

**Minutes of the 12th Meeting of
Community Building Committee
Yau Tsim Mong District Council (2012-2015)**

Date: 5 December 2013 (Thursday)
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Venue: Yau Tsim Mong District Council Conference Room
4/F., Mong Kok Government Offices
30 Luen Wan Street
Mong Kok, Kowloon

Present:

Chairman

Mr WONG Kin-san

Vice-chairman

Mr HUNG Chiu-wah, Derek

District Council Members

Mr CHUNG Kong-mo, JP	Mr HAU Wing-cheong, BBS, MH	Mr LAU Pak-kei
Ms KO Po-ling, BBS, MH, JP	Mr HUI Tak-leung	Mr WONG Chung, John
Mr CHAN Siu-tong, MH	Mr IP Ngo-tung, Chris	Ms WONG Shu-ming
Mr CHAN Wai-keung	Ms KWAN Sau-ling	Mr YEUNG Tsz-hei, Benny, MH

Co-opted Members

Mr SIU Hong-ping	Mr CHIU Sung-bun, Ernest
Mr KO Hiu-wing	Mr LAU Kai-kit, Vincent

Representatives of the Government

Mr CHIU Chung-yan, Charlson	Assistant District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong)	Home Affairs Department
Mr CHEUNG Kam-wai	Senior Community Relations Officer, Regional Office (Kowloon West)	Independent Commission Against Corruption
Ms CHUNG Po-yuk	Senior School Development Officer (Yau Tsim and Mong Kok) 1	Education Bureau
Ms WONG Sau-ling, Vicky	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Yau Tsim Mong) 2	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHAN Wai Chun	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong) 2	Social Welfare Department
Mr WONG Sai-kit	Sergeant, Police Community Relations Office (Mong Kok)	Hong Kong Police Force

Secretary

Ms WONG Ka-wing,
Glorious

Executive Officer I (District
Council), Yau Tsim Mong
District Office

Home Affairs Department

In Attendance:

Mrs KWOK LAM
Yee-kwan

Principal Immigration Officer
(Documents)

Immigration Department

Mr SO Chi-keung

Assistant Principal Immigration
Officer (Documents)

Immigration Department

Mrs CHAN LEUNG
Wai-kit, Teresa

Chief Immigration Officer
(Documents Management)

Immigration Department

Dr LAU Kin-wah, Kevin, JP

Chairman of the Promotion and
Development Sub-Committee

Community Investment and
Inclusion Fund

Ms Winnie YING

Secretary General

Community Investment and
Inclusion Fund

Ms Rebecca WONG

Assistant Secretary General
(Project Management)

Community Investment and
Inclusion Fund

Ms DING Shuk-wah, Alice

Assistant District Social Welfare
Officer (Kowloon City/Yau
Tsim Mong)¹

Social Welfare Department

Mr TANG Fuk-kin

Chief Health Inspector 1

Food and Environmental
Hygiene Department

Mr LEUNG Fo-man

Senior Health Inspector
(Cleansing/Pest Control)

Food and Environmental
Hygiene Department

Mr LI Kam-hung, Joe

Principle Estate Officer/Kowloon
West (North)

Lands Department

Mr TAI Seung-kun

Engineer/Yau Tsim

Transport Department

Ms LEE Sze-yan, Jane

Principal Assistant Secretary
(Poverty)

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Absent:

Mr CHOW Chun-fai, BBS,
JP

District Council Member

Mr WONG Man-sing, Barry,
MH

District Council Member

Ms LEE See-yin, Leticia

Co-opted Member

Mr KONG Pui-wai

Co-opted Member

Mr TANG Ho-bun

Co-opted Member

Mr Mohammad Munir
KHAN

Police Community Relations Officer, Hong Kong Police Force
Yau Tsim District

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. He said that Ms CHUNG Po-yuk, Senior School Development Officer (Yau Tsim and Mong Kok) 1 of the Education Bureau

(“EB”) attended the meeting on behalf of Mrs LING SO Ka-lan, Jacqueline while Ms CHAN Wai-chun, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong) 2 of the Social Welfare Department (“SWD”) stood in for Ms WONG Yin-yee at the meeting. Besides, Mr Mohammad Munir KHAN, Police Community Relations Officer, Yau Tsim District of the Hong Kong Police Force was absent from the meeting and Mr WONG Sai-kit, Sergeant of the Police Community Relations Office (Mong Kok) attended the meeting on behalf of Ms HONG Yuen-kwan, Natalie. He also reported that Mr Barry WONG, Ms Leticia LEE and Mr KONG Pui-wai were absent due to other commitments.

Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

2. The Chairman said that the Vice-chairman’s proposal of amendment was set out in Annex 1 for Members’ information.
3. Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed with amendments.

Item 2: Financial Position of Yau Tsim Mong District Council (“YTMDC”) Funds as at 25 November 2013 (YTMCBC Paper No. 58/2013)

Item 3: Funding Application from Yau Tsim Mong District Fight Crime Committee for Organising Crime Prevention Activities (YTMCBC Paper No. 59/2013)

4. The Chairman proposed discussing papers concerning YTMDC funds (Items 2 and 3) together. There was no objection. He reminded Members to fill in the form on declaration of interests on the table if necessary.
5. Members noted the financial position of YTMDC Community Involvement Funds as at 25 November 2013 and endorsed funding applications of item 3 (YTMCBC Paper No. 59/2013).
6. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the discussion on this item.

Item :4 Progress of Relocation of West Kowloon Office and Kowloon Births Registry of Immigration Department (YTMCBC Paper No. 60/2013)

7. The Chairman welcomed Mrs KWOK LAM Yee-kwan, Principal Immigration Officer (Documents), Mr SO Chi-keung, Assistant Principal Immigration Officer (Documents) and Mrs Teresa CHAN, Chief Immigration Officer (Documents Management) of the Immigration Department (“Imm D”).
8. Mrs KWOK LAM Yee-kwan and Mr SO Chi-keung gave a Powerpoint presentation to briefly introduce the contents of the paper.

9. Ms KWAN Sau-ling said that as people might queue up along the staircase at the corner of the market complex for quotas offered by the new West Kowloon Office and the Kowloon Births Registry of the Immigration Department (“Imm D”), she proposed that the Imm D should confer with the Highways Department (“HyD”) about the paving of anti-slippery materials there. Moreover, since the new office was located next to a refuse collection point (“RCP”) with many refuse collection vehicles pulling in and out every day, she also suggested applying double yellow lines to mark a no-parking zone on the road section outside the new office to ensure pedestrian safety.

10. Ms KO Po-ling pointed out that the above staircase was situated near an air exhaust and the public might find it uncomfortable queuing there.

11. The Vice-chairman would like to know the number of quotas issued by the new office each day and the service allocation proportion among applicants queuing for quotas, using self-help kiosks and on-line appointment booking. Besides, he hoped that the Imm D could erect a shade canopy for use of the queuers.

