the survey would bring about the negative impacts mentioned by Mr CHAN Chun-chung. As such, she opined that during the survey, messages should be conveyed to the public so as to develop an

understanding among them that MSW charging was aimed at educating people on the ways to handle waste (including recycling and reusing) instead of being a punitive measure.

38. The Chairman thanked Members for actively speaking to facilitate a thorough discussion on the subject matter. He expected that Members would duly conduct the survey and convey locals' views to the EPD. Besides, he asked the core group to explore the ways to collect opinions, e.g. whether a questionnaire should be used to canvass public views. Given a tight schedule and in order to enhance the efficiency of communication between the TWDC and EPD, he requested the TWDO to provide the EPD with a summary of the discussion on MSW charging at this meeting before the EPD's visit to the TWDC. The EPD could therefore learn about the matters of concern to Members and their views in advance.

(Post-meeting note: The TWDO provided the summary concerned for the EPD on 9 January 2024.)

VII Item 7: Proposals for (a) Implementing Care Campaign in 18 Districts in Collaboration with the Care Teams; and (b) Implementing Clean-up Campaign in Collaboration with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department before Chinese New Year
(TWDC Paper No. 5/2024)

39. Assistant District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (ADO(TW)) of the TWDO and District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tsuen Wan) (DEHS(TW)) of the FEHD introduced the paper.

40. Mr TSANG Tai said that the exact locations of hygiene black spots were not set out in the captioned paper. He was concerned about whether the streets in the areas of Tsuen King Circuit and Tsuen Wan Centre were covered by the clean-up campaign, and hoped to provide the FEHD with locations of hygiene black spots in the district.

41. Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond was in support of the annual year-end clean-up campaign. He suggested promoting MSW charging that would be implemented on 1 April 2024 and distributing DBs to the public for free during the said campaign. He pointed out that many studies had indicated that the implementation of MSW charging would reduce the amount of waste generated by each household in the long run, achieving the goal of waste reduction at source. Therefore, he proposed that starting from this year, photos should be taken to record the amount of waste collected after the year-end clean-up campaign, so as to serve as a vivid example when drawing comparison with the amount of waste reduced after the implementation of MSW charging to help members of the public understand that MSW charging was conducive to waste reduction eventually.

42. The Chairman said that matters related to promoting waste reduction and distributing DBs during the year-end clean-up campaign should be further discussed with the EPD.

43. Mr NG Chun-yu said that some residents had told him that they were troubled with the second floor of Yeung Uk Road Market being too slippery owing to the accumulation of grease over the years, which had caused some elderly persons to slip and fall on the floor. He suggested using high-temperature water jets to remove the grease on the floor when cleansing the market. Besides, the clean-up campaigns had been mainly carried out under the assistance of non-governmental organisations and local groups in the past, without engaging the Care Teams. He enquired what roles and services should the Care Teams perform in the captioned campaigns, and whether their scope of services included providing the department with locations of hygiene black spots, assisting with simple cleaning, handling oversized waste, cleansing staircases and preparing related cleansing tools, etc. He also asked about the number of volunteers and service hours required.

44. The Chairman said that two activities were set out in the captioned paper, namely the “Care Campaign” co-organised by the TWDO and the Care Teams to care for the elderly and persons in need, and the “Year-end Clean-up Campaign” held by the FEHD. The year-end clean-up campaign of the FEHD comprised three parts, and Members’ participation was welcomed. The Care Teams would mainly take part in the cleaning work of old tenement buildings and “three-nil” buildings in the district. The specific arrangements for the clean-up campaign would be announced later.

45. Mr CHU Tak-wing noticed that eateries were busy with their thriving businesses at year end, and understood that it was necessary for the FEHD to carry out inspections and enforcement work. He suggested the FEHD arrange its officers, together with the representatives of relevant chambers of commerce and Members, to pay district visits to promote the clean-up campaign and educate shop operators in advance. He said that if shop operators cleaned up their stalls prior to the clean-up campaign, the staff of the FEHD could then focus on cleaning public areas, facilitating a trouble-free and efficient cleaning process.

