

**Minutes of the 13th Meeting of
Community Building Committee
Yau Tsim Mong District Council (2012-2015)**

Date: 13 February 2014 (Thursday)

Time: 2:45 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 WONG Chung, John
Ms KO Po-ling, BBS, MH, JP	Mr HUI Tak-leung	Mr WONG Man-sing, Barry, MH
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
Mr CHOW Chun-fai, BBS, JP	Mr LAU Pak-kei	

Co-opted Members

Mr SIU Hong-ping	Mr KO Hiu-wing
Mr KONG Pui-wai	Mr CHIU Sung-bun, Ernest

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
Miss CHAN Wai-chun	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong) 2	Social Welfare Department

Ms SZE Nga-wan, Wendy	Sergeant, Police Community Relations Office (Yau Tsim)	Hong Kong Police Force
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Secretary

Ms WONG Ka-wing, Glorious	Executive Officer I (District Council), Yau Tsim Mong District Office	Home Affairs Department
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In Attendance:

Mr TAI Seung-kun	Engineer/Yau Tsim	Transport Department
Mr FONG Wai-pang	District Engineer/Mong Kok	Highways Department
Dr NG Kwok-choi, Samuel	Chief Geotechnical Engineer/Planning	Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr HO Ying-kit, Tony	Senior Geotechnical Engineer/Marine and Land Geotechnology	Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr WONG Chun-fai, Jeffrey	Geotechnical Engineer/Marine and Land Geotechnology 1	Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr CHOW Man-hong, Mann	Senior Town Planner/Studies and Research 3	Planning Department
Mrs Stella LAU	Chairperson	Women's Commission
Ms WONG Pui-yee, Catherine	Member	Women's Commission
Miss NG Kai-yin, Noel	Assistant Secretary	Labour and Welfare Bureau
Mr NG Tim-bo	Senior Engineer/Kowloon 2	Water Supplies Department
Mr LAM Wai-kei	Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 1)	Water Supplies Department
Mr WONG Hei-nok	Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 2)	Water Supplies Department
Mr CHAN Kwok-fai	Engineer/Project Management 10	Water Supplies Department
Mr LAU Chak-hung, Eric	Engineer/Project Management 8	Water Supplies Department
Mr LOOK Tai-loi	Senior Resident Engineer	Atkins China Limited
Mr YAM Kwok-hung	Senior Resident Engineer	Atkins China Limited
Mr LO Chi-hang, Robo	Senior Resident Engineer	AECOM Asia Company Limited
Ms CHAN Wing-yin, Winnie	Resident Engineer	AECOM Asia Company Limited
Mr CHAN Pak-fong, Peter	Resident Engineer	AECOM Asia Company Limited
Mr FUNG Wai-chung	Senior Liaison Engineer	MTR Corporation Limited
Ms YIP Lai-lee, Lute	Public Relations Manager – Projects and Property	MTR Corporation Limited
Dr Jaime SIN	Senior Medical and Health Officer (Community Liaison) 2	Department of Health
Mr LAI Ka-yin	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Yau Tsim Mong) 1	Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Absent:

Ms LEE See-yin, Leticia	Co-opted Member	
Mr TANG Ho-bun	Co-opted Member	
Mr LAU Kai-kit, Vincent	Co-opted Member	
Ms HONG Yuen-kwan, Natalie	Police Community Relations Officer, Mong Kok District	Hong Kong Police Force

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. He reported that Ms CHUNG Po-yuk, Senior School Development Officer (Yau Tsim and Mong Kok) 1 of the Education Bureau, attended the meeting on behalf of Mrs LING SO Ka-lan, Jacqueline, and Miss 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-ye. He further said that Ms Wendy SZE from the Yau Tsim District Police Community Relations Office of the Hong Kong Police Force, stood in for Mr Mohammad Munir KHAN at the meeting. Besides, Ms Natalie HONG, Police Community Relations Officer (Mong Kok District), was absent due to other commitments.

Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

2. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

**Item 2: Matter Arising:
- Demand for Provision of Barrier Free Access Facilities near Wylie Court
(YTMCBC Paper No. 64/2013)**

3. The Chairman welcomed Mr TAI Seung-kun, Engineer/Yau Tsim of the Transport Department (“TD”), and Mr FONG Wai-pang, District Engineer/Mong Kok of the Highways Department (“HyD”) to the meeting.

