

(Translation)

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of Tsuen Wan District Council (2/24-25)

Date: 30 July 2024

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Venue: Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Chairman

Mr AU Ka-shing, Billy, JP (District Officer (Tsuen Wan), Tsuen Wan District Office)

Members

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

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

Government Representatives

Mr KWAN Chun-kit, Eric

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 LAW Ka-hong, Alex	District Commander (Tsuen Wan), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr CHAN Hok-chun, Clement	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
Mr LAU Chi-yuen, Spencer	District Lands Officer/Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Ms LAM Hang-ling, Sara	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department
Mr MOK Ka-sing, Mark	Chief Transport Officer/New Territories 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 NG Kwok-suen, Carl	Senior Engineer/10 (West), 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

In Attendance:

For discussion of item 3

Ms CHEONG Chi-kun	Senior District Engineer/South West, Highways Department
Mr CHAN Yee-hing, Paul	Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1, Transport Department

Absent:

Mr YAU Kam-ping, BBS, MH

Action

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the 5th meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) and introduced:

- (1) Mr LAU Chi-yuen, Spencer, who attended a meeting of the TWDC for

the first time and replaced Ms HO Mun-yee, Money to assume the post of District Lands Officer/Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (District Lands Office, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing), Lands Department;

- (2) Mr CHAN Hok-chun, Clement, who attended a meeting of the TWDC for the first time and replaced Mr FUNG Chi-ho, Eric to assume the post of Police Community Relations Officer (Tsuen Wan), Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF); and
- (3) Mr NG Kwok-suen, Carl, Senior Engineer/10 (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department, who attended this meeting on behalf of Mr HO Kai-ho, Stanley.

2. Members unanimously gave consent to the application for absence from Mr YAU Kam-ping who was unable to attend this meeting due to other commitments.

3. The Chairman stated that according to the requirements stipulated in the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders (the “Standing Orders”), if a District Council (DC) Member found that he/she had any direct personal or pecuniary interests in a discussion item or relevant matters when attending a meeting of the Council or dealing with matters related to the Council, the DC Member should declare the interests. The Secretariat had not received any declaration of interests prior to the meeting. The Chairman enquired whether Members had to make declarations of interests immediately. No Member made a declaration of interests immediately.

4. The Chairman stated that 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 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 4th Meeting held on 28.5.2024

5. The Chairman stated that the Secretariat had not received any proposed amendments prior to the meeting. The Chairman enquired whether Members had to put forth proposed amendments immediately. No Member put forth a proposed amendment immediately. Members unanimously endorsed the minutes.

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

6. The Chairman stated that there were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

IV Item 3: Follow-up on Tsuen Wan District’s Work Progress on the District Issues Identified by the Steering Committee on District Governance (TWDC Paper No. 14/24-25)

7. The Chairman invited the representatives from various departments to take turns in briefing Members on the work progress on the key district issues and

answering enquiries from Members. The representatives attending the meeting were:

- (1) Ms WONG Siu-fan, Phoebe, District Social Welfare Officer (Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing) (DSWO(TW/KT)), Social Welfare Department (SWD);
- (2) Ms NG Kam-yim, District Leisure Manager (Tsuen Wan) (DLM(TW)), Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD);
- (3) Mr HUNG Sai-kit, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tsuen Wan) (DEHS(TW)), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD);
- (4) Mr LAW Ka-hong, Alex, District Commander (Tsuen Wan) (DC(TW)), HKPF;
- (5) Ms CHEONG Chi-kun, Senior District Engineer/South West (SDE/SW), Highways Department (HyD);
- (6) Mr CHAN Yee-hing, Paul, Engineer/Tsuen Wan 1 (E/TW1), Transport Department (TD); and
- (7) Mrs LAI CHAN Wai-fan, Clara, Chief Manager/Management (Wong Tai Sin, Tsing Yi and Tsuen Wan) (CM/M(WT&T)), Housing Department (HD).

8. The Chairman invited the representative from the SWD to introduce the key district issue about “expanding after-school care service and enhancing support for parents”.

9. DSWO(TW/KT) of the SWD introduced the paper.

10. Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond enquired on the percentage of students served by the seven schools in Tsuen Wan district under the School-based After School Care Service Scheme (the “Scheme”) out of the total number of students benefitted from the Scheme. He also enquired about the average duration of students’ stay at school.

11. Ms CHAN Shun-shun enquired whether the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) providing the service under the Scheme were recruited openly or at the SWD’s invitation. She also enquired whether the NGOs were required to be charities.

12. Mr CHAN Sung-ip proposed relaxing the eligibility criteria for enrolment of the Scheme by students, thereby allowing middle-class families to use the service as well.

13. Ms LAM Yuen-pun said that while there were about 21 government and aided primary schools in Tsuen Wan district, only seven of them participated in the

Scheme. In her opinion, the Scheme was meaningful. She enquired about the reasons why other schools did not participate in the Scheme, and proposed making an extra effort to promote the Scheme.

14. Ms WONG Shuk-fan, Luparker said that the Scheme allowed parents, especially working parents, to have more free time and space. She suggested that the Scheme should be regularised to provide continuous support to working parents.

15. DSWO(TW/KT) of the SWD responded as follows:

- (1) each of the schools participating in the Scheme would be allocated about 60 service places. Having said that, the actual number of service places allocated to each participating school would be flexibly adjusted having regard to individual circumstances;
- (2) under general circumstances, approved service providers (ASPs) of the Scheme should provide the service after school till 6:00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. The service hours might be extended to 7:00 p.m. if school conditions permitted. The ASPs should also provide the service for students in need of it on Saturdays and Sundays. If participating schools were unable to open their campus, the ASPs should make arrangements for providing the service at the service unit(s) within respective districts;
- (3) to qualify as an ASP, an organisation should be an NGO and a charitable institution which was exempt from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112). The organisation should also have experience in operating after-school care services. The SWD had openly invited interested NGOs to apply for serving as ASPs earlier. Interested NGOs should submit applications on or before 19 July 2024;
- (4) the main service targets of the Scheme were dual-income families, single-parent families and families in need of the after-school care service due to other social factors. If there were unfilled service places, the ASPs could also provide the service to other students in need of it whose families' income did not meet the eligibility criteria. Yet, the ASPs should charge these students fixed standard fees;
- (5) the recruitment of schools to join the Scheme was undertaken by the Education Bureau. Different factors would come into play when schools decided whether to join the Scheme; and
- (6) the SWD had received much positive feedback on the Scheme from parents. It also noted the Member's view on regularising the Scheme.