46. Mr KOT Siu-yuen agreed with Mr CHU Tak-wing on his proposal of cooperating with the FEHD to educate shop operators. He pointed out that the footbridge network in the district was under the purview of the Highways Department (HyD), and therefore proposed that the HyD should strengthen the cleaning of footbridges and the maintenance of planters. In addition, the Fuk Loi Care Team was currently assisting with the cleaning of the “three-nil” buildings in the district, and found that the problem of accumulation of rubbish on the rooftops of such

buildings was serious. He thus suggested to focus on looking into the issue concerned and soliciting help from the community to tackle it.

47. The Chairman expressed concern over the problem of rubbish accumulation on the rooftops of “three-nil” buildings in the district, and hoped that all parties would make a concerted effort to find solutions.

48. Mr CHAN Hiu-chun praised the FEHD staff serving in Tsuen Wan district for being highly professional, and said that compared with “three-nil” buildings and areas teemed with old buildings, the management and hygiene conditions in areas consisting mainly of private properties were relatively better. Besides, he pointed out that the Tsuen Wan waterfront had a long shoreline, and many morning walkers would walk past Castle Peak Road - Ting Kau, which was lined with plenty of trees. As fallen leaves on the footpath would lead to drain blockage in winter, he urged the FEHD to pay more attention to the situation concerned. Moreover, during festive seasons such as the Mid-Autumn Festival and the Lunar New Year, members of the public would visit various beaches in the district. He proposed that the FEHD should work with Members to take part in beach cleaning activities with a view to ensuring the cleanliness and tidiness of the attractions in the district.

49. Mr CHOW Sum-ming said that oversized waste and construction waste were piled up on the rooftop of a “three-nil” building at 242 Sha Tsui Road. He had conducted a site inspection with the property owner and assisted in the clean-up with the corresponding Care Team. He had subsequently discussed the matter concerned with the TWDO and FEHD. The FEHD said that it could arrange refuse collection vehicles to remove the waste, but the waste should be moved from the rooftop on the sixth floor of the building to the ground in advance. In this regard, he had requested a quotation and the cost of removing the refuse was about \$15,000, which was far beyond the Care Team’s ability to afford. At present, the amount of waste piled up at the location concerned continued to increase and the discarded debris had even clogged drains, resulting in flooding and infestations of mosquitoes and rodents. It was inevitable that the undesirable conditions were further aggravated. He urged the FEHD to assist in tackling the issue confronted by the “three-nil” building in question as far as possible.

50. Ms CHAN Shun-shun said that the reconstruction works of Shek Wai Kok Market and Shek Wai Kok Commercial Centre had resulted in serious rodent infestation therein. She suggested that the FEHD set rodent baits at relevant locations and monitor the situation of rodent infestation in the area.

51. Ms LAM Yuen-pun said that the village representative of Chuen Lung Village had relayed to her the problem about someone occupying and residing in a vacant squatter structure near the junction of Route Twisk and the entrance of Ma

Tong Tsuen from around ten months ago, and continuously accumulating a large amount of miscellaneous articles and rubbish around the squatter structure and on the roads. Upon receipt of the complaint, the village representative had expressed deep concern over the issue and sought assistance from the FEHD. He hoped that Members and the corresponding Care Team would offer remedies. The location concerned resembled a huge dumping ground at present which had caused pest and rodent infestations as well as affecting villagers adversely. She opined that it was necessary to work out a solution so as to prevent the recurrence of such problem.

52. Mr KOO Yeung-pong said that during year end in the past, many shop operators of ground floor shops near Yeung Uk Road would pile waste styrofoam in public areas, resulting in poor environmental hygiene. He often received complaints concerning the aforesaid issue from the chairmen of the OCs of the housing estates nearby. Therefore, he recommended educating shop operators at an earlier time this year to avoid similar situations from occurring again.

53. Ms CHEUNG Man-ka, Marcella said that it was pointed out in the captioned paper that the FEHD would step up the collection of oversized waste during the year-end clean-up campaign. She believed that members of the public might clear away and dispose of oversized waste at home in view of the year-end cleaning ritual and MSW charging which was going to be implemented on 1 April 2024. She suggested that the FEHD get well prepared and make proper arrangements for the collection of oversized waste as early as possible.