4. Mr Derek HUNG supplemented the contents of the paper and said that representatives of the TD, the HyD and he had conducted a site inspection with members of the Pakistan Association on 11 February 2014. He noted that the pavement and the staircase at the back door of the Pakistan Association fell into the area of Wylie Court. If a ramp was to be built at the location of the staircase leading from the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association to the Pakistan Association, the gradient of the ramp would not meet the standard. He also said that emergency vehicles parking at the entrance of the Pakistan Association would obstruct traffic. He hoped the TD and the HyD could give an account of how they would follow up the situation concerned.

(Ms KO Po-ling joined the meeting at 2:47 p.m.)

5. Mr FONG Wai-pang responded that the road section referred to by Mr Derek HUNG was situated between northbound Princess Margaret Road and the open area at the main entrance of the Pakistan Association. The portion of the road section closest to the Pakistan

Association was owned by the Association and the remaining portion was owned by the Government. The HyD was responsible for the maintenance of a section approximately 1.5 m wide while the Lands Department (“Lands D”) was responsible for the management of the remaining area. The HyD planned to repair the area under its purview and would maintain coordination with the Lands D and the TD on the levelling issue of the road section under the management of the Lands D.

6. The Vice-chairman said that as a number of government departments were involved in the road section concerned, he suggested the Assistant District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong) coordinate the issue so as to improve the pedestrian passage leading to Wylie Court and the Pakistan Association.

7. Mr Charlson CHIU responded that the Yau Tsim Mong District Office would provide appropriate assistance in handling the road section under the purview of the HyD, the Lands D and the TD when necessary.

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

**Item 3: Financial Position of Yau Tsim Mong District Council (“YTMDC”) Funds as at 30 January 2014
(YTMCBC Paper No. 1/2014)**

**Item 4: Applications for 2014-2015 YTMDC Funds from Specified Organisations
(YTMCBC Paper No. 2/2014)**

**Item 5: Applications for 2014-2015 YTMDC Funds from Non-specified Organisations/Mutual Aid Committees/Owners’ Corporations/Owners’ Committees (1st Phase)
(YTMCBC Paper No. 3/2014)**

9. The Chairman proposed that papers in respect of Items 3 to 5 about DC funding be discussed together and there was no objection. He reminded Councillors to fill in the Declaration of Interests form on the table if necessary.

(Mr CHUNG Kong-mo joined the meeting at 2:52 p.m.)

10. Members noted the financial position of YTMDC Funds for Community Involvement as at 30 January 2014.

11. In respect of Item 4 (YTMCBC Paper No. 2/2014), Members endorsed an allocation of \$236,817 in principle to four specified organisations for holding 11 activities.

12. In respect of Item 5 (YTMCBC Paper No. 3/2014), Members endorsed an allocation of \$745,294 in principle to 53 non-specified organisations and mutual aid committees/owners’ corporations/owners’ committees for organising 68 activities between April and June 2014.

13. The Chairman continued that the proposed activities of Items 4 and 5 would be held

in or after April 2014 and be funded by YTMDC Funds of the next financial year. Thus the funding proposals concerned could be passed to the Community Building Committee (“CBC”) for endorsement only after the DC had approved the funding amount for specified organisations, non-specified organisations and owners’ committees for the new financial year.

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

(Mr CHAN Wai-keung joined the meeting at 2:53 p.m.)

Item 6: Pilot Study on Underground Space Development in Selected Strategic Urban Districts
(YTMCBC Paper No. 4/2014)

15. The Chairman welcomed the following representatives to the meeting:

- (i) Dr Samuel NG, Chief Geotechnical Engineer/Planning; Mr Tony HO, Senior Geotechnical Engineer/Marine and Land Geotechnology and Mr Jeffrey WONG, Geotechnical Engineer, Marine and Land Geotechnology 1 of the Civil Engineering and Development Department; and
- (ii) Mr Mann CHOW, Senior Town Planner/Studies and Research 3 of the Planning Department.

16. Dr Samuel NG and Mr Tony HO gave a PowerPoint presentation on the pilot study on underground space development in selected strategic urban districts, including the study background, merits of underground space development, study purpose, reasons for selecting four strategic districts, proposed study scope as well as the study schedule.

(Mr CHOW Chun-fai joined the meeting at 3:10 p.m.)

17. Ms KWAN Sau-ling took East Tsim Sha Tsui MTR Station as an example and said that most pedestrians and tourists switched to the underground passage following the commissioning of the station, which led to a significant drop in business of above-ground small shops in Tsim Sha Tsui East. She opined that while the Government’s development of underground space in Tsim Sha Tsui West could facilitate pedestrians and tourists, it might also lead to a decrease in above-ground pedestrian flow. Thus the Government had to consider the interests of above-ground shops when it studied underground space development in order to achieve a win-win situation.

