

The minutes were confirmed on 27.10.2020 without amendment.

**Minutes of the Third Meeting of  
Yuen Long District Council in 2020**

Date : 25 February 2020 (Tuesday)

Time : 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Venue : Conference Room, Yuen Long District Council, 13/F., Yuen Long Government Offices,  
2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Withdrawal</u>
Chairman: Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Vice Chairman: Mr MAK Ip-sing	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Members: Mr AU Kwok-kuen	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Ms CHAN Mei-lin	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr CHAN Shu-fai	(10:05 a.m.)	(End of the meeting)
Ms CHAN Sze-nga	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr CHING Chan-ming	(Beginning of the meeting)	(11:50 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 HONG Chin-wah	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr KWAN Chun-sang	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr KWOK Man-ho	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Hon KWONG Chun-yu	(11:50 a.m.)	(1:15 p.m.)
Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Ms LAI Po-wa	(10:10 a.m.)	(End of the meeting)
Mr LAI Wing-tim	(Beginning of the meeting)	(12:40 p.m.)
Mr LAM Chun	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr LAM Ting-wai	(10:05 a.m.)	(End of the meeting)
Mr LEE Chun-wai	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr LEUNG Tak-ming	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr LI Chung-chi	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr MAN Fu-wan, BBS	(Beginning of the meeting)	(10:40 a.m.)
Mr MAN Mei-kwai, Jimmy	(Beginning of the meeting)	(3:15 p.m.)
Mr MO Kai-hong	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr NG Hin-wang	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr NG Kin-wai	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Ms NG Yuk-ying	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr SHEK King-ching	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr SHUM Ho-kit, JP	(Beginning of the meeting)	(12:40 p.m.)
Mr SZETO Pok-man	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr TANG Che-keung	(10:10 a.m.)	(11:50 a.m.)
Mr TANG Ho-nin	(10:10 a.m.)	(11:00 a.m.)

Mr TANG Ka-leung	(10:10 a.m.)	(12:15 p.m.)
Mr TANG Lai-tung	(10:05 a.m.)	(11:00 a.m.)
Mr TANG Sui-man	(Beginning of the meeting)	(11:10 a.m.)
Mr TANG Yung-yiu, Ronnie	(Beginning of the meeting)	(12:40 p.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)
Ms WONG Wing-sze	(Beginning of the meeting)	(End of the meeting)
Mr YOUNG Ka-on	(10:10 a.m.)	(12:00 noon)

Secretary: Ms PANG Ka-fong, Cindy Senior Executive Officer (District Council),  
Yuen Long District Office

Assistant Secretary: Ms WONG Man-ting, Mandy Executive Officer I (District Council),  
Yuen Long District Office

In Attendance

Mr YUEN Ka-lok, Enoch, JP	District Officer (Yuen Long)
Mr NG Lak-sun, Nixon	Assistant District Officer (Yuen Long) 1
Ms POON Wai-yi, Joanna	Assistant District Officer (Yuen Long) 2
Mr HUEN Yeuk-hon, John	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Yuen Long District Office
Mr HUI Wai-ming, Kenneth	Senior Liaison Officer (2) (Acting), Yuen Long District Office
Ms OR Lai-kum, Christina	Senior Liaison Officer (3), Yuen Long District Office
Mr LAM Chi-keung, Desmond	Chief Engineer/West 1, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms KEE Wing-yin, Fionn	Chief School Development Officer (Yuen Long), Education Bureau
Mr TSOI Ka-wai	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Yuen Long), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr HO Chun-chung, Eric	Deputy District Commander (Yuen Long), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr CHEUNG Lai-ki	Police Community Relations Officer (Yuen Long District), Hong Kong Police Force
Mr WONG Pui-chun	Chief Manager/Management (Tuen Mun & Yuen Long), Housing Department
Ms CHAN Ching-han, Peggy	District Lands Officer/Yuen Long (District Lands Office, Yuen Long), Lands Department
Mr NG Ping-tong, Gordon	Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Yuen Long), Lands Department
Ms LO Lai-fong, Jackie	Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories North), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHAN Pik-hing, Connie	District Leisure Manager (Yuen Long), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr SIU Yik-ho, Steven	Senior Town Planner/Yuen Long West 1, Planning Department
Ms CHU Wing-yin, Diana	District Social Welfare Officer (Yuen Long), Social Welfare Department
Ms YUEN Miu-chun, Christine	Chief Transport Officer/New Territories North West, Transport Department

**Item II**

Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP	Under Secretary for Food and Health
Miss CHAN Tsz-yan, Yandy	Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Food)1, Food and Health Bureau
Dr THAM May-ked	Senior Medical and Health Officer (Government Vaccination Programme), Department of Health
Mr FAN Kin-kei, Ronald	Senior Property Services Manager/Tuen Mun & Yuen Long, Architectural Services Department
Mr HUI Lung-nin, Hilman	Senior Project Manager 134, Architectural Services Department

**Item III**

Ms TONG Shuk-ting	Chief Health Inspector (Yuen Long)3, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
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**Item VI**

Mr KIANG Kevin Yee-wing	Operations Manager – West Rail Line and Ma On Shan Line, MTR Corporation Limited
Ms LAM Yuen	Public Relations Manager – External Affairs, MTR Corporation Limited

Absence

Mr HO Wai-pan	(Absent with apologies)
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**Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed Members and department representatives to the third meeting of the Yuen Long District Council (“YLDC”) in 2020. He particularly welcomed Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP, Under Secretary for Food and Health, to the meeting with Members.

2. Mr HO Wai-pan was absent due to other commitments.

**Item I: Confirmation of the agenda**

3. The Chairman said that on this agenda, there were three matters arising from the previous minutes and seven discussion items, followed by report items of government departments and committees. To control the meeting time, some discussion items (including Item V, “Hong Kong citizens being denied entry to Mainland China and Macau” and Item VII, “Concern over the Government’s attempt to spread white terror in the education sector”) would be referred to the Culture, Arts, Recreation, Sports, Welfare, Education and Public Order Committee (“CAPOC”) for follow-up.

4. The agenda was confirmed with no objection by Members.

**Item II: Efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community (Including “The use of Pat Heung Junior Police Call Activity Centre as a quarantine centre”)  
(YLDC Paper Nos. 47a-f and 48/2020)**

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5. The Chairman invited Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP, Under Secretary for Food and Health, to introduce the Government’s work to prevent and fight the disease.
  
6. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP, Under Secretary for Food and Health, briefed Members on the Government’s work carried out in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, as well as on the use of the Junior Police Call Permanent Activity Centre-cum-Integrated Youth Training Camp (“JPC Centre”) in Pat Heung, Yuen Long, as a quarantine centre.
  
7. The Chairman asked about the Government’s views on requisitioning Hong Kong Disneyland Hotel as a designated quarantine centre.
  
8. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that hotels were not the first choice for quarantine centres, citing the unsuitability of their original specifications and designs.
  
9. The Vice Chairman said that the Government had closed its international border to travellers from South Korea amid the worsening COVID-19 outbreaks there. He suggested that the Government implement similar measures on mainland visitors as soon as possible to safeguard the health of Hong Kong citizens. Moreover, he suggested that the Food and Health Bureau (“FHB”) coordinate efforts on supplying protective items to protect the health of medical staff and, if possible, giving away face masks to all Hong Kong citizens.
  
10. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the FHB decided to control entries into and exits from South Korea after assessing the epidemic situations in different countries. The Bureau would also implement measures to mitigate imported case risks, having regard to the situations of countries and regions with a sharp rise in COVID-19 cases. The FHB would continue to enhance anti-epidemic measures, while at the same time calling on the public to reduce social activities in order to curb imported cases at source. He also pointed out that, in view of the tight global supply of face masks, the Government would first provide adequate protective gear to frontline medical staff, frontline staff participating in quarantine-related work, and frontline cleansing workers. Hospitals would take protective measures for their medical staff in different clinical areas according to risk classifications.
  
11. Mr Ronnie TANG said that Pat Heung villagers had expressed concern that the COVID-19 virus would probably be transmitted through wastewater if the JPC Centre was used as a quarantine centre. He said that it was fortunate that the authorities had proposed sealing up original sewage pipes, storing wastewater and then using machines to pump wastewater away. The authorities had also promised to treat the rubbish generated in the JPC Centre as clinical waste. He said that he, together with the majority of the villagers, would not oppose the JPC Centre being used as a quarantine centre as long as the Government took adequate protective measures.
  
12. Mr TANG Sui-man said that the majority of local villagers were a sensible sort of people who stood with all other Hong Kong people and supported the Government’s anti-epidemic measures

after being consulted on the plan to requisition the JPC Centre as a quarantine centre, although there were still a small number of villagers who held different views and worried that the JPC Centre might help spread the virus. He suggested that the Government take adequate measures to safeguard the health of nearby residents.

13. Mr LAI Wing-tim said that the Government had proposed concrete measures to relieve the worries of villagers, such as handling waste generated from the quarantine centre according to the procedure of how clinical waste would be managed at hospitals. He suggested that the authorities increase protection standards at the JPC Centre and arrange testing for people under compulsory quarantine there before their departure, so as to make sure that no virus carriers could enter the community.

14. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP, clarified that the people staying at the quarantine centre were not patients with confirmed COVID-19 disease or suspected to have been infected with the disease but those having had close contact with patients with confirmed infection. According to the latest laboratory results, only a very small number of people arranged to stay at quarantine centres were later confirmed to be infected with the disease. In addition, the Department of Health (“DH”) would arrange medical surveillance for the people, including measuring their body temperature twice daily. He said such measures should be sufficient enough to screen out people with COVID-19 infection and send them to hospital for treatment. He said that, from the public health perspective, it might not be necessary to arrange virus testing for people staying at quarantine centres.

15. Mr AU Kwok-kuen opposed the Government’s move to requisition the Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre as a designated clinic, citing its close proximity to residential buildings. He suggested the Government consider requisitioning the People’s Liberation Army (“PLA”) barracks or hotels at Hong Kong Disneyland Resort as quarantine centres. On the other hand, the Government announced that, starting from 8 February, all people entering Hong Kong from the Mainland, including Hong Kong residents, Mainland residents and visitors from other countries and regions, would be subject to a 14-day compulsory quarantine upon arrival in the city. However, the Government had yet to release the list of buildings with occupants placed under 14-day self-quarantine. He suggested the Government request the management offices of the buildings or relevant DC Members to maintain the cleanliness and environmental hygiene of the buildings.

16. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the Government adopted the practice of setting up designated clinics during the SARS outbreak in 2003, with a view to providing treatment and virus testing for patients with mild symptoms. As the existing epidemic situation was still under control, there was no urgent need to activate designated clinics in a short time. Arrangements for both the software and hardware of designated clinics had been made, such as adjusting ventilation systems there and arranging the settings for segregating patients to reduce the risk of cross infection. On the other hand, the FHB had extended the “Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme” to cover outpatients with mild symptoms at all private clinics and hospitals. In addition, the authorities were taking appropriate quarantine measures according to different levels of risk as all the people entering Hong Kong from the Mainland from 8 February would receive the compulsory 14-day quarantine.

17. Mr Kisslan CHAN suggested that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”) strengthen enforcement actions against spitters. He also suggested that the department

require all public transport passengers to wear a face mask.

18. Ms CHAN Mei-lin opposed the Government using the Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre as a designated clinic, citing its close proximity to schools and residential premises. She said that the Government should listen to infectious disease experts and close all boundary control points to cut the virus transmission chain in the community. On the other hand, she said the Government had yet to provide adequate support for the grassroots citizens who lacked face masks and had their livelihoods affected by the COVID-19 epidemic. She also said that the Anti-epidemic Fund could not help the people suffering from the epidemic.

19. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that, while there was no urgent need to activate designated clinics, he would reflect social anxiety to the Hospital Authority (“HA”), and proper arrangements would be made to alleviate the anxiety. As most of the infection cases confirmed so far had been found locally and among clusters of people, he would like to call on the public to reduce social activities, which he believed could effectively break the chain of transmission. He advised the public not to visit areas severely affected by the epidemic unless necessary. On the other hand, he pointed out that the main purpose of the Anti-epidemic Fund was to help businesses stay afloat and keep workers in employment. He expected other support measures to come out in the forthcoming Budget. He said that the Government was actively preparing to unveil the Anti-epidemic Fund and would release relevant details shortly.

20. Mr CHAN Shu-fai pointed out that the Government had given the reason of protecting personal privacy for announcing only a list of building estates where there were people under compulsory quarantine at home. However, he had checked the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance and found no clear provisions regarding this. He opined that the Government should make public at least the floors of the buildings where quarantined people were residing, so as to reduce panic and anxiety among members of the public. On the other hand, he enquired about the locations of the quarantine facilities reserved for the more than 1 000 Hong Kong residents being stranded in Wuhan as the Government might send chartered flights to bring them back to Hong Kong.

21. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the FHB would make different quarantine arrangements according to risk levels, citing that people returning to Hong Kong from places outside Hubei would be required to undergo home quarantine because of their relatively low risk of infection. He said that he would relay to the Centre for Health Protection (“CHP”) the Member’s suggestion of releasing more information on the people put under mandatory home quarantine. In addition, the FHB would arrange residents returning from Hubei to Hong Kong to stay at the existing quarantine centres in batches, depending on their utilisation rates. The existing quarantine centres could provide about 1 200 quarantine units. The Government would continue to find more suitable locations for the purpose and provide more quarantine units.

22. The Chairman opined the public’s anxiety was caused by information opacity. He suggested that the Government publish the names of buildings and the numbers of floors with people under quarantine, in order to enhance the vigilance of residents in the same building and to help management companies step up cleaning and disinfection work.

23. Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin pointed out a loophole in the compulsory home quarantine measure: people living with the person under quarantine had free access to the place of quarantine. He said the control measures taken by the authorities in this regard had been far from adequate. On the other hand, he suggested the FHB increase the transparency of epidemic information and provide details of home-quarantined persons to DC Members to help them step up epidemic prevention work in the district as soon as possible.

24. The Chairman said that rumour had it that more than five million people in Wuhan, some of whom were confirmed COVID-19 infection cases, had left before the lockdown of the mainland city. He opined that the authorities should do more to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 infection.

25. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the CHP held a press conference at 4pm every day and issued press releases to give an update on confirmed COVID-19 cases. He said he would collate Members' views about the mandatory quarantine measures implemented from 8 February, and relay them to the CHP.

26. Mr HONG Chin-wah pointed out the FHB had yet done enough in terms of compulsory quarantine measures, citing that it had not effectively following up on the situation of people quarantined in hotels, nor disclosing details of people placed on home quarantine. He also pointed out that more than 1 000 mainland residents arrived in Hong Kong via the Shenzhen Bay Control Point every day. He enquired what the Government would do to cope with the situation, and said that all border points should be closed completely.

27. Hon KWONG Chun-yu enquired why the Government had closed its doors to all arrivals from South Korea, but not from the Mainland, and whether the measure involved double standards and discrimination.

28. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the FHB would closely monitor the development of the epidemic situation around the world, especially in countries and regions where the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases had risen sharply. He said that it was the reason why the FHB had decided to implement border control measures for travellers from South Korea. Comparatively, confirmed COVID-19 cases in Mainland China were growing more slowly. He said that the FHB would closely monitor the situation of inbound travellers and endeavor to meet the needs of local residents.

29. The Chairman enquired whether the Government had changed the criteria for implementing border control measures for other regions.

30. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP quoted a World Health Organization ("WHO") specialist as saying that the evolving status of COVID-19 infection could not be compared with that of the previous disease outbreaks. He said the Government found it necessary to develop new strategies for the latest situation and introduce new measures to reduce imported case risks as there had been signs that the epidemic was spreading to other countries and regions.

31. Mr LAM Chun said that he could not see any logic behind Hong Kong's decision to close its doors to all arrivals from South Korea, rather than mainland China, referring to it as contrary to the Government's earlier remarks that it would not specifically exclude people from other regions. He also pointed out that mainland cities had no practice of sending chartered flights to bring back their residents stranded in other mainland cities, thus enquiring why the Hong Kong Government sent chartered flights to bring back Hong Kong residents stranded in the Mainland.

32. The Chairman enquired whether there were any legal provisions to empower the Government to close border checkpoints connecting Hong Kong with the Mainland.

33. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the Government was actively working to reduce the cross-boundary flow of people and social contact. Therefore, corresponding measures would be implemented for countries or regions with a rapid increase of COVID-19 cases or a widespread community transmission, so as to reduce imported COVID-19 cases. On the other hand, the Government had chartered flights to bring back Hong Kong citizens stranded in the affected areas, including those on board the Diamond Princess cruise ship docked in Japan.

34. The Chairman said that Members had just expressed the wish of Hong Kong citizens and frontline medical staff by requesting the Government to completely close the boundary control points. He hoped that Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP could relay their views to the Government, and requested disclosure of more details about the people under home quarantine.

35. Mr Deco LEE said he thought that the Government might not be confident that schools could resume classes and employees could get back to work in a short time. He enquired whether the Education Bureau ("EDB") would encourage schools to adopt web-based distance learning tools to keep up with the teaching schedule amid class suspension. On the other hand, as there might be students left unattended at home during this period, he requested the Government to strengthen the provision of childcare services for families affected by the epidemic. He also pointed out that the Government's Anti-epidemic Fund was focused on supporting employers, not the general public, saying that the Government should roll out a cash handout to shore up consumer spending and help businesses stay afloat.

36. The Chairman enquired about the arrangements for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination ("HKDSE"), and suggested that the Government offer contingency money to people who had lost their jobs amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

37. Ms Fionn KEE of the EDB said that the bureau had issued guidelines to schools on the effective use of various learning tools (including e-learning tools) during class suspension to help students learn systematically, so as to achieve the goal of "suspending classes without suspending learning". On the other hand, the bureau would announce the arrangements for HKDSE examinations shortly.

38. Ms Diana CHU of the Social Welfare Department (“SWD”) said that all child care centres and youth services centres had ceased the provision of child care services and after-school care services, but they would remain open to serve those in need. Members of the public in need their services could contact the centres to make relevant arrangements.

39. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP believed that the Government would provide subsidies and assistance to needy members of the community at different stages through different anti-epidemic funds and schemes. He said that he expected other relief measures to be unveiled in the upcoming Budget.

40. Mr LI Chung-chi said that the JPC Centre was in a remote corner of the district but there were some factories and villages nearby. He queried why the Government did not requisition Shek Kong Barracks as a quarantine centre, which was also in Pat Heung and far from residential areas.

41. The Chairman said that the Mainland Government had expressed its full support for Hong Kong’s anti-epidemic work. He asked whether the Hong Kong Government had ever tried to request the People’s Liberation Army to lend out the barracks for use as a quarantine centre. He also said that there were vacant spaces and ensuite rooms inside the barracks. He suggested the Government convert vacant barracks to accommodate arrivals from the Mainland who were subject to isolation measures.

42. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the Government would first consider places that could be used immediately as quarantine centres. As Shek Kong Barracks itself had its own specific purpose, priority would be given to locations with individual toilets, such as public rental housing (“PRH”) units.

43. Mr MO Kai-hong enquired about the degree of seriousness of the COVID-19 outbreak and the circumstances that would prompt the Government to decide to activate designated clinics, such as requisitioning the Community Health Centres (“CHCs”) as quarantine clinics. He quoted some members of the public as saying that the staff of the Yuen Long District Office (“YLDO”) had called them about the conversion of the Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre into a quarantine clinic but the staff did not ask them whether they would support the move. He queried whether this was the practice of how the YLDO performed its duties and asked for the details of the people approached by the YLDO, such as their names and number. Secondly, he requested the Government to send the YLDC the data of the designated clinics, such as their hardware specifications, support facilities and manpower resources. He also asked why the Government had not consulted the YLDO or relevant DC Members on the issues of designated clinics.

44. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the Government would activate designated clinics depending on the nature of the major public health incident and the actual situation, and there were no standard criteria in this regard. The practice of opening designated clinics began during the SARS outbreak in 2003, and no consultations had been conducted on the issue at that time. He said he did appreciate public concern about designated clinics, and stressed that there had been no urgent need to activate them; otherwise appropriate measures would be taken at that time to ensure minimal impacts on nearby residents.

45. The Chairman said that the Government had failed to notify district councillors of the issue regarding designated clinics, violating the principle of cooperation between the Government and the YLDC. He suggested that the Government consult the YLDC or relevant district councillors on the compilation of the list of designated clinics

46. Mr Enoch YUEN, JP, District Officer (Yuen Long), said that the YLDO would regularly gauge community opinions on different issues. He said the YLDO had forwarded a list of designated clinics to all district councillors upon receipt of a HA notification.

