

The minutes were confirmed on 18 November 2020 without further amendment required.

**The Fourth Meeting of the Housing, Town Planning and Development Committee
under the Yuen Long District Council in 2020**

Date : 3 September 2020 (Thursday)
Time : 10:00 a.m. - 1:05 p.m.
Venue : Conference Room, Yuen Long District Council,
13/F., Yuen Long Government Offices,
2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long

Present		Time of Arrival	Time of Withdrawal
Chairman:	Mr AU Kwok-kuen	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Vice-chairman:	Mr SZETO Pok-man	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Members:	Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
	Mr CHAN Shu-fai	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
	Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix	10:15 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
	Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
	Mr CHING Chan-ming	Beginning of the meeting	10:35 a.m.
	Mr FONG Ho-hin	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
	Mr HAU Man-kin	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
	Mr KWOK Man-ho	11:35 a.m.	End of the meeting
	Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
	Mr LAI Wing-tim	Beginning of the meeting	10:55 a.m.
	Mr LAM Ting-wai	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
	Mr LEE Chun-wai	10:35 a.m.	End of the meeting

Mr LEUNG Tak-ming	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr LI Chung-chi	10:40 a.m.	End of the meeting
Mr MAK Ip-sing	10:15 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
Mr MAN Mei-kwai, Jimmy	10:20 a.m.	10:50 a.m.
Mr MO Kai-hong	12:00 p.m.	End of the meeting
Mr NG Hin-wang	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr NG Kin-wai	10:20 a.m.	End of the meeting
Mr SHEK King-ching	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr TANG Che-keung	Beginning of the meeting	10:40 a.m.
Mr TANG Ka-leung	Beginning of the meeting	10:45 a.m.
Mr TO Ka-lun	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr WONG Pak-yu	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary	10:20 a.m.	End of the meeting
Ms WONG Wing-sze	Beginning of the meeting	12:20 p.m.
Mr YOUNG Ka-on	Beginning of the meeting	10:50 a.m.

Secretary: Mr KWOK Ho-ting, Executive Officer (District Council)1, Yuen Kelvin Long District Office

In Attendance

Mr HUEN Yeuk-hon, John Senior Liaison Officer (1), Yuen Long District Office

Mr SIU Yik-ho, Steven Senior Town Planner/ Yuen Long West 1, Planning Department

Ms KO Wing-ye, Amii Senior Estate Surveyor/East, District Lands Office, Yuen Long

Mr CHIU Tsz-chung Assistant District Leisure Manager(Yuen Long)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms CHEUNG Wing-kwun Health Inspector (Cleansing) Yuen Long, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms CHUNG Lai-kuen Field Officer I, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Ms LAI Mo-yi Housing Manager/YLG6, Housing Department

Mr TO Kai-cho Engineer/16 (W), Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr HONG Chin-wah

Mr KWAN Chun-sang

Item II

Mr FUNG Ka-wai Senior Engineer/Project Management 4, Drainage Services Department

Mr LEE Chi-ho, Michael Engineer/Project Management 14, Drainage Services Department

Mr Tony LAU Project Manager, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited

Ms. Fion NG Project Engineer, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited

Item IV (1), (2) & (3)

Ms LAI Mo-yi Housing Manager/Yuen Long 6, Housing Department

Item IV (4)

Ms KO Wing-yee, Amii Senior Estate Surveyor/East (District Lands Office, Yuen Long)

Mr LEUNG Hung-cheong, Senior Land Executive/Land Control (Central) Wales (District Lands Office, Yuen Long)

Item IV (6)

Mr LAI Chun-fung Engineer/New Territories West (Distribution 3), Water Supplies Department

Mr SZE Chung-ming Engineer/Yuen Long 1, Drainage Services Department

Mr CHAN Chi-him, Bill Engineer/Yuen Long 4, Drainage Services Department

Mr KWAN Siu-kin	Electrical & Mechanical Engineer/Nuclear & Utility Safety/2, Electrical & Mechanical Services Department
Mr LO Tsz-him, Andrew	Principle Regulatory Affairs Manager (Market & Competition 13), Office of the Communications Authority
Ms WONG Nga-ting, Alice	Project Manager (Market & Competition 13), Office of the Communications Authority

Item IV (7)

Mr TANG Kin-hung	Manager/Clearance (New Development Area Section), Lands Department
Mr SIU Yik-ho, Steven	Senior Town Planner/ Yuen Long West 1, Planning Department

Item IV (8)

Mr NG Chi-hung	Housing Manager/Yuen Long 1, Housing Department
Ms LAI Mo-yi	Housing Manager/Yuen Long 6, Housing Department

Item IV (11)

Ms KO Wing-yee, Amii	Senior Estate Surveyor/East (District Lands Office, Yuen Long)
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Absence

Mr MAN Fu-wan, BBS	
Mr SHUM Ho-kit, JP	(Absent due to other commitments)
Mr TANG Ho-nin	(Absent due to other commitments)
Mr TANG Lai-tung	
Mr TANG Sui-man	(Absent due to other commitments)
Mr TANG Yung-yiu, Ronnie	

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Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the meeting and welcomed Mr CHIU Tsz Chung, representative of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) attending the meeting on behalf of Mr LAM Ka-keung, Daniel and Ms CHUNG Lai-kuen, representative of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) attending the meeting on behalf of Mr WU Tip Ming, Wilson. The Chairman proposed to adjourn Item III (9)-(10) and (12)-(13) to the next meeting.