54. The Chairman said that some of the issues raised by Members were difficult to deal with at this meeting, and the FEHD might not be able to give an immediate response. He suggested Members to directly contact DEHS(TW) of the FEHD to discuss solutions in case of relevant urgent matters. As for long-term and systemic problems, they should be discussed at future meetings of the FEHC. The TWDO would later announce more details regarding the various activities listed in the captioned paper, and he looked forward to the active participation of Members.

55. DEHS(TW) of the FEHD responded as follows:

- (1) the scope of this district clean-up campaign mainly targeted a number of hygiene black spots specified in the Government Programme on Tackling Hygiene Black Spots, rear lanes beset with serious problem of illegal refuse dumping would also be covered. The FEHD welcomed Members's input on information about the locations concerned and would make complementary efforts in respond to their requests of strengthening cleansing services at the relevant locations;
- (2) the FEHD noted the problem of greasy and slippery floor at the second floor of Yeung Uk Road Market mentioned by Members, and would take follow-up actions at once. Its cleansing contractor would be

- informed of the problem concerned and requested to pay more attention when carrying out cleansing work so that proper equipment would be used to clean up the grease on the floor;
- (3) the FEHD thanked Members for reporting the hygiene problems in the district and putting forward their views, and would take the information provided by Members into account so as to make arrangements in an appropriate manner;
 - (4) concerning the accumulation of rubbish on the rooftop of a “three-nil” building on Sha Tsui Road, the property owner was responsible for clearing the refuse at the location concerned. The FEHD understood that “three-nil” buildings were confronted with management problems and would give special consideration to certain cases subject to the severity of the environmental hygiene problem. It would also discuss with the Care Teams and Members how to follow up on the cases; and
 - (5) owing to the increase in the number of goods for celebrating the Lunar New Year, shops near Yeung Uk Road Market produced a substantial amount of waste styrofoam every day. The FEHD had communicated with shop operators on this matter and instructed contractors to step up the collection of waste styrofoam and other refuse. With a view to improving the aforementioned situation, the FEHD would start with education, as well as deploy plainclothes officers to take enforcement actions, i.e. issuance of fixed penalty notices against shop operators who failed to comply with the regulations despite repeated warnings.

VIII Item 8: Proposals for Organising Activities to Promote Local Economic Development

(TWDC Paper No. 6/2024)

56. The Chairman introduced the paper.

57. The Chairman said that he had held an informal meeting with Members of the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy (the “Working Group”) earlier. A task force on organising the bazaar cum carnival had been set up to coordinate various preparation work. Mr CHAN Hiu-chun concurrently chaired the said task force and the Working Group. The bazaar cum carnival would be jointly hosted by the TWDC and TWDO, and co-organised by major organisations and chambers of commerce in the district. In addition to the proposals mentioned in the captioned paper, the Working Group had discussed matters such as cooperating with hotels and shopping malls in Tsuen Wan district for publicity. Mr CHAN Hiu-chun would brief Members on the progress of the coordination work for the activity concerned.

58. Ms WONG Shuk-fan, Luparker said that apart from inviting students studying at primary and secondary schools in the district and their parents to visit the bazaar cum carnival, kindergarten students and their parents should also be invited to boost the customer flow therein.

59. Mr CHAN Hiu-chun proposed that a small gift could be offered to customers who spent money at local merchants and at the bazaar on the same day to foster economic growth in the district. He said that customers would receive a small gift if they provided receipts for spending a specified amount at local merchants on the day of the event and stamps obtained after spending at the bazaar. He believed that such offer would encourage the public to go out shopping and bring vibrancy to the bazaar.

60. The Chairman agreed with the suggestion put forward by Mr CHAN Hiu-chun and believed that such offer would encourage more local merchants to participate in the bazaar cum carnival. However, he said that the quantity and arrangements for distributing the gifts should be considered prudently to avoid falling short of public expectations during the execution, and suggested that the details of the cooperation should be discussed by the task force.

