

Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the
Housing Committee under the
Sixth Term of Wong Tai Sin District Council

Date: 27 June 2023 (Tuesday)
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, 6/F, Lung Cheung Office Block,
138 Lung Cheung Road, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon

Present:

Vice Chairman:

Ms. TAM Heung-man, Mandy WTSDC Member

Member:

Mr. LIU Sing-lee WTSDC Member

In Attendance:

Miss SO Holly	Assistant District Officer (Wong Tai Sin)	WTSDO
Mr. LAU Hak-keung, Eric	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) (Acting)	WTSDO
Mr. LI Yick-man, Eric	Structural Engineer/C5-3	BD
Mr. YIP Raymond	Senior Health Inspector (District Joint Office) Kowloon 5	Joint Office (BD/FEHD)
Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika	Senior Housing Manager/WTT1	HD

Representatives of Government Department in Attendance for Agenda Items III(vi) and III(vii)

Mr. IP Wai-pun	Chief Health Inspector (Wong Tai Sin) 1	FEHD
Ms. CHOI Pui-chi	Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Wong Tai Sin	FEHD

Representatives of Government Department in Attendance for Agenda Items III(vi)

Ms. LAM Pui-shan	Housing Manager/WTT2	HD
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Secretary:

Miss TIN Tsz-huen, Charis	Executive Officer (District Council) 5	WTSDO
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Welcoming Remarks by the Vice Chairman

The Vice Chairman welcomed all to the 19th meeting of the Housing Committee (HC) under Wong Tai Sin District Council (WTSDC).

Confirmation of Agenda

2. Members had no comment on the agenda. The agenda was confirmed.

I. Confirmation of Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the Housing Committee under Wong Tai Sin District Council held on 25 April 2023

3. Members had no comment on the minutes of the meeting. The minutes were confirmed.

II. Progress Report of the 18th Meeting of the Housing Committee under Wong Tai Sin District Council
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 23/2023)

4. Members noted the Paper.

III (i) Report on Unauthorised Building Works in Wong Tai Sin
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 24/2023)

5. Mr. LI Yick-man, Eric from the Buildings Department (BD) presented the Paper.

6. Mr. LIU Sing-lee pointed out that according to the report, since 2011 there had been 55 rooftop unauthorised building works (UBWs) with outstanding orders even after prosecutions, and he was concerned about the persistence of the problem over the years. He hoped that BD could compile a list of cases with rooftop UBWs not removed despite prosecutions being launched eight or more years ago, and arrange for Members to inspect them. He enquired whether BD had repeatedly prosecuted owners of such unauthorised rooftop structures.

7. The Vice Chairman asked if BD could prepare the list after the meeting for Members' reference.

8. Mr. LI Yick-man, Eric from BD responded that the Department had always followed up on UBWs with outstanding orders through enforcement actions. Repeated prosecutions were also launched against owners who failed to comply with removal orders. For cases with removal orders issued for eight or more years, he did not have the information at hand but could compile and furnish such information after the meeting.

9. Mr. LIU Sing-lee hoped that BD could arrange for Members to inspect UBWs involving long outstanding removal orders, so that they could learn about the difficulties faced by flat owners. He believed that the departments concerned should review the follow-up progress of cases annually, and prosecute owners again if they still had not removed their UBWs after a year.

10. The Vice Chairman hoped that BD could pick the five non-compliant cases involving the longest prosecution time, and arrange for members to inspect them in the following months.