Item I:

Confirmation of minutes of the second and third meetings of Housing, Town Planning and Development Committee (HTP&DC)

2. Members unanimously confirmed the above meeting minutes.

Item II:

Rehabilitation of Underground Sewers and Stormwater Drains - Remaining Works
(HTP&DC Paper No. 15/2020)

3. The Chairman welcomed the following department and organisation representatives to the meeting:

Mr FUNG Ka-wai	Senior Engineer/Project Management 4, Drainage Services Department
Mr LEE Chi-ho, Michael	Engineer/Project Management 14, Drainage Services Department
Mr Tony LAU	Project Manager, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited
Ms Fion NG	Project Engineer, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited

4. The Chairman invited representatives of the department and the organisation to give a brief introduction to the paper.
5. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) Members supported the works and considered that the wear and tear of old sewers and drains were causing nuisance to residents;

- (2) it was indicated that some of the sewers and drains in Yuen Long could have collapsed due to ageing, and enquiries were made as to whether pre-work exploration would be conducted to ensure that the proposed engineering method could be applied based on the conditions of the sewers and drains;
- (3) enquiries were made as to the works schedule and the priority of replacement of sewers and drains; Members highlighted the poor conditions of sewers and drains on individual streets, e.g., Fung Yau Street North and Yau San Street, and enquired the time of the relevant works;
- (4) enquiries were made as to the technology, e.g., the methods of replacement of the sewers and drains and the constraints of application of the relevant methods where the traditional method of excavation had to be applied;
- (5) enquiries were made as to the details of the works, e.g., how the replaced old sewers and drains would be handled, and whether the roads around Shui Pin Wai would be blocked; and
- (6) it was mentioned that certain areas, e.g., around Grand Del Sol and Villa Premiere, had no connection of sewers at the moment and enquiries were made about the progress of the sewer and drain laying works.

6. Mr FUNG Ka-wai of the Drainage Services Department (DSD) gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he indicated that “Enhanced Management of Underground Sewer and Drain Networks – Feasibility Study” had assessed the risk of collapse of existing underground sewers and drains in 2015; the Department had learned the conditions of sewers and drains through surveys and formulated suitable repair arrangement accordingly. Appropriate amendments would also be made to the repair arrangement during the conduct of the works based on the actual situation;
- (2) he indicated that this project would cover works in 12 districts across Hong Kong. The Department was designing the details and conducting consultations while actively striving for allocation of resources for the project to proceed with the tender process and engagement of contractors;

- (3) he indicated that since the period of works was flexible, resident site workers could discuss the construction arrangement with DC Members and residents prior to commencing the works to minimise the impact on traffic; and
- (4) he indicated that Members' information on no connection of sewers and drains to certain areas would be relayed to relevant colleagues for their response.

7. Mr Tony LAU of Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he indicated that the works would primarily be conducted by Cured-In-Place-Pipe (CIPP) lining technology and slip-lining method; these construction methods were selected on the principle of minimal impact of the works on the public and traffic. Among them, CIPP lining technology was preferred, but this technology unfortunately could not be applied upon sewers and drains with a larger drainage capacity;
- (2) he indicated that if a sewer or a drain had collapsed completely, neither CIPP lining technology nor slip-lining method could be applied to repair the sewer or the drain in question; based on the results gotten from previous surveys, the sewers and drains involved in the works could be repaired by the above methods;
- (3) he indicated that the slip-lining method would involve the repairs works of slipping new sewers and drains into old ones section by section; the sewers and drains would become smaller after the repair, but since the surface of the new sewers and drains would be smoother than the old ones, the impact of the repair works on the drainage capacity would be within an acceptable range; and
- (4) he indicated that the repair works near Shui Pin Wai would be conducted by the slip-lining method and the manholes concerned along Castle Peak Road would have to be temporarily enclosed for the works.

8. The Chairman concluded by inviting the Department and the consultancy to contact relevant DC Members for discussion of the handling of sewers and drains.

Item III: Matters arising

- (1) Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr AU Kwok-kuen and Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan proposed to discuss “Environmentally Friendly Transport System in Hung Shui Kiu”
(HTP&DC Paper No. 12/2020)
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9. The Chairman indicated that Members had requested the Transport Department and the Highways Department to attend the meeting and participate in the discussion and hoped that the Civil Engineering and Development Department could help with the liaison.

Item IV: Enquiries from Members

- (1) Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Ms WONG Wing-sze, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr LAM Chun, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms LAI Po-wa and Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco proposed to discuss “Objection to rent increase for public rental housing and request for a six-month rent waiver”
(HTP&DC Paper No. 27/2020)
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10. The Chairman welcomed the following department representative to the meeting:

Ms LAI Mo-yi Housing Manager/Yuen Long 6, Housing Department

11. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) the rent adjustment for public rental housing (PRH) based on the economic data of 2017 to 2019 was considered unsatisfactory as the range of adjustment failed to reflect the economic and social conditions this year;

- (2) it was pointed out that the range of adjustment calculated under the prevailing rent adjustment mechanism for PRH was different than the median income published by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) of the Government and was thus divorced from social reality. Enquiries were made as to whether there was any plan to review the mechanism concerned; Members suggested that the Department should assign higher ranking representatives to attend the meeting to discuss about the mechanism;
- (3) it was considered that the Housing Ordinance had only prescribed the time limit for rent review of PRH, while the Government's calculation of the percentage of rent adjustment for PRH was an administrative decision of the Government. Enquiries were made as to whether a PRH rent waiver could be imposed without contradicting the requirements in the Housing Ordinance;
- (4) it was considered that implementing a rent waiver in response to the rent adjustment was not helping the occupants, while other rent assistance schemes were also not very helpful, administration costs would be increased instead;
- (5) it was considered that even if there would be measures to offset the rent increase this year, with an elevated base for the rent, when the Government discontinued the rental concession measures, the upward adjusted rent would still affect PRH occupants;
- (6) it was considered that other private property owners would follow suit with the rent increase for PRH, and thus causing a greater impact on the society; and
- (7) it was considered that the cap over the rent should be kept.