47. Ms NG Yuk-ying pointed out that the home quarantine measures implemented by the Government had not been transparent enough. While the authorities failed to update district councillors on the situations of the home-quarantined people in the district, the CHP failed to immediately publish the names of buildings with home-quarantined people. Their details were not published until when their quarantines were near completion. She suggested the authorities give more details about home-quarantined persons and the housing estates where they resided, and step up anti-epidemic measures there as early as possible.

48. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that he would first collate Members' views about the compulsory quarantine measures with effect from 8 February and then relay them to the CHP. On the other hand, it was found that some people on the list of home-quarantined people released in the early stage would finish their mandatory home quarantine earlier than others. They were required to undertake fewer days of home quarantine as they had been back to Hong Kong from the Mainland for some time prior to the implementation of the mandatory quarantine measure.

49. Mr LAM Ting-wai suggested that government officials play positive role models by wearing a face mask in public settings, such as during a media briefing. He also suggested that Hong Kong close all its border checkpoints with Mainland China. On the other hand, he suggested that the Housing Department ("HD") extend the repayment period under the existing mortgage loan schemes or provide special assistance to some members of the public who had their livelihoods affected by the epidemic and who had to repay mortgage loans.

50. Mr WONG Pui-chun of the HD said that the owners of the existing public housing units faced with financial difficulties could seek prior approval from the department for permission to refinance their flats as long as they satisfied the relevant conditions. The HD would also consider the possibility of providing other assistance.

51. Mr SHEK King-ching opined that the Government had not done enough in terms of COVID-19 testing, saying that some infected people not detected earlier could still move around freely in the community. He also opined that the Government had failed to publish information on home-quarantined persons thus leading to many management problems at housing estates and buildings. He enquired how the Government would dispose of the waste and sewage generated in the buildings or places where people under quarantine resided.

52. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that both confirmed and suspected COVID-19 patients would undergo testing and receive treatment in isolation wards according to the existing virus detection and screening system. In early January, the HA implemented the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to detect inpatient pneumonia cases. As a result, more than 20 cases of COVID-19 infection were detected out of more than 10 000 cases tested, accounting for one-third of the confirmed cases. Based on the observation, and according to the advice of four infectious disease experts engaged by the Government, he opined that the programme could detect COVID-19 patients presenting with mild symptoms in the community as soon as possible. Therefore, the scope of the programme had been expanded to include non-inpatients at general outpatient clinics and emergency departments.

53. The Chairman enquired whether the HD had undertaken proactive inspections of drains and pipes in housing estates under its management in response to the latest development of the epidemic situation.

54. Mr WONG Pui-chun said that the HD would carry out regular maintenance and repair works for pipes in housing estates under its management. When a confirmed case of COVID-19 infection had been detected in a housing estate, the department would take the initiative to inspect other housing units connected to the sewer pipes of the unit with the confirmed case.

55. Mr Ronald FAN of the Architectural Services Department (“ArchSD”) said that there were no public sewage systems at the JPC Centre, where sewage would be filtered and disinfected mainly through a septic tank before being discharged into the river. When the JPC Centre was used as a quarantine centre, the sewage disposal procedures would be adjusted, and the team in charge would regularly clean the wastewater sump tank and arrange for sewage disposal.

56. Mr CHING Chan-ming said that he believed that there had been dereliction of duty on the part of the HA as many infection cases had not been detected earlier and some other cases detected only after several medical consultations. He said that the HA should do their utmost to maintain the standard of medical practice. On the other hand, he opposed complete closure of the boundary control points with the Mainland, saying that Hong Kong relied on daily necessities imported from the Mainland. He also opined that the Government should deal with the issue on the JPC Centre more decisively after obtaining the support of villagers in the use of the centre as a quarantine unit.

57. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP explained how the public healthcare system strengthened monitoring processes and detected infection cases in a community. He said that virus testing was conducted on patients presenting with mild symptoms under the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme, which had been put in place recently. The DH had written to private clinic doctors, asking them to refer patients to public hospitals for virus testing where required. The effectiveness of the programme would be reviewed in a timely manner.

58. Mr Jimmy MAN said Rural Committee members hoped to contribute towards the community and reached a consensus after discussion that the Government could use the JPC Centre as quarantine centre. On the other hand, he did not support complete closure of the boundary control points with the Mainland for fear of affecting the import and export of goods including epidemic

prevention supplies. Secondly, he reported that a 58-year-old taxi driver living in Shek Wu Wai, San Tin, Yuen Long, had been diagnosed with having COVID-19 infection and his condition was stable. He added that the man had not travelled abroad during the incubation period and his co-living wife and son were asymptomatic but had been directed to quarantine. Upon learning of the case, the Rural Committee contacted relevant village representatives, carried out disinfection work and take all anti-epidemic measures in the village in collaboration with the FEHD. Separately, he suggested that the Government provide additional support for taxi drivers to adhere to anti-epidemic measures, saying they faced high risks of infection because of their frequent contact with foreign visitors.

59. Mr SHUM Ho-kit, JP expressed support for the Government's use of the JPC Centre as a quarantine centre. He said the home quarantine measure was literally problematic and relied heavily on the self-discipline of the people serving quarantine within their own home. He expressed gratitude towards Pat Heung residents for their understanding, saying that they were displaying the Spirit of Lion Rock and supporting Hong Kong with their anti-epidemic efforts. On the other hand, he enquired whether Hong Kong citizens returning from Hubei would be sent to the JPC Centre for quarantine. He suggested that the asymptomatic Hong Kong citizens who were about to enter the city be arranged for a rapid test to check for the disease and be sent to quarantine centre after their test results were negative so as to lower the risks of mutual infection.

60. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the Government was still in discussion about bringing back Hong Kong residents stuck in Hubei while devouring all its efforts to reduce the risk of cross infection.

61. Mr SHUM Ho-kit, JP said that a Grand YOHO resident had been diagnosed with COVID-19 infection the previous night. There had already been news reports on this prior to the issue of an official announcement. He suggested that the authorities improve epidemic information dissemination to avoid causing fear and panic among the public. On the other hand, he enquired whether appropriate isolation arrangements had been made for the family members of the patients concerned and when the homes of the patients would be disinfected and sanitised.

62. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the DH would conduct contact tracing after finding a patient with confirmed infection. The department would then find and identify the close contacts of the patient and send them to a quarantine centre. On the other hand, he understood that the public wanted updates on confirmed COVID-19 cases as soon as possible, but laboratory testing took time and needed to be carefully managed. Contact tracing would not begin until after test results came out. On the other hand, the DH would send relevant updates to the YLDO on the same day of the press conference. The YLDO would then send them to relevant people in the district.

63. Dr THAM May Ked of the DH said that the FEHD would arrange disinfection of the residences of individuals with confirmed infection. She said that the department would arrange quarantined individuals at a quarantine centre to stay in separate units unless they were cohabiting with their family members. She suggested that quarantined individuals avoid any close contact as far as practicable with any other individuals who were also under quarantine.

64. Mr WONG Pak-yu opposed the Government's use of the Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre as a quarantine clinic, saying that the Government had held no extensive consultation with the YLDC or even the residents of the area, which was unfair to the entire community. He criticised the Government for not closing the boundary with the Mainland, worrying that the number of infection cases would continue to rise. He said there might be already people with COVID-19 infection roaming freely around the community. On the other hand, he was doubtful about the effectiveness of the home quarantine measure, saying that reliance on the self-discipline of quarantined people could only trigger a large-scale community outbreak. He also said the Government had failed to handle the outbreak in a proactive and serious manner.

65. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the HA earlier announced the list of 18 designated clinics in various districts that provided suitable hardware facilities to separate patients. He said that the clinics would only treat patients presenting the symptoms of fever, respiratory diseases or mild pneumonia symptoms. Patients with the symptoms could seek consultation at any of the places, including accident and emergency departments as well as private Western and Chinese medicine clinics. The HA had further extended the Enhanced Laboratory Surveillance Programme to all private clinics and hospitals where outpatients with mild symptoms would receive testing and patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infections could be screened out as early as possible.

66. Ms WONG Wing-sze enquired whether the FEHD and the HD would further step up cleaning and disinfection work. She expressed concern about the supply of protective equipment to outsourced cleansing workers and frontline workers. She said some frontline security guards at Tin Yat Estate had not been given any face masks. The management company said that priority had been given to cleansing workers because of the shortage of face masks. She enquired when the HD could guarantee that frontline workers, such as security guards working in public housing estates, would also be given face masks.

67. Mr TSOI Ka-wai of the FEHD said that the department had arranged to clean public toilets in wet markets with a diluted 1:99 bleach solution every two hours while at the same time stepping up cleansing efforts in other parts of the community as well as back alleys that were hygienic blackspots. On the other hand, the FEHD was aware of the shortage of face masks for cleaning contractors, and would thus provide a face mask for each cleansing worker every day. The arrangement would last until mid-March, and would be reviewed afterwards.

68. Mr WONG Pui-chun said that, according to relevant Hong Kong laws, employers should provide their employees with a safe working environment and safety equipment. While the HD normally required contractors to provide their employees with protective equipment, the Government had started distributing face masks to outsourced cleansing workers in spite of the tight supply of face masks amid the epidemic outbreak. The HD would progressively distribute face masks to outsourced cleansing workers through contractors in need of the masks. The assistance, given in the form of mask distribution, had been limited to cleansing workers, excluding security personnel, so the HD would continuously encourage contractors to procure face masks and provide them to security personnel.

69. The Chairman said that the Government provided face masks to cleansing workers while ignoring the needs of security personnel. He said that they worked in the lobby of public housing

and could affect the health of all the residents in the building, so the Government should cater for their needs.

70. Ms CHAN Sze-nga said that many universities were currently conducting research on COVID-19 infection. She enquired whether the Government would provide funding to the research projects and whether other forms of support would be given to the universities in this regard. She also enquired how long it would take to obtain the results of virus testing, how much the virus testing would cost, and whether all people entering the city would be sent to a quarantine centre after virus testing.

71. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the Government supported universities in conducting research on infectious diseases through the Health and Medical Research Fund (“HMRF”) and actively invited universities to conduct research on major health issues. A research team of the University of Hong Kong was currently conducting a related study on the returning passengers of the Diamond Princess cruise ship in Japan. They were under quarantine at Chun Yeung Estate, Fo Tan, and would undergo saliva or blood tests. The Government would give support according to resources availability and the issue proposed by the university’s research team. On the other hand, he pointed out that testing procedures took place at public hospitals, HA laboratories and DH laboratories respectively, where different types of patients were tested. He gave no details about the cost of virus testing.

72. Mr Felix CHEUNG was glad that some Members had expressed support for the use of the JPC Centre as a quarantine centre, saying that this would help dismiss unnecessary speculations among New Territories residents. He enquired what quarantine measures the authorities would take for cross-border drivers after one of them who resided at Grand YOHO had been diagnosed with COVID-19 the previous night. On the other hand, he enquired about the methods used by the authorities to contact visitors from Mainland China, and about the number of Hubei tourists staying in Hong Kong. He also enquired whether the authorities would trace the locations of South Korean tourists.

73. Miss Yandy CHAN of the FHB said that the bureau would arrange medical surveillance for cross-border drivers and record their daily body temperatures and other information. On the other hand, the Government commenced compulsory quarantine measures on 8 February, under which any person arriving in Hong Kong from Mainland China or visiting the Mainland in the previous fortnight had to be placed under home quarantine. The DH staff would record the personal particulars and contact information of inbound visitors at boundary control points, and would also trace their locations by phone or hand strap.

74. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the Government had earlier conducted inspections of all hotels and guesthouses in Hong Kong in order to find all Hubei travellers staying in Hong Kong. All relevant work had been completed. It was found that some of them had left Hong Kong and some others had completed the 14-day compulsory quarantine. The Government was still imposing travel restrictions on people coming from South Korea, and would publish any updates on the situation.

75. Mr HAU Man-kin queried why the Government did not initiate the Major Incident Investigation and Disaster Support System, commonly known as “supercomputer system”, to cope with the epidemic outbreak from the very beginning. He opined that the Government should explore all means to get the situation under control in the early stage.

76. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that when SARS broke out in Hong Kong in 2003, the Police had used the Major Incident Investigation and Disaster Support System, commonly known as supercomputers, to help track the virus transmission chain in the community. The system could process a large amount of data and track the people who had contacted the suspected and confirmed cases of the disease simultaneously. He said that there was no need to use the technology in the early phase of the epidemic outbreak, when not many such cases had been reported. However, the authorities had to ask for police assistance if the number of confirmed cases continued to increase.

77. Mr HONG Chin-wah said that the HD had played a passive role in helping frontline workers, such as cleansing workers and security personnel. He also pointed out that preventive measures had varied at different housing estates.

78. Mr KWAN Chun-sang enquired why the FHB had sent no staff to attend YLDC meetings three conservative times. He said that some housing estates could not carry out cleaning operations in a timely manner as the Government failed to make public the number of home-quarantine cases promptly. Secondly, he complained about the poor performance of DH’s hotline operators, saying that they did not respond to public enquiries effectively. On the other hand, he enquired whether the Government would go ahead with its plan to requisition the Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre as a quarantine clinic even if YLDC Members objected, saying that the Government had yet to consult them on the issue.

79. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the HA announced earlier that the 18 designated clinics located in various districts came with suitable hardware facilities with relevant architectural changes made to them during the SARS outbreak. In the event of any incident associated with public health risks, the HA would provide adequate ancillary services and carefully consider the public’s concerns before designated clinics became operational. On the other hand, when the HA had received an invitation to meet with or communicate with different units, it would make appropriate arrangements according to details of the meeting and manpower resources.

80. Mr KWOK Man-ho said that the Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre was located adjacent to residential and school buildings. He had collected signatures from more than 1 700 local residents and staged a demonstration in the previous week to oppose the proposed requisition of the JPC Centre as a designated clinic. He asked the FHB for the guidelines on setting up designated clinics, and whether any consultation would be conducted in the community. On the other hand, he said that the effectiveness of the home quarantine measure would rely on the self-discipline of the members of the public. He opined that the Government needed to enhance the notification mechanism of the home quarantine measure and to notify local district councillors and property management offices as soon as possible to alleviate residents’ concerns. On the other hand, he called for tougher law enforcement actions against the poor sanitation, waste accumulation and spitting outside the premises of One Sky Mall and Hotel Cozi Wetland. He also said that the HD had not given its workers adequate protective equipment while having difficulty in monitoring the

conduct of cleaning operations at housing estates according to guidelines. He also enquired whether the SWD had provided clear working guidelines or protective equipment for frontline social workers responsible for visiting the home of people in need. Last but not least, he requested the Government to show concern about the situation where ethnic minority residents could not obtain full information about the epidemic outbreak.

81. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the architectural changes made to designated clinics had been completed many years ago and the SARS outbreak led to subsequent changes to the partitions and ventilating systems of general out-patient clinics. On the other hand, people presenting mild symptoms were allowed to seek medical help at designated clinics. He said that he would report public concerns to the HA and make appropriate arrangements. The CHP announced epidemic information through its official website in multiple languages to enhance the dissemination of relevant information among ethnic minorities.

82. The Chairman said that he hoped the YLDC could expedite the formation of a working group catering for ethnic minorities and new arrivals to help them obtain information about the epidemic outbreak.

83. Ms Diana CHU said that all service units under the SWD would provide essential and emergency services only at the moment and its front-line staff would reduce unnecessary home visits and interviews. The SWD would provide any of her colleagues who needed to conduct home visits with face masks and alcohol-based hand sanitisers in accordance with the CHP guidelines.

84. The Chairman enquired whether the HD would make special arrangements for disposal of waste generated by people under home quarantine.

85. Mr WONG Pui-chun said that the HD would constantly monitor contractor performance to ensure sufficient provision of protective equipment for frontline workers. The HD would also collect and dispose of wastes of home-quarantined individuals according to the specified procedures based on the information about their residences as sent by the CHP.

86. Mr Samuel LAI enquired whether the HD, the FEHD and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) would take any specific measures relating to the provision of face masks produced by the Correctional Services Department (“CSD”) to frontline service staff, such as security guards and FEHD drivers. In addition, he enquired whether the provision of CSD-manufactured masks (“CSI masks”) to frontline service staff was a short-term measure and how long it would last.

87. The Chairman enquired whether the government departmental representatives at the meeting had persuaded the Government to provide CSI masks to security guards and other frontline workers. He also suggested the departmental representatives ask their superiors to provide face masks to their frontline colleagues.

88. Mr TSOI Ka-wai said that he would pass the views concerned to the FEHD for

consideration.

89. Mr WONG Pui-chun said that he would pass the views concerned to the HD for consideration.

90. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that he understood that there was probably a shortage of face masks for frontline workers, and that he would request relevant departments to follow up on the situation.

91. Mr Samuel LAI enquired whether the Government had tried to borrow Shek Kong Barracks from the People's Liberation Army as a quarantine centre. He also enquired whether the Government had considered using vacant quarters for senior civil servants at Mansfield Road, the Peak, as a quarantine centre, rather than the newly completed public rental housing ("PRH") blocks.

92. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that it was difficult to answer the questions one by one as to which places had been considered as quarantine centre. While the Administration would provide more quarantine units at the existing quarantine centres, it would use newly completed PRH blocks as quarantine centres to meet the tight schedule for supplying more suitable living units for quarantined individuals.

93. Ms LAI Po-wa said that some PRH tenants who were about to relocate to Home Ownership Scheme flats had said to him that they could not find any decoration company amid the epidemic outbreak to reinstate their PRH flats to their original state and worried that the HD would ask them to pay an occupation fee. He suggested that the HD exercise discretion in handling such cases and extend the notice period of eviction.

94. Mr WONG Pui-chun said that public housing was a precious resource of Hong Kong society, and according to the existing policy, PRH tenants had to vacate their flat and surrender it to the HD within 60 calendar days from the effective date of acquiring another unit of subsidised housing. He said that any case that needed to be handled using discretion for other special reasons would be referred to the concerned Estate Office for follow-up.

95. Mr SZETO Pok-man enquired whether the Government had considered requisitioning the Po Leung Kuk Jockey Club Tai Tong Holiday Camp as a quarantine centre and whether the site would be used as a quarantine centre when the occupancy of the existing quarantine centres had reached their maximum capacity. He hoped that the Government could reply to ease the concern of nearby residents. On the other hand, he enquired whether the Government had ever considered introducing legislation to regulate the prices of face masks on the market. Separately, the FEHD said earlier that the number of prosecutions related to hygiene problems in rural areas had accounted for only five percent of all relevant prosecutions in Yuen Long District. He suggested stepping up law enforcement actions in rural areas to prevent hygiene blackspots from becoming virus breeding grounds.

96. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that it was difficult to answer each and every question as to which sites the Government had considered using quarantine centres. The Government would consider a number of factors when requisitioning a facility as a quarantine centre and building an additional one, such as whether there were already individual toilets and whether there were suitable ventilation systems to meet infection control requirements. On the other hand, he said that he could not answer the question about regulating the prices of surgical masks on the market through legislation. He said that the issue fell within the scope of responsibility of other policy bureaux. He said that the Government was striving to increase the supply of face masks through different methods, such as global sourcing and increasing local mask production capacity.

97. Mr TSOI Ka-wai said that the FEHD had devoted more resources to tackling increasingly rampant illegal dumping activities in rural areas. He welcomed reports by Members about any hygienic blackspots to the department so that more resources could be put in to address them.

98. Mr LEUNG Tak-ming enquired whether the FEHD would arrange outsourced cleansing workers to collect household waste from people under home quarantine in private buildings and clean their homes. Some trade unions reported that the original insurance policies for cleansing workers did not cover the collection of household waste nor classify the ongoing epidemic outbreak as a statutory occupational disease. On the other hand, he suggested strengthening training for cleansing workers in the use of protective equipment, and that the FEHD engage through the independent tendering process service contractors to clean the homes of people under quarantine and dispose of their household waste. Secondly, he suggested that the FEHD put pressure on outsourced cleansing service contractors to provide each of their cleansing workers two face masks per day, in order to prevent them from not using their own resources after being allocated face masks by the Government.