11. Members noted the Paper.

III (ii) Investigation Report on Water Seepage Complaints in Wong Tai Sin
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 25/2023)

12. Mr. YIP Raymond from the Joint Office (JO) presented the Paper.
13. Mr. LIU Sing-lee pointed out that Tin Keung as well as Tsui Chuk and Pang Cheng areas had seen more water seepage cases than other areas. Since buildings in these two areas were mainly old style Home Ownership Scheme (HOS) buildings with pipes mostly hidden in flats, the aging pipes had caused water seepage problems that troubled occupants. He suggested that the departments concerned should draw reference from the Urban Renewal Authority's "Operation Building Bright 2.0" and subsidise owners of HOS courts to replace outdated sewage systems and attract more owners to upgrade the hardware of HOS courts. Given that the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) also owned substantial shares in HOS courts, it should provide assistance or subsidies for the replacement of outdated sewage systems. He hoped that the next-term WTSDC could continue to follow up on the situation and demand more resources from the Government to improve people's livelihood.
14. Mr. YIP Raymond from JO responded that JO had earlier arranged for staff of the Water Seepage Resource Centre to explain their work to HC. Currently, the Centre's main goal was to help the public understand the handling of water seepage issues through various promotional efforts such as setting up street booths. It also urged people to carry out maintenance early so as not to affect their neighbours.
15. The Vice Chairman expressed concerns about the complaint figures from Lung Sing and San Po Kong areas. She asked why the number of complaints in San Po Kong had surged in April.
16. Mr. YIP Raymond from JO replied that the increase in complaints had been a result of the rain water seepage detected in some industrial buildings in San Po Kong under the rainy weather.
17. The Vice Chairman enquired why there were relatively more complaints in Lung Sing area.
18. Mr. YIP Raymond from JO responded that the pipes or structures of the

buildings in that area might be aging and thus leaky. Also, the increase in complaints could also be a result of JO's effective promotional and educational efforts, as people suffering from water seepage in their flats would ask JO to investigate.

19. The Vice Chairman said that building rehabilitation could help reduce water seepage complaints.

20. Mr. LIU Sing-lee suggested that JO first conduct a study on the feasibility of building rehabilitation in Chuk Yuen North or Tin Keung area and then make proposals to the next-term WTSDC. Furthermore, he pointed out that the departments concerned should also look into the damage done by rooftop UBWs to the waterproof layers on roof surfaces in some old industrial buildings in San Po Kong area, which had aggravated the problem of rain water seepage.

21. Mr. YIP Raymond from JO responded that JO would continue exploring new methods and technologies to expedite the handling of water seepage complaints.

22. The Vice Chairman felt that the water seepage problem in the district had improved and thanked the staff of JO for their efforts.

23. Members noted the Paper.

III (iii) Housing Matters Discussed at Meetings of Area Committees
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 26/2023)

24. Members noted the Paper.

III (iv) Enforcement Action against Illegal Parking
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 27/2023)

25. The Vice Chairman thanked Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from the Housing Department (HD) for her past contributions to HC.

26. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD presented the Paper.

27. Mr. LIU Sing-lee enquired whether the number of additional motorcycle

parking spaces proposed by HD was sufficient to meet the demand.

28. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD replied that the proposed number of additional motorcycle parking spaces could meet part of the existing demand. She indicated that the demand for motorcycle parking spaces had increased during the epidemic. Now that the epidemic was over, HD would continue to keep in view the demand for motorcycle parking spaces and introduce more parking spaces where feasible.

29. Mr. LIU Sing-lee thanked HD for actively exploring the feasibility of providing more motorcycle parking spaces.

30. The Vice Chairman asked whether Kai Chuen Court had no motorcycle parking spaces.

31. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD responded that there were nine motorcycle parking spaces in Kai Chuen Court Phase 1, but they would be temporarily closed starting from 1 June 2023 to accommodate the construction works for Phase 2. Kai Chuen Court Phase 2 was expected to be completed early next year, by which time the Kai Chuen Court car park would provide a total of 25 motorcycle parking spaces as required by the land lease.

32. The Vice Chairman said that the demand for motorcycle parking spaces would double upon the complete population intake of Kai Chuen Court and enquired whether HD would consider providing more motorcycle parking spaces in the existing empty spaces in Kai Chuen Court. Pointing out that there were currently quite a lot of people waiting for motorcycle parking spaces in Lung Poon Court, she also considered that the demand for motorcycle parking spaces was great among Diamond Hill residents.

33. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD replied that the design of Kai Chuen Court and the numbers of parking spaces for goods vehicles, private cars and motorcycles provided there were in line with the Planning Department's requirements and should be enough to meet the demand. She continued that phase 1 of Kai Chuen Shopping Centre currently had 27 shops and a single operator market, and Phase 2 with its 47 shops was set to open early next year. Together with the forthcoming completion of the "Landscaped Walk with Cultural Theme", busy traffic was expected in the area and therefore it was necessary to reserve enough public space for alleviating traffic pressure

and providing emergency access. Besides, upon the complete population intake of Kai Cheung Court and Kai Chuen Court, ownership of public spaces would be shared among HD and HOS owners, and any alterations to the use of public spaces must be agreed by all stakeholders.

34. Mr. LIU Sing-lee suggested that HD could draw reference from the measures taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) against street obstructions such as increasing the fixed penalty amount to strengthen the deterrent effect and thereby curb illegal parking.

35. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD replied that currently estate staff would issue multiple fixed penalty tickets if they found that an illegally parked vehicle did not leave despite repeated warnings. She said that the amount of fixed penalty was not decided by HD.

III (v) Installation of Automated Teller Machines in Lung Poon Court Commercial Centre and Kai Chuen Shopping Centre under the Housing Department
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 28/2023)

36. The Vice Chairman presented the Paper.

37. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD responded that following HD's unsuccessful tender exercise for automated teller machines (ATMs) in Lung Poon Court Commercial Centre, the Commercial Properties Management Unit (CPMU) had, since the tender deadline of 14 April 2023, repeatedly contacted the relevant banks but no positive response had been received by the end of May. Among those banks, Standard Chartered had already declared that it was not interested in setting up an ATM in Lung Poon Court. Therefore, there was no need to conduct another tender exercise. Meanwhile, phase 2 of Kai Chuen Shopping Centre was still under construction and was expected to be completed between late 2023 and early 2024. Currently CPMU of HD was considering providing various banking services at suitably located shops, and the initial plan was to have a 30-square-metre shop and a 180-square-metre shop providing banking services. Tenders for the relevant tenancies were scheduled in the third quarter of 2023. CPMU would actively follow up on the views regarding the introduction of ATMs.

38. The Vice Chairman enquired about the development since the Secretariat

wrote to various banks after the last meeting.

39. The Secretary replied that after the previous meeting, the Secretariat had written to six banks regarding the introduction of ATMs in Lung Poon Court Shopping Centre, namely the Bank of China, the Bank of East Asia, Hang Seng Bank, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China and Standard Chartered. The Secretariat had received replies from three banks before this meeting.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had received replies from all the banks and forwarded them to Members for information.]

40. The Vice Chairman enquired about the actual content of the banks' replies.

41. The Secretary answered that the banks had noted Members' views and would review their banking services from time to time.

42. The Vice Chairman said that she had already written to the Hong Kong Association of Banks and received a reply. She suggested that the matter be followed up at the next meeting. She also asked HD whether any banks had shown interest in setting up an ATM in Kai Chuen Shopping Centre.

43. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD responded that CPMU of the Department was exploring the provision of various banking services at suitably located shops. Tender exercises for the relevant tenancies had been scheduled in the third quarter of 2023. She also knew that some banks had already sent their staff to inspect the shop locations concerned.

III (vi) Request for representatives from the Housing Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to report on rodent control in the public rental housing estates in the district with regard to the latest case of rat Hepatitis E virus infection
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 29/2023)

44.. The Vice Chairman welcomed Mr. IP Wai-pun, Chief Health Inspector (Wong Tai Sin)¹, Ms. CHOI Pui-chi, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing & Pest Control) Wong Tai Sin of FEHD and Ms. LAM Pui-shan, Housing Manager/WTT² of

HD, who attended the meeting for this agenda item.