12. Ms LAI Mo-yi of the Housing Department (HD) gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) she indicated the prevailing rent adjustment mechanism for PRH was prescribed in section 16A of the Housing Ordinance and the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) had to adjust the rent for PRH strictly according to the mechanism. The HA had to review the rent for PRH every two years and adjust the rent for PRH based on the change in income index in the first period and the second period in the rent review in question; the relevant income index was prepared by the Commissioner for Census and Statistics;

- (2) she pointed out that the HA had to adjust the rent for PRH according to the said established mechanism. However, section 17 of the Housing Ordinance also allowed the HA to offer rent concessions, for such period as it might think fit, to PRH occupants; in response to the current overall impact on society and economy, as well as on PRH occupants, of Covid-19, the Government had proposed to the Subsidised Housing Committee of the HA to offer two months' rent waiver to PRH occupants in June this year upon balancing the affordability of PRH occupants and the financial health and sustainability of the HA;
- (3) she pointed out that the Government had paid two months' rent for PRH occupants and waived rates (equivalent to a total of approximately 3.14 months' rent) this year in response to the current economic situation;
- (4) she pointed out that the HA would take occupants' income level into consideration, which included wages, dividend income, pension, etc., in the determination of the rent for PRH, and the relevant income index was prepared by the C&SD;
- (5) she indicated that the prevailing rent adjustment mechanism for PRH and other proposals raised in the society, e.g., to adjust the rent for PRH by making reference to inflation, salary index and median rent-to-income ratio, etc., had been reviewed in 2018. The result showed that the prevailing rent adjustment mechanism for PRH could achieve the anticipated effect at its legislation in 2007 better and could more consistently and objectively ensure the affordability of PRH occupants; and
- (6) she pointed out that under the prevailing rent adjustment mechanism for PRH, there would be a "cap" at 10% for rent increase while there was no such arrangement for a decrease; calculated upon the income of PRH occupants in 2017 and 2019, the range of rent adjustment in 2020 would be +9.66%; the income of PRH occupants this year would be included in the calculation for the next rent review.

13. Mr SZETO Pok-man raised the following motion, which was seconded by Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Ms WONG Wing-sze, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr TO Ka-lun and Mr LEE Chun-wai . The wording of the motion was as follows:

“This Council urges the Housing Authority to make efforts to appreciate the situation of the general public, while opposing the increase in public housing rentals, calling for a six-month rent-free period and requesting both the Transport and Housing Bureau and the Housing Department to send assistant director-level staff to District Council meetings to explain the public housing rent adjustment mechanism.”

14. Members voted on the motion mentioned above by a show of hands and have their name recorded. Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, and Ms WONG Wing-sze voted in favour of the motion, no Member voted against it and no Member abstained.

15. The Chairman announced that the voting results were 19 Members voted for the motion, 0 Member voted against it and 0 Member abstained. The motion was endorsed.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat forwarded the reply to the motion from the HD dated 22 September to Members.)

- (2) Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms WONG Wing-sze, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr MO Kai-hong, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr HO Wai-pan, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LAM Chun, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco and Mr KWOK Man-ho proposed to discuss “Request the Housing Department to enhance the front-line anti-virus measures in public housing estates”
(HTP&DC Paper No. 26/2020)
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16. The Chairman welcomed the following department representative to the meeting:

Ms LAI Mo-yi Housing Manager/Yuen Long 6, Housing Department

17. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) Members were concerned about the equipment for cleaners. They pointed out that the Department had provided only general guidelines but not detailed descriptions as to the requirements in terms of the specifications and quantities of the equipment, so that the equipment failed to cope with daily work needs, while contractors could also provide equipment not in compliance with the requirements to cleaners; the Department was suggested to review the equipment provided by contractors, prescribe requirements regarding specifications and quantities, and increase resources for contractors in order to cope the with extra workload due to Covid-19.
- (2) Members were concerned about the guidelines provided to management companies and the implementation arrangements. Members indicated that they had noticed that there were different arrangements for mask distribution in different housing estates and it could cause confusion and put extra burdens on front-line staff;

- (3) Members were concerned about the Department's contract arrangements with contractors. They pointed out at present when a building had confirmed cases and thus required cleaning, some cleaners refused to carry out cleaning work due to safety concerns and they were deemed absent without reason; it was also pointed out that existing labour insurances might not necessarily cover cleaners doing Covid-19 related work. A review of the labour contracts and the work arrangement was suggested;
- (4) it was suggested that the arrangement of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department should be referred to in which special work would be assigned to ad hoc staff; it was also suggested that training should be strengthened to increase the awareness of protection among front-line staff;
- (5) Members were concerned about cases that cleaners had to clean a unit with confirmed cases repeatedly due to delay in the notification arrangement; and
- (6) Members suggested that the Department should assign higher ranking representatives to attend the meeting in the hope that such representatives could more adequately reply about the overall situation in Yuen Long District.