18. Mr Chris IP supported the Government’s initiative of developing the underground space in Tsim Sha Tsui West as this could improve pedestrian links and effectively reduce pedestrian-vehicle conflicts in Tsim Sha Tsui. However, he opined that the Government had to take into account the themed streets in the district and the interests of small above-ground shop operators when implementing the project. He suggested that entrances/exits be provided at themed streets to connect to the underground space and that themed streets and above-ground shops in the district be promoted in the underground space.

19. Mr CHAN Siu-tong supported the project. He enquired about the operational arrangements for the underground space. He said that if the underground space was

administered by the Government, the problem of prolonged occupation might arise and this would be contrary to the intended development purpose. Furthermore, he suggested that the Government should integrate local characteristics and cultural elements into the underground space development.

20. Mr CHAN Wai-keung had no objection to the Government's concept of developing underground space. He supported the implementation of the pilot study, but had reservation about the proposed site. He opined that as there were already many large shopping malls in Tsim Sha Tsui, there was no need for the Government to develop underground commercial space at Kowloon Park. Therefore, the Government should conduct a public consultation before seeking funding approval for the pilot study from the Legislative Council. Furthermore, he worried that the underground space development in Tsim Sha Tsui West would affect the old trees in the vicinity of Kowloon Park and the Government might close the Kowloon Park for a long period of time during the construction period.

21. The Vice-chairman supported the idea of underground space development. He enquired about the intended depth of the underground space development in Tsim Sha Tsui West proposed by the Government. In addition, he requested the Government to minimise the impact of underground space development on facilities at Kowloon Park and old trees in its vicinity.

22. Mr HUI Tak-leung supported the underground space development in urban districts. However, he pointed out that the underground space development in the vicinity of Kowloon Park might divert pedestrians heading for Kowloon Park to the underground space and this was contrary to the original purposes of greening the environment and attracting tourists. Furthermore, he suggested that the Government should consider developing underground space at Mong Kok Pedestrian Precinct ("MKPP"), which could allow street performers to perform at the underground space without affecting the operators along the two sides of the buildings at the MKPP.

23. Ms KO Po-ling suggested that the Government should examine the development of underground space between Mong Kok MTR Station, Mong Kok East Station and Olympic Station with a view to diverting above-ground pedestrian flow to the underground, reducing pedestrian-vehicle conflicts and encouraging the public to use MTR. She further stated that the Government should integrate the elements of culture, arts and greening into the underground space development. In addition, she enquired whether the pilot study would become a benchmark for other departments or districts.

24. Mr CHUNG Kong-mo supported the Government to launch the pilot study. He opined that the project would not only help develop underground space in urban districts, but also link the MTR West Island Line with the West Kowloon Cultural District, the Express Rail Link ("XRL") Terminus and the MTR Tsuen Wan Line, thereby enabling the development of Tsim Sha Tsui. He suggested that the Government should proactively explore the possible depth of underground space for multi-storey development. In addition, he requested the Government to minimise the impact on the old trees and greenery in the vicinity of Kowloon Park when developing the underground space in Tsim Sha Tsui West. He also suggested that the elements of culture and arts should be integrated into the underground space development and an underground snack street should be provided to benefit members of the public by making reference to Taiwan.

25. Mr Benny YEUNG asked whether the Government would like to get around the complicated foundation problem by proposing to develop the space underneath parks instead of buildings. He said that underground space developed by the Government could be used for public purposes, including community hall facilities. The Government could also consider adopting a diversified development approach for underground space.

26. Mr HAU Wing-cheong supported the Government to examine the underground space development in Tsim Sha Tsui West. He said that neighbouring cities such as Tokyo, Osaka, Taipei and Kaohsiung had long developed underground streets to connect transport hubs in the city. He opined that the proposed underground space development would benefit the business sector, members of the public and tourists.

27. The Chairman said that if the Government emphasised solely on commercial elements during the development of underground space, the interests of small shop operators at the street level would be seriously affected. This might provoke opposition from them, thereby hampering the project. Therefore, he hoped that the Government would refrain from taking a single tender approach in implementing the works. Furthermore, with a view to creating more space, he suggested that the Government should conduct superstructure developments at the office space of the Water Supplies Department (“WSD”) and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department at Sai Yee Street in Mong Kok as well as the bus terminus at Mong Kok East MTR Station.