12. Mr HAU Wing-cheong welcomed the adding of self-help kiosks at the new office. He agreed that a shade canopy be erected at the above staircase to free the queuers from the toilsome caused by unfavourable weather conditions. Since the new office was located near a RCP with many refuse collection vehicles pulling in and out, he also expressed concerns for the environmental and hygienic nuisances caused to the public queuing at the staircase. He hoped that the Imm D and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”) would improve the situation. In addition, he also enquired about whether the new office would retain the telephone appointment booking service.

13. Mr CHUNG Kong-mo appreciated the provision of a baby-sitting room at the new office. He enquired whether the Imm D would install closed-circuit television system inside and outside the office to monitor queuing order and curb the scalping of quotas by lawbreakers. He also expressed concerns on the environmental and hygienic conditions of the RCP next to the new office and required that anti-slippery materials be paved and stair handrails provided on the staircase at the corner where the public queued. Moreover, he proposed to put up indication signs and improve lighting installations at suitable locations along Kimberley Road to facilitate the public to visit the new office.

(Mr Chris IP joined the meeting at 3 p.m.)

(Mr CHAN Siu-tong joined the meeting at 3:01 p.m.)

(Mr Ernest CHIU joined the meeting at 3:02 p.m.)

14. Mrs KWOK LAM Yee-kwan responded as follows:

- (a) After moving to Tsim Sha Tsui, the West Kowloon Office of the Imm D would maintain the existing arrangement of issuing temporary number tags for the public queuing outside the office from 2:30 a.m.
- (b) To prevent the hogging of quotas for sale, security personnel would take down the applicants’ information when they issued the temporary number tags starting from the wee hours. Each queuer could only make one registration per day for two applicants at most. When an applicant with a temporary number tag came to collect a computer number tag before 8:30 a.m.

and process his/her application at the counter, the name on his/her proof of identity must tally with the name registered under the temporary number tag. Otherwise, his/her number tag would be invalid. Since the implementation of the above measures, the selling of queue places and walk-in quotas by “queuing gangs” were effectively curbed.

- (c) The office at Kimberley Street was much larger than the existing Yau Ma Tei Office, providing enough space for the public to wait indoor. Apart from increasing the number of quotas, the new office would also open one hour earlier to allow the public to queue inside, thereby minimising their time queuing outside.
- (d) The Imm D would contact the HyD later to explore and examine the feasibility of paving anti-slippery materials on the staircase at the corner of Kimberley Street.
- (e) The Imm D had requested the Transport Department (“TD”) to designate the road section adjacent to the new office as a double yellow line zone and the TD was still considering that. The Imm D would issue a letter to the TD in due course to relay Members’ views on the designation of a “No Stopping” zone there.
- (f) The Imm D had been very concerned about the environmental and hygiene conditions of the RCP located next to the new office as well as the cleanliness of the nearby Kimberly Street. Letters had been issued to the FEHD in the past few months, requiring improvement on the unpleasant odours as well as the environmental and hygienic problems engendered. Meetings were held with the representatives of the FEHD to discuss improvement measures on the hygienic conditions of the area near the new office, including how these measures should be implemented. The Imm D would maintain close communication with the FEHD on the issues concerned.
- (g) The Imm D would ask the Police to follow-up on the illegal parking problem of motorcycles at the back lane of the new office so that the pedestrian passage could be used for the public to queue up.
- (h) The Imm D had requested the MTR Corporation Limited to put up indication signs at Tsim Sha Tsui MTR Station Exit B2 to provide clear indications for people going to the new office.

15. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the discussion on this item.

**Item :5 Introduction to Community Investment and Inclusion Fund
(YTMCBC Paper No. 61/2013)**

16. The Chairman welcomed Dr Kevin LAU, Chairman, Ms Winnie YING, Secretary General and Ms Rebecca WONG, Assistant Secretary General (Project Management) of the Promotion and Development Sub-Committee of the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (“CIIF”).

17. Dr Kevin LAU, Ms Winnie YING and Ms Rebecca WONG gave a Powerpoint presentation to briefly introduce the contents of the paper.

(Mr SIU Hong-ping left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.)

18. Ms WONG Shu-ming said that there were no public estates in the Yau Tsim Mong (“YTM”) District and it was very common for local organisations to hire venues for organising activities. She suggested that the Committee of the CIIF should take into account the high rentals when vetting funding applications. She also asked would the Committee contact the District Office (“DO”) and the SWD when vetting applications according to the needs of the community.

19. Mr HUI Tak-leung wanted to know how the Committee could ensure the funds were properly used by these organisations and how the effectiveness of these funded projects were evaluated. He hoped that the Committee would not give funding approvals to local organisations in a rashly manner just because the number of funding applications in the YTM District was small.

20. Mr John WONG would like to know whether the funding ceiling of each project was \$3 million and the maximum funding period was five years. If yes, he called into question the continuity of these projects. He also enquired about how the Committee would monitor the effectiveness of those funded projects. Besides, he had reservations about the saying of the CIIF’s representatives that the changes in the community of Tin Shui Wai owed something to the funding provided by the CIIF.

21. Mr CHAN Wai-keung asked the representatives of the CIIF to briefly introduce the funding criteria and conditions to be observed by the funded organisations. Moreover, he pointed out that some parts of the tenth anniversary commemorative book published by the Committee of the CIIF needed to be updated.

(Mr Benny YEUNG joined the meeting at 3:45 p.m.)

22. Ms KO Po-ling said that applicants had to go through trivial administrative procedures before they could get the funding and this might deter would-be applicants from making application. Besides, she reckoned that due to the high rentals in the YTM District, the cross-sectoral collaboration model might not suit this district.

23. In response, Dr Kevin LAU said that the CIIF aimed at promoting community participation through the cross-sectoral collaboration model so that the concept of social capital could take root for the building of a love and caring Hong Kong. It was hard to evaluate its effectiveness by a set of objective criteria. Moreover, through the funding of district projects and public promotional activities, the CIIF strived to foster cross-sectoral collaboration and district participation, as well as promoting mutual assistance and social inclusion. As such, it was unlikely for the CIIF to provide funding for one single specific item like rentals. He also thanked Mr CHAN Wai-keung for his comments on the contents of the tenth anniversary commemorative book and said that the Committee would review the contents of the book.

24. Ms Winnie YING responded as follows:

- (a) The Committee would consult relevant bureaux and departments in the light of the theme and characteristics of each project. In general, the Committee would consult the views of the DO concerned and the SWD and required the Authority to provide information such as the background of these organisations and their experience in organising activities for reference.
- (b) The Committee would interview the representatives of these organisations and provide suggestions for their projects under application. The applicants could revise their applications if necessary. The applicants had to submit quarterly report to the Committee after the funding was approved while the Committee would conduct at least two site-inspections during the funding period. Taking into account the stakeholders' views, the Committee would review comprehensively the effectiveness of the funded projects.
- (c) The CIIF had conducted two evaluation exercises on the effectiveness of the funded projects in 2004-2006 and 2010-2012. The first one was carried out by the City University of Hong Kong to assess the results of the funded projects on social capital building while the second one was conducted by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University ("PolyU") to evaluate the changes brought about by the funded projects in Tin Shui Wai. The PolyU had carried out questionnaire survey and interviews for a dozen of funded organisations and related participants. A sampling survey for local residents was also conducted. The results showed that the residents agreed that the CIIF had brought positive changes to and built social capital for the community of Tin Shui Wai. The PolyU confirmed the results of the survey in 2012 and held a seminar in October 2013 to share with various sectors the successful experience of Tin Shui Wai.
- (d) As for the continuity of the projects, the CIIF would provide a funding period of three years in general, with no funding ceiling. After the completion of the three-year funding period, the organisation had to conclude the results of the project and submit second phase application to the Committee. The Committee would vet the second phase application based on the effectiveness and continuity of the project.
- (e) The 11 assessment criteria were available on the website of the CIIF. The public could also download the application form and application guide therein. The Committee would hold briefing sessions regularly on the application criteria of the CIIF.

25. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the discussion on this item.

Item :6 To Seek Attention of Social Welfare Department to Street Sleepers in Mong Kok
(YTMCBC Paper No. 62/2013)

26. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 2) of the SWD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He then welcomed:

- (a) Ms Alice DING, the Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong) 1 of the SWD; and
- (b) Mr TANG Fuk-kin, the Chief Health Inspector 1 and Mr LEUNG Fo-man, the Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing/Pest Control) of the FEHD.

27. Mr HUI Tak-leung supplemented the contents of the paper. He raised concerns about the environmental and hygienic as well as the drug problems caused by street sleepers in the district. He hoped that the SWD, the FEHD and the Police would face the problem and come up with a long-term solution to it. He reckoned that street-sleeping was a long-standing problem in the district and the government departments had failed to tackle it effectively. The Authority should review the relevant policies.

28. Ms Alice DING responded that the integrated services provided by the Integrated Services Team for Street Sleepers subvented by the SWD included day and late-night outreaching visits, emergency shelter and short-term hostel placement, counselling, employment guidance, personal care (e.g. bathing, hair-cutting and meal service etc.), emergency relief fund to cover various expenses, such as short-term payment of rent and living costs, rental deposit and other removal expenses etc., aftercare service and service referrals etc. The wide range of support services provided by the Integrated Services Teams aimed to address the emergency needs of street sleepers and enhance their work motivation and skills so as to help them give up street sleeping and become self-reliant as far as possible. Individuals including street sleepers who had pressing housing needs but were unable to solve the problems themselves might approach integrated services centres ran by the SWD or non-governmental organisations (“NGOs”) for assistance. Based on actual situations and the needs of each individual case, these centres would provide assistance to the person concerned including the provision of short-term financial assistance, arranging them to stay in hostels run by NGOs or apply for public housing units.

29. Mr LEUNG Fo-man responded that the FEHD would participate in the joint clean-up operations organised for the district by the YTMDO. As for the exit of the Soy Street/Portland Street Subway and the area underneath the flyover at Tak Cheong Street (beside Fairwind Court) mentioned in the discussion paper, the FEHD had deployed staff to remove the miscellaneous items and clean up the places on 1 and 2 December 2013. He added that the FEHD would pay special attention to the hygienic situation of these two places.

30. Mr John WONG asked did the government departments have any solution to solve the street-sleeping problem in the district.

31. Mr HUI Tak-leung said that street sleepers started to gather at the exit of the Soy Street/Portland Street Subway and the area underneath the flyover at Tak Cheong Street (beside Fairwind Court) recently. Relevant departments should handle the new cases promptly and properly lest street sleepers would be accustomed to gathering in the same place, making it even harder for the departments to deal with the problem.

32. Ms KWAN Sau-ling said that she noticed that in the last two weeks there was a man slept rough at the open space at Granville Road underneath a flyover heading for Tsim Sha Tsui East. She hoped that the SWD and relevant departments would follow up that case as soon as possible. She reckoned that new cases should be handled promptly, otherwise it would be much more difficult for the departments to deal with them later.

33. Mr HAU Wing-cheong said that new street-sleeping cases should not go unheeded. He pointed out that street sleepers mostly congregated inside subways and underneath flyovers and that was not a problem unique to the YTM District. For example in the Happy Valley District, there were always a dozen of street sleepers congregating inside the subway leading to the race course. He urged the SWD to investigate the causes of the street-sleeping problem so as to find out feasible solutions to it.

34. Ms KO Po-ling said that the YTM District had long been troubled by the street-sleeping problem. The District Management Committee (“DMC”) of the YTM District Council had made street-sleeping problem its major agenda item and various government departments had also taken cross-departmental follow-up action on this issue. However, facing the current situation, the Government should review the existing policies and legislations so that new cases could be dealt with expeditiously. She opined that the SWD should provide proper counselling services to street sleepers repeatedly refused to accept SWD’s assistance.

35. Mr CHUNG Kong-mo recounted that the departments concerned had reported in detail the follow-up action taken on street-sleeping problem at each DMC meeting in the past six years. Councillors had also repeatedly requested them to help street sleepers give up street sleeping as far as possible. He further stated that some 20 complaints were received recently about street sleepers congregating underneath the Ferry Street Flyover near the Cherry Street Park. They pitched tents and placed planks and mattresses there, posing environmental and hygienic problems. Moreover, the location was near a highway and some drivers were worried that their bulky objects might be blown to the road, compromising driving safety.

36. Mr Benny YEUNG said that in the last two months, there were two to three street sleepers congregating at the open space in front of the Yau Ma Tei Jade Market. He asked the SWD to provide counselling and assistance to them and hoped that relevant departments would take joint action swiftly after identifying new cases.

(Ms KO Po-ling left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.)

37. Mr CHAN Siu-tong said that the SWD should lose no time to provide assistance and counselling to street sleepers who had started to sleep rough for only two weeks, with a view to helping them give up street sleeping. He also pointed out that many street sleepers in the district were ethnic minorities, therefore the SWD should consider hiring ethnic minorities to help persuade them to quit street sleeping.

38. The Vice-chairman opined that the earlier the SWD or its appointed NGOs intervened, the more effective it would be in solving the street sleeping problem. He recalled that he had once promptly referred several new street-sleeping cases in the Tsim Sha Tsui West Constituency to the SWD within two to three days after they were discovered. All these cases were effectively followed up by the SWD and the relevant NGOs. Besides, he enquired about how the SWD or the NGOs could identify and be aware of new street-sleeping cases. He also wanted to know how the SWD would follow up on the cases which could not be solved immediately.

39. The Chairman said that the SWD would report the street-sleeping problem in the district and explain how assistance was provided to street sleepers at various identified

locations during the DMC meeting held every two months. He asked whether the SWD would consider providing written reports on the street-sleeping problem for the DC or the Community Building Committee (“CBC”) meeting to allow better understanding of the public towards how the government departments would assist street sleepers and solve street sleeping problem in the district.

40. Ms Alice DING responded as follows:

- (a) The SWD suggested that the DC or the CBC should explore the possibility of obtaining relevant papers directly from the DMC for reference.
- (b) The SWD would obtain information on new street-sleeping cases from Councillors, “1823” hotline, SWD hotline etc. After receiving a case, the SWD would refer it to the Salvation Army’s Integrated Services Team for Street Sleepers (“Salvation Army”), a team specialised in providing service for street sleepers in the YTM District. The integrated services provided by the Salvation Army included day and late-night outreaching visits, emergency shelter and short-term hostel placement, counselling, employment guidance etc. The SWD had referred the cases mentioned by Councillors and new ones for the Salvation Army to follow up.
- (c) The SWD would discuss with the Salvation Army on a regular basis the policies on street-sleeping problem and review the follow-up work on individual cases.