18. Ms LAI Mo-yi of the HD gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) she pointed out that contractors had been required to provide cleaners with adequate equipment according to the Health Advice on Prevention of COVID-19 in Workplace prepared by the Centre for Health Protection. Staff of all HA offices would closely supervise the performance of contractors, and would issue warnings and require immediate remedy if any breach was found;
- (2) she indicated that the HA had since February this year been distributing masks for cleaners' use through estate offices/property service offices; contractors had sufficient resources at present, so cleaners could change their masks whenever necessary at work;
- (3) she pointed out that outsourced service contractors had to purchase insurance for all their staff according to the terms in the outsourced service contracts so that their staff would be entitled to statutory labour protection; she indicated that she would reflect the case mentioned by Members about cleaners refusing to work due to safety concerns to the headquarters; and

- (4) she indicated that training had been held monthly for cleaners at present to teach them relevant hygiene knowledge and to strengthen their awareness about protection.

19. The Chairman concluded that the guidelines on equipment formulated by the Department were unclear and daily supervision was also lacking. He requested the Department to reflect the case of insufficient staff protection to the headquarters.

- (3) Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Mr KWOK Man-ho and Mr KWAN Chun-sang proposed to discuss “Estate Management Advisory Committees”
(HTP&DC Paper No. 26/2020)
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20. The Chairman welcomed the follow department representative to the meeting:

Ms LAI Mo-yi Housing Manager/Yuen Long 6, Housing Department

21. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) it was considered that the reply from the Department had failed to reflect the reality. It was pointed out that the meetings of Estate Management Advisory Committees (EMACs) were not open to public. Residents could have no way to get to know the discussion items or to reflect their opinions. They could only learn of the decisions of the meetings from bulletin boards in their housing estates or the meeting minutes; it was suggested that the transparency of the meetings should be increased, e.g., members of Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) could be invited to participate in the meetings;
- (2) the representativeness of EMACs was doubted. It was criticised that the course of election of their members was not rigorous and suggested official elections be held for residents to vote;

- (3) it was considered that residents should be allowed to sit in as the purpose of establishment of EMACs was to discuss matters of the estates which concerned the benefits of the residents; Members indicated that there were guidelines which provided that EMACs could allow residents to sit in the meetings depending on the size of the meeting venues, although the Department now found appropriate the arrangement of holding EMAC meetings behind closed doors barring residents/members of the public from attending. Members enquired when such guidelines were revised;
- (4) enquiries were made as to whether there were any guidelines setting out that papers of the meetings were confidential and could not be disclosed; Members found the level of confidentiality practised by EMACs inconsistent with their nature, and considered that how public funds were applied should be made open for the information of the residents;
- (5) enquiries were made as to whether assistants of DC Members would not be bound by relevant confidentiality provisions if they attended the meetings on behalf of DC Members since they were not EMAC members; and
- (7) the Department was suggested to assign higher ranking representatives to attend the meeting in the hope that such representatives could more adequately reply about the overall situation in Yuen Long District.

22. Ms LAI Mo-yi of the HD gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) she pointed out that most EMAC members were chairmen/key officials of MACs elected by residents of each block in an estate and nominated and appointed by the MACs of different blocks with the assistance of the District Office (DO) of the respective district, and the composition of the members was considered representative;
- (2) she indicated that in order to respect EMAC members so that they could conduct candid discussions at meetings, and to uphold the culture in the past of allowing members to frankly and naturally provide their views to the Department and continue to speak freely in harmonious discussions, EMAC meetings were held behind closed doors, i.e., not opened for attendance of residents/members of the public; any disagreement would be decided by way of vote and the results would be notified to residents;

- (3) she indicated that important matters and contents discussed in EMAC meetings had been briefly reported regularly through EMAC Newsletters so that residents of any estate could learn of the summary of work of the respective EMAC and the management work carried out in the estate;
- (4) she pointed out that Item 4.4 in the Standing Order of Committee Meeting in the Members' Manual of EMACs clearly set out that no members nor person attending a meeting by invitation shall disclose any content in the papers that he/she may become aware of as a member or a person attending the meeting by invitation, nor shall they disclose any matter discussed in a closed-door meeting of the EMAC;
- (5) as an example, she pointed out that if any DC Member would not be able to attend a meeting, his/her assistant could attend the meeting on his/her behalf; his/her assistant attending the meeting on his/her behalf also had to abide by the relevant confidentiality provisions;
- (6) she pointed out that the HA would provide funds to EMACs every year for implementing improvement works, carrying out maintenance projects and holding activities, and would collect opinions from EMACs for project implementation.

23. The Chairman concluded that Members were not satisfied with the reply from the HD. They considered that EMAC meetings should be more transparent and the election method should be improved as public matters were discussed in EMACs. They hope the Department could make improvements to this end. The Chairman indicated that the discussion of this item would continue at the next meeting and hoped that the Department could send higher ranking representatives to attend the meeting.

- (4) Mr TO Ka-lun proposed to discuss “Request for additional locations for displaying roadside non-commercial publicity materials”
(HTP&DC Paper No. 17/2020)
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24. The Chairman welcomed the following department representatives to the meeting:

Ms KO Wing-ye, Senior Estate Surveyor/East, District Lands Office, Yuen Long
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Mr LEUNG Senior Land Executive/Land Control (Central), District Lands
Hung-cheong, Wales Office, Yuen Long

[The meeting was temporarily presided over by the Vice-chairman]

25. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) it was considered there were insufficient designated locations in general for display available to DC Members. It was also suggested that the quota of designated locations for display for DC Members should be raised, in particular for rural constituencies which were much larger in size than their urban counterparts but having the same quota. It was considered that the quota had to be raised to extend the coverage of publicity. It was also suggested that such quota should be determined based on the area of each constituency;
- (2) it was indicated that each LegCo Councillor had 50 designated locations for display, but each DC Member had only 10, which was not enough;
- (3) it was indicated that DC Members had repeatedly requested the Department to raise the quota of designated locations for display, but the Department had yet to give a definite answer and the progress of follow up was thus considered unsatisfactory;
- (4) Members indicated that they were aware that the quota of designated locations for display for DC Members of some other districts was higher than that of Yuen Long District, and the Department’s arrangement was considered inappropriate as DC Members had not been consulted regarding the designated locations for display;

- (5) Members indicated that they had noticed that some of the designated locations for display had not been opened for DC Member to choose. As it was considered that DC Members had closer contacts with members of the public, the Department was suggested to let DC Members choose the designated locations for display first; Members indicated that they understood that current DC Members of the district should have priority in choosing designated locations for display;
- (6) it was considered that the current designated locations for display were not satisfactory and could not effectively serve the purpose of publicity. It was suggested that locations for display should be added on the railings along trunk roads;
- (7) it was suggested that roadside banners should be allowed to be hung on both sides;
- (8) enquiries were made as to when DC Members could resume hanging their banners after the postponement of the LegCo election; Member considered that the practice of waiting for a unified method of handling that would apply across Hong Kong was not satisfactory; and
- (9) it was pointed out that the Department had indicated if DC Members wanted to use any designated location for display approved for use of a LegCo Councillor, they had to wait till the end of the term of office of the LegCo Councillor. Enquiries were made as to whether the term of office was considered having ended for LegCo Councillors.

26. Mr LEUNG Hung-cheong, Wales of the District Lands Office, Yuen Long gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he had noted the views of Members regarding raising the quota of designated locations for display for DC Members and would reflect them to the Development Bureau (DEVB)/Lands Department (Lands D). He would notify Members of the relevant results as soon as possible;

- (2) he indicated that if a designated location for display had been chosen by other approved persons/organisations, the applicant would have to wait till the expiry of the permitted term before he/she could choose to use the designated location for display; if no person/organisation had been approved to use the designated location for display, DC Members and LegCo Councillors had priority to choose the designated location for display; if DC Members had any request for changing a designated location for display, he/she could notify the Office or the consultancy at any time for appropriate arrangement;
- (3) DC Members were welcomed to propose new designated locations for display in their constituencies. The Office would review in details any such proposal and consult the Highways Department, the Transport Department, the Hong Kong Police Force and other government departments; if the proposal was consistent with relevant guidelines and no other departments opposed to it, the Office would set the locations proposed as designated locations for display and process the application for changing designated locations for display as soon as possible;
- (4) he indicated that hanging a banner each on both sides of a roadside rail would be counted as having occupied two designated locations for display according to relevant guidelines. If the back of any existing location for display was not a location for display, the above mechanism for adding new locations for display could be applied; and
- (5) he indicated that the permission to hang banners had been suspended previously due to preparation of the LegCo election. In response to the postponement of the LegCo election now, the DEVB/Lands D would make a unified arrangement for resumption of the permission to hang banners after the DLO and DO of all districts had completed the handover of designated locations for display (the handover of Yuen Long District had been completed); the Office had noted Members' views on the relevant arrangement and would reflect them to the DEVB/Lands D.

27. The Vice-chairman concluded that Members generally considered the quota of locations for display for DC Members as insufficient and suggested that the quota should be raised based on the area of each constituency. It was hoped that the Department could flexibly handle Members' requests and notify DC Members of the decisions of the DEVB and the Lands D as soon as possible.

[The meeting was presided over by the Chairman]

- (5) Mr LAI Wing-tim moved the following motion, which was seconded by Mr TANG Sui-man and Mr TANG Yung-yiu, Ronnie: “Request the MTR and government departments concerned to provide details on the reinstatement of temporarily occupied land for constructing the Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link”

(HTP&DC Paper No. 18/2020)

28. The Chairman indicated that he had received a notice from Mr LAI Wing-tim prior to the meeting requesting to adjourn the discussion of this item as government departments were following up on the reinstatement of temporarily occupied land for constructing the Hong Kong Section of the Express Rail Link.

- (6) Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr SZETO Pok-man and Mr LEUNG Tak-ming proposed to discuss “Overall replacement of aged communal pipes, cables and fibre network systems in Yuen Long District, particularly in the rural areas”

(HTP&DC Paper No. 19/2020)

29. The Chairman welcomed the following department representatives to the meeting:

Mr LAI Chun-fung	Engineer/New Territories West (Distribution 3), Water Supplies Department
Mr SZE Chung-ming	Engineer/Yuen Long 1, Drainage Services Department
Mr CHAN Chi-him, Bill	Engineer/Yuen Long 4, Drainage Services Department
Mr KWAN Siu-kin	Electrical & Mechanical Engineer/Nuclear & Utility Safety/2, Electrical & Mechanical Services Department
Mr LO Tsz-him, Andrew	Principle Regulatory Affairs Manager (Market & Competition 13), Office of the Communications Authority
Ms WONG Nga-ting, Alice	Project Manager (Market & Competition 13), Office of the Communications Authority