(Post-meeting note: The SWD had not maintain a record of the average duration of students' stay at school. Regarding the percentage of the total number of students who benefitted from the Scheme at the

participating primary schools in Tsuen Wan district, the SWD replied to Members via the Secretariat on 26 August 2024.)

16. The Chairman stated that the objective of establishing the Community Care Fund (CCF) was to observe the effectiveness of newly implemented programmes by taking an “early and pilot implementation” approach. He suggested that Members could also directly raise the proposal for regularising the Scheme to the CCF. Members could follow up on other enquiries and views on the Scheme, if any, at meetings of the Social Welfare Committee.

17. The Chairman invited the representative from the SWD to introduce the key district issue about “caring for the elderly and enhancing community support”.

18. DSWO(TW/KT) of the SWD introduced the paper.

19. Mr WONG Wai-kit said that the subsidy scheme for installation of the emergency alarm system (EAS) was a 12-month programme under the District Services and Community Care Teams - Pilot Scheme on Supporting Elderly and Carers. He had received many enquiries on the subsequent arrangements for the programme from elders and carers. If the subsidy for elders to use the EAS service was terminated, some elders who had the EAS installed at home might cancel the service. He supported installing the EAS for elders in need of financial assistance, and suggested continuously subsidising elders to use the EAS service.

20. Mr CHOW Sum-ming said he had learnt from residents during home visits that there were four types of EAS products in the market, namely wireless EAS devices, EAS mobile phones, EAS watches and EAS mobile applications. Their prices ranged from \$168 to \$290. He enquired whether the subsidy scheme would only cover the installation of a specific type of EAS product, or whether subsidy recipients were free choose the type of EAS product.

21. DSWO(TW/KT) of the SWD responded as follows:

- (1) the SWD noted the Member’s proposal for extending the scheme for subsidising elders to use the EAS service; and
- (2) upon receiving referrals from the Care Teams, service operators would follow up on the installation of the EAS.

(Post-meeting note: After verifying applicants’ eligibility for the Subsidy Scheme for Provision of Emergency Call System Service, the service operators would arrange the installation of Care-on-Call Wireless Personal Emergency Link and provide the service concerned.)

22. The Chairman invited the representative from the LCSD to introduce the key district issue about “caring for the elderly and enhancing community support”.

23. DLM(TW) of the LCSD introduced the paper.

24. The Chairman enquired about the locations in Tsuen Wan district where “The Evergreen” Award Scheme and the “Umbrellas for Loan by Elderly Park Visitors” Scheme would be introduced and the “Briefing on Outdoor Fitness Training” sessions would be held, as well as the implementation of these schemes and activities. Moreover, having learnt that the LCSD had explored the feasibility of providing covered facilities at outdoor venues, he enquired of the progress of the work concerned.

25. DLM(TW) of the LCSD responded as follows:

- (1) the LCSD was introducing the schemes and holding the activities at Shing Mun Valley Park in Tsuen Wan district on a trial basis. It would conduct a timely review after the 6-month trial period; and
- (2) the LCSD had retrofitted arbours which provided shelter from rain for the seats in South Garden of Shing Mun Valley Park. It also planned to install arbours for two sets of seats in Tai Ho Road Sitting-Out Area No. 3.

26. The Chairman invited the representative from the FEHD to introduce the key district issue about “fostering clean markets and mobilising the community to participate in anti-rodent work”.

27. DEHS(TW) of the FEHD introduced the paper.

28. Mr KOT Siu-yuen said that scented mousetraps had been applied to catch rodents in Tsuen Wan Market, which was the first testing ground of the FEHD’s Anti-rodent Action. Yet, these mousetraps were not very effective. He hoped that the FEHD would give a detailed introduction on the operating principle and effectiveness of Ekomille. He noted that currently, Yeung Uk Road Market was the only market in the district where glue traps were used to catch rodents. He hoped that the FEHD would widely adopt this rodent trapping means in other local markets. Moreover, he suggested that the FEHD should select rear lanes of restaurants around Heung Che Street Market and in Sam Pei Square as the locations for piloting the deployment of large refuse bins. It should also make a greater effort to promote the implementation this trial scheme.

29. Mr KOO Yeung-pong enquired whether the large refuse bins placed at rear lanes of restaurants were provided by the FEHD. He pointed out that there were quite a number of restaurants in Tsuen Wan district. He considered that in order to

ease the rodent problem, the trial scheme for placing large refuse bins at rear lanes should be fully implemented across the entire district. He commended the FEHD for beginning to adopt other rodent trapping means (e.g. glue traps and Ekomille) alongside cage traps to catch rodents. Also, he hoped that the new rodent trapping means would be introduced to other public places or private buildings.

30. Ms WAH Mei-ling enquired about the effectiveness of the trial scheme for allowing restaurants to place refuse bins at rear lanes on their own. She said that she had previously conducted an on-site inspection at Lo Tak Court and found that the environmental hygiene condition there was good. Moreover, she wished to learn about the calculation of the Rodent Absence Rate (RAR), and asked the FEHD to elaborate on the specific situation indicated by the RAR of 96.9%.