99. Mr TSOI Ka-wai said that the FEHD would provide the service of collecting household waste at the request of people under home quarantine in public and private buildings. The outsourced cleaning contractor was bound by the contract it signed with the Government to carry out cleaning and disinfecting work according to the latest development of the epidemic situation, including the provision of door-to-door waste collection services. Outsourced cleansing service contractors were duty-bound to provide employees with adequate protective equipment to ensure their occupational safety. However, the FEHD would provide the workers with one face mask every day, not only because they had encountered difficulty procuring masks, but also because the Government was sympathetic and concerned about the occupational safety and health of cleansing workers. The arrangements would last until mid-March, and would be reviewed later.

100. The Chairman enquired whether the household waste of people under home quarantine was collected by professionally trained cleansing workers.

101. Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP said that the risk of infection of people under home quarantine was different from that of other groups. The level of supervision required of them was relatively low, and wastes generated at households during self-quarantine would be treated as household waste.

102. Mr NG Hin-wang enquired about details of the contingency plans the Government would roll out in case the epidemic situation worsened. He also enquired about the number of confirmed

infection cases or the number of people under home quarantine that would prompt the Government to set up a quarantine centre. He also enquired about the locations of the premises requisitioned for the purpose. He requested the Government to make public a list of quarantine centres as soon as possible, so that the public could be mentally prepared for their preventive work. On the other hand, he suggested the Government provide a public housing rent waiver for blue-collar workers whose livelihoods had been bruised by the COVID-19 outbreak.

103. The Chairman gave a brief summary of the issue. He said that the Government had not provided sufficient information on the epidemic situation in a timely manner, while failing to respond to enquiries from district councillors. As the Government did not have a good grasp on the situation, it could not address the COVID-19 outbreak effectively. The Government had developed no clear-cut COVID-19 strategy, and thus did not close the city's boundary checkpoints earlier to stop the spread of the disease in local communities. He pointed out that the Government had tried to procure face masks through old-style procedures, while conducting no consultations on the issue of running designated clinics and quarantine centres, arousing opposition in the community. On the other hand, the Government had provided no details of the Anti-epidemic Fund. He hoped that the Government could communicate more frequently with the YLDC, so that district councillors could reflect public views to the Government.

104. The Chairman received five motions from Members, with the first one moved by Mr KWOK Man-ho and seconded by Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze. The motion was as follows:

“This Council opposes the transformation of the Tin Shui Wai (Tin Yip Road) Community Health Centre into a designated clinic for treatment of COVID-19, with no consultation conducted with nor notification to the District Council and members of the public.”

105. The Chairman invited Members to vote on the motion by a show of hands with their names recorded. Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze voted for the motion.

106. The Chairman announced that the motion was carried by an absolute majority of Members, with 31 votes in favour, zero votes against and zero abstaining.

(Post-meeting Note: The Secretariat sent the motion passed by the Members to both the FHB and the DH on 12 March 2020, and forwarded their replies to the Members for reference on 25 March of the same year.)

107. The second motion was moved by Mr Deco LEE, and was seconded by Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze. The motion was as follows:

“This Council requests the SAR Government to provide residents with cash handouts of HK\$10,000 to deal with the COVID-19 outbreak.”

108. The Chairman invited Members to vote on the motion by a show of hands with their names recorded. Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr Jimmy MAN, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze voted for the motion.

109. The Chairman announced that the motion was carried by an absolute majority of Members, with 32 votes in favour, zero votes against and zero abstaining.

(Post-meeting Note: The Secretariat sent the motion passed by the Members to the Financial Secretary of the SAR Government on 12 March 2020, and forwarded his reply to the Members for reference on 30 March of the same year.)

110. The third motion was moved by Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, and was seconded by Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, and Mr WONG Pak-yu. The motion was as follows:

“This Council requests the Government to study the requisition of Shek Kong Barracks near Kap Lung, Hong Kong Disneyland Hotel and its nearby land sites as quarantine centres for isolation and quarantine purposes, instead of all areas adjacent to residential areas and PRH blocks and public facilities in urban areas, in order to cope with the epidemic outbreak in a timely manner and prevent community transmission.”

111. The Chairman invited Members to vote on the motion by a show of hands with their names recorded. Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr

FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, and Mr WONG Pak-yu voted for the motion.

112. The Chairman announced that the motion was carried by an absolute majority of Members, with 30 votes in favour, zero votes against and zero abstaining.

(Post-meeting Note: The Secretariat sent the motion passed by the Members to the FHB, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (“CEDB”), and Security Bureau on 12 March, 2020, and forwarded their replies to the Members for reference on 25 March of the same year.)

113. The fourth motion was moved by Mr SZETO Pok-man, and was seconded by Mr FONG Ho-hin and Mr LEE Chun-wai. The motion was as follows:

“This Council requests the Government to classify face masks as ‘reserve commodity’ to ensure that the public can buy sufficient numbers of them at affordable prices.

COVID-19 has continued to spread, causing panic across the city. There has been a mad rush for certain protective items in many districts, such as face masks, rubbing alcohol, disinfectant spray and sanitising wet wipes. The cost of face masks has spiked sharply due to limited supply. A box of 50 surgical masks is now worth more than HKD1,000.

The SAR Government has done nothing about the problem, allowing businesses to speculate on face masks. Therefore, this Council demands the SAR Government classify face masks as a ‘reserved commodity’ and monitor their prices by limiting the rise of retail prices to no more than 50 percent of the purchase cost, in order to curb unscrupulous practices in the sales of essential preventive items.”

114. The Chairman invited Members to vote on the motion by a show of hands with their names recorded. Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr Jimmy MAN, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze voted for the motion.

115. The Chairman announced that the motion was carried by an absolute majority of Members, with 32 votes in favour, zero votes against and zero abstaining.

(Post-meeting Note: The Secretariat sent the motion passed by the Members to both the CEDB and the Trade and Industry Department on 12 March, 2020, and forwarded their replies to the Members for reference on 24 March of the same year.)

116. The fifth motion was moved by Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, and was seconded by Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching and Mr SZETO Pok-man. The motion was as follows:

“In view of the sudden and severe epidemic situation, and as outsourced cleansing workers have not received sufficient training while outsourced cleansing service contractors have not provided them with sufficient protective equipment or relevant anti-epidemic guidelines, this Council requests the Government to separately invite tenders as soon as possible, and to invite professional companies to bid to discard household waste generated by people under quarantine and COVID-19 patients and to clean their households.”

117. The Chairman invited Members to vote on the motion by a show of hands with their names recorded. Vice Chairman Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr Jimmy MAN, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze voted for the motion.

118. The Chairman announced that the motion was carried by an absolute majority of Members, with 32 votes in favour, zero votes against and zero abstaining.

(Post-meeting Note: The Secretariat sent the motion passed by the Members to both the FHB and the THB on 12 March 2020, and forwarded their replies to the Members for reference on 25 March of the same year.)

119. The Vice Chairman proposed that the YLDC increase the funding for purchase of face masks by \$1 million to cope with their shortage.

120. The Chairman said that none of the Members in attendance objected to the above proposal. They unanimously approved the proposed increase of \$1 million in funding for purchasing face masks, and passed the matter to the YLDO and the Secretariat for follow-up.

121. Mr HONG Chin-wah enquired about the progress of procuring anti-epidemic items with the earlier-approved funding of \$700,000.

122. Mr Nixon NG, Assistant District Officer (Yuen Long), said that the Yuen Long Town Hall Management Committee had been tasked to procure hand sanitisers for \$240,000, which formed part of \$700,000, a funding earlier approved by the YLDC. Separately, the YLDO had purchased alcohol-based hand sanitisers for about \$50,000, while at the same time looking to purchasing face

masks from a suitable supplier with the remaining funding of about \$400,000.

123. The Chairman said that the YLDC had previously approved a total of \$700,000 in funding for the procurement of protective items. After two tender exercises conducted for the procurement of face masks and hand sanitisers, only eligible suppliers of hand sanitisers gave positive responses, with the earliest delivery scheduled for early March this year. On the other hand, the YLDC approved a funding of \$240,000 for the Yuen Long Town Hall Management Committee to purchase hand sanitisers. The tender exercise was underway. As local mask manufacturers had begun to accept purchase orders, he suggested that the YLDC spend a funding of \$1 million on placing orders with them while buying other protective items from suitable non-profit organisations.

124. The Vice Chairman suggested the YLDC set up a non-standing working group on procurement matters related to epidemic prevention to facilitate and accelerate the procurement of epidemic-prevention items.

125. The Chairman said that all Members in attendance raised no objection to the abovementioned proposal and unanimously approved the establishment of the working group. He suggested that the terms of reference of the working group should be "To vet and approve the District Council's funding allocation for epidemic-prevention supplies, and to undertake the procurement of such items". He asked Members interested in joining the working group to raise their hands.

126. Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, and Mr WONG Pak-yu expressed their intention to join the Working Group on Procurement Matters Related to Epidemic Prevention. After discussions and the nomination procedures, Mr LI Chung-chi and Mr KWAN Chun-sang assumed the chairmanship and vice-chairmanship of the working group respectively. The terms of reference of the working group were approved.

127. The Chairman said that he hoped that the working group could hold a meeting as soon as possible and undertake the procurement of epidemic-prevention items. He said that the working group could conduct tender exercises and seek suitable non-profit organisations to assist in the procurement. He suggested that the working group be tasked with undertaking and following up on the procurement of face masks with the funding allocation of \$1 million, which had been approved at the meeting. He stressed that the protective items purchased had to meet the standards and specifications set by the Government. He said that the working group could recommend suitable suppliers of protective items and decide to purchase the items from the suppliers after the YLDO confirmed that the items complied with the specifications and standards of the Government.

**Item III: Question raised by Members: Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Mr TO Ka-lun, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr AU Kwok-ken, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Ms LAI Po-wa, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr LAM Chun,**

**Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze proposed a discussion on “The composition of tear gas, their impacts on the human body, animals and the community, as well as the cleaning up of tear gas residue” (YLDC Paper No. 14/2020)**

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128. The Chairman said that the above item was a matter arising from the minutes of the previous meeting, and welcomed Mr Eric HO, the new District Commander (Yuen Long), to the meeting.