30. Views of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) was enquired of the progress of extension of fibre-based networks to remote rural areas, e.g., Pat Heung and Ping Shan North;
- (2) enquiries were made as to whether the selected fixed network operators (FNOs) would still own the fibre-based networks built with subsidies from the Government under the prevailing Subsidy Scheme to Extend Fibre-based Networks to Villages in Remote Areas (Subsidy Scheme);
- (3) Members indicated that they were aware that the Water Supplies Department (WSD) and the Drainage Services Department (DSD) would not be responsible for repairing pipes laid on private lands, and enquired whether there were any plans to move such pipes onto government lands;
- (4) it was indicated that with the population growth in rural areas, the existing sewers were insufficient, and some landowners even covered up pipes running through their lands and increased the difficulty of repair;
- (5) the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) was enquired if they had any plans to subsidise private companies to renew the power system in rural areas;
- (6) it was considered that the communal pipes, cables and other public utility systems were aged in rural areas and the Government was suggested to repair and improve them promptly;
- (7) it was considered that laying public utility systems in rural areas would easily cause disputes, and landowners might not necessarily agree to let government departments conduct the repair, so it was suggested that relevant facilities should be laid on government lands where possible; it was understood that the DO had engaged in multiple rounds of negotiation, but the number of landowners affected was large and the process of negotiation was complicated, the DO was enquired if they had any suggestions for improvement; and

- (8) it was indicated that at present some pipes were laid under vehicular roads and pedestrian ways. Such a practice was considered undesirable as road users would be affected when such pipes required any repairs and it was suggested that the pipes should be laid under hard shoulders; it was also suggested that an underground tunnel should be built in new development areas to house all public utilities to facilitate future repairs and reduce any impact to residents.

31. Mr LAI Chun-fung of the WSD gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he indicated that they would also try to arrange for emergency repair in case of damage of communal pipes on private lands; regarding moving such pipes onto government lands, negotiations had to be conducted with residents of the districts based on individual circumstances;
- (2) he indicated that in case of change of the use of a road with pipes laid, e.g., from a pedestrian way to a vehicular road, they would require appropriate measures to be taken at the same of time of changing the use of the road, e.g., to move or lower the pipes, in order to protect existing pipes;
- (3) he indicated that the arrangement of maintenance and repair works would be considered when laying new pipes on government lands. They would try to lay them along pedestrian ways or under hard shoulders to minimise possible impact to road users in the future. However, adjustments might have to be made depending on the other public utilities already at the relevant sites underground; and

- (4) he indicated that the Department was promoting a risk-based strategy for asset management of water pipes to maintain the health of the water distribution network and to reduce the risk of water pipe burst or leakage. The Department would assess the risk of water pipe burst or leakage based on the consequence of water pipe burst or leakage and such factors as their service life, past record of burst or leakage and the surrounding environment, etc. The Department would prioritise improvement works for high-risk pipes, including replacement or repair of the pipes, to lower the risk of water pipe burst or leakage. The Department was now conducting water pipe improvement works at Kau Yuk Road, Ma Tin Road, Yuen Long Tai Yuk Road, Fung Nin Road, Tai Tao Tsuen and Ngau Hom Tsuen in Yuen Long District. The Department would closely monitor the health of the water distribution network in Yuen Long District (including rural areas) and continue to conduct risk assessment for immediately arrangement of improvement works if any high-risk pipes were found.

32. Mr CHAN Chi-him, Bill of the DSD gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he indicated that if flood occurred and affected private land areas, the DSD would try to arrange to assist in the emergency work to relieve the effect of the flood to such areas;
- (2) he indicated that in terms of new development areas, the departments in charge concerned would review the requirements for drainage works of the new development areas together and cooperate in carrying out suitable works; the Department would pay close attention to relevant situations to ensure that any drainage works could match with the needs of development; and
- (3) he indicated that they would try to minimise the impact to the public when laying the pipes but would have to make adjustments depending on the other public facilities at the relevant sites underground.

33. Mr KWAN Siu-kin of the EMSD gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he pointed out that public power systems, including electricity cables and other facilities, were owned by the power companies. The Department would supervise power companies in respect of power supply safety according to the Electricity Ordinance (Cap. 406) and its subsidiary regulations, and through inspections to oversee if the facilities and operations of power companies were consistent with the requirements related to technology and power safety; according to the relevant regulations, the Department could not offer subsidy schemes to power companies; and
- (2) he indicated that they had always maintained close communication with power companies. They had also learned that power companies had contacts with local communities. In case of ageing of the facilities of the power companies or overloading of the power supply, the power companies also had measures to take care of such situations.

34. Mr LO Tsz-him, Andrew of the OFCA gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he indicated that the telecommunication service market had been fully opened in Hong Kong. FNOs could plan the coverage of their own broadband service networks based on their own business considerations and market strategies. However, in order to speed up FNOs' progress of extension of fibre-based networks to remote areas in Hong Kong, the OFCA had implemented the Subsidy Scheme to encourage FNOs to extend fibre-based networks to villages in remote areas by way of subsidies;
- (2) he indicated that to introduce competition, the selected FNOs were required to open up at least half of the capacity of the subsidised network facilities for use by other FNOs for free;
- (3) he pointed out that the Subsidy Scheme covered, inter alia, 12 village in Yuen Long District. The FNOs selected had already commenced the works of laying of fibre-based networks. The OFCA would actively follow up on the progress and ensured that the works would be completed according to the schedules prescribed in the tender documents; and

- (4) he indicated that the fibre-based networks laid by FNOs subsidised by the one-off funding from the Government would reach the vicinity of the entrances of the villages concerned, and the newly-built fibre-based networks would be owned by the selected FNOs. However, the FNOs had to be responsible for the maintenance of the fibre-based networks and had to open up at least half of the capacity of the relevant network facilities for use by other FNOs for free according to the terms in the contracts.