31. Mr MOK Yuen-kwan said the data demonstrated the effectiveness of the work of the overnight rodent control teams. He enquired whether the overnight rodent control teams would only provide service at the FEHD's markets and refuse collection points, or whether they would also work at locations where people complained about rodent infestation. Besides, he enquired whether the overnight rodent control teams were established on a permanent basis.

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

- (1) the operating principle of Ekomille was to attract rodents with a specific bait. When a rodent entered the device, it would trigger an internal trap, fall to the alcohol-filled bottom of the device and eventually die. The FEHD stated that Ekomille was an ancillary tool for rodent control. The key to rodent control was to completely eliminate the fundamental survival conditions of rodents in the environment, namely food, harbourage and passages. For example, waste should be properly handled to keep the environment clean and reduce food sources of rodents. Hiding places and dispersal routes of rodents should also be blocked so that they could no longer hide and roam around, thereby achieving the goal of rodent control. The FEHD would enhance the effectiveness of the rodent trapping work by various means;
- (2) there was a constraint on the locations where glue traps could be applied, i.e. they could only be used indoors. Also, the FEHD should consider whether glue traps were suitable to use in the environmental settings concerned, so as to ensure that no harm would be caused to non-target animals. For the time being, the FEHD mainly placed glue traps at locations inaccessible to humans and animals inside Yeung Uk Road Market. The FEHD would study whether it was suitable to place glue traps in Tsuen Wan Market;
- (3) if any property management company was interested in Ekomille, the

- FEHD could arrange an on-site inspection accordingly;
- (4) the FEHD was planning to allow restaurants on Chung On Street and Ho Pui Street to place large refuse bins at rear lanes by themselves. The FEHD would implement the scheme concerned step by step, further facilitating the proper handling of waste by restaurants;
 - (5) restaurants were required to place large refuse bins on their own. The bins should meet specified requirements (i.e. they should be lidded and enclosed, and should have a capacity of 240 litres). Besides, restaurants should take the initiative to engage contractors to clear their waste. They should also keep the vicinity of the bins clean so as to ease the rodent problem;
 - (6) regarding the proposal for extending the trial scheme for allowing restaurants to place large refuse bins at rear lanes on their own to other restaurants in the district, the FEHD should take into account environmental factors of different locations. At the current stage, the locations where the trial scheme was implemented were rear lanes connected to a dense cluster of restaurants. The FEHD should also carry out a series of publicity and education work, providing restaurants with guidance on the proper handling of waste;
 - (7) the FEHD would assign staff to inspect large refuse bins placed by restaurants to ensure that the hygiene conditions of the bins and surrounding areas complied with the FEHD's requirements. If it was found during an inspection that the hygiene condition was unsatisfactory, the FEHD would request the restaurant in question to make rectifications. If Members identified improper handling of waste by certain restaurants, they could report such cases to the FEHD anytime;
 - (8) taking into account the geographical environment of different locations and the data on rodent complaints, the FEHD would install thermal imaging cameras at about 100 locations in the district every six months and conduct a survey on rodent activities with the aid of artificial intelligence (AI). During each survey, the thermal imaging cameras would operate for three consecutive days. The daily operating hours of the cameras would be from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. of the following day, during which a thermal image would be captured at a two-minute interval. To calculate the RAR, the thermal images would then be analysed by using AI to detect the presence of rodents. The RAR would be worked out by dividing the number of thermal images with no rodents detected by the total number of thermal images taken and then multiplying the result by 100; and
 - (9) the overnight rodent control teams were established on a permanent basis, mainly serving the old areas in Tsuen Wan and locations with more frequent rodent activities (e.g. the surrounding areas of Tai Pei

Square, Yi Pei Square, San Tsuen Street, Ho Pui Street, Hoi Pa Street and Heung Wo Street). The FEHD would ensure cage traps were densely placed to catch rodents at the said locations. It would also give priority to allocating resources to locations where rodent infestation was more serious according to the observations gained from inspections and the results of data analysis, thereby strengthening the anti-rodent work in a targeted manner.

33. Mr LEUNG Cheong-ming, Raymond opined that the rodent problem should be tackled at source. He suggested that the FEHD should take into account whether a restaurant had properly handled waste when determining whether to grant a licence to it or approve its application for licence renewal. Such arrangement could ensure that restaurants would properly handle waste in order to alleviate the rodent problem. Moreover, he held that the application of rodent trapping devices were short-term measures. He enquired of the FEHD whether it had medium- and long-term measures to eradicate rodent infestation. Also, he wished to learn about the FEHD's solutions to the rodent problem in markets.

34. Ms LAM Yuen-pun applauded the FEHD's anti-rodent work. She said that the FEHD's staff had maintained good communication and forged close partnerships with stall operators of markets. Some stall operators of Chai Wan Kok Cooked Food Market had conveyed to the respective Market Management Consultative Committee that there had been no sighting of rodents in recent days. Moreover, she hoped that the FEHD would improve the problem of slippery floors in markets.

35. Ms CHEUNG Man-ka, Marcella enquired on the main cause of the 38% increase in the number of live rodents caught, i.e. whether it was due to the FEHD's recent adoption of a wider variety of rodent trapping tools or the further deterioration of the rodent problem in the district.

36. Mr WONG Wai-kit enquired about the position of Tsuen Wan district in the ranking of RARs among the 18 districts across the territory. He was aware that thermal imaging cameras would not be set up at fixed locations in the district. Considering that their locations would have an impact on the data obtained, he recommended the FEHD to permanently set up thermal imaging cameras at black spots of rodent infestation. He also hoped that the FEHD would show the appearance of thermal imaging cameras to Members for their reference.