61. Mr NG Chun-yu supported the suggestion of Mr CHAN Hiu-chun and opined that it would allow local merchants to participate in the bazaar through other means so that greater economic benefits would be achieved. Moreover, he proposed that certificates of appreciation should be awarded to students who participated in the event and free photo-taking services should be provided on-site to attract their participation.

62. Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond held that it might be difficult to verify whether the money was spent within Tsuen Wan district from the receipts provided by the public. He suggested distributing flyers to cooperating merchants so that they could assist in publicity. Customers would receive a gift when they produce the receipts and flyers obtained from these merchants. Such arrangement would attract the public to spend money at local merchants as well as be effective in promoting the bazaar cum carnival.

63. The Chairman said that the implementation details such as the method of verifying receipts could be further discussed by the task force. He said that in addition to the bazaar cum carnival, the Working Group would consider holding a series of activities. Hence, different forms of cooperation with local shopping malls and merchants could be explored at this stage to facilitate partnership in the long run, so as to take forward other activities that would boost local economy in the future.

64. Mr WONG Wai-kit said that the suggestion of Mr CHAN Hiu-chun would allow local merchants to enjoy the economic benefits brought by the bazaar cum carnival without additional preparation. Furthermore, he suggested holding a lucky draw to reward customers instead of offering small gifts. As long as customers spent money at local merchants and at the bazaar on the same day, they would be entitled to enter the lucky draw and get a chance to win fabulous prizes. Details on specific

arrangements such as verification of receipts could be further discussed by the task force. In his preliminary view, customers would be eligible for the lucky draw by producing receipts printed with a Tsuen Wan address and the date of the event.

65. The Chairman encouraged Members to join the task force, and said that co-organisers with experience in organising bazaars could be invited to take part in the discussion of details.

IX Item 9: Measures Relating to the District Council in the Policy Address: Proposals for Establishing Distinctive Photo-taking Landmarks with District Characteristics

(TWDC Paper No. 7/2024)

66. The Chairman said that in the 2023 Policy Address, the Chief Executive had invited the District Youth Community Building Committees across 18 districts to propose a distinctive photo-taking landmark for their respective districts. After consulting the Tsuen Wan District Youth Community Building Committee (TWDYCBC) for their views, the TWDO had drafted the latest proposals and set them out in TWDC Paper No. 7/2024. The Chairman asked Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond, Chairman of the TWDYCBC, to introduce the paper.

67. Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond introduced the paper:

- (1) in the 2023 Policy Address issued earlier, the Chief Executive had invited the District Youth Community Building Committees across 18 districts to propose a distinctive photo-taking landmark for their respective districts. With particular themes and design elements, these landmarks would showcase the district's uniqueness for attracting citizens as well as tourists to "check in" and take photos there;
- (2) the TWDO had drafted three feasible proposals earlier and consulted Members of the TWDYCBC at its 3rd meeting held on 21 December 2023. The themes of the three proposals were "Tsuen Wan Is Our Home", "Tsuen Wan's Countryside" and "Tsuen Wan's Infrastructure" respectively. For each proposal, the TWDO had selected a number of distinctive locations in the district that were yet to be explored by local residents and foreign visitors, and mapped out three viewing routes that linked up various local attractions, through which visitors would be motivated to take photos and "check in" at specific landmarks. They would also be encouraged to frequently explore Tsuen Wan district and take part in local activities, thereby boosting the visitor flow and economy in the district;
- (3) the TWDYCBC had held an in-depth discussion on the aforementioned proposals, in which Members had offered valuable and constructive views to the TWDO. For example, it was suggested that the

exhibition content in “Tsuen Wan Is Our Home” should be updated regularly to give visitors a sense of novelty, additional attractions such as the temple cluster at Fu Yung Shan were proposed to be included in “Tsuen Wan’s Countryside”, and feasible routes for “Tsuen Wan’s Infrastructure” were recommended;

- (4) overall speaking, Members of the TWDYCBC held that all three proposals were desirable. Among the three proposals, Members generally preferred “Tsuen Wan Is Our Home” and “Tsuen Wan’s Countryside”, opining that these two proposals were more appropriate in showcasing the distinguishing characteristics and unique history of Tsuen Wan; and
- (5) after canvassing Members’ views, the TWDO had adopted some of the suggestions and made improvements to the proposals. Priority was accorded to “Tsuen Wan Is Our Home”. The details of each proposal had been set out in TWDC Paper No. 7/2024. Members were welcome to put forth views.