28. Dr Samuel NG responded as follows:

- (a) Other than studying underground space development, the Government would also study ways to connect underground space with a view to diversifying its development.
- (b) The Government had no specific operational arrangement for the future underground space at present and it would appoint consultants to carry out further study on the issue.
- (c) Developing underground space at private lands would involve title issue and complicated procedures. Thus the Government would consider underground space development at government lands first.
- (d) The Government would determine the depth of underground space development having regard to the geological condition.
- (e) The Government would duly consider the impact of underground space development on the existing above-ground facilities, surrounding buildings and trees when it conducted the pilot study with a view to formulating a feasible option to minimise the impact on existing facilities.
- (f) The Chief Executive announced in the 2014 Policy Address that the Government had commenced a study to identify districts with potential for underground space development in Hong Kong with a view to increasing usable space and enhancing connectivity in urban areas. Mong Kok and Yau Ma Tei were covered in the study.

29. Mr Mann CHOW responded as follows:

- (a) An underground master plan would be formulated for the pilot study to set out the guidelines for underground space development.
- (b) Kowloon Park took up an area of around 13 hectares. The Government would consider diversified development when it developed underground space in the area.
- (c) The development of space underneath buildings might necessitate technical assessment of building piles. In order to facilitate the early development of strategic underground space, the Government would first study underground development at four plots of government land in parks.
- (d) The Government would seek funding approval from the Legislative Council for the pilot study in April 2014. Subject to approval, the Government preliminarily planned to commence the study in September and would consult the public in early 2015. Relevant departments would report the study progress to the DC regularly.

30. Mr John WONG supported the Government to implement the pilot study. He enquired how the Government would protect the interests of above-ground small shop operators when it developed underground space. He also said that the people flow was very high in the four strategic districts selected by the Government. Developing underground space in those districts might attract even more people. He wanted to know how the Government would solve the traffic congestion problem caused by the increased people flow by then. Moreover, he suggested the Government allow greater flexibility for property developers to develop underground space when it invited tenders for underground space development.

31. Mr CHUNG Kong-mo enquired whether the underground air-raid shelter in Kowloon Park would be retained in the development of underground space in Tsim Sha Tsui West. He also suggested transporting the large quantity of earth excavated from works by sea to avoid affecting traffic in the district.

32. Ms KWAN Sau-ling said that the Government had planned to provide an MTR exit at the Park Lane Shopper's Boulevard ("PLB") many years before but the plan was abandoned due to objections from individual shop operators. She anticipated that the Government might face objections in the development of underground space in Tsim Sha Tsui West. She hoped the Government could conduct consultation properly and should not shelve the plan concerned because of objection from the minority.

33. Dr Samuel NG responded as follows:

- (a) The Government would focus on the mode of building and operation when it developed underground space to balance the interests of above-ground and underground shop operators.
- (b) The Government would make use of underground space to maintain smooth above-ground traffic and people flow.

- (c) The Government would try to retain the underground air-raid shelter in Kowloon Park as far as possible when it developed underground space in Tsim Sha Tsui West to achieve the objective of conservation.
- (d) A number of large scale projects would take place in the district at the same time during the development of underground space in Tsim Sha Tsui West. The Government would make proper arrangements to ensure smooth works progress.
- (e) The Government would liaise closely with stakeholders such as the MTR Corporation Limited (“MTRCL”) and private companies. The Government hoped to revitalise the whole Tsim Sha Tsui through the plan.

34. Mr Mann CHOW responded that the consultant would make reference to the experience of cities such as Tokyo and Taipei in the pilot study to balance the interests of above-ground and underground shop operators as well as incorporating cultural and arts elements into the underground space where practicable.

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

Item 7: Strengthen the Collaboration Between Women’s Commission and District Councils
(YTMCBC Paper No. 5/2014)

36. The Chairman welcomed the following representatives to the meeting:

- (a) Mrs Stella LAU, Chairperson, Ms Catherine WONG and Ms WONG Shu-ming, Members of the Women’s Commission (“WoC”); and
- (b) Miss Noel NG, Assistant Secretary of the Labour and Welfare Bureau.

37. Mrs Stella LAU, Ms WONG Shu-ming and Ms Catherine WONG gave a PowerPoint presentation on the paper.

38. Mr CHUNG Kong-mo indicated that the YTMDC had appointed a Member as the Gender Focal Point and established the Working Group on Women Affairs (“WGWA”) around five to six years ago. The funding endorsed by the YTMDC to the WGWA had increased year by year. In the year 2013-2014, the YTMDC had endorsed an allocation of \$150,000 to the WGWA and a similar amount of funding was expected to be allocated to the WGWA in the following year. He added that YTMDC Councillors strongly supported the work of the WGWA. The WGWA had been a standing working group under the YTMDC since 2013-2014, which reflected that the YTMDC had spared no effort in promoting women affairs.