(Mr Vincent LAU joined the meeting at 4:35 p.m.)

41. Mr LEUNG Fo-man responded that the FEHD would follow up on the environmental and hygienic problems caused by street sleepers in the district.

42. Mr HUI Tak-leung was dissatisfied that the Authority has left the street-sleeping problem unresolved for such a long time. He opined that this was because the SWD’s policies could not fully address the actual accommodation needs of street sleepers and the requirements of the Street Sleepers Shelters were too stringent. He emphasised that the SWD should embrace new ideas when formulating relevant policies.

43. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the discussion on this item.

Item :7 Community Environmental Improvement to Minimise Mosquito Impact on Health of Students
(YTMCBC Paper No. 63/2013)

44. The Chairman welcomed:

- (i) Ms CHUNG Po-yuk, Senior School Development Officer (Yau Tsim and Mong Kok) 1 of the Education Bureau;
- (ii) Mr TANG Fuk-kin, Chief Health Inspector 1 and Mr LEUNG Fo-man, Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing/Pest Control) of the FEHD; and

- (iii) Mr Joe LI, Principle Estate Officer/Kowloon West (North) of the Lands Department.

45. Mr KO Hiu-wing briefly introduced the paper.

46. Mr LEUNG Fo-man responded that the FEHD had received four complaints since January 2013 about the overgrowth of weeds and mosquito infestation on the Government land at 18 Hoi Fan Road, Tai Kok Tsui. At present, the FEHD would apply pest control measures every seven days at that location such as removing stagnant water inside the gullies and spraying mosquito larvicidal oil. He further stated that the vacant site certainly had mosquito problem and the FEHD had informed immediately relevant departments when they found out that the weeds there had been overgrown in July. After receiving complaints from Councillors, the FEHD had paid visits to the school concerned on 11 September and 15 November to teach school staff how to remove stagnant water. The FEHD would provide further technical assistance to mitigate the mosquito problem if necessary.

47. Ms CHUNG Po-yuk responded that the Education Bureau (“EB”) attached great importance to student health. After receiving the discussion paper on this item, the EB has immediately contacted the Tai Kok Tsui Catholic Primary School (Hoi Fan Road) to follow up the issue. An on-site visit was also conducted in the morning of the date the meeting was held to meet the principal and the teachers and to keep abreast of the latest developments. The principal said that they suspected that there was mosquito infestation inside the school on 22 November and contacted the Drainage Services Department (“DSD”) on 25 November. The DSD went to the school and sprayed liquid mosquito-repellant there on 28 November. The school had also made arrangement to spray Dettol inside the school that day and the next one. Moreover, a horticulture firm was called in by the school to prune vegetation, clear dead leaves and spray pesticides inside the school on 4 December. The principal informed us that the situation has been improved. Since insects and mosquitos would inevitably be attracted to a green campus and the relevant departments had followed up the issue in a timely manner, they did not inform the district education office of the EB for follow-up action. She emphasised that the school could contact district education office of the EB directly if necessary and the EB will provide assistance and support to them.

48. Mr Joe LI responded that the Lands Department attached great importance to the cleanliness of the fenced off Government sites and four rounds of weed cutting would be arranged for this type of land every year. The Lands Department had sprayed mosquito larvicidal oil and cleaned up refuse on the Government land at 18 Hoi Fan Road, Tai Kok Tsui in January, April, August and October this year. The frequency of weed cutting for fenced off Government sites would also increase during rainy season and when the threat of Dengue Fever was high. In respond to Members’ concerns, the Lands Department had inspected the fenced off site in late November. Apart from closely monitoring the growth of weeds, the Lands Department would also arrange a contractor to cut the weeds there in late December or early January 2014.

49. Mr John WONG added that he and Ms KO Po-ling had submitted the discussion paper to the CBC on the same day after they had visited the site. He hoped that the departments concerned and the school could step up co-operation in the future to eliminate mosquito breeding.

(Mr HAU Wing-cheong and Mr Vincent LAU left the meeting at 4:55 p.m.)

50. Mr KO Hiu-wing demanded that the Lands Department should deploy staff to cut weeds and spray mosquito larvicidal oil at fenced off Government site every two months to contain the breeding of mosquitoes.

51. Mr Joe LI reiterated that the Lands Department attached great importance to the cleanliness of the fenced off Government sites and four rounds of weed cutting would be provided for this type of land every year. During rainy season and when necessary, the frequency of weed cutting would even increase. He further stated that if the school concerned was still affected by mosquito infestation, they could contact the Lands Department or the Lands Administration Office of that district. The department would pay on-site visit and deploy staff to cut the weeds on the fenced off vacant land nearby.

52. Mr LEUNG Fo-man responded that when Japanese Encephalitis broke out in June and July this year, the Government had once set up an Inter-departmental Working Group to deal with the mosquito infestation problem. As winter was coming and the ovitrap index might dip to an extremely low level, the Inter-departmental Working Group would only start operating in March or April 2014. The Authority would review whether there was any method to contain the breeding of mosquitoes in the district more effectively. In the coming two months, the FEHD would investigate the source of the mosquito infestation which had affected the school.

53. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the discussion on this item.

**Item 8: Demand for Provision of Barrier Free Access Facilities near Wylie Court
(YTMCBC Paper No. 64/2013)**

54. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 3) of the HyD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He then welcomed Mr. TAI Seung-kun, Engineer/Yau Tsim of the Transport Department (“TD”) and Mr Charlson CHIU, Assistant District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong) of the Home Affairs Department.

55. The Vice-chairman briefly introduced the paper.

56. Mr. TAI Seung-kun would like to know the exact location of the staircase mentioned in the discussion paper.

57. The Vice-chairman said that the staircase led to the Pakistan Association.

58. Mr. TAI Seung-kun said that some of the maintenance works for the pedestrian passage mentioned by the Vice-chairman were not the responsibilities of the TD and the HyD. As for the staircase leading to the Pakistan Association, the TD had requested the HyD to explore the feasibility of replacing it with a ramp. He further stated that the pedestrian passage between the Pakistan Association and Wylie Court was a private road. As such, it was difficult for the Government to provide barrier free access facilities for the pedestrian passage.

(Mr KO Hiu-wing left the meeting at 5 p.m.)

59. Mr Benny YEUNG asked the TD when they could submit the result of the feasibility study on the above ramp. He also demanded the TD to make clear during the meeting which section of the passage was private one and which was managed by government departments. He asked the TD to make explanation by using a plan for easy reference of the attendees. Moreover, he hoped the TD would explain how the government departments would take follow-up action on the issue relating to private roads.

60. Mr Chris IP worried that if the staircase was to be replaced by a ramp, the gradient might not suit the needs of people with disabilities. He hoped that the departments concerned could consider at one time several options that could facilitate access of people with disabilities.