68. The Chairman said that it was proposed in “Tsuen Wan Is Our Home” that mosaic photo boards would be installed at the pedestrian footbridge system at Tai Ho Road and Sai Lau Kok Garden in the district. Exhibition boards would also be erected at the locations concerned to introduce the local characteristics, development history and old cityscape of Tsuen Wan. The project was expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2024. The TWDO would implement “Tsuen Wan’s Countryside” and “Tsuen Wan’s Infrastructure” in a timely manner having regard to the resources available.

69. Members had no further comments on the proposals mentioned in the captioned paper and unanimously endorsed the aforementioned proposals.

X Item 10: Briefing on the Latest Progress of Activities Organised by the Tsuen Wan District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee in 2023 and 2024
(TWDC Paper No. 8/2024)

70. The Chairman said that there were two committees relating to youth affairs in Tsuen Wan district, namely the Youth Community Building Committee and the Youth Development and Civic Education Committee. In order for the TWDC to step up exchange and maintain close liaison with the aforesaid two committees on youth affairs, he would invite the Chairmen of the two committees to brief Members on their work and activities which welcomed the participation of Members at meetings of the TWDC in the future, as well as to explore opportunities for collaboration with the TWDC. The Chairman asked Mr CHAN Hiu-chun, Chairman of the Tsuen Wan District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee (TWDYDCEC), to introduce the paper.

71. Mr CHAN Hiu-chun introduced the paper:
- (1) Members of the current-term TWDYDCEC had taken up office in April 2023 to give views to the Government on issues relating to youth development and civic education in the district. There were three working groups under the TWDYDCEC, including the Working Group on Youth Exchange, the Working Group on Social Experience, and the Working Group on Activities and Publicity. The working groups undertook the organisation and coordination of various youth and civic education activities in response to the needs in the district;
 - (2) in terms of youth exchange, the TWDYDCEC had organised a five-day exchange tour to Shanghai on the theme of “economics and culture for youths” in 2023, and would soon organise another three-day exchange tour to the Greater Bay Area on the theme of “innovation technology, art and culture” at the end of this month, with a view to deepening local youths’ understanding of national development and enhancing their sense of national identity;
 - (3) concerning social experience, the TWDYDCEC had organised multiple activities covering topics such as youth leadership training, career planning and community familiarisation during the year, aiming to help local youths to better understand themselves through a multipronged strategy and encourage them to contribute to the community;
 - (4) as regards civic and national security education, the TWDYDCEC would launch activities such as exhibition, drawing competition, and slogan competition, etc. in the coming two months to further the understanding of civic education and national security among local youths; and
 - (5) the details of the activities that had been and would be organised by the TWDYDCEC were set out in TWDC Paper No. 8/2024 for Members’ perusal. Members were welcome to put forth views.

72. Members unanimously noted the content of the captioned paper.

XI Item 11: Briefing on the Arrangements for Reporting the Progress of District Work in Tsuen Wan by Relevant Government Departments

73. The Chairman said that with a view to boosting work efficiency, starting from the current term, relevant government departments would provide quarterly progress reports on their district work in Tsuen Wan for Members’ perusal. It was expected that the reports of various departments for the fourth quarter of 2023 would be provided at the next meeting.

74. Mr NG Chun-yu learned that the Transport Department (TD) and HyD had provided progress reports on works projects (such as adding road markings or retrofitting railings) in the past. He asked which departments would provide these progress reports.

75. The Chairman said that the captioned progress reports did not refer to reports provided by departments for special purposes (such as the consultation papers provided by the TD annually on bus route planning programme and by the works departments on works projects), but were quarterly progress reports on district work provided regularly by departments in regular attendance at meetings of the TWDC at present. With reference to the work reports submitted to the District Management Committee in the past, he planned to invite relevant departments to provide reports on district work every quarter for Members' reference and follow-up on different items. Henceforth, the departments would continue to gather views from Members on projects that required consultation with the TWDC.