35. Mr HUEN Yeuk-hon, John of the YLDO gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he pointed out that maintenance works could only be carried out with the consent of the landowners according to their departmental guidelines; the Office would actively seek assistance from village representatives of the villages involved, rural committees and DC Members of the districts to strengthen lobbying, learn of the difficulties of the landowners, and to offer assistance where possible, in the hope that they would allow relevant government departments to carry out maintenance works on their lands; and
- (2) he indicated that they had always been cooperating with the DSD in terms of improving drainage services in villages. They would study feasible options for each case and negotiate with local communities in order to commence the works as soon as possible.

36. The Chairman concluded that Members had presented the difficulties of carrying out works and repairs on private lands. It was hoped that the DO could assist actively. The Departments were also requested to consider relevant issues in the planning of new development areas.

- (7) Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr LI Chung-chi and Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix proposed to discuss “Follow-up on the Yuen Long South Development”
(HTP&DC Paper No. 20/2020)
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37. The Chairman welcomed the following department representatives to the meeting:

Mr TANG Kin-hung	Manager/Clearance (New Development Area Section), Lands Department
Mr SIU Yik-ho, Steven	Senior Town Planner/ Yuen Long West 1, Planning Department

38. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) enquiries were made as to the number of structures eligible for resettlement among the 8,000 structures registered prior to the clearance;
- (2) it was considered that the practice of freezing the registration for the Yuen Long South Development Project without the approval of the Town Planning Board (TPB) different than that of other new development areas was not satisfactory;
- (3) enquiries were made as to whether there would be another round of pre-clearance registration, and whether DC Members of the district would be notified before the eligibility verification; enquiries were made as to whether the residents who had not been registered or had their eligibility verified before the clearance could still live in the affected areas and how the Department would handle such cases;
- (4) enquiries were made as to how livestock farmers would be resettled. It was considered that livestock farmers could hardly find other places to continue their operation under the prevailing strict restrictions in the law;
- (5) enquiries were made as to whether the Department had received any enquiries from livestock farmers and the means of contact in regard to relevant matters;

- (6) it was indicated that the pre-clearance registration had not covered existing farmers and it was asked if registrations would be made for farmers; the AFCD was also requested to assist affected farmers in referring their cases to other departments;
- (7) it was hoped that more information could be provided for farmlands to which special rehabilitation would apply, e.g., areas of the lands, progress of promotion of the scheme, etc.; and
- (8) the Department was suggested to assign higher ranking representatives to attend the meeting in the hope that they could more adequately answer Members' enquiries.

39. Mr TANG Kin-hung of the Lands D gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he indicated that, in regard to the pre-clearance registration of the Yuen Long South Development Project, approximately a total of 8,000 structures (excluding such objects as fences and poles), approximately 260 residents using the structures and approximately 180 business operators were registered. Staff of the Lands D were now contacting those residents and business operators who were not at the structures during the pre-clearance registration to record information of the occupants;
- (2) he indicated that for the affected persons that they kept failing to reach, they would try contacting them through other residents in the neighbourhood or by mail; affected persons had to present documentary proofs that they were living in the relevant structures at the time of the pre-clearance registration, so that the Department would consider whether they were eligible for resettlement or the compensation arrangement;
- (3) they were aware that there were several affected livestock farmers in the proposed area of development; and
- (4) the Government would make appropriate arrangements based on the existing mechanism for agricultural resite.

40. Ms CHUNG Lai-kuen of the AFCD indicated that the AFCD had issued licences for livestock keeping and agriculture and had statistics regarding the operators. She could relay Members' enquiries to relevant colleagues for follow up.

41. Mr SZETO Pok-man and LEUNG Tak-ming raised the following motion, which was seconded by Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LEE Chun-wai and Mr AU Kwok-kuen. The wording of the motion was as follows:

“Subject to the existing legislations, namely the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Licensing of Livestock Keeping) Regulation, Chapter 139L and the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Chapter 354), livestock farm operators affected by the Yuen Long South Development Project would have considerable difficulty in identifying sites for relocation of their farms and might go through the bureaucratic hassle of getting their relevant licences renewed.

To support the sustainable development of local agriculture and livestock farms, we raise the following motion: ‘This Council urges the Development Bureau, which is spearheading Yuen Long South development, to lead and coordinate the efforts of livestock industry and licensing-related departments, namely the Environmental Protection Department, the Lands Department, the Planning Department, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Immigration Department and the Labour Department, to establish an inter-departmental working group to actively identify sites for relocation of livestock farms affected by the Yuen Long South development plans and to undertake proper infrastructure work by making reference to the Agricultural Land Rehabilitation Scheme. As in the cases of multi-storey buildings for accommodating brownfield operations, licensing regulations should be relaxed to assist livestock farmers in operating their farms with more advanced and land-saving development approaches, such as vertical operation, so that the local livestock industry can stay afloat.’”

42. Members voted on the motion mentioned above by a show of hands and have their name recorded. Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu, and Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary voted in favour of the motion, no Member voted against it and no Member abstained.

43. The Chairman announced that the voting results were 21 Members voted for the motion, 0 Member voted against it and 0 Member abstained. The motion was endorsed.

44. The Chairman concluded by requesting the Lands D and the AFCD to note Members' views and handle affected residents and operators properly. The Chairman indicated that the discussion on this item would continue at the next meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat sent the endorsed motion to the DEVB on 10 September.)