61. The Vice-chairman said that according to the written response of the HyD, the pedestrian facilities near Wylie Court were under the purview of the TD. The representative of the TD claimed that they had asked the HyD to explore the feasibility of providing a ramp. He wanted to know TD's role in improving the barrier free access facilities near Wylie Court and the Pakistan Association. He emphasised that the Authority had to comply with the current barrier free access policy when improving the barrier free access facilities at the above site. He further stated that there was once a person injured when participating in sports activities in the Pakistan Association. Since the association did not provide any parking space, the ambulance could only pull up at its main entrance, causing obstruction to traffic flow. He asked the representative of the TD to distinguish the section managed by departments from the private one using a plan as well as explaining how the department would follow up the proposal of adding barrier free access facilities at private road sections

62. Mr. TAI Seung-kun said that he had a plan provided by the HyD, with a red circle marking out the area under the purview of the TD and the HyD. He further stated that the TD had asked the HyD to conduct a feasibility study on the provision of a pedestrian ramp, in the hope that the HyD could submit the preliminary results in two to three weeks.

63. Mr Charlson CHIU suggested that the TD should make reference to the information of the Lands Department to further study a possible option.

64. The Vice-chairman was dissatisfied that the Authority could not provide a plan of the road section concerned and failed to make clear how to follow up the proposal of replacing the staircase with a ramp. He reckoned that the Councillors' demands were very clear in view of the inconvenience caused to people with disabilities when accessing the Pakistan Association and the fact that ambulances could only park outside the main entrance of the association. He hoped that the District Officer could co-ordinate relevant departments to take follow-up action on the above proposal and requested to continue the discussion of this item under "Matter Arising" at the next meeting.

65. Mr. TAI Seung-kun said that he was willing to provide the Councillors with the plan from the HyD. He restated that the area marked with a red circle was under the purview of the TD and the HyD while the pedestrian passage between the Pakistan Association and Wylie Court was a private road.

66. Mr Benny YEUNG agreed that the meeting should continue the discussion of this item at the next meeting. He also requested the DO to confer with relevant departments on how to follow up on the Councillors' proposals.

(Mr CHAN Wai-keung left the meeting at 5: 10 p.m.)

67. Mr HUI Tak-leung hoped that the Assistant District Officer could co-ordinate the related work. He indicated that the departments concerned and the Councillors with documents to present should discuss the issue before the next meeting to facilitate the reporting of the progress made.

68. The Vice-chairman opined that since the above road section might involve private ownership, it would be more suitable for the DO to take up the co-ordination work.

69. The Chairmen asked the Members whether they agreed to continue the discussion of this item at the next meeting. There was no objection.

70. The Chairmen announced that this item would be discussed at the next meeting. He hoped that the Assistant District Officer would be responsible for the relevant co-ordination work.

(Post-meeting note: The DO had made an enquiry to the Lands Department on the ownership of the land concerned and was informed that the road section between the Pakistan Association and Wylie Court was owned by Wylie Court. The details were explained to the Vice-chairman. Since the road section was privately-owned, the Government had no authority to carry out any works there.)

Item 9: Request for Study on Normalisation of Food Bank Services
(YTMCBC Paper No. 65/2013)

71. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 4) of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (“LWB”) and the revised written response of the SWD (Annex 5) were placed on the table for Members’ reference. He then welcomed Ms Jane LEE, Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Poverty) of the Labour and Welfare Bureau (“LWB”) and Ms CHAN Wai Chun, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong) 2 of the SWD

72. The Chairman briefly introduced the paper. He said that according to the written responses of the LWB and the SWD, the Authority proposed in August 2013 to split up two service areas under the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects with greater service demand, thereby increasing the number from five to seven. He would like to know the details and the timetable of the proposed splitting up. He hoped that service points could be set up at all the 18 districts in Hong Kong to facilitate service delivery to those in need.

73. Ms. Jane LEE responded as follows:

- (a) Since February 2009, the SWD had commissioned five NGOs to implement the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects in Hong Kong. The service points set up by these five NGOs and their local partners covered all the districts in Hong Kong. Currently, the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals (“TWGHs”) was responsible for providing such service in YTM, Kowloon City and Sham Shui Po.

- (b) The Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects had been implemented territory-wide. However, since the service demands were greater in some districts, the SWD had been planning to split them up, thereby increasing the number of service areas from five to seven, i.e. to split “Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City and YTM” into two service areas as “Sham Shui Po” and “Kowloon City and YTM” to strengthen service and enhance management efficiency.
- (c) Since October 2013, the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects had implemented various improvement measures including extending the service period from a maximum of six weeks to a maximum of eight weeks. Service operators were still allowed to exercise discretion to provide food assistance to beneficiaries beyond the eight-week period on a case-by-case basis. Besides, the allocation per meal-day for the operators was also adjusted upwards by 10% to allow more flexibility in offering different kinds and mixture of food items to the service users based on their needs.

74. Ms CHAN Wai Chun responded as follows:

- (a) The service targets of the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects were the unemployed, low-income earners, the new arrivals, street sleepers, and individuals who could not cope with the daily food expenditure due to immediate financial difficulties caused by sudden changes.
- (b) As far as the YTM District was concerned, the applicants only needed to complete an application form and brought with them the proof of residential address, income and identity for registration at any service point. The social workers there would vet their applications in due course and the vetting procedures took one to three days. Applicants with urgent needs could receive immediately food assistance for two days.
- (c) The SWD had optimised the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects, adding new varieties of food apart from dry rations. To meet the needs of service users, operators would also provide fresh/frozen food by different means including coupons issued by markets/supermarkets, restaurants etc. The optimised measures allowed more flexibility for the operators to provide different kinds and mixture of food items to the service users based on their needs, i.e. to offer baby formula for families with infants and provide suitable foodstuff for ethnic minorities.

75. Mr HUI Tak-leung opined that the publicity for the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects was not enough. He suggested that the SWD should step up publicity in the YTM District or promote the service to Councillors regularly so that they could help promote the project. He further stated that Tai Kok Tsui was the only place in the YTM District with a service point. YTM residents living outside Tai Kok Tsui might not be benefited. He proposed that service points should be set up at different locations within the YTM District.

76. Ms WONG Shu-ming also opined that the publicity for the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects was not enough. She pointed out that other needy persons within the district might not be benefited if service point could only be found in Tai Kok Tsui.

She proposed that service points should also be set up at Yau Ma Tei, Tsim Sha Tsui and Mong Kok other than Tai Kok Tsui. She also stated that food coupons and “suspended coupons” were very common overseas. The Government should commend NGOs for providing service in this way.

77. The Chairman further enquired about the progress and timetable of splitting up the service areas as well as the information of the operators. He also demanded that short-term food assistance be included as a regular form of social welfare.

78. Ms Jane LEE responded that the SWD had started a fresh round of invitation of service proposals on the Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects in end August 2013. The vetting procedure was now underway and they expected to have the results by the end of this month. As for the splitting up of the service areas, the arrangement was expected to be implemented in March 2014. Moreover, as the Authority had received a further provision of \$200 million in June 2013 from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, the projects would be able to operate until the end of 2015. Currently, 482 service points had been set up by five NGOs commissioned by the SWD through their local network, of which 110 were also venues for food distribution.