39. Ms KWAN Sau-ling thanked the WoC for allocating \$53,000 annually to the WGWA for promoting women affairs in the YTM district. She noted that the WoC was tasked with encouraging the Government to attach importance to women’s interests and formulate related policies. In that connection, she asked how the WoC would strengthen cooperation with the WGWA. She also indicated that the business sector was generally not supportive of “gender mainstreaming”. For example, it was still common in shopping malls

in the district that female toilet compartments were insufficient. Moreover, she hoped that the department concerned could introduce policies to encourage women to re-join the working force after giving birth.

40. Mr CHAN Wai-keung indicated that while the WoC promoted the concept of “gender mainstreaming” advocated by the United Nations, it was merely concerned about local women affairs. That appeared to be deviated from the concept of “gender mainstreaming”.

41. Mr Barry WONG hoped that the WoC would strive to encourage private enterprises to provide sufficient baby-sitting rooms in shopping malls for breast feeding. He also hoped that the WoC could negotiate with the Government for full-pay maternity and paternity leave for employees.

42. Ms KO Po-ling indicated that the WoC adopted the concept of “gender mainstreaming” advocated by the United Nations to promote women’s interests and achieve gender equality because there was still a slight difference in the social status between men and women in Hong Kong. She considered that the YTMDC had spared no effort in promoting women affairs. For example, the WGWA under the YTMDC had co-organised activities with organisations in the district every year to promote women affairs at the district level. The WGWA had also subsidised academic institutions to conduct studies about the physical health, mental health and stress of women in the district. She suggested that the WoC work with large corporations to provide baby-sitting rooms and increase the number of female toilet compartments in hotels and shopping malls, with YTM as the pilot district.

(Mr KONG Pui-wai joined the meeting at 4:25 p.m.)

43. The Vice-chairman indicated that under the leadership of Ms WONG Shu-ming, the WGWA had evolved from a non-standing working group into a standing working group under the YTMDC since 2013-14. He noted that the WoC had collaborated with the Open University of Hong Kong (“OUHK”), radio broadcasters, women’s groups, and non-governmental organisations (“NGOs”) to co-organise the Capacity Building Mileage Programme (“CBMP”). He asked whether it was the OUHK or the social welfare organisations that had provided programmes for the ethnic minorities. He also asked whether English or Putonghua was the medium of instruction for the programmes offered to the ethnic minorities through radio stations under the CBMP.

44. Mr HAU Wing-cheong supported the WoC in providing different funding schemes to unleash and enhance women’s potential. He also pointed out that the CBMP could encourage women with different backgrounds and education levels to pursue lifelong learning and thereby enhancing individual capability.

45. The Chairman considered that the WGWA had done a good job in the past few years. He indicated that the WGWA had commissioned the Hong Kong Shue Yan University to conduct a survey on the depression rate of women in the YTM district in 2012-2013. Subject to the Guidelines on the Use of DC funds, the scope of the survey could not cover all women in Hong Kong. He hoped that the WoC could provide allocations to the 18 DCs to conduct territory-wide surveys for all women in future.

46. Mrs Stella LAU responded as follows:

- (a) She appreciated the YTMDC for being supportive to the work of the WoC. For example, the YTMDC provided an allocation of \$150,000 to the WGWA every year for organising activities, including surveys targeted at women in the district.
- (b) The Government provided an allocation of \$2 million to the WoC every year for launching funding schemes. Half of the allocation would be used to subsidise the 18 DCs to organise district level activities. The remaining \$1 million would be allocated to women's groups and NGOs providing women's services to organise regional territory-wide activities.
- (c) Although the service recipients of the CBMP were women, men were also welcomed.
- (d) The OUHK had imposed certain requirements on teachers employed by NGOs under the CBMP. Eligible organisations could provide courses in individual districts.
- (e) In early 2008, the Food and Health Bureau invited the Architectural Services Department, Department of Health ("DH"), Government Property Agency, Buildings Department and Housing Department to formulate an "Advisory Guidelines on Babycare Facilities". The Government circulated the guidelines among bureaux and departments in August 2008 to encourage provision of desirable babycare facilities at government venues and public areas.
- (f) The WoC understood and was concerned about the aspirations of female employees to lengthen the 10-week statutory maternity leave period.

47. Mr Barry WONG restated his request for the WoC to strive for maternity leave of 10 weeks on full pay.

48. Mrs Stella LAU responded that the WoC would continue to fight for reasonable rights of women.

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

**Item 8: To Inspect Aged Water Mains and Speed Up Replacement Works
(YTMCBC Paper No. 6/2014)**

**Item 9: Concern over Repeated Bursts of Water Mains in Surrounding Areas of Kowloon Station
(YTMCBC Paper No. 7/2014)**

50. The Chairman said that as contents of Items 8 and 9 were interrelated, he proposed that the two be discussed together. There was no objection.