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

- (1) at present, laws against the improper handling of waste by restaurants were enacted by the Government. In addition, a restaurant should comply with the requirements for properly storing and handling of waste when applying for a licence. Hence, all restaurants were

- regulated by the relevant laws and licensing conditions, and were required to maintain good environmental hygiene within their premises;
- (2) the FEHD's main strategies for rodent control were to eliminate food sources of rodents, remove their hiding places and block their dispersal routes. Apart from the Government's efforts, the anti-rodent work also relied heavily on the participation of shop operators, property management companies and members of the public. The constant upkeep of environmental hygiene and proper handling of waste by all parties were vital to effective rodent control;
 - (3) the anti-rodent work in markets was undertaken by the FEHD's contractors. It was also stipulated in the tenancy conditions that stall operators of markets should at all times keep their stalls in a clean and sanitary condition, properly handle waste and complete the relevant cleansing work on the Monthly Market Cleansing Day. The FEHD would educate stall operators to play their roles in complementing the anti-rodent work through regular inspections and publicity on various platforms, thereby making a collaborative effort to combat rodent infestation;
 - (4) the FEHD would convey the problem of slippery floors to its contractors responsible for the cleansing work of markets and request them to make an extra effort to improve the situation. Also, the FEHD would maintain close communication with operators of related stalls (especially fish stalls) in markets and request them to prevent spillage of water which caused slippery floors during their business activities;
 - (5) the 38% increase in the number of live rodents caught at night was attributed largely to the FEHD's establishment of the overnight rodent control teams. The number of live rodents caught at night during the first six months of 2024 accounted for half of the total number of live rodents caught. It showed that the catching of rodents at night was more effective than the past practice of catching rodents only during the daytime. Besides, the FEHD would set up cage traps according to different environmental settings with a view to increasing the effectiveness of the rodent trapping work. The FEHD would continue to closely review the data on the anti-rodent work; and
 - (6) thermal imaging cameras were similar in appearance to Internet Protocol cameras installed at black spots of illegal refuse dumping. A thermal imaging camera was made up of a metal pole, batteries and cameras. Due to the resource constraint, the FEHD would conduct a three-day survey on detecting rodent activities every six months. The FEHD would commission a contractor to install thermal imaging cameras during the survey and remove these cameras upon the

completion of the survey.

38. The Chairman stated that if Members wished to continue to follow up on the rodent control work of the FEHD, they could raise discussion items at meetings of the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee.

39. The Chairman invited the representative from the HKPF to introduce the key district issue about “enhancing public order and combating crimes on all fronts”.

40. DC(TW) of the HKPF introduced the paper.

41. Mr NG Chun-yu commended the Police Community Relations Office of the Tsuen Wan Police District under the HKPF for organising anti-deception talks for Members and the Care Teams, and for assisting residents to install the mobile application “Scameter+”. He said that the majority of online scammers committed crimes remotely from abroad. He also enquired whether the number of deception cases reported in Tsuen Wan district was worked out according to where victims had been scammed or where arrested criminals had committed crimes. Moreover, he suggested that the Police should install more closed-circuit televisions (CCTVs) in populous areas where pickpockets were relatively rampant in the district. Finally, he considered that the problem of on-street solicitation in the district had been improved. He proposed that the Police should make a greater effort to inspect holders of two-way exit permits who behaved suspiciously in markets.

42. Mr CHAN Hiu-chun said that the overall crime figure of Tsuen Wan district had declined. He pointed out that the Police’s detection rates of robberies and serious drug offences were 100%. Yet, the detection rates of burglaries and blackmail cases were comparatively low. He enquired of the Police on the causes of the difficulties in cracking burglaries and blackmail cases.

43. Mr CHOW Sum-ming was concerned about the low detection rate of burglaries. He enquired whether the seven flats which had been burgled in 2023 had become targets of burglars again over the same period in 2024. He also enquired about the types of these residential premises which had been burgled. Besides, he suggested that residents should be more vigilant about suspicious situations and duly take preventive measures against burglaries.

44. Mr CHAN Sung-ip said that there had been 19 deception cases reported in Ma Wan in the second quarter of 2024. He advised the HKPF to refer the situation to the Kwai Tsing Police District. He also suggested that a mobile publicity van should be sent to promote anti-deception messages at Ma Wan Public Pier. Moreover, village houses in Ma Wan were attractive to burglars. He proposed drawing reference from the practice which had been proved effective in the past, i.e.

officers of the Police Tactical Unit or uniformed police officers should be irregularly deployed to conduct patrols and carry out publicity in Ma Wan before winter.

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

- (1) the HKPF would continue its work on preventing deception and crimes. It would also make every effort to disseminate the relevant information to every single household. The regional classification of deception cases differed from that of money laundering cases (which were regionally classified according to the addresses of bank accounts of victims). The HKPF would consider factors such as the locations where victims had been scammed or where criminals had committed crimes when regionally classifying deception cases;
- (2) the HKPF and the Immigration Department would conduct joint operations against on-street prostitutes and solicitation on a monthly basis. The HKPF would enhance its stopping, questioning and searching actions in places such as markets. The HKPF would also take enforcement actions according to intelligence and information it had gathered. For instance, it would strategically take actions against illegal prostitution in some rented flats in “three-nil” buildings;
- (3) the Territory-wide CCTV Installation Scheme (the “CCTV Scheme”) was a territory-wide programme led by the Government. The objective was to prevent and detect crimes as well as to enhance law and order at the district level. Under the auspices of the Task Force on District Governance, the HKPF implemented the CCTV Scheme in collaboration with different government bureaux/departments after co-ordinating the utilisation of resources among them. Having taken into account a combination of factors (including the crime rates of various police districts as well as the characteristics and pedestrian flow of respective districts), the HKPF would conduct analyses and take forward the installation of CCTVs at locations with higher crime rates or pedestrian flow. The HKPF would also leverage these CCTVs to aid the adoption of crowd control measures when the pedestrian flow was relatively heavy, thereby facilitating the assessment of the situation and the performance of operational deployment by the Police on the spot;
- (4) the HKPF planned to install 2 000 CCTVs in various districts across the territory at the first stage. It would also give priority to the installation of CCTVs at 615 locations of which the crime rates were relatively high. The HKPF had installed 15 CCTVs in Mong Kok between March and April 2024, and would gradually install the remaining 600 CCTVs. The HKPF would continuously review the effectiveness of the CCTV Scheme and optimise its operation during the installation of CCTVs. It also looked forward to promptly