129. Mr Eric HO responded to Members’ enquires about details of a hand-throwing tear gas canister with electric wiring picked up on 21 September 2019. He confirmed that it was a model used by the Police, and believed that the wiring on it was related to activation. He also responded to the Members’ enquiries about the number of tear gas rounds fired to handle the unlawful assemblies taking place in the Yuen Long Police District on 21 September and 21 October 2019 respectively. He said that no relevant data was available, reiterating the reasons why the Police had fired tear gas rounds at that time. In response to the Members’ remarks that some tear gas rounds fell into nearby housing estates on 13 November 2019, he said that about 700 protesters had set fire and set up roadblocks in the vicinity of Tin Shui Wai Police Station, where they kept throwing hard objects and petrol bombs at the police station. This prompted the Police to fire tear gas along Tin Yiu Road to disperse the crowd. However, the Police had no records of tear gas canisters falling into nearby residential areas that day. He reiterated that the Police would not fire tear gas to disperse offenders using no violence, saying that it was not a situation the Police wanted to see if there were any tear gas rounds falling into residential areas causing inconvenience to residents. He said that residents could contact the Police for any financial losses arising from police actions, and that the Police could follow up on such matters in a serious and responsible manner.

130. Mr SZETO Pok-man said that the deputy district commander attending the previous meeting said that he would give details about the weight of each type of tear gas canister after the meeting, but the Police’s supplementary reply did not mention them. He asked the Police representative whether he could provide such information at the meeting.

131. Mr HO Chun-chung, Eric said that he had no such information for disclosure. He reiterated that it was inappropriate to make public sensitive information about the process of procuring police equipment and ammunition or details about the suppliers.

132. The Chairman said that the deputy district commander had said at the previous meeting that he would explore the possibility of disclosing the weights of various tear gas canisters and could provide such information to Members after the meeting as long as the Police could do so.

133. Mr TO Ka-lun expressed dissatisfaction with the response of the Police representative. He said that the Police should no longer mention such words as “thugs” and “illegal assembly” because Members were asking about the components of the tear gas canisters. He requested the Police to accurately answer Members’ questions without declaring their position.

134. The Chairman concluded that he requested the police to give details about the weight of each type of tear gas canisters after the meeting.

**Item IV. Question raised by Members: Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr MO Kai-hong and Mr LI Chung-chi proposed to discuss “Request the Police to follow up on the issue of public security in the villages in the district”**  
**(YLDC Paper No. 29/2020)**

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135. The Chairman, first of all, asked the Police to provide supplementary information.

136. Mr HO Chun-chung, Eric said that the Police had earlier given a written reply. This was followed by the arrest of a man on 15 February this year with 4 900 grams of firecrackers and fireworks seized from a hotel room where he was staying. It was believed that the firecrackers and fireworks were supplied to Yuen Long District. The Police would continue to trace their source and bring the law-breakers to justice.

137. Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin asked about the progress of investigating the attack incident on 30 January this year. He also expressed concern about some people illegally setting off fireworks beside the rail tracks of the West Rail Line and highways in Yuen Long, and hoped that the Police could immediately attend the scene to enforce the law.

138. Mr Eric HO said that the Police attached great importance to the attack incident that occurred at the public transport interchange of West Rail Yuen Long Station on 30 January this year. He said that the case had been transferred to the Regional Anti-triad Unit of the New Territories North Regional Headquarters for investigation. He said that it would be inappropriate to disclose any details at the moment.

139. The Chairman and several other Members (including Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr TO Ka-lun and Mr NG Kin-wai) all expressed concern about the illegal displays of fireworks. They asked whether the Police would conduct a targeted operation and set up a task force to follow up on the investigation. Members also requested the Police to provide details, such as the figures of relevant reports and prosecutions, the location where the fireworks were seized, and the time the Police took to arrive at the scene

140. Mr Eric HO said that setting off fireworks was illegal and posed a danger to the safety of residents. The Yuen Long Police District was handling the case seriously, and mounted a number of intelligence-led anti-crime operations against fireworks displays in Yuen Long in January this year, in which more than 500 kilograms of fireworks were seized at eight locations. The Police would continue to trace the sources of fireworks and firecrackers. On the other hand, the Police would deploy officers to handle any reports of illegal fireworks display upon their receipt, and immediately

arrest anyone who had broken the law. He also responded to the Chairman's question, saying that the Police would make appropriate arrangements, such as stepping up investigations at black spots, and would follow up on the case by inspecting nearby CCTVs to identify the people having illegally set off fireworks, and make arrests. He said that the information asked for by Members was not available and he would provide supplementary information after the meeting, except the figures on 24 and 25 January this year (the 30th and the first day of the Lunar New Year), when the Police received a total of 17 complaints, for each of which police officers had been deployed to the scene to understand the situation. He said he would follow up on Members' reports that some police officers failed to arrive at the scene immediately to handle the incident reported by members of the public. He assured Members that the Police would immediately deploy officers to deal with any incident reported by the public. He also said that the Police would review the use of resources and explore the feasibility of the proposal to set up a special investigation team. He said that Members could also directly contact the Police Community Relations Office for relevant information.

141. The Vice Chairman said that Members were highly concerned about the law and order situation in rural areas, citing that a knife assault that occurred earlier inside an ancestral hall in Ping Shan, where a village representative of Tong Yan San Tsuen had been attacked for the third time. He hoped that the Police would thoroughly investigate the case.

142. The Chairman and several other members (Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Mr LEUNG Tak-ming) also expressed concern about the assault incident. They opined that the Police had to handle this case seriously and consider providing protection for the village representative. They also enquired whether the Police could keep close contact with Members on such cases in the future, such as informing them of the Police action time, the investigation progress and other details.

143. Mr Eric HO said that the Police attached great importance to the assault case that occurred in Ping Shan on 10 February this year. He said the case had been immediately transferred to the District Crime Squad of Yuen Long District for follow-up investigations. A man involved in the case was arrested the next day. He did not rule out that more arrests would be made during the investigation, while at the same time saying that the Police could investigate the case in conjunction with the previous attack incidents experienced by the village representative.

144. Mr Eric HO also said that it would be difficult for police officers to accept the proposal of having them notify district councillors prior to the commencement of their operations. He explained that the Police would make deployments for every operation, and that they did not know the actual situation at the scene, so they needed to ensure their safety. In response to Members' suggestions, he said that the police would release relevant information to the media through on-site press conferences or the immediate release of new reports. The representative of the Police Community Relations Office could contact local district councillors on how information would be disclosed. If investigations were underway, the Police would find it inappropriate to disclose any more details, but would update Members on any breakthroughs made in the investigation.

145. The Chairman, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming and Mr KWOK Man-ho all expressed concern about the illegal parking of vehicles in their constituencies. They enquired about the frequencies of police patrols in villages and the figures about illegal parking.

They hoped that the police officers in charge of their constituencies would contact them for discussion on how to deal with parking violations.

146. Mr Eric HO said that the Police were not only concerned with the problem of illegal parking in rural areas but also in the entire Yuen Long District. He said the Yuen Long Police District would inspect the “black spots” of illegal parking in the district and adopt a target-oriented mode of deployment. He said the Police would also continue to liaise with district councillors to obtain relevant information about the “black spots” and thus deploy manpower to tackling the issue. He said that the Yuen Long Police District had commenced an operation against illegal parking on the Sunday prior to the DC meeting. A total of more than 2,500 fixed penalty tickets had been issued two days ahead of the meeting. The operation would continue to combat the problem.

147. The Chairman said that the current parking violations in Yuen Long District had affected traffic safety and blocked the access to facilities for the disabled. He hoped that the Police would continue to take enforcement actions against parking violations.

148. Mr LI Chung-chi and Mr WONG Pak-yu said that a photo circulating on the Internet on the day prior to the meeting showed that a hawker stall at Yau San Street had been criminally damaged. They asked whether the Yuen Long Police District had conducted investigations into the case, and whether the case was associated with triads. They also asked whether the Police would deploy police officers to patrol the streets again.

149. Mr HO Chun-chung, Eric said that the Police had immediately classified the incident mentioned by the Members as a criminal damage case and handed the case to the Crime Headquarters of the Yuen Long Police District for follow-up investigations. While the investigation was in progress, no triad involvement had been found in the incident. If different motives were found during the investigation, relevant police teams would take over the case. The Police would also review the needs of different areas under the Yuen Long Police District and make appropriate arrangements and manpower deployments. He cited that police resources had been deployed to focus on addressing parking violations.

150. Mr AU Kwok-kuen and Mr LEUNG Tak-ming said that there had been many problems about the right to use roads and land disputes in rural areas. The Police at the scene often could not stop attacks on residents, criminal damage, intimidation, or behaviours mostly targeted at land users. They asked whether frontline police officers had been given guidelines on how to handle village disputes, and said they did not want to see police officers do nothing when residents were being attacked. The Chairman said that on one occasion when he was assisting in dealing with land disputes, the Police officer at scene stood on the sidelines and did nothing about the case, only saying that the landlord had the right to repossess the land. The Chairman then explained to the Police officer that the landlord, despite this, should go through legal proceedings for the restoration of the land. He said that the Police should brief their frontline officers on relevant methods to deal with the situation more clearly.

151. Mr Eric HO emphasised that the Police condemned any violent acts and had “zero tolerance” for unlawful acts related to land use, regardless of the reason or background. He disagreed with the

Members' allegations that police officers had stood on the sidelines while handling land disputes, saying that the Police would probe illegal cases and make arrests in a professional manner and would gather evidence and institute prosecutions. He said that relevant guidelines had always been available to frontline police officers, and that they had once again been reminded as to how to deal with land disputes. He said that the internal guidelines would not be made public.

152. Mr Jimmy MAN opined that land disputes were civil cases and verbal and physical conflicts were commonplace in rural areas. He said the Police could only intervene after physical conflicts occurred. He called on the village representative who felt he was in danger to seek police protection.

153. Mr LEE Chun-wai expressed regret for the police's written reply. He said the Police failed to give specific responses to the questions and suggestions regarding the law and order situation in rural areas. He opined that the police should liaise closely with district councillors on the issue, and provide them with more information on the handling of illegal parking and anti-triad operations in rural areas.

154. Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr Samuel LAI and Mr KWOK Man-ho all expressed dissatisfaction over the Police's handling of noise problems caused by different problems, such as illegal modification of vehicles, underground bars, ethnic minority residents partying until the early morning, and gambling activities in public housing estates.