45. The Vice Chairman presented the Paper.

46. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD responded that the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) announced on 10 May 2023 that a 32-year-old man had contracted rat Hepatitis E virus (HEV). The patient, who also suffered from underlying illnesses, worked in San Po Kong and lived with his family in Tsz Ching Estate. The source and route of infection could not be identified yet. His family was not infected. The estate office of Tsz Ching Estate had thoroughly cleansed and disinfected the public areas in the estate at once in order to safeguard the health of residents. The estate office had also inspected the hygiene conditions and anti-rodent work in the estate together with staff of CHP and FEHD and followed up on the matter.

47. Ms. LAM Pui-shan from HD added that once the case emerged, the estate office of Tsz Ching Estate had taken comprehensive follow-up measures, including arranging for the cleaning contractor to immediately strengthen the cleaning of public areas, refuse rooms, refuse storage areas and so on in the estate and conducting a joint operation with FEHD to clean the public areas around Tsz Ching Estate on 10 May at night; arranging for sterilization robots to carry out in-depth disinfection at the hallway on the floor concerned and the ground floor lobby of Ching Tai House on 12 May; issuing written reminder to the shops owners in the shopping centre to maintain environmental hygiene and tackle rodent infestation on 11 May; arranging additional patrols on 11 and 12 May and 1 June to strengthen law enforcement by enforcing the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement for improving the environmental hygiene in the estate (the records showed that Tsz Ching Estate had 11 cases of penalty points being allotted for environmental hygiene issues in the past year); increasing the number of cage traps in the estate to 50 since 15 May; inspecting the environmental hygiene condition and reviewing the anti-rodent measures together with representatives of the shopping centre owner on 10, 16 and 29 May; inspecting the environmental hygiene condition and reviewing the anti-rodent measures together with FEHD staff on 10 to 13, 15 and 29 May; inviting FEHD staff to brief front line workers of the estate office on rodent and pest control measures on 29 May; and arranging for FEHD's Mobile Education Centre to visit Tsz Ching Estate to promote messages about environmental hygiene among residents on 13 June.

48. Ms. CHOI Pui-chi from FEHD replied that in response to CHP's announcement on 10 May 2023 about a case of human infection of rat HEV under

investigation, staff of the Pest Control Section of the Wong Tai Sin District Environmental Hygiene Office had cleansed the streets and stepped up rodent control efforts in the public areas near the patient's home (i.e. Ching Tai House in Tsz Ching Estate) for three consecutive days starting from 10 May. The surroundings of the places visited by the patient during the incubation period were also patrolled. Subsequently on 11, 12 and 15 May, FEHD staff inspected the rodent infestation situation in Tsz Ching Estate with HD staff and offered professional advice and technical guidance for better rodent control results. Furthermore, FEHD had already enhanced its cleaning service and anti-rodent measures in the streets around Tsz Ching Estate. Apart from improving the environment, rodent traps and rodenticides were also used to capture and kill rats in order to strengthen rodent control. To boost the publicity on rodent control, staff of the Pest Control Section and the Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre had arranged that a publicity campaign on rodent control be held in Tsz Ching Estate in June, which would involve distribution of publicity leaflets and posters to residents and staff of the estate, seminars on rodent control and so on. FEHD had always worked closely with HD to visit the many public housing estates in the district and inspect their rodent control work with estate representatives and stakeholders. Anti-rodent measures were also continuously taken in public areas around housing estates. To effectively prevent rodent infestation, the most important thing was to get back to the basics and eliminate the three fundamental survival conditions of rodents, namely food, harbourage and passages through improving environmental hygiene so that lasting effect could be achieved. FEHD would continue keeping in view the situation of the public housing estates in the district and work closely with stakeholders to provide guidance and support on rodent control.

49. The Vice Chairman asked whether it was possible that the patient had contracted the virus in San Po Kong given he worked in the area.