- achieving the goal of installing 2 000 CCTVs at the first stage;
- (5) all CCTVs installed under the CCTV Scheme would only record images of public places. If private places such as outdoor balconies unavoidably fell within the coverage area of CCTVs, the central system would automatically blur the relevant images from the footage captured by CCTVs after the early stage of recording. This would prevent the violation of people's privacy. Besides, the HKPF had already enhanced the information security of the CCTV Scheme and drawn up a set of comprehensive and stringent internal operational guidelines. During the installation of CCTVs, the HKPF would continue to review the operational procedures and details of the entire system. It wished to further refine the system with a view to aiding the detection of crimes and the formulation of crowd control plans;
 - (6) a total of seven burglaries had been reported in the second quarter of 2024, and the detection rate was 14.3%. Besides lacking CCTVs and anti-theft devices, absence of security personnel for a long period of time during holidays was observed in some places in the district. As such, the Police had difficulties in taking enforcement actions or carrying out subsequent investigation work. The HKPF would tackle burglaries in a focused manner by deploying different resources and strategies. For example, the HKPF would enhance communication with stakeholders including security companies in the district. It hoped that this approach would effectively reduce the occurrence of burglaries;
 - (7) regarding the types of the seven residential premises which had been burgled, the HKPF would provide supplementary information after the meeting;
 - (8) the majority of blackmail cases were online naked chat blackmail cases. Criminals of online crimes originated from all over the world, and they would commit crimes by using virtual private networks. It was thus difficult to ferret out the masterminds behind these crimes. The HKPF would track them down at source. The HKPF would also maintain liaison with departments such as the Office of the Communications Authority and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority to further enhance the anti-crime awareness of the general public through different means, thereby minimising their chances of falling prey to scams; and
 - (9) regarding the 19 deception cases reported in Ma Wan, the HKPF would convey the situation to the Kwai Tsing Police District.

46. Mr TSANG Tai thanked the Police Community Relations Office of the Tsuen Wan Police District under the HKPF for promoting anti-deception messages together with the Care Teams all along and providing promotional banners for publicity at

housing estates. He pointed out that the Government had announced the overall crime figure in Hong Kong for the first five months of 2024 in the previous month, in which a total of 3 000-odd shop theft cases had been recorded across the territory, indicating a notable increase over the same period in 2023. He opined that since the economy had been in decline recently and there was a large number of gold and jewellery shops in Tsuen Wan, the Police should step up patrols in the district.

47. Mr CHU Tak-wing expressed concern about the law and order issues in Tsuen Wan town centre, and thanked the Police for their untiring efforts in deploying officers to carry out patrols near gold and jewellery shops, banks and money changers in the town centre. Besides, he suggested the Police conduct more systematic inspections during night time at locations where offenders were more likely to hide, such as the vicinity and rear lanes near gold and jewellery shops.

48. The Chairman said that the Police had recently identified three districts where the crime situation involving shop theft required heightened attention, namely Yau Ma Tei and Mong Kok, Tsuen Wan as well as Tseung Kwan O. He enquired about the situation of shop theft cases in Tsuen Wan district and the approach adopted by the Police to combat such crime.

49. Mr LAU Chung-kong said that ten youngsters had been arrested for committing triad-related crimes in the second quarter of 2024. He voiced concern over a sharp upward trend in the number of youths committing triad-related crimes. Besides, he was concerned about the situation that 169 cases involving sexual offences had been recorded in the district in the second quarter of 2024, and such figure represented a significant increase compared with that of the corresponding period in 2023. Lastly, he said that the number of pickpocketing cases between January and June 2024 had recorded an increase of 200% over the same period of the previous year. He enquired whether some offenders were tourists or persons from other districts.

50. Ms LAM Yuen-pun expressed her gratitude to the Police for their efforts in solving the cases, as well as her concern about the shop theft cases in the district. Observing that some local stationery stores had displayed warning signs in their stores, she was concerned about the crimes involving juveniles and students. She noted that the Police had all along been promoting anti-crime messages at schools, and held that such promotional activities would facilitate the cultivation of a sense of law-abidingness among students at an early age. She suggested the Police carry out

publicity activities at schools in the district once a year. Besides, she was concerned about the three- to four-fold increase in the number of cases involving sexual offences, and enquired about the reason for such growth as well as the number of offenders involved in such crime.

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

- (1) the number of shop theft cases in Hong Kong from January to May 2024 had recorded a year-on-year increase, with Tsuen Wan district having a higher growth in the number of such cases than other districts. In the second quarter of 2024, 152 shop theft cases had occurred in Tsuen Wan district, representing an increase of 54 cases or 55.1% when compared with the 98 cases in the first quarter. The HKPF had arrested 99 persons in connection with the relevant cases and the detection rate was 66.4%. Tsuen Wan was a densely-populated district with an abundance of stores. The majority of shop theft crimes had taken place in supermarkets or fashion boutiques, where offenders would lift merchandise out of shopkeepers' sight or sneak part of the unpaid items while using the self-checkout kiosks;
- (2) the merchants in Tsuen Wan district could be generally categorised into three types. The first type was large department stores with an extensive and relatively complex customer base. Typically, security guards were employed and anti-theft equipment (such as CCTVs) was installed in these department stores. The second type was stores operating as a conglomerate such as supermarket chains, pharmacies or grocery stores, etc. The third type was small family businesses which sold vegetables and fruits. The first and second types of stores had a lower level of anti-theft awareness, as staff would usually display popular items at prominent locations near the entrance of the store for sale purposes, making these items easily accessible to shoplifters. The third type of stores should change their mode of operation and improve the anti-theft equipment in the stores;
- (3) the Tsuen Wan Police District had all along been maintaining good communication with different stakeholders in the district and providing them with various suggestions on the prevention of shop theft. The HKPF had established a notification mechanism where local merchants would contact the Tsuen Wan Police District at once when they discovered suspected shoplifting behaviour. The HKPF had already prevented and handled 18 cases through this mechanism;