155. Mr Eric HO said that the Police would definitely send officers to handle complaints from the public immediately. Regarding the complaints involving ethnic minority residents, the Police would educate them by explaining Hong Kong laws. The Police would also step up law enforcement action against unlicensed bars, and send intelligence on illegal modifications to vehicles and illegal racing activities to the Traffic New Territories North Headquarters for follow-up investigations. The Police also attached importance to anti-public order acts in the district and would strictly enforce the law on street gambling. During the past few weeks, the Yuen Long Police District launched a crackdown on street gambling and made arrests in Yuen Long Town and Tin Shui Wai. Such operations would be carried out regularly.

156. Mr NG Kin-wai talked about the wounding incident on 31 January this year. He said that he witnessed the attackers leaving the scene and tried to track them down. However, the riot police at the scene surrounded and ridiculed him, instead of chasing the attackers. He hoped the district commander could follow up on the case. Mr KWOK Man-ho also said that some residents were also concerned about the incident, and requested the Police to update them on the investigation progress.

157. Mr Eric HO responded to the wounding incident on 31 January this year, saying that the Yuen Long Police District immediately deployed the district investigation team and the anti-triad unit at that time to conduct investigations along the route where the attackers escaped. He also said that the Police were trying to track down any suspicious persons, weapons and exhibits, and that the case had been passed on to the Regional Anti-triad Unit of the New Territories North Headquarters for follow-up investigations on the following day.

158. The Chairman said that the Police had just said that it was difficult for them to notify district councillors of their operations in advance, and that it was not until after the investigations of the case that the representative of the Police Community Relations Office would inform local district councillors of their arrangements to disclose information. The Chairman asked the Police about the feasibility of providing district councillors with the methods of contacting the representatives of the Police Community Relations Office of respective areas to strengthen communication.

159. Mr Eric HO said that the Yuen Long Police District had conducted approximately 180 anti-triad operations in 2019, leading to the arrests of more than 2 000 people. During the operation launched in May 2019 to cope with the public order situation in rural areas, the police conducted high-profile patrols at “black spots” of burglaries using intelligence-led methods, thus leading to the solving of 13 cases and the arrests of 13 people. He said that the representatives of the Police Community Relations Office would strengthen communication with district councillors in the future, citing that the deputy district commander accepted the invitation to meet with all district councillors and explain the details and investigations in relation to the wounding incident on 31 January.

160. The Chairman asked whether the Police could notify local district councilors through the Police Community Relations Office of the investigation progress in relation to the cases of concern to them, provided that doing so would not infringe on personal privacy or lead to the revelation of details about the operations. Mr Eric HO said that the proposal was feasible.

161. The Chairman concluded that Members were highly concerned about the law and order situation in rural areas. First of all, the problem of people illegally setting off fireworks and fireworks was deteriorating. He said that fireworks and fireworks were contraband goods but they could still be smuggled into Hong Kong in large quantities, making people worried about border security. He suggested that the Police set up a task force to address the issue. Secondly, the wounding incident on January 31 this year, the multiple attacks on a village representative over the past few years, the criminal damage to a fruit stall at Yau San Street, and the cases of intimidation and criminal damage arising from land disputes in the New Territories were all “blatant challenges” towards the law and order of Hong Kong. He said he hoped the Police would attach great importance to the cases and provide supplementary information at Members’ request after the meeting.

### Matters Arising

**Item V: Question raised by Members: Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Mr TO Ka-lun, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr AU Kwok-ken, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Ms LAI Po-wa, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr LAM Chun, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr HO Wai-pan and Mr WONG Pak-yu proposed to discuss “Hong Kong citizens being denied entry to Mainland China and Macau” (YLDC Paper No. 35/2020)**

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162. As the departments had only submitted written replies but did not send representatives to

the meeting, the Chairman decided to refer the agenda item to the CAPOC for discussion at its second meeting.

**Item VI: Question raised by Members: Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr AU Kwok-ken, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr MO Kai-hong and Mr LI Chung-chi proposed to discuss “Request the MTR to explain its decision to close Yuen Long Station ahead of time on the 21st every month” (YLDC Paper No. 36/2020)**

163. The Chairman welcomed the following representatives of the MTR Corporation Limited (“MTR”) to the meeting:

Operations Manager – West Rail Line and Ma On Shan Line	Mr KIANG Kevin Yee-wing
Public Relations Manager – External Affairs	Ms LAM Yuen

164. Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr Kisslan CHAN and Mr WONG Pak-yu reflected that the early closure of West Rail Yuen Long Station on the 21<sup>st</sup> every month had caused inconvenience to station users. They asked the MTR when the service at Yuen Long Station would resume normal on the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month, saying that no station facilities had been vandalised in recent months. They also enquired about the details of risk assessment, including the Police’s views and the reason for uninterrupted service at Light Rail Yuen Long Station.

165. The Chairman pointed out that the 7.21 incident at Yuen Long Station and the 8.31 incident at Prince Edward Station were the wounds of Hong Kong people. He enquired whether the MTR had decided not to close Prince Edward Station earlier on the 31<sup>st</sup> every month based on risk assessment, and why the risk of opening Yuen Long Station was higher than Prince Edward Station.

166. Regarding the impacts of the early closure of the station on residents, Ms NG Yuk-ying hoped the MTR would consider making a refund to Monthly Pass holders. An enquiry was made by Mr LAM Ting-wai about the feasibility of providing feeder buses at Kam Sheung Road Station, and Mr Kisslan CHAN made a suggestion to the MTR that the Police be requested to assist and open at least one exit on the 21<sup>st</sup> in the coming months to ensure safety and minimise impacts on residents.

167. Mr Kevin KIANG said that since June 2019, the MTR operation had been affected to various degrees. Frontline staff and passengers were harassed and faced safety threats. Some staff members were injured when discharging their duties, creating tremendous pressure on the MTR to maintain safe and stable railway service. The MTR saw the inconvenience to residents by the early closure of Yuen Long Station on the 21<sup>st</sup> every month, but it hoped people would understand that

safety was its priority concern. Every time after the station was closed earlier, the MTR would review and adjust the arrangements.

168. Mr Kevin KIANG said that when conducting a risk assessment, the MTR would consider the previous public events at Yuen Long Station and in the district, the anticipated degree of impact on the services and the safety of staff, passengers and railway operation. The decision would be made after discussing with government departments including the Transport and Housing Bureau (“THB”), the Transport Department (“TD”) and the Police. The MTR would strive to provide public services under a safe condition. Besides, it would listen to the views of the DC and closely follow the latest situation to make the best operational arrangements. For example, on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December, January and February when the station was closed ahead of time, the MTR provided free shuttle buses between Long Ping and Yuen Long Stations to ease the inconvenience to the public.

169. Mr Kevin KIANG continued that the previous decisions of early closure of Yuen Long Station on the 21<sup>st</sup> had been made after risk assessment. Despite that the MTR endeavoured to maintain order during the public event at Yuen Long Station on the evening of 21 August 2019, station facilities had been vandalised. Since then, the MTR had adopted a more cautious approach towards the risk assessment of similar public events which would be held at Yuen Long Station. Ms LAM Yuen said that the MTR had all along adopted the same principle in conducting risk assessment of similar public events which would be held at other MTR stations.

170. Mr Eric HO said that the Yuen Long Police District had not participated in the risk assessment on the early closure of Yuen Long rail station. In general, the Police would conduct risk assessments with various stakeholders and gave advice on public events. He noted Members’ views and would relay them to the relevant police department.

171. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to write to the Railway District about its views on the risk assessment of the early closure of Yuen Long Station on the 21<sup>st</sup> every month.

172. Ms LAM Yuen said she had already reflected to the relevant MTR department Members’ suggestion of offering compensation or a refund to Monthly Pass holders who were affected by the early closure of Yuen Long Station, but no new arrangements were made. The Chairman asked the MTR to give a written reply on whether it would re-consider offering a refund to Monthly Pass holders after the meeting.

173. Mr Kevin KIANG reiterated that the MTR had no alternative but to close Yuen Long Station ahead of time to ensure passengers’ safety. He noted Members’ views and would examine the feasibility. As regards the reasons for closing Yuen Long Station while maintaining the services at Light Rail Yuen Long Station, he explained that the Light Rail with an open design was different from the heavy rail system. When an emergency occurred in a heavy rail station, passengers had to be evacuated in a short time. The factors to be taken into account in operational arrangements were different between the two systems.

174. The Chairman concluded that it had been seven months since the 7.21 Incident and

passengers were most affected by the early closure of Yuen Long Station, not to mention that the MTR shuttle bus service was limited. He believed that passengers took it as a temporary arrangement in the beginning and did not expect it to become a long-term measure. He hoped the MTR would consider resuming normal service at Yuen Long Station soon. Otherwise, it should consider how to compensate the passengers, especially the Monthly Pass holders. He opined that the MTR was not well-prepared to respond to the issue, and had not introduced any practical measures to ease the inconvenience to passengers. He trusted Members would continue to follow the issue up, and asked the MTR to prudently assess the impacts of early closure of the station.

(Post-meeting note: On 5 March 2020, the Secretariat wrote to the Railway District of the Police about its views on the early closure of West Rail Yuen Long Station on the 21<sup>st</sup> every month.)

**Item VII: Question raised by Members: Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LAM Chun, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Ms LAI Po-wa, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr MO Kai-hong and Mr LI Chung-chi proposed to discuss “Concern over the Government’s attempt to spread white terror in the education sector”**

**(YLDC Paper No. 37/2020)**

175. The Chairman said the Government announced on the day of the meeting that school suspension would be further extended until 20 April. Due to meeting time constraint, he proposed that the agenda item be referred to the CAPOC for detailed discussion at the second meeting.

176. Mr Felix CHEUNG suggested that the Education Bureau (“EDB”) representative respond to a case where a vice-principal of a secondary school had been suspended from work due to his individual remarks on a social networking platform.

177. The Chairman believed that similar action was not only taken against the vice-principal. He suggested that Members express their views at the CAPOC meeting. Also, he asked the EDB representative to prepare materials in response to Members’ questions.

**Item VIII: Question raised by Members: Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming and Mr AU Kwok-kuen proposed to discuss “Request for removing the mesh fences along the footbridges in Yuen Long District”**

**(YLDC Paper No. 38/2020)**

178. The Chairman asked Members to take note of the written reply of the Highways Department (“HyD”), which mentioned that the HyD erected the mesh fences upon the request of other departments. He enquired whether the request was made by the Police.