79. Ms CHAN Wai Chun supplemented as follows :

- (a) The TWGHs had set up 29 service points in the YTM District which included the service centre of the operator and 28 service points run by its partners, covering Tsim Sha Tsui, Jordan, Yau Ma Tei, Mong Kok and Tai Kok Tsui.
- (b) Different services were provided at different service points, including promotion, case referral, case assessment, food storage and food distribution.
- (c) The social workers of these service points would assess the situation of the applicants. If the applications were approved, they would arrange TWGHs’ vehicles to send the foodstuff to specific distribution venue.
- (d) The partner organisations of the TWGHs providing service in various areas within the YTM District included hospitals, child development centres, integrated services team for street sleepers and schools.
- (e) The TWGHs would distribute publicity leaflets and set up “street stations” to promote short-term food assistance service in the district. In response to Councillors’ views that promotion on the service was not enough, the SWD would discuss with the TWGHs about how to enhance promotion work.

80. Mr HUI Tak-leung enquired about the total number of food distribution venues in the YTM District. He suggested that a detailed food distribution venue list of the YTM District be compiled by the SWD for public reference.

81. Ms Jane LEE responded that the TWGHs were responsible for providing service in Kowloon City, YTM and Sham Shui Po while the remaining four operators would provide service in other districts. She said that the projects aimed to provide short-term food assistance to individuals and families having difficulty to cope with basic food expenditure. Because of this, the food distributed was mainly in the form of dry rations since the projects

were implemented in 2009. However, optimised measures were launched in 2011. Apart from distributing dry rations, fresh/frozen food was also provided to service users by different means including coupons issued by markets/supermarkets, restaurants etc. However, meals would not be provided to the beneficiaries through canteens.

(Mr Benny YEUNG left the meeting at 5:36 p.m.)

82. Ms CHAN Wai Chun responded that not all the partners of the TWGHs were willing to take up the food distributing work. Therefore, TWGHs' vehicles would send the food to the distribution points. There were 12 food distribution points in the YTM District.

83. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the discussion on this item.

Item 10: Any Other Business:

To Connect the Pedestrian Subways in Tsim Sha Tsui to the Public Space of 1881 Heritage

84. The Vice-chairman said that he had received a letter and a plan from the Flying Snow Limited after the captioned item was discussed by the CBC on 17 October 2013. A letter and a plan addressed to the Chairman from that company were also sent to him by the Secretariat on 3 December 2013. He wanted to know how the CBC would follow up on this issue.

85. Ms Glorious WONG supplemented that since a revised proposal and a plan were attached to the letter issued by the Flying Snow Limited to the Chairman, she had sent by email the letter and the plan to the TD and the HyD respectively on 3 December 2013 so that they could follow up on the issue.

86. The Vice-chairman wanted to know whether the departments concerned would make direct reply to the Flying Snow Limited if they had any comments on the revised proposal or would they inform the CBC first so that the CBC could discuss it during its meeting.

87. The Chairman said that if the departments concerned had any comments on the revised proposal of the Flying Snow Limited, he would report them to the Members. The CBC could discuss the comments made by the departments during its meeting if necessary.

88. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the discussion on this item.

89. There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 5:45 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 13 February 2014 (Thursday).

Yau Tsim Mong District Council Secretariat
January 2014

**Proposed Amendments to the Draft Minutes of
the 11th Meeting of Community Building Committee held on 17 October 2013
Yau Tsim Mong District Council (2012-2015)**

Paragraph 78:

Original Text: “The Vice-chairman was pleased to know that He referred to a recent dispute involving an HA hospital and its specialist and said that the training of specialist should be strengthened.”

Proposed Amendment: “The Vice-chairman was pleased to know that He referred to a recent incident involving the internal communication between an HA hospital and its specialist, and asked if the HA could improve the way of handling medical incidents involving specialists at the professor level. He said that the training of a specialist and the waiting time for specialist service were very long. Such incidents might affect the service rendered to the general public by specialist medical staff and would be perceived by the public that there were problems in and mishandling of cases on the part of the management team and the administration.”

Paragraph 127:

Original Text: “The Vice-chairman emphasised that the plot ratio for residential use of 20% and the planned provision of the 23-hectare green area should not be affected under the proposal regarding the minor relaxation of the development intensity restriction of the WKCD. He reiterated that the WKCD must not violate the restrictions on the height of buildings for different subzones. In addition, as the WKCD was close to the Kowloon Station of the Express Rail Link, the WKCDA should”

Proposed Amendment: “The Vice-chairman asked the WKCDA and relevant departments to confirm if the original plot ratio for residential use of 20% and the planned provision of the 23-hectare green area would be affected under the proposal regarding the minor relaxation of the development intensity restriction of the WKCD. He said that any amendment proposal involving the change of the height of buildings beyond the maximum height limit designated for different subzones would not be accepted. In addition, as the WKCD was close to the housing estates at the Kowloon Station, the WKCDA should”

油尖旺區議會
社區建設委員會第62/2013號文件
(供2013年12月5日委員會會議參考)

為區內露宿者提供支援服務

目的

本文件旨在回應許德亮議員對區內露宿者的關注，並簡述社會福利署(社署)為露宿者提供的支援服務。

為露宿者提供的支援服務

2 自 2004 年，社署資助 3 個非政府機構，分別是救世軍、聖雅各福群會及基督教關懷無家者協會各營辦一隊露宿者綜合服務隊，為露宿者提供綜合服務，包括日間及深宵外展探訪、緊急及短期住宿、輔導、就業支援、起居照顧（例如沐浴、剪髮和安排膳食等）、緊急援助金以支付各項開支（例如短暫租金及生活費、租金按金、其他搬遷開支等）、跟進輔導服務及服務轉介等。綜合服務隊提供的多項支援服務，目的是解決露宿者的燃眉之急，並提高他們的工作意欲和技能，以盡量協助他們脫離露宿生活，回復自力更生。另外，社署亦有資助香港社區組織協會推行「邊緣社群支援計劃」，透過外展服務、個案輔導及小組工作服務，協助露宿者等弱勢社群重投社會。截至 2013 年 10 月底，於社署的「露宿者電腦資料系統」內已登記的露宿者人數為 690 人，其中油尖旺區佔 215 人。

3. 為回應露宿者的緊急及短期住宿需要，社署亦資助非政府機構營辦 5 間市區單身人士宿舍和兩間臨時宿舍，共提供 202 個宿位。此外，現時還有其他非政府機構以自負盈虧方式營辦 7 間宿舍，提供共 397 個宿位，為露宿者提供通宵或臨時居所。任何人士包括露宿者如有迫切住屋需要而未能自行解決，可向社署或非政府機構的綜合家庭服務中心尋求協助，中心會考慮有關人士的實際情況及按需要提供協助，包括提供短期經濟援助、安排他們入住由非政府機構營辦的宿舍、申請公共租住房屋等。