- (4) the HKPF would step up patrols specifically at black spots of shop thefts to crack down on such criminal activities. The HKPF urged Members to disseminate relevant information to stakeholders and encourage them to take more precautionary measures against shop theft through various means, such as utilising their community networks and making contact with merchants, with a view to reducing the opportunities for lawbreakers to commit crimes by taking a multi-pronged approach;
- (5) the HKPF would strengthen patrols carried out by uniformed police officers in the hope of enhancing the deterrent effect and reducing the crime rates;
- (6) most cases of sexual offences involved naked chat scam. The HKPF would also combat the sexual offences related to on-street solicitation, and concurrently deal with cases involving sexual offences other than on-street solicitation in a targeted manner;
- (7) in addition to pickpockets who would steal the personal belongings of members of the public in crowded places, there were offenders who would loiter near banks or automatic teller machines. They would follow persons who had withdrawn large sums of money and would wait for opportunities to steal the money. The HKPF was planning targeted operations related to pickpocketing cases so as to curb the crimes concerned;
- (8) with a view to raising the anti-theft awareness of merchants, the HKPF had maintained communication with different stakeholders in regard to shop theft cases, such as educating the staff of the shops to call the Police in case of any suspicious situations, encouraging merchants to install additional anti-theft equipment (including convex mirrors and CCTVs), and advising them to properly place valuable merchandise to avoid giving chances to shoplifters; and
- (9) the HKPF would carry out publicity campaigns on the prevention of triad-related crimes at the school level, so as to avoid lawbreakers from infiltrating into campuses and influencing students. The HKPF would disseminate information on the prevention of fraud and crime as well as protection of personal safety to students. It would also, in a timely manner, provide promotional and educational videos on crime prevention to schools for broadcasting on campuses.

52. The Chairman invited the representatives from the HyD and TD to introduce

the key district issues about “improving pedestrian facilities and ensuring road safety” as well as “enhancing the walking experience for citizens and creating a pedestrian-friendly environment”.

53. E/TW1 of the TD and SDE/SW of the HyD introduced the papers.

54. The Chairman enquired about the two locations in Tsuen Wan district where the HyD had planned to carry out renovation and beautification works for the pedestrian crossing facilities in phases.

55. SDE/SW of the HyD responded that one of the locations where renovation works would be carried out was Walkway No. NF464 connecting Kwok Shui Road and Exit A of MTR Tai Wo Hau Station. The HyD would renovate the walls and handrails on both sides of the walkway concerned. The second phase of the project covered the renovation works of Footbridge No. NF77 which was across Castle Peak Road and connecting Exit B of MTR Tai Wo Hau Station and Tai Wo Hau Estate.

56. Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum said that Walkway No. NS18 across Texaco Road North near Shek Wai Kok Road had two exits at present, one of which provided linkage to Shek Ho House and the other provided linkage to Shek To House. He noted that the elevator retrofitted at the walkway concerned would be open for use soon, yet the ramp for wheelchair users towards Shek Ho House was fairly distant from the elevator. He suggested that the HyD should discuss with the HD the feasibility of retrofitting of a ramp or a stairlift at a location closer the elevator so as to facilitate the access of persons with disabilities.

57. Mr WONG Kai-chun accorded recognition to the HyD for its pavement resurfacing works. He said that bituminous materials were used in many resurfacing works of roads or pavements, yet the durability of such materials were relatively low that the road surfaces would easily become uneven after rain, prolonged exposure to sunlight or heavy vehicles passing through. He suggested the HyD and TD explore the use of new paving materials. In addition, he was concerned about the project of resurfacing the ramp outside Tsuen King Garden with paving blocks, and enquired about its latest progress. Besides, he enquired of the TD about the exact location of the pedestrian crossing at Tsuen King Circuit where a new auxiliary device had been installed.

58. Mr CHAN Chun-chung noted that the HyD had planned to install bench

railings for members of the public to sit and rest at around ten suitable locations across the territory, one of which was the footpath at the top of the staircases of the subway across Texaco Road North in Tsuen Wan district. He expressed his support for the provision of the facilities concerned for the use by elderly persons, and enquired about the exact locations of the bench railings.

59. Ms LAM Yuen-pun said that she had received positive comments from many residents about the thoughtful design of the new auxiliary device installed at the pedestrian crossing at Tsuen King Circuit. She suggested that the installation of such devices should be extended to all pedestrian crossings.

60. Mr NG Chun-yu opined that the HyD should provide additional bench railings for members of the public to sit and rest at suitable locations with higher pedestrian flow, and enquired about the factors that the HyD had taken into consideration for deciding the locations concerned. Besides, he enquired of the TD about the exact location of the new auxiliary device installed at the pedestrian crossing at Kwan Mun Hau Street/Tsuen Fu Street.

61. E/TW1 of the TD responded as follows:

- (1) the installation of the new auxiliary device at the pedestrian crossing at Tsuen King Circuit (near Lamp Post No. CC0999) had been completed. The TD would provide the detailed location and street name after the meeting; and
- (2) the TD would install such devices at signal-controlled pedestrian crossings, and would provide the relevant location maps after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: As regards Members' enquiries on the location of the auxiliary device (already installed on the lamp post) at the pedestrian crossing at Tsuen King Circuit near Tsuen King Garden, as well as the location of the auxiliary device which would be installed at the pedestrian crossing at the junction of Tsuen Wan Market Street/Kwan Mun Hau Street/Tsuen Fu Street, the TD replied to Members through the Secretariat on 26 August 2024.)