51. The Chairman said that the written response of the WSD on Items 8 and 9 (Annex 1)

had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He then welcomed the following representatives to the meeting:

- (i) Mr NG Tim-bo, Senior Engineer/Kowloon 2; Mr LAM Wai-kei, Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 1); Mr WONG Hei-nok, Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 2); Mr CHAN Kwok-fai, Engineer/Project Management 10 and Mr Eric LAU, Engineer/Project Management 8 of the WSD;
- (ii) Mr LOOK Tai-loi and Mr YAM Kwok-hung, Senior Resident Engineers of Atkins China Limited;
- (iii) Mr Robo LO, Senior Resident Engineer; Ms Winnie CHAN and Mr Peter CHAN, Resident Engineers of AECOM Asia Company Limited; and
- (iv) Mr FUNG Wai-chung, Senior Liaison Engineer and Ms Lute YIP, Public Relations Manager – Projects and Property of the MTRCL.

52. Mr LAU Pak-kei supplemented the contents of the paper. Indicating that although the replacement of water mains in Tai Kok Tsui was underway, he did not understand why there were still bursts and leaks of water mains after replacement. In view of this, he requested the WSD to explain the reasons.

53. Mr CHAN Kwok-fai responded that the WSD had launched the replacement and rehabilitation of aged water mains in Tai Kok Tsui in four stages since 2000 and its progress was on schedule. Since the commencement of the works, the number of cases about water mains bursts and leaks in Tai Kok Tsui had been decreasing. He continued that as the occurrence of main bursts and leaks were due to many factors, the WSD could not guarantee that there would be no recurrence of water mains bursts after replacement and rehabilitation. The WSD was proactively studying the next phase of water mains improvement scheme in Tai Kok Tsui, including enhancing the water pressure management and leakage detection, with a view to minimising the risk of water mains bursts in a multi-pronged manner. He added that in case of main water bursts, the WSD would immediately send staff to attend to the case.

54. Mr FUNG Wai-chung responded that over the past year, there were two incidents of water mains bursts and leaks in the surrounding areas of Kowloon MTR Station. The first incident occurred on 27 September 2013 in which there was leakage from a salt water pipe of around 150 mm in diameter. Upon receipt of the report by the MTRCL, the WSD completed the emergency repair work within 3.5 hours. The second incident occurred at 10 a.m. on 21 January 2014. The MTRCL staff identified a leak along a section of water mains during routine inspections. After being notified of the incident, the WSD sent staff to the scene to pinpoint the leak location. The MTRCL then closed a section of Lin Cheung Road for urgent repairs in the evening. The supply of fresh water resumed within two hours. Furthermore, the water supply for fire services and flushing resumed normal operation in the evening of 22 January. He said that the MTRCL apologised to the residents near Kowloon Station for any inconvenience caused by the above two incidents. In addition, the MTRCL would step up routine inspections and establish monitoring points in the works area to monitor the settlement of water mains and other public facilities during the construction of the XRL.

55. Mr LAU Pak-kei was unsatisfied with the written response of the WSD. He pointed out that there were 18 cases of water mains burst in Tai Kok Tsui in the past three years, which meant that there was one case every two months. Most of them occurred at Tai Kok

Tsui Road, Maple Street, Fuk Tsun Street and Fir Street. According to the WSD, the water mains replacement and rehabilitation works in Tai Kok Tsui were 86% complete as at end-December 2013. He wanted to know whether the mains involved in the above 18 cases were already replaced or aged ones pending replacement.

56. Mr Chris IP was unsatisfied that the WSD had not explained the causes of those 18 cases of water mains burst. He said that if the mains involved in the cases had already been replaced, there might be problems with the materials of the new water mains. If the mains burst while they were pending replacement, it was necessary for the WSD to expedite the replacement and rehabilitation of water mains.

57. The Vice-chairman said that the WSD seemed to try to downplay the severity of water mains burst in its written response. He pointed out that according to the written response of the WSD on Item 9, the cause of the first case of water mains burst and leakage might be related to the XRL works while the cause of the second case was still under investigation. He asked the WSD how it monitored the contractor to execute the water mains replacement works, and whether it would impose penalty on the contractor if it caused water mains burst in the course of the works. Moreover, he requested the WSD to deploy water wagons to temporarily supply fresh water to affected residents during emergency repair works.