179. Mr Eric HO said that the Police did not make the request.

180. Mr HONG Chin-wah enquired which department had made the decision on erecting the mesh fences and the actual duration of the measure.

181. Mr LEE Chun-wai said that the Government had not consulted Members on the erection of mesh fences. Residents reflected that the footbridges looked like prisons or zoos and showed concerns over fire safety problems. He would also like to know the cost of the mesh fences.

182. Mr LI Chung-chi enquired whether the mesh fences along the footbridges were unauthorised building works.

183. Mr Samuel LAI suggested that the agenda item be discussed in detail at the meeting of the Traffic and Transport Committee (“T&TC”), where Members could raise questions to the HyD representative.

184. The Chairman enquired whether the TD and the Yuen Long District Office (“YLDO”) had a role in the decision-making process of erecting the mesh fences.

185. Ms Christine YUEN of the TD said that the TD had not issued any works order to erect the mesh fences. Mr Enoch YUEN, JP, District Officer (Yuen Long) said that the YLDO had not been involved in the decision.

186. The Chairman decided to refer the agenda item to the T&TC for further follow-up and invited HyD representatives to the meeting.

**Item IX: Question raised by Members: Mr MAK Ip-sing, Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr MO Kai-hong and Mr LI Chung-chi proposed to discuss “Request for objection to converting the Harbour Plaza Resort City in Tin Shui Wai into screen-like residential buildings” (YLDC Paper No. 39/2020)**

187. The Chairman said the District Council of the last term had discussed the agenda item and moved a motion of opposition. However, because the applicant had submitted supplementary information recently, the Town Planning Board (“TPB”) had to consult the public again. The Chairman said he received a motion moved by Ms NG Yuk-ying and seconded by Mr Deco LEE and Mr NG Kin-wai, namely “Request for objection to converting the Harbour Plaza Resort City in Tin Shui Wai into screen-like residential buildings”.

188. Ms NG Yuk-ying said the developer had applied for demolishing Harbour Plaza Resort City in Tin Shui Wai, which would be converted into residential buildings with 5 000 units. It was expected that the population in the district would increase by 10 000. She pointed out that without enhancing ancillary facilities and traffic in the community, the development project would increase the burden on the district, which was unfair to local residents and schools. Therefore, she moved a motion to object the application. The TPB and relevant departments could consider rejecting the application.

189. The Chairman asked Members to vote on the motion by a show of hands with their names recorded. Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr Kisslan CHAN, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr Felix CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr Samuel LAI, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr Deco LEE, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr LI Chung-chi, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr NG Hin-wang, Mr NG Kin-wai, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr WONG Pak-yu and Ms WONG Wing-sze voted for the motion. No Members voted against the motion or abstained from voting.

190. The Chairman announced that the motion was passed by an absolute majority of votes with 29 votes in favour, zero against and zero abstaining.

(Post-meeting note: On 14 January 2020, the Secretariat wrote to the EDB, the Planning Department, the TD and the TPB to relay the motion passed by Members.)

**Item X: Question raised by Members: Mr WONG Wai-yin, Zachary, Mr MAK Ip-sing, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr MO Kai-hong and Mr LI Chung-chi proposed to discuss “The upsurge of suicide cases and missing persons in Hong Kong and Yuen Long District linked to the ‘anti-extradition to China’ movement since June 2019” (YLDC Paper No. 40/2020)**

191. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 40 and the written reply from the Police, and invited them to raise questions.

192. Members raised no questions. The Chairman said that the Police would report the district’s law and order situation and crime figures over the past two months at each meeting. Members could raise questions then.

**Item XI: Question raised by Members: Mr MAK Ip-sing, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Ms CHAN Mei-lin, Mr TO Ka-lun, Mr CHAN King-lun, Kisslan, Mr SHEK King-ching, Mr**

**CHEUNG Sau-yin, Mr FONG Ho-hin, Mr LAI Kwok-wing, Samuel, Mr LAM Ting-wai, Mr LEE Chun-wai, Mr SZETO Pok-man, Mr LEUNG Tak-ming, Mr CHAN Shu-fai, Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Felix, Mr AU Kwok-kuen, Mr HAU Man-kin, Mr HO Wai-pan, Mr NG Hin-wang, Ms NG Yuk-ying, Ms LAI Po-wa, Mr LAM Chun, Ms CHAN Sze-nga, Mr LEE Wai-fung, Deco, Mr NG Kin-wai, Mr HONG Chin-wah, Mr KWOK Man-ho, Mr KWAN Chun-sang, Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr MO Kai-hong, Mr LI Chung-chi and Ms WONG Wing-sze proposed to discuss “A question to the Registration and Electoral Office on suspected vote rigging / two-step verification / queuing / needs of the elderly / the disabled”**  
**(YLDC Paper No. 41/2020)**

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193. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 41 and the written reply from the department. Since the Registration and Electoral Office had not sent any representative to the meeting, the Chairman decided that the YLDC would continue the discussion on this matter at the next meeting.

**Item XII: Endorsement of the terms of reference of the Working Group on Markets and District Bazaars and Working Group on Footbridges and Nullah Decking under the Yuen Long District Council**  
**(YLDC Paper Nos. 42 and 43/2020)**

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194. The Chairman sought Members’ views on the terms of reference stated in Paper Nos. 42 and 43.

195. As Members raised no objection, the Chairman announced that the terms of reference of the Working Group on Markets and District Bazaars had been unanimously endorsed.

196. Regarding the terms of reference of the Working Group on Footbridges and Nullah Decking, Mr Kisslan CHAN proposed to include “To study and advise the Government on how partial decking of nullahs in Yuen Long could help relieve pedestrian and vehicle traffic congestion”.

197. Mr Samuel LAI said that according to Paper No. 43, “Working Group on Footbridges and Nullah Decking in Yuen Long” would be renamed as “Working Group on the Environment and Landscape Planning of Footbridges in Yuen Long”. As the new name of the working group did not contain “nullah”, he suggested Mr Kisslan CHAN to consider renaming the working group again.

198. Mr Kisslan CHAN said as nullahs were part of the landscape planning, he only suggested addition of the proposed terms of reference which he had mentioned earlier.

199. The Chairman said that one of the major tasks of the working group was to handle the planning of nullahs, which should be reflected in the name of the working group.

200. Mr Enoch YUEN, JP said to his understanding of Mr Kisslan CHAN’s view, after the working group was renamed to include “Environment and Landscape Planning”, the idea of nullah decking would be considered. Therefore, it was unnecessary to rename the working group to reflect the new terms of reference.

201. Mr Kisslan CHAN said that the District Officer (Yuen Long)'s understanding was correct.

202. Since Members had raised different opinions, the Chairman said that the terms of reference of the "Working Group on Footbridges and Nullah Decking" could not be endorsed at this meeting. He asked Mr Kisslan CHAN to review and revise the name of the working group and the terms of reference for endorsement by circulation.

203. Members raised no objection.

204. The Chairman asked Members who were interested in joining the "Working Group on Markets and District Bazaars" to raise their hands for the Secretariat's record at the meeting. He re-announced the name list of Members joining the working group at the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat invited Members to indicate whether they agreed on the revised name and terms of reference of the "Working Group on Footbridges and Nullah Decking" by circulation on 6 March 2020. As more than half of the Members indicated support within the designated period, it was agreed that the working group be renamed as the "Working Group on Footbridge Planning and Improvement of Nullah in Yuen Long" and its terms of reference be adopted.)

### **Item XIII: Hong Kong Police Force's report on the district's law and order situation and crime figures over the past two months**

205. The Chairman said it was known that the Police provided the crime figures of the district to the Yuen Long District Fight Crime Committee on a regular basis. As the figures were not available this time, he asked the Police to submit the figures of the past four months together at the next meeting for Members' reference.

206. Mr Eric HO said the Chairman's suggestion was feasible. He said the Police could not provide the figures at this meeting because the year-end figures were under calculation and some cases had to be re-classified. The Police would submit the crime figures of the past four months together at the next meeting.

### **Item XIV: Report on the work progress of District-led Actions Scheme**

207. The Chairman invited Mr Enoch YUEN, JP, District Officer (Yuen Long) and Mr Nixon NG, Assistant District Officer (Yuen Long)<sup>1</sup> to report the latest progress of the District-led Actions Scheme ("DAS").

208. Mr Nixon NG introduced the DAS and its work progress.

209. The Chairman said that Members could suggest action locations to the YLDO.

### **Item XV: Progress reports of Committees**

- (i) **Culture, Arts, Recreation, Sports, Welfare, Education and Public Order Committee (YLDC Paper No. 44/2020)**
- (ii) **Finance and Administration Committee (YLDC Paper No. 45/2020)**
- (iii) **Traffic and Transport Committee (YLDC Paper No. 46/2020)**

210. The Chairman asked Members to take note of the progress reports of the Committees set out in Paper Nos. 44 to 46.

211. Members noted the above three progress reports of the Committees.

#### **Item XVI: Any other business**

212. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had written to Members, inviting them to make nominations for (i) member of the Hospital Governing Committee of Tin Shui Wai Hospital, (ii) the Secretary for Development to consider for appointment to the disciplinary board under sections 5(3A) and 11(4A) of the Buildings Ordinance (Cap 123), and (iii) YLDC representatives serving the fourth Advisory Committee on the Management of Tin Sau Bazaar as members. The Secretariat received a nomination form nominating Ms CHAN Sze-nga as (i) member of the Hospital Governing Committee of Tin Shui Wai Hospital; Mr FONG Ho-hin as (ii) member of the disciplinary board; and (iii) Mr WONG Pak-yu, Mr MO Kai-hong and Mr KWOK Man-ho as members of the Advisory Committee on the Management of Tin Sau Bazaar.

213. Since the nominees were willing to accept the nominations, the Chairman announced that the nominations had been endorsed.

214. Mr CHEUNG Sau-yin enquired whether he could propose the formation of a working group with reference to the previous YLDC, for example, a working group for the reprovisioning of a fish market.

215. The Chairman said Members could raise the matter for discussion at the meeting. He suggested that Members convene meetings of the previously-formed committees and working groups to understand how they were run. Members could discuss with him if they wanted to set up a working group shortly.

216. The Chairman declared that the meeting adjourned and thanked department representatives and Members for their attendance.

Yuen Long District Council Secretariat  
August 2020