50. Mr. IP Wai-pun from FEHD replied that the investigation done by CHP and FEHD's Pest Control Section had yet to ascertain the source of infection. FEHD had already intensified the disinfection and cleansing in the public areas surrounding the patient's home (i.e. Tsz Ching Estate) and workplace (i.e. an industrial building in San Po Kong). The Department had also communicated with the management company of the industrial building concerned for improving the hygiene and stepping up the anti-rodent measures there. FEHD would keep monitoring the rodent control work of that building.

51. The Vice Chairman said that FEHD had always been putting in multifaceted

anti-rodent efforts in Wong Tai Sin, and she was shocked that HEV infection was once again found in the district. She enquired how HD would strengthen its anti-rodent work in public housing estates.

52. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD responded that apart from the aforementioned measures targeting at Tsz Ching Estate, HD would also adopt a multi-pronged approach in strengthening rodent control in public housing estates. Such measures included increasing grab lorry services for clearing away furniture and sundries from large junk collection points in housing estates; hiring rodent control consultancies for regular anti-rodent operations in public housing estates; expediting pruning of plants in flower beds in housing estates to eliminate hiding places for rats; placing rodent baits and cage traps at housing estates' public places and flower beds; installing rat guards at suitable locations in housing estates to stop rats from entering flats; installing rodent meshes at drain openings in housing estates; introducing new rodent control equipment in housing estates; stepping up publicity and education in housing estates and reminding residents to pay attention to hygiene; intensifying patrols on the hygiene conditions of housing estates, blocking rat holes at flower beds in estates and eliminating rat hiding places; holding "Operations Tai Ping Tei" regularly; and arranging more frequent patrols by estate office staff and carrying out nighttime patrols to improve the hygiene conditions of housing estates in the district.

53. The Vice Chairman asked whether the anti-rodent measures taken by HD were sufficient.

54. Mr. IP Wai-pun from FEHD replied that HD had always attached great importance on the rodent control work in public housing estates. FEHD and HD had intensified their efforts in the wake of the case, and he found the results positive.

55. Mr. LIU Sing-lee said that the report submitted by HD had mentioned the use of new rodent control equipment such as sterilization robots in a housing estate and enquired how widely used these robots were at the moment and whether HD would consider introducing them in other housing estates.

56. Ms. LAM Pui-shan from HD answered that HD had employed sterilization robots for a one-off cleansing service on 12 May through tendering in response to the case in Tsz Ching Estate. The Department would consider using such sterilization robots again based on actual needs.

III (vi) Request for an update from the Housing Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department on mosquito control in the public rental housing estates in Wong Tai Sin in response to concerns over the unusually early upsurge of mosquito surveillance indices in recent months
(WTSDC HC Paper No. 30/2023)

57. The Vice Chairman presented the Paper.

58. Ms. CHOI Pui-chi from FEHD replied that the first and second phases of the anti-mosquito campaign had ended on 17 March and 16 June respectively. During the two phases of the campaign, FEHD staff had visited many public housing estates in the district and inspected the anti-mosquito work in the estates with estate representatives and stakeholders. The estates involved include Choi Hung Estate, Choi Wan (I) Estate, Choi Wan (II) Estate, Wang Tau Hom Estate, Upper Wong Tai Sin Estate, Lower Wong Tai Sin (II) Estate, Tung Tau (II) Estate, Tsz Ching Estate, Tsz Lok Estate, Tsz Hong Estate, Tsz Man Estate and Mei Tung Estate. During the visits, FEHD staff had looked for potential mosquito breeding grounds and advised the persons concerned to strengthen anti-mosquito measures, such as clearing away dead leaves and stagnant water more frequently, keeping drainage channels clear and using In2Care mosquito traps properly. FEHD staff had also stepped up education on mosquito prevention in many public housing estates in the district by disseminating related information to residents. Seminars on mosquito prevention were held for management staff and residents of housing estates. Leaflets and posters were also distributed to them to raise their awareness of mosquito control and encourage them to work together with the Department to combat mosquito infestation and eliminate mosquito breeding grounds by turning over objects prone to accumulating stagnant water and keeping places clean and tidy. Moreover, in order to intensify mosquito control work other than site inspections, the Department would keep holding regular inter-departmental focus group meetings on mosquito control and invite representatives from government departments such as HD and organisations such as property management companies in the district and Link Asset Management Limited. Information on the gravidtrap indices of the district and the operation and functions of In2Care mosquito traps would be introduced in the meetings to help stakeholders gain a deeper understanding of mosquito control. The continuous use of In2Care mosquito traps were recommended as a supplementary measure for mosquito control. Attendants of the meetings were also advised to install more In2Care mosquito traps in the district as necessary in order to further enhance