(8) Mr HAU Man-kin proposed to discuss "Arrangement after the expiry of the 20-year structural safety guarantee period for Tin Fu Court"
(HTP&DC Paper No. 21/2020)

45. The Chairman welcomed the following department representatives to the meeting:

Mr NG Chi-hung Housing Manager/Yuen Long 1, Housing Department
Ms LAI Mo-yi Housing Manager/Yuen Long 6, Housing Department

46. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) it was considered that the reply from the Department was not consistent with the facts, and pointed out that short piling had happened to two buildings in Tin Fu Court so that foundation reinforcement work was required;

- (2) the Department was requested to provide detailed justification for “no short piling has happened in Tin Fu Court” as claimed in the reply, and provide the number of cases concerning settlement, cracking, building structure and other issues that the Department had received in the past;
- (3) the Department was requested to clarify whether short piling had never happened in Tin Fu Court, or whether short piling had occurred but had now been fixed;
- (4) it was indicated that cracks had appeared on the external walls of certain buildings in Tin Fu Court and such cracking was considered a structural issue;
- (5) Members indicated that they were aware that the incorporated owners of Tin Fu Court had written to enquire about structural safety of the buildings and the arrangement after the guarantee period, but the HD had not followed up in details, and it was suggested that the Department should explore relevant matters in depth with the incorporated owners;
- (6) it was mentioned that several housing estates in Tin Shui Wai had been offered a 20-year structural guarantee from the HA due to structural issues, and enquiries were made as to whether the Department had conducted inspections on the relevant housing estates to ensure structural safety; and
- (7) it was proposed that the discussion of this item be continued at the next meeting.

47. Mr NG Chi-hung of the HD gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) he indicated that it had been clarified that short piling had not happened in Tin Fu Court upon consultation with the engineering section of the Department;
- (2) he indicated that the HA had endorsed in 2000 the arrangement of providing a 20-year structural guarantee to Home Ownership Scheme courts in Tin Shui Wai and the HA would continue to perform as committed; and

- (3) he indicated that the incorporated owners and the management company of Tin Fu Court had always been notifying the engineering team of the Department to follow up on suspected structural safety cases and the engineering team would immediately carry out inspections. If any cases were confirmed as within the scope of the structural guarantee, repair would be carried out immediately; he indicated that relevant statistical data could be provided after the meeting to the HTP&DC.

48. The Chairman concluded that the discussion of this item would continue at the next meeting and requested the Department to provide more detailed information.

(11) Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary proposed to discuss “Criteria for letting government land on short-term tenancies”
(HTP&DC Paper No. 25/2020)

49. The Chairman welcomed the following department representative to the meeting:

Ms KO Wing-yee, Amii Senior Estate Surveyor/East (District Lands Office, Yuen Long)

50. Views raised by Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) it was indicated that the Department had failed to point out in its reply the criteria for letting government land on short-term tenancies, in which they were particularly concerned that the applications for short-term tenancies made by organisations approved by the TPB would usually be successful;
- (2) enquiries were made as to whether rent would be pursued from illegal occupants of government lands and the further actions that the Department would take; Members considered that it would be not be an ideal practice to just recover the rent concerned;
- (3) it was suggested that a deposit could be collected to make up for any loss caused to the Government and to carry out reinstatement works to the land in case of the failure of any land tenant to reinstate the land in order to free the land for other uses as soon as possible; Members gave an example of unsatisfactory progress of handling of the LPG store at Wang Chau Road;

- (4) enquiries were made as to the procedures involved to change the original use of a piece of land to other uses, and how the DLO was cooperating with the DO;
- (5) enquiries were made as to whether there was any online map system on which information on government land usage and tender information were uploaded; it was proposed that relevant information could be added to the existing “GeoInfo Map” website to facilitate public access; and
- (6) enquiries were made as to the information of the land for agricultural use in Yuen Long District.

51. Ms KO Wing-ye, Amii of District Lands Office, Yuen Long gave a consolidated response extracted as follows:

- (1) she indicated that the commercial value of a piece of land would be determined by factors such as the terrain and area of the land and the market’s interest in the land; in general, the Department would let a piece of land with general commercial value by open tender at full market rent for profitable commercial use; the Department would also consult relevant departments in regard to the land use; where the long-term use of a piece of land could be extended, it would not be re-tendered;
- (2) she indicated that non-governmental organisations and social enterprises could apply for short-term tenancies of ungranted government lands without general commercial value for social, organisational or non-profit uses. Such information would be uploaded onto the Government’s “GeoInfo Map” website. These short-term tenancy applications for non-profit uses had to be supported by policies of relevant bureaux and the Department would consider directly granting the tenancies to the organisations concerned; the uses in the applications also had to be consistent with the requirements in outline zoning plans or be permitted under the relevant planning

- (3) she indicated that a deposit would generally be collected for short-term tenancy; according to the terms of the tenancy, the tenant would have to reinstate the land and remove any structures within the scope of the tenancy as required in the tenancy terms applicable; otherwise, the case would be handled according to established procedures, including taking legal actions and collecting the corresponding rent;
- (4) she indicated that tender information had already been uploaded on the website of the Lands D for public access; she had noted Members' proposal of adding relevant information to the existing "GeoInfo Map" website, but she also pointed out that the nature of the information on the "GeoInfo Map" website was different from that of tender information;
- (5) she indicated that she would relay to relevant colleagues Members' enquiry on information of the lands for lease for agricultural purpose in Yuen Long District for them to reply; and
- (6) Members were welcomed to provide detailed information on individual cases for follow up.

52. The Chairman concluded that it was hoped that the Department could increase transparency of the procedures for leasing government lands and take more stringent measures against illegal land occupation.

Item V: Any other business

53. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to write to the HD to request the HD to assign representatives on the rank of senior manager or above to attend the meeting.

54. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:05 p.m.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat forwarded the reply from the HD dated 29 October to Members.)

Yuen Long District Council Secretariat
November 2020