62. SDE/SW of the HyD responded as follows:

- (1) the retrofitting of an elevator at Texaco Road was undertaken by another section of the HyD. The HyD would convey Members' views

- to the relevant section for follow-up;
- (2) the HyD had all along been sparing no effort in road maintenance, yet there were times when road resurfacing works were fraught with difficulties. In order to prevent traffic disruptions, it was often necessary for the HyD to complete road resurfacing works in a short period of time. On the other hand, the materials used for road resurfacing generally required some time for maintenance to make them become more durable. Therefore, in cases where the roads were opened for vehicular access shortly after the completion of the resurfacing works, with the unstable weather or heavy rain, the durability of the materials for road resurfacing would be affected;
 - (3) the HyD had been studying the use of more durable resurfacing materials, and would conduct trials of such materials at some road sections before actual deployment;
 - (4) regarding the pavement resurfacing works at Tsuen King Garden, the HyD would prioritise various works based on the resources and manpower. If there was further information, the HyD would provide it to Members; and
 - (5) the HyD had proposed to provide additional bench railings for members of the public to sit and rest, with a view to allowing elderly persons and persons in need to take a break if they found it strenuous when climbing the stairs at subways or on slopes. The HyD had taken into account factors such as terrain, pedestrian flow, pedestrian safety and the width of the pavements when selecting the locations for installation. Based on the aforementioned factors, the HyD had selected ten locations across the territory for trial installation of the bench railings. The location concerned in Tsuen Wan district was the entrance of the subway opposite to Shing Mun Valley Swimming Pool. The HyD would provide the relevant location map after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The matter related to the retrofitting of an elevator at Texaco Road was discussed at the meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee held on 19 August 2024. The HyD also responded in writing before that meeting to explain that the location concerned fell beyond the HyD's purview. Besides, the HyD planned to carry out the resurfacing works at the pavement off Tsuen King Garden in phases. The first phase was expected to commence in the fourth quarter of 2024.)

63. The Chairman invited the representative of the HD to introduce the next key district issue about “improving the environment of public housing estates and creating comfortable homes”.

64. CM/M(WT&T) of the HD introduced the paper.

65. Mr FUNG Cheuk-sum said that he had attended a workshop organised by the HD on the improvement works of Shek Wai Kok Estate with Ms CHAN Shun-shun earlier. They had put forward many views which he hoped that the HD would take into consideration. He had also received feedback from residents that since the corridors of some buildings in Shek Wai Kok Estate adopted an open-plan design that faced outdoors without any cover and the floor surfaces were uneven, water often accumulated on the floors after rain. Besides, residents of Shek Lan House had relayed to him that two unfortunate accidents had happened in the corridors of Shek Lan House. He suggested installing additional fences along the corridors of each building to ensure the safety of residents.

66. CM/M(WT&T) of the HD responded that the HD was canvassing opinions from residents and stakeholders, and would convey Members’ views to the consultancy.

67. The Chairman said that if Members had any views on the work progress of various key district issues, they could raise the issue for discussion at the meetings of the relevant committees under the TWDC, or they could directly contact the relevant departments for follow-up.

V Item 4: Information Paper
Report on the Progress of District Work in Tsuen Wan by Relevant
Government Departments for the Second Quarter of 2024
(TWDC Paper No. 15/24-25)

68. Members noted the captioned paper submitted by the Tsuen Wan District Office (TWDO).

VI Item 5: Information Paper
Reports on Meetings of the Committees and Working Group under the Tsuen
Wan District Council
(TWDC Paper No. 16/24-25)

69. The Chairman said that the reports on the meetings of the six committees under the TWDC were set out in TWDC Paper No. 16/24-25.

70. The Chairman said that the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy (WGBLE) had held a meeting on 30 July 2024. The Chairman asked Mr CHAN Hiu-chun, the Chairman of the WGBLE, to report on its work.

71. Mr CHAN Hiu-chun reported as follows:

- (1) drawing on the successful experience gained from organising the Lantern Festival Bazaar in the first quarter of 2024, the WGBLE had decided to organise a large-scale lucky draw activity in Tsuen Wan district at its meeting. Members of the public would be entitled to enter the lucky draw by producing receipts for spending a specific amount of money at local merchants;
- (2) the lucky draw activity was named “Summer Lucky Draw in Tsuen Wan District”. It was jointly organised by the New Territories Association of Societies Tsuen Wan District Committee (NTASTWDC), the TWDO and TWDC, and was co-organised by The Federation of All Sectors of Tsuen Wan Community Limited, Tsuen Wan Trade Association Limited, Hong Kong Industrial & Commercial Association Limited Tsuen Wan Branch, and Hong Kong Tsuen Wan Industries and Commerce Association;
- (3) the lucky draw activity would be held between August and September 2024. The organiser would promote the lucky draw activity to members of the public through various means, such as hanging banners, putting up posters and sharing the information on social media platforms, etc. Members of the public could register for the lucky draw multiple times as long as they entered a valid phone number and their names on the designated website and uploaded photos of the receipts of purchases made at local merchants. With a view to fully leveraging the strengths brought by the close collaboration between the Government, the business sector and the community, the organiser had invited major shopping malls, local organisations, business associations and merchants in the district to provide a total of about 500 gifts in sponsorship for the lucky draw; and
- (4) the WGBLE suggested the TWDC accept the invitation from the NTASTWDC to become a co-organiser of the “Summer Lucky Draw in Tsuen Wan District”.

72. The Chairman said that the NTASTWDC had invited the TWDC to jointly

organise the “Summer Lucky Draw in Tsuen Wan District”, and asked if Members agreed that the TWDC should become a co-organiser of the activity concerned. Members unanimously agreed to the arrangement.