58. Mr WONG Hei-nok responded that the majority of the 18 water mains bursts in Tai Kok Tsui took place at Tai Kok Tsui Road. The number of water mains burst incidents decreased steadily between 2011 and 2013, from five cases in 2011 to two cases in both 2012 and 2013.

59. Mr Chris IP pressed the WSD about the cause of water mains bursts.

60. Mr WONG Hei-nok responded that the water mains in Tai Kok Tsui under the Replacement and Rehabilitation Programme of Water Mains were around 12.6 km long. The water mains involved in the above 18 cases were covered in the programme but they burst before replacement. The water mains concerned had now been replaced and thus the number of water mains burst cases was significantly reduced in 2012 and 2013. He added that the mains in the above cases were made of cast iron and asbestos cement. Moreover, most water mains bursts occurred abruptly and could hardly be predicted. However, the WSD would step up leakage detection with a view to replacing the water mains as soon as possible to reduce the risk of bursting. He also said that the new mains were made of more durable materials and there had been no occurrence of water mains burst in Tai Kok Tsui since the replacement of new mains.

(Mr HAU Wing-cheong, Mr John WONG and Mr Barry WONG left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.)

61. Mr FUNG Wai-chung responded that the XRL terminus area covered three main roads, namely, Lin Cheung Road, Austin Road West and Jordan Road where a lot of water mains and other public utilities were laid underground. Prior to the commencement of the XRL works, the WSD would monitor the site and confirm the locations of water mains. It would strengthen protection of water mains or relocate some critical ones. If it was confirmed that relocation of water mains was necessary, the MTRCL would contact the owners and management offices of housing estates at Kowloon Station, and would suspend

water supply and reconnect water mains when appropriate. The MTRCL would even communicate with the WSD to deploy water wagons when necessary to maintain water supply. Moreover, the MTRCL would step up supervision of the XRL works by continued vibration and settlement monitoring.

62. Mr HUI Tak-leung enquired whether the replaced mains in Tai Kok Tsui had experienced any bursts. Moreover, he wanted to know whether the WSD would impose penalty on the contractor in case it caused mains burst when replacing and rehabilitating water mains.

63. Mr LAU Pak-kei enquired whether the WSD could complete the remaining 14% of water mains replacement and rehabilitation works in Tai Kok Tsui by the end of 2015. He hoped that water mains burst incidents could be further reduced after the WSD had replaced the aged mains in Tai Kok Tsui.

64. Mr WONG Hei-nok responded that the WSD did not have figures concerning bursting of replaced pipes. He reiterated that all the 18 cases of water mains burst in Tai Kok Tsui in the past three years involved aged water mains. The vibration caused by heavy vehicles passing by or construction could make those water mains vulnerable to burst.

65. Mr CHAN Kwok-fai responded that about 14% of the existing water mains in Tai Kok Tsui had yet to be replaced or rehabilitated. The WSD had requested the contractor to expedite the works to reduce the occurrence of leakage and burst incidents. Moreover, the WSD would discuss with the DC Members of the constituency concerned on the transport, environmental protection and water supply arrangement during the water mains replacement and rehabilitation works before executing the works. The department hoped to complete the remaining 14% of water mains replacement and rehabilitation works in Tai Kok Tsui by the end of 2015.

66. Mr LAU Pak-kei urged the WSD to undertake to complete the remaining 14% replacement and repairing works of water mains in Tai Kok Tsui by the end of 2015.

67. Mr CHAN Kwok-fai responded that the WSD would urge the contractor to speed up the works so as to finish the outstanding replacement and repairing works of water mains in Tai Kok Tsui by the end of 2015.

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

Item 10: To Lower Minimum Age Limit for Elderly Health Care Voucher Recipients to 65
(YTMCBC Paper No. 8/2014)

----- 69. The Chairman said that the written response of the DH (Annex 2) had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He then welcomed Dr Jaime SIN, Senior Medical and Health Officer (Community Liaison) 2 of the DH to the meeting.