76. Mr NG Chun-yu suggested inviting the Drainage Services Department (DSD) and HyD to provide reports in a regular manner. He said that there were many existing drainage problems and ongoing drainage works in the district. In addition, the HyD had always provided reports on works projects at meetings of the T&TC in the past. Furthermore, residents relayed to him that the HyD often failed to notify the public before the installation of additional facilities such as railings. He hoped that the department concerned would give prior notice to the public before carrying out relevant works.

77. Chief Engineer/West 4 of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) responded as follows:

- (1) in accordance with the customary practice, the CEDD would represent different works departments of the Government in attending meetings of the District Councils. The CEDD would convey Members' views to relevant departments for follow-up; and
- (2) the CEDD had been providing progress reports on major works in Tsuen Wan district to the TWDC regularly. In respect of the minor and localised works (such as alteration to road markings), they would be handed over to the T&TC for further follow-up.

78. ADO(TW) of the TWDO responded as follows:

- (1) at meetings of the T&TC in the past, relevant departments such as the HyD and TD had regularly provided information papers on minor works (such as road maintenance works), and these papers would continue to be discussed at meetings of the T&TC; and
- (2) the proposed arrangement aimed to standardise and align the prevailing practice, as such, reports on district work would be provided together by government departments in regular attendance at meetings of the TWDC every quarter for Members' perusal.

79. The Chairman said that government departments and Members should maintain a cooperative relationship, and hoped that Members could have a deeper understanding of the progress of district work carried out by the departments. He also expected Members to read through the papers prior to the meeting so as to facilitate the discussion and Q&A session of agenda items.

80. Mr CHU Tak-wing agreed with the suggestion of requiring the DSD to submit reports. He said that the drainage and hygiene problems in Tsuen Wan had been long-standing. The drains in the vicinity of Chung On Street were often blocked and emitted unpleasant odour, as a result, gully emptiers were required to provide gully cleansing services. He urged the Government to face the problem squarely and the DSD to provide reports for Members' perusal.

81. The Chairman said that as regards the suggestions raised by Members, the TWDC had an established mechanism to deal with the relevant problems. At present, the DSD was a department in regular attendance at meetings of the DFWC and DPC. He therefore advised Members to raise the issues of concern at meetings of the relevant committees, and the representatives of the DSD would then be invited to give briefings and responses. Other major or unresolved issues should be brought up at meetings of the TWDC for further discussion.

82. The Chairman asked Members whether there was any other business to raise. Members had no other business to raise.

83. The Chairman said that the TWDO and TWDC had jointly organised spring receptions in the past. Given that society had resumed normalcy, he asked if Members would support the TWDO and TWDC to co-organise the event concerned on 20 February 2024. Members unanimously agreed to the proposal.

84. The Chairman said that the TWDO had recently received invitations to Members to attend activities from some departments and organisations. ADO(TW) of the TWDO added that the invitations received so far included visits to the MTR depot, Nina Park of Chinachem Group and the service units of Yan Chai Hospital, etc. The Secretariat would send invitations to Members later. He hoped that Members would actively participate and exchange views with different departments and organisations.

85. The Chairman added that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) had also planned to hold a briefing session for the TWDC. District Social Welfare Officer (Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing) of the SWD responded as follows:

- (1) the SWD looked forward to cooperating with Members on social welfare matters in the future; and

- (2) in order to facilitate a better understanding by Members of the social welfare services provided in Tsuen Wan district, the SWD would hold a briefing session. The Secretary for Labour and Welfare would also attend the briefing session and meet with Members.

(Post-meeting note: The SWD would hold a briefing session on 22 January 2024, and invitations were sent to Members on 12 January 2024.)

XII Item 12: Date of Next Meeting

86. The Chairman said that the date of the next meeting was 30 January 2024. According to section 38 of the Standing Orders, Members who wished to raise an item or present a paper on an item for discussion at a meeting was required to submit the paper with a notice in writing to the Secretariat ten clear working days before the meeting. Hence, the deadline for submission of papers was 15 January 2024.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat
January 2024