mosquito control. FEHD would continue to work closely with HD in order to alleviate mosquito infestation in public spaces and public housing estates.

59. The Vice Chairman enquired about the gravidtrap indices of the different survey areas of Wong Tai Sin district.

60. Mr. IP Wai-pun from FEHD answered that the gravidtrap indices of Wong Tai Sin Central, Wong Tai Sin West, Diamond Hill and Ngau Chi Wan were 23.4%, 24.1%, 15.7% and 16.4% respectively in June.

61. The Vice Chairman pointed out that the gravidtrap indices of Wong Tai Sin district had shown an upward trend in recent months.

62. Mr. IP Wai-pun from FEHD replied that the increase in the overall gravidtrap index had to do with the rainy weather in recent days. Regarding the gravidtrap indices of Wong Tai Sin Central and Wong Tai Sin West, which had both exceeded the alert level of 20%, FEHD had established close liaison with the relevant departments and conducted joint inspections of potential breeding grounds of mosquitoes in order to control the mosquito infestation in public places and public housing estates.

63. The Vice Chairman said that the gravidtrap index in Diamond Hill had exceeded 10%, which was rather unusual. She hoped that FEHD and HD could closely monitor and strengthen control on the mosquito situation in housing estates in the area. She also asked FEHD to supply to Members information on this year's gravidtrap indices in Wong Tai Sin district.

64. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD replied that after collaborating with FEHD in conducting the first phase of the "All-out Anti-mosquito Operations" which started on 20 March, the Department had commenced the second phase of the Operations in April. Gravidtrap indices would be closely monitored, and anti-mosquito efforts would be further intensified in areas with rising gravidtrap indices in order to stop dengue virus from taking hold of the territory. It only took about seven days for a hatching mosquito egg to become a fully grown mosquito, so mosquito eggs or larvae might become adult mosquitoes if not removed in seven days. Therefore, staff of cleaning contractors should clear stagnant water, dead leaves and accumulated garbage at least once a week. Pest control contractors should also be commissioned as necessary to perform targeted mosquito prevention and elimination work in places with

higher gravidtrap indices to minimise the risk of mosquito infestation. FEHD would also keep urging estate offices to take measures to prevent mosquito infestation, such as appointing designated staff for mosquito control and making such staff attend pest control training so that they could do their work and monitor contractors' performances more effectively; inspecting housing estate grounds weekly to record locations with mosquito infestation or stagnant water and rectify the situation; carrying out early repairs to things that could lead to stagnant water, such as broken drains and uneven road surfaces; keeping any streams or other natural water bodies in housing estates unobstructed and preventing stagnant water; properly disposing of refuse such as soft drink cans and lunch boxes in covered litter containers as *Aedes albopictus* could lay eggs in small pools of stagnant water; thoroughly changing the water in vases and flower or water plant containers at least once a week and removing water accumulating in containers such as vases, flower pots and buckets; tightly covering all water containers, water storage tanks and wells; keeping all drains blockage free; proper prevention of stagnant water at any recycling facilities in housing estates (especially outdoor ones) since such items were likely to be stored for some time before they could be taken away; regular fogging at slopes and densely vegetated areas near much frequented places in the rainy season this year to eliminate adult mosquitoes; installing mosquito traps at suitable locations, keeping a record after each inspection to allow easy tracking of the mosquito situation; and studying FEHD's webpage on pest control and downloading posters and leaflets about mosquito/dengue fever prevention to strengthen publicity on mosquito control as well as encouraging residents and other stakeholders to properly take anti-mosquito measures on HA's social media pages. Currently HD had already installed 398 In2Care mosquito traps and 114 solar-powered mosquito traps. If the area gravidtrap indices of individual housing estates rose above the alert level of 20%, HD would immediately act together with FEHD and other stakeholders to further step up anti-mosquito measures. In response to the gravidtrap indices in Wong Tai Sin West and Wong Tai Sin Central survey areas rising above 20% in June, the Department had promptly inspected all the public housing estates in Wong Tai Sin West area with FEHD and arranged to inspect those in Wong Tai Sin Central area soon.

