

**Minutes of the First Meeting of Community Affairs Committee**  
**under Yuen Long District Council in 2024**

Date: 29 February 2024 (Thursday)  
Time: 2:30 p.m. to 3:25 p.m.  
Venue: Conference Room, Yuen Long District Council, 13/F., Yuen Long Government Offices,  
2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long

**Present**

Chairman : Ms CHIU Sau-han, MH  
Vice Chairman : Mr TANG Sin-hang  
Members : Mr WONG Hiu-shan  
Ms HO Hiu-man  
Mr LI Kai-lap, Riben  
Ms LI Ching-yee  
Mr LAM Chung-yin  
Mr LAM Tim-fook  
Mr YIU Kwok-wai, MH  
Mr SEI Chun-hing  
Mr CHUI Kwan-siu  
Ms MA Shuk-yin  
Mr KWOK Wing-cheong  
Ms CHAN Yin-kwan, Yankie  
Mr CHING Chan-ming  
Mr WONG Yuen-tai, MH  
Mr WONG Siu-chung  
Mr TANG Che-keung, MH  
Ms LAI Yuet-kwan, Fennie  
Mr TAM Tak-hoi

Secretary : Mr YU Cheuk-yin, Victor      Executive Officer (District Council) 6,  
Yuen Long District Office

**In Attendance**

Mr WONG Wing-ho, Allan  
Ms LAU Sze-nga, Vivicia      Senior Liaison Officer (1),  
Yuen Long District Office  
Ms SIN Ka-yiu, Emma      Police Community Relations Officer  
(Yuen Long), Hong Kong Police Force  
Ms YU Siu-lei, Gladys      Senior School Development Officer (Yuen Long) 1,  
Education Bureau

**Item I**

Dr NG Yeung-shing      Service Director (Primary & Community Health  
Care) / Chief of Service (Family Medicine &  
Primary Health Care), New Territories West  
Cluster, Hospital Authority  
Ms LEE Suet-yee  
(transliteration)      Manager, Chinese Medicine Department,  
Hospital Authority

Ms CHU Mo-ha  
(transliteration)

Hospital Manager (Public Affairs and Donation  
Management), New Territories West Cluster,  
Hospital Authority

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### **Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed Members and department representatives to the first meeting of the Community Affairs Committee (“CAC”) of the Yuen Long District Council (“YLDC”) in 2024.

### **Discussion Items:**

**Item I: Mr SEI Chun-hing proposed a discussion on “Enquiry and concern about the general out-patient service of public hospitals and Chinese medicine (“CM”) out-patient service in Yuen Long town centre” (CAC Paper No. 1/2024)**

2. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 1 and the written reply from Hospital Authority (“HA”), and welcomed the following HA’s representatives to the meeting:

Service Director (Primary & Community Health  
Care) / Chief of Service (Family Medicine &  
Primary Health Care), New Territories West Cluster

Dr NG Yeung-shing

Manager, Chinese Medicine Department

Ms LEE Suet-yee

Hospital Manager (Public Affairs and Donation  
Management), New Territories West Cluster

Ms CHU Mo-ha

3. Members’ views and enquiries were summarised as follows:

- (1) Members suggested that the HA collaborate with community organisations to enhance promotion of the mobile application HA Go in the district and to provide technical support to members of the public;
- (2) Members enquired about the usage of the mobile application “18 CM Clinics” and its appointment booking feature. On the arrangement of releasing CM out-patient services quota in phases on an hourly basis, Members suggested that the HA consider opening more appointment sessions to the public in view of the limited quota available;
- (3) Members opined that residents had a keen demand for CM services, yet the number of quota allocated by the HA was far from enough. They enquired about the daily utilisation of the quota for CM out-patient services and suggested that the HA employ additional Chinese medicine practitioners (“CMPs”) and manpower to increase the number of quota; and
- (4) Members enquired whether CM services covered appointment booking service for orthopaedic treatments and follow-up consultations.

4. A consolidated reply provided by Dr NG Yeung-shing and Ms LEE Suet-yee of the HA was as follows:

- (1) At present, the HA endeavoured to promote and educate the public to use HA mobile applications through various channels in different districts, such as Patient Resources Centres and District Health Centres. Help desks were also set up at general out-patient clinics (“GOPCs”) to assist the general public using relevant services. Members’ views on enhancing promotion efforts by way of collaboration had been noted;
- (2) Currently, the quotas for booking GOPC services and CM out-patient services in the next 24 hours were released in phases on an hourly basis through the HA Go application. Elderly Appointment Quotas had also been reserved for patients aged 65 or above. Members of the public could still use another mobile application “18 CM Clinics”, which offered families and care takers an alternative to the telephone appointment channel, in making appointments for CM out-patient services for their elderly family members;
- (3) The quota of government-subsidised CM out-patient services had increased by more than 30 per cent from about 600 000 when it was first launched in March 2020 to 800 000 in October 2023. Additional manpower had been employed by the CM clinics to cope with the increased quota. Government-subsidised CM out-patient services included internal medicine and acupuncture services, while some CM clinics provided Tui-na service in the specialty of Orthopedics and Traumatology. Apart from providing CM services, CM clinics shouldered the responsibility of training CMPs and taking forward scientific research. The HA would conduct timely review on service utilisation in future and strive to enhance services;
- (4) In the past three years, more than 90 per cent of the quota of government-subsidised CM out-patient services in CM clinics in Yuen Long had been utilised. At present, about 20 CMPs of various ranks provided consultation services at these CM clinics. Flexible service arrangement would be made in light of actual operation and manpower; and
- (5) CMPs would arrange for follow-up consultations with patients based on their clinical conditions on the consultation day.

5. The Chairman concluded that the HA was expected to enhance promotion of the mobile applications and to increase the number of quota for out-patient services in order to cope with the pressing medical needs of the general public.

## **Item II: Any Other Business**

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6. Members enquired the Education Bureau (“EDB”) of the deficit in quota for after school care services and the follow-up to emotional support for students. They suggested that the EDB consider increasing the quota for after school care services and extending the service hours.

7. Ms Gladys YU of the EDB said that the After School Care Scheme was a trial programme spearheaded by the Social Welfare Department, service referrals would be arranged by the EDB subject to school resources and students’ needs. In addition, emotional problems of adolescents also concerned the EDB. In this regard, the EDB had proactively launched positive values education and organised emotional support workshops for teachers and students to provide appropriate support for them.

8. Members enquired the Police of youth crime and illegal gambling in the district.
9. A consolidated reply provided by Ms SIN Ka-yiu of the Hong Kong Police Force was as follows:
- (1) The Police had been committed to combating illegal street gambling activities on three fronts, including deploying uniformed officers to conduct patrols at the black spots of such activities, conducting blitz operations at the said locations to arrest individuals engaging in illegal street gambling activities, as well as mounting joint operations with various departments such as the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in removing gambling paraphernalia; and
  - (2) Under Project SUNSHINE launched by the Police, officers were deployed to hold talks at schools regularly and to engage in promotion activities, with a view to fostering positive values among adolescents and curbing juvenile delinquency.
10. The Chairman invited the EDB and the Police to furnish Members with relevant figures in respect of the above items at the next meeting.

**Item III: Date of next meeting**

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11. The Chairman said that the second CAC meeting in 2024 was to be held in the Conference Room of the YLDC at 2:30 p.m. on 25 April 2024.
12. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Yuen Long District Council Secretariat  
April 2024