73. The Chairman said that the Working Group on Celebration of the 27th Anniversary of Hong Kong’s Return to the Motherland of the Tsuen Wan District Council had held a meeting on 5 June 2024. The Chairman asked Ms CHAN Shun-shun, the Chairlady of the Working Group on Celebration of the 27th Anniversary of Hong Kong’s Return to the Motherland of the Tsuen Wan District Council, to report on its work.

74. Ms CHAN Shun-shun reported as follows:

- (1) to celebrate the 27th anniversary of Hong Kong’s return to the Motherland, Members had unanimously agreed that the TWDC would co-organise various celebratory activities together with the TWDO and the Tsuen Wan Committee for Celebration of Reunification of Hong Kong with China (the “Committee for Celebration”) on the 4th meeting of the TWDC held on 28 May 2024. During June and July 2024, the TWDC, TWDO and the Committee for Celebration had organised a series of celebratory activities in different varieties, including cultural shows, ball games, traditional arts performances, drawing and colouring competitions, etc. The following three highlighted events were also organised;
- (2) “Tsuen Wan Flag Raising Ceremony in Celebration of Hong Kong’s Return to the Motherland” had been successfully held on 30 June 2024. The officiating guests attending the event included Director of the Home Affairs, District Officer (Tsuen Wan) (DO(TW)) of the TWDO, Deputy Director General of the New Territories Sub-office of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (LOCPG), and Members of the Legislative Council, etc. The flag-raising ceremony had been conducted by the national flag guards of the Hong Kong Army Cadets Association, and 14 flag parties from secondary and primary schools as well as uniformed groups had participated in the reviewing ceremony of the Chinese-style foot drill performance. The youths responsible for the flag-raising ceremony and foot drill performance had been energetic and in high spirit, clearly and convincingly demonstrating a strong sense of pride in their national identity as well as their sense of

- belonging to the Motherland;
- (3) the diversified performing arts activity “Cultural Performances in Celebration of Hong Kong’s Return to the Motherland” had been held at Tsuen Wan Town Hall in the evening of 1 July 2024. The event had been officiated by guests such as DO(TW) of the TWDO and Deputy Director General of the New Territories Sub-office of the LOCPG, etc. More than ten renowned art groups and artists had brought spectacular performances to the audience, including dance performances featuring local characteristics, Tai Chi demonstrations, Chinese instrumental performances and choir performances, etc. These performances had transcended geographical, cultural and generational boundaries to deliver refreshing experiences to the audience;
 - (4) the first ever drone show in Tsuen Wan district with the name “Drone Show in Celebration of Hong Kong’s Return to the Motherland” had been staged at the Tsuen Wan waterfront in the evening of 1 July 2024. Guests such as Commissioner of Customs and Excise, DO(TW) of the TWDO, Deputy Director General of the New Territories Sub-office of the LOCPG and Members of the Legislative Council had been invited to officiate at the event. A total of 350 drones had created various patterns featuring the theme of celebration of Hong Kong’s return to the Motherland and the local characteristics of Tsuen Wan, such as “I love Hong Kong”, pandas, Tsing Ma Bridge, etc. The audience had given a big round of applause when the pattern of “I love Tsuen Wan” had appeared in the night sky. The event had been well-received by members of the public, and a number of media organisations had sent representatives to conduct interviews and livestream the event online. A Tsuen Wan resident said that the drone show had been marvellous, and among all the patterns formed by the drones, his/her favourite was “I love Tsuen Wan”, but the panda pattern had been equally impressive. It was even the first time for some members of the public to watch a drone show on the spot, and they hoped that similar events would continue to be held in Tsuen Wan as well as other districts. It was apparent that the event concerned had enhanced the sense of national identity of the public, as well as their sense of belonging to Tsuen Wan; and
 - (5) thanks to the cooperation and support rendered by the co-organising units and various government departments, a series of events in celebration of Hong Kong’s return to the Motherland had been held

smoothly. She expressed her sincere gratitude to various units on behalf of the organiser.

75. Members noted the captioned paper.

VII Item 6: Any Other Business

76. The Chairman said that the TWDC had received a letter from The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf, inviting the TWDC to become a supporting organisation of the “Hong Kong Sign Language Day 2024” and to promote sign language culture and barrier-free communication. The Chairman pointed out that the TWDC had been a supporting organisation of the aforementioned event in the past. The Chairman asked if Members agreed that the TWDC should become a supporting organisation of the “Hong Kong Sign Language Day 2024” and approved the use of the TWDC’s logo by The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf. Members unanimously agreed to the arrangements.

77. The Chairman said that the TWDC had received a letter from Hong Kong Persistent Self-Reliance Foundation, inviting the TWDC to become a supporting organisation of the “Persevering Spirit” Recognition Scheme. Schools were encouraged to select students who demonstrated the spirit of continuous self-enhancement, and certificates of recognition would be presented to these students at the award presentation ceremony. The Chairman asked if Members agreed that the TWDC should become a supporting organisation of the “Persevering Spirit” Recognition Scheme and approved the use of the TWDC’s logo by Hong Kong Persistent Self-Reliance Foundation. Members unanimously agreed to the arrangements.

78. Mr KOO Yeung-pong declared that he was the Director of Hong Kong Persistent Self-Reliance Foundation.

79. DLM(TW) of the LCSO thanked Members and DO(TW) of the TWDO for visiting Tsuen Wan Sports Centre earlier to watch the 2024 Paris Olympic Games together with residents, and hoped that Members would continue to support the athletes of the national team and the Hong Kong team.

VIII Item 7: Date of Next Meeting

80. The Chairman said that the date of the next meeting was 24 September 2024. According to the Standing Orders, Members who wished to raise an item for discussion at a meeting were required to submit the paper with a notice in writing to

the Secretariat ten clear working days before the meeting. Hence, the Chairman reminded Members that the deadline for submission of papers was 6 September 2024.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat
September 2024