65. The Vice Chairman asked whether the spike in gravidtrap indices was related to the rainy weather these days.

66. Mr. IP Wai-pun from FEHD replied that the gravidtrap indices in other districts had also shown upward trends. The Department would continue to work with relevant departments to tackle mosquito infestation.

67. The Vice Chairman enquired about the anti-mosquito measures to be taken by HD and FEHD.

68. Ms. CHOI Pui-chi from FEHD replied that upon receiving reports on gravidtrap indices, FEHD would contact HD for conducting joint operations in the housing estates concerned. Estate management staff would be briefed about mosquito prevention strategies, which included working together to eliminate potential mosquito breeding grounds by turning over objects prone to accumulating water and keeping places clean and tidy.

69. The Vice Chairman enquired whether HD had enough In2Care mosquito traps.

70. Ms. CHOI Pui-chi from FEHD replied that the existing In2Care mosquito traps placed by HD in housing estates were sufficient. FEHD staff would also remind the management staff concerned during inspections to correctly use In2Care mosquito traps in order to achieve desired effect.

71. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika responded that HD had already procured a large quantity of In2Care mosquito traps for housing estates this year. With the quantity purchased even greater than that advised by FEHD, there should be enough In2Care mosquito traps to combat mosquito infestations in housing estates.

72. The Vice Chairman said that HD's management staff should receive regular training so as to gain more in-depth understanding of matters about mosquito control.

73. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from FEHD replied that HD's estate representatives had regularly attended the inter-departmental anti-mosquito task force meetings held by FEHD in order to monitor contractor performance more effectively.

74. Mr. LIU Sing-lee expressed his hope that FEHD and HD could arrange for Members to inspect the third phase of the "All-out Anti-mosquito Operations" in August and invite members of Area Committees to join the inspection to learn about the functions of In2Care mosquito traps and how they worked. Pointing out that currently there were more than 20 In2Care mosquito traps and solar-powered mosquito traps in each housing estate on average, he asked about the distribution of such equipment

among the housing estates.

75. Ms. LAI Suet-mui, Erika from HD answered that the Department would usually place mosquito traps or mosquito-killing machines at locations like shaded areas and corners of flower beds as advised by FEHD.

76. Mr. IP Wai-pun from FEHD responded that FEHD staff would advise HD on where mosquito traps or mosquito-killing machines should be placed in housing estates based on their experience in past inspections. They would also remind HD staff not to place such equipment at places exposed to sunlight and busy roads. FEHD would also maintain close liaison with HD and strive to place mosquito traps or mosquito-killing machines at all suitable locations in the district.

77. The Vice Chairman asked FEHD and HD to arrange for Members to inspect the “All-out Anti-mosquito Operations” in August.

IV. Any Other Business

Date of the Next Meeting

78. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

79. The next meeting of HC would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 22 August 2023 (Tuesday).

Wong Tai Sin District Council Secretariat
July 2023

Ref. No: HAD WTSDC 13-15/5/5 Pt.16