4. 我們同樣關注露宿者的經濟需要。社署每年均提供資源予各綜合服務隊作為緊急援助金，供合資格的使用者支付各項開支，包括租金、租金按金、生活費、其他搬遷開支等。社署或非政府機構服務單位亦會因應情況，轉介有需要人士申請綜合社會保障援助，或安排他們申請慈善信託基金。在醫療服務方面，有需要的露宿者可以使用醫管局及衛生署轄下的各項醫療和精神健康服務。另外，社署自 2010 年起在全港各區設立精神健康綜合社區中心，為有需要人士提供社區精神健康支援服務。露宿者綜合服務隊的社工，可將個案轉介至區內的精神健康綜合社區中心或醫管局精神科社康服務，及安排個案由醫管局精神科專科門診作出跟進。若有經濟困難而未能應付有關醫療費用，露宿者可向露宿者綜合服務隊或綜合家庭服務中心尋求協助，以安排醫療費用減免。

5. 現時，由救世軍營辦的露宿者綜合服務隊(救世軍)，專為在油尖旺區露

宿的人士提供服務。救世軍除了在日間辦公時間[即星期一至五(上午十時至下午六時)及星期六(上午十時至下午五時)] 提供服務外，亦會定時於辦公時間外進行深宵外展探訪，主動接觸露宿者，及早識別他們的需要和提供適切的協助。此外，任何人士(包括露宿者)如有緊急福利需要，均可致電24小時運作的社署熱線<2343 2255>尋求協助。社署熱線社工當值時間(星期一至星期五：上午九時至下午五時；星期六：上午九時至中午十二時)以外，有需要人士可選擇將電話轉駁到由東華三院營辦的熱線及外展服務隊(下稱「服務隊」)與社工聯絡。熱線社工會評估個別人士的情況，並提供適時的支援或轉介，包括提供就近民政事務總署的臨時避寒中心的資料及禦寒物品等。

6. 社署十分關注露宿者的需要，而露宿者問題是一個複雜的社會問題，涉及不同政策局和部門的範疇，一些社福機構及關注團體亦積極參與其中。社署九龍城及油尖旺區福利辦事處一直在地區上與各有關政府部門及服務單位(包括救世軍露宿者綜合服務隊、精神健康綜合社區中心、為少數族裔或吸毒人士提供服務的機構等)緊密聯絡及合作，協力支援在油尖旺區露宿的人士，提高他們接受服務的動機，勸喻他們盡早脫離露宿生活。

總結

7. 請各委員備悉本文件的內容。



HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
URBAN REGION (KOWLOON)
 13TH FLOOR, NAN FUNG COMMERCIAL CENTRE
 19 LAM LOK STREET, KOWLOON BAY, KOWLOON
 Web site : <http://www.hyd.gov.hk>

Urgent by Fax
2722 7696

路政署
市區(九龍)
 九龍灣臨樂街十九號
 兩層商業中心十三樓
 網址 : <http://www.hyd.gov.hk>

Annex 3

[KKZGK]

本署編號 Our Ref.: (KKZX1)HyD UK/12-14/3/76(DMK)
 來函編號 Your Ref.: YTMDC 13-30/3/1 Pt. 35
 電話 Tel. No.: 2707 7383
 圖文傳真 Fax No.: 2758 3394

議項八
書面回應

22 November 2013

Yau Tsim Mong District Council Secretariat
 4/F Mong Kok Government Offices
 30 Luen Wan Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon
 (Attn.: Mr. Glorious WONG)

Dear Madam,

**Invitation to Attend the Meeting
 of the Community Building Committee (CBC)
 of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council (YTMDC)**

Paper on “建議改善衛理苑附近無障礙行人設施”

I refer to your above referenced letter dated 18 November 2013 to Mr. Y. K. HO, SE/PR of this Department enclosing a discussion paper from Yau Tsim Mong District Council Community Building Committee members regarding the subject issue.

2. Please be advised that this Regional Office is not able to attend the subject meeting on 5 December 2013 since we are heavily committed to other urgent works. In response to the subject submitted Discussion Paper, please find below our written reply in Chinese for your necessary action.

回應“建議改善衛理苑附近無障礙行人設施”

路政署為工務部門，主要職能範圍是建造、保養及維修道路和道路設施。有關行人通道以及車位等設施的規劃和設計，乃屬於運輸署的職權範圍。我們會配合運輸署的設計方案去展開工程。

Yours faithfully,

(Andy FONG)

for Chief Highway Engineer/Kowloon
 Highways Department

C.C.
 AC for T/U, TD

(Attn: Mr S K TAI)

Fax No.: 2397 8046

Internal

DE/MK, DAIOW/MK



政府總部
勞工及福利局
香港添馬添美道
政府總部



議項九 書面回應
LABOUR AND WELFARE BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
Central Government Offices
Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar, Hong Kong

本函檔號 Our Ref.: LWB CR 1/5/5110/07(08) Pt. 3

電話號碼 Tel No.: 2810 2191

來函檔號 Your Ref.: YTMDC 13-30/3/1 Pt. 35

傳真號碼 Fax No.: 2523 1973

九龍聯運街三十號
旺角政府合署四樓
油尖旺區議會
社區建設委員會
(經辦人：黃嘉穎女士)

黃女士：

有關短期食物援助服務計劃

多謝 貴委員會 11 月 22 日有關短期食物援助服務計劃(服務計劃)的來信。就信件提出的事宜，現回覆如下。

服務情況

自 2009 年 2 月起，社會福利署(社署)委託 5 間非政府機構在全港營辦服務計劃，以協助暫時難以應付基本食物開支的個人或家庭。5 間營辦機構與它們的地區伙伴，已在全港設立 482 個服務點，其中 110 個同時為食物分發點。截至 2013 年 10 月底，5 間營辦機構合共已為超過 135 000 名有需要人士提供支援。負責在油尖旺、九龍城及深水埗區提供短期食物援助服務的營辦機構，至 2013 年 10 月底已服務 43 500 人。

改善措施

為更能切合服務使用者的需要，社署於 2011 年 10 月起透過向服務使用者提供食物券或熱食券改善服務。服務使用者可憑這些食物券或熱食券於指定食物商販、超級市場及食肆換取食物。這是在原有一般為協助有緊急和短期需要的人士提供乾糧的

慣常做法之上，增設的服務。

服務計劃自 2013 年度 10 月起，再推出了多項改善措施。當中，營辦機構已把服務時間由最長 6 個星期延至最長 8 個星期。營辦機構可繼續按個別個案的情況，酌情向有需要的使用者提供多於 8 個星期的協助。此外，營辦機構用於食品開支的款額獲上調一成，讓營辦機構有更大彈性，按服務使用者的需要，向他們提供不同種類和配搭的食物。

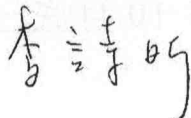
另外，社署於 2013 年 8 月就營運此服務計劃進行新一輪徵求服務建議書時，已因應服務的需求情況將兩個服務需求較大的服務地區分拆，即把「深水埗、九龍城及油尖旺」分為「深水埗」和「九龍城及油尖旺」，及把「元朗、屯門及天水圍」分為「元朗」和「屯門(包括天水圍)」，以加強服務和管理的效率。社署會繼續密切監察服務的使用情況及需求，並適時作出跟進。

在職貧窮

來信亦提到在職貧窮的問題。我們了解，政務司司長私人辦公室專員(特別職務)於 10 月 31 日已到油尖旺區議會，向議員簡佈扶貧策略。協助有需要在職貧窮家庭的新措施，須以鼓勵就業和加強支援下一代的在學需要為前題，支援方式應以持續協助家庭成員自力更生和提供向上流動的機會為目標。

我們歡迎社會各界就扶貧的具體措施，提出意見。

勞工及福利局局長

(李詩昕  代行)

2013 年 12 月 4 日

副本抄送

社會福利署署長 (經辦人：馮民重先生)

(translation)

政府總部
勞工及福利局

香港添馬添美道
政府總部



LABOUR AND WELFARE BUREAU
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT

Central Government Offices
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4 December 2013

Committee Building Committee
Yau Tsim Mong District Council
4/F Mong Kok Government Offices
30 Luen Wan Street, Mong Kok
Kowloon
(Attn : Ms Glorious Wong)

Dear Ms Wong,

Short-term Food Assistance Service Projects

Thank you for the Community Building Committee's 22 November 2013 letter on the short-term food assistance service projects (the projects). Please find our response to the issues raised in the ensuing paragraphs.

Service update

Since February 2009, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned five non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to operate the projects all over the territory to help individuals/families having temporary difficulty in coping with basic food expenditure. The five service operators and their local partners have set up 482 service points all over Hong Kong, of which 110 are also venues for food distribution. Up to the end of October 2013, the operators have served over 135 000 needy persons. The NGO serving Yau Tsim Mong, Kowloon City and Sham Shui Po have served 43 500 persons up to October 2013.

Improvement measures

To better meet the needs of service users, SWD enhanced the service in October 2011 by adding the provision of food and hot meal coupons which can

be redeemed at designated food stalls, supermarkets and restaurants. This was in addition to the usual provision of dry rations normally offered for people to tide over urgent and short-term needs.

Further improvement measures have been rolled out in October 2013. These include extending the service period from a maximum of six weeks to a maximum of eight weeks. Service operators are continue exercising discretion to provide support to deserving users beyond the eight-week period on a case-by-case basis. In addition, operators' food expenditure has been adjusted upwards by 10%. This has provided more flexibility for the operators in offering different kinds and mixture of food items to the service users based on their needs.

SWD conducted a new round of invitation for proposals for operating the service in August 2013. In this connection, two service areas with higher demands would be split into four (i.e. "Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong" would be split into "Sham Shui Po" and "Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong"; whereas "Yuen Long, Tuen Mun and Tin Shui Wai" would be split into "Yuen Long" and "Tuen Mun (including Tin Shui Wai)"). This would facilitate more effective delivery and management of the service. SWD will closely monitor the service utilisation and demands and take timely follow-up measures.

Working poverty

Your letter has also mentioned the subject of working poverty. As we understand, on 31 October, Director (Special Duties) of the Chief Secretary for Administration's Private Office briefed members of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council on poverty alleviation strategy. New measure helping needy working poor families should be pro-employment and pro-children. The support should be structured to sustain family members' self-reliance whilst enhancing opportunities for upward social mobility.

We welcome concrete proposals from different sectors of the community on tackling poverty.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Jane LEE)
for Secretary for Labour and Welfare

c.c. Director of Social Welfare (Attn: Mr FUNG Man-chung)

短期食物援助計劃

目的

本文件旨在回應油尖旺區黃健新議員、黃舒明議員及黃頌議員對短期食物援助計劃所提出的意見和提問。

油尖旺區的推行情況和受惠人數

2. 社會福利署(社署)在 2009 年 2 月向五間非政府機構撥款，在全港推行短期食物援助服務計劃，為難以應付基本食物開支的個人或家庭，提供短期食物援助。五間非政府機構的服務區域如下：

- (一) 東華三院—服務九龍城、油尖旺及深水埗區
- (二) 循道衛理觀塘社會服務處—服務觀塘、黃大仙及西貢區
- (三) 聖雅各福群會—服務港島、離島及東涌、荃灣及葵青區
- (四) 香港婦聯有限公司—服務沙田、大埔及北區
- (五) 香港聖公會福利協會—服務屯門、元朗及天水圍區

3. 現時，東華三院與不同服務單位和地區團體組成合作伙伴，以加強服務的提供。在油尖旺的服務區域，東華三院共設有 30 個服務點(包括營辦機構的服務中心和另外 29 個伙伴單位的服務點)，遍佈尖沙咀、佐敦、油麻地、旺角及大角咀各個分區。截至 2013 年 10 月底，東華三院已向約 10 700 名油尖旺區有需要的人士提供服務。

服務優化措施

4. 過去，我們一直聽取營運者和社會各界的意見，優化短期食物援助服務計劃。除了派發乾糧外，社署由 2011 年 10 月開始推出優化措施，包括增加食物種類，並因應服務使用者的需要，以不同形式(包括街市／超市食物券、食肆餐券)提供新鮮／冷藏食物。服務計劃的目標和成效均得到營辦機構及服務使用者的肯定。於 2013 年 10 月，社署推行進一步的優化措施(包括將食物援助期限由最長 6 星期延長至 8 個星期，及將營辦機構用於提供餐次的撥款上調一成)。有關優化措施令營辦機構有更大彈性，按服務使用者的需要，向他們提供不同種類和配搭的食物。

5. 現時，短期食物援助服務計劃的營辦機構會評估個別申請人的情況和需要(包括「在職貧窮家庭」)，社工並會就其所需援助的類別和程度作出專業判斷，以確保有需要的人士得到足夠和適當的食物，以應付基本需要。營辦機構可因應個案的特殊情況，考慮在 8 星期後繼續向申請人提供短期食物援助。

服務的推展

6. 當局一向重視以地區為本的扶貧措施。政務司司長領導的扶貧委員會，已於較早前訂定「貧窮線」，並正檢視各方面的政策、訂立明確扶貧目標及考慮其他具體扶貧措施。因應於 2013 年 9 月的扶貧委員會高峰會中界定「在職貧窮家庭」為須優先關顧的組群之一，政府於會議中就低收入在職家庭補貼(低收入補貼)在具體設計上的幾大方面，聽取了委員的意見。政府會積極推展相關工作。

7. 此外，勞工及福利局及社署在本年中檢視短期食物援助服務計劃，以研究進一步的優化措施。除了已於本年 10 月進一步推行優化措施(包括將食物援助期限由最長 6 星期延長至 8 個星期，及將營辦機構用於提供餐次的撥款上調一成)，社署於 2013 年 8 月底就營運短期食物援助服務計劃進行新一輪徵求服務建議書時，還因應服務的需求情況將兩個服務需求較大的服務地區(即九龍城／油尖旺／深水埗及元朗／屯門)分拆，令計劃的數目由五個增加至七個，務求令服務更具彈性，及更具效率服務有需要的家庭。社署會繼續密切監察服務的使用情況及長遠需求，適時作出相應的安排。

總結

8. 請各委員備悉本文件的內容。