70. The Chairman supplemented the contents of the paper.

71. Dr Jaime SIN responded as follows:

- (a) The Chief Executive announced to incorporate the Elderly Health Care Voucher Pilot Scheme into the regular elderly assistance programme in 2014 Policy Address. The annual voucher amount for each eligible elderly person would be further increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 in 2014. Subject to approval of the 2014-15 Budget, the department concerned would arrange for issuance of the additional amount, and the accumulation limit of voucher amount for each eligible elderly person would be increased from \$3,000 to \$4,000.
- (b) The DH was aware of the request from the elderly and different sectors of the community for lowering the age requirement of Health Care Vouchers. However, the Government had to prudently review the effectiveness of subsidising the primary medical services in the form of Health Care Vouchers, and to carefully assess the fiscal affordability of the Government in the long term. The DH considered that maintaining the age of eligible elderly persons at 70 or above while increasing the annual voucher amount to \$2,000 was a proper and balanced approach.
- (c) Since the implementation of the scheme, over 4 000 healthcare service providers had enrolled in the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme (“HCVS”), involving 6 000 places of practice in the 18 districts for accepting use of Health Care Vouchers. The DH had promoted the HCVS to healthcare service providers through its eHealth System and by sending invitation letters to medical officers and related professional bodies. The DH had set up a hotline to answer enquiries about the HCVS from health care practitioners. The DH would continue to promote the HCVS with a view to encouraging more healthcare service providers to participate in the scheme.

(Mr CHOW Chun-fai and Mr KO Hiu-wing left the meeting at 5:05 p.m.)

72. Ms KWAN Sau-ling hoped that the Government could consider lowering the age requirement of HCVS from 70 to 65 under a surplus budget in order to benefit more elders.

73. Mr CHAN Wai-keung considered that lowering the age requirement of the HCVS from 70 to 65 might not involve a large amount of government expenditure. He added that usually elders could only check their voucher balance in clinics. He asked whether the DH could enhance the service by providing voucher balance enquiry service through telephone or the Internet.

74. Mr HUI Tak-leung suggested writing to the DH in the name of the CBC, requesting the Government to lower the age requirement of HCVS from 70 to 65 and reflecting the Members’ views on this item.

75. The Chairman asked how the Government came up with the increased accumulation limit of voucher amount for each eligible elder from \$3,000 to \$4,000. He also pointed out that there were different age requirements for the application of senior citizen card, Old Age Living Allowance and Health Care Voucher. He thought that the Government should review the eligible age of those welfare schemes.

76. Dr Jaime SIN responded as follows:

- (a) The Government was aware of the request from the elderly and different sectors of the community to lower the age requirement of the HCVS . The department concerned had considered different options before proposing to increase the annual voucher amount from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The DH would further conduct timely reviews of the effectiveness of the enhanced scheme after it had been implemented for a period of time.
- (b) If in doubt, voucher recipients could call the DH's enquiry hotline on HCVS.
- (c) The DH would continue to enhance the HCVS for the convenience of healthcare service providers and the public.
- (d) The elderly could use the Health Care Voucher for medical consultations and health checks, including dental checks.

77. Miss CHAN Wai-chun noted the Chairman's request for the Government to review the age eligibility of every welfare scheme and would reflect it to the department concerned.

78. The Chairman asked whether Members agreed to write to the DH in the name of the CBC, requesting the department to lower the eligible age of HCVS recipients from 70 to 65. There was no objection.

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

(Post-meeting note: The CBC wrote to the DH on 27 February 2014, requesting the department to lower the age requirement of the HCVS from 70 to 65 (Annex 3).)

Item 11: Enquiries for Elderlies Hindered by Privacy (Personal Data) Ordinance. It Is Difficult for the Aged to Get Responses to Their Enquiries.
(YTMCBC Paper No. 9/2014)

80. The Chairman said that the written response of the SWD (Annex 4) had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He then welcomed Miss CHAN Wai-chun, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/Yau Tsim Mong) 2 of the SWD to the meeting.

81. Ms WONG Shu-ming supplemented the contents of the paper. She pointed out that her assistant phoned the SWD recently to enquire about the case progress for an elder and was told by the SWD staff member that pursuant to the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance ("the Ordinance"), the SWD only accepted direct enquiries from the data subject and would not entertain enquiries made by his/her relatives, Councillors or assistants of Councillors on his/her behalf. In this connection, she requested the SWD to elaborate on the implementation of the Ordinance and requested the SWD to give an account to the public concerning the relevant guidelines.

82. Miss CHAN Wai-chun responded as follows:

- (a) The Ordinance took effect in 1996.
- (b) According to principle 3(1) of the Data Protection Principles of the Ordinance, personal data shall not, without the prescribed consent of the data subject, be used for other purposes.
- (c) According to principle 4 of the Data Protection Principles of the Ordinance, in respect of security of personal data, all practicable steps shall be taken to ensure that personal data held by a data user are protected against unauthorised or accidental access, processing, erasure, loss or use.
- (d) Pursuant to principle 3(1) of the Data Protection Principles of the Ordinance, the SWD staff could not disclose the data of the data subject to other persons without his/her prescribed consent.
- (e) Notices on the collection of personal data had been posted at the SWD office. The SWD must keep the collected personal data confidential unless it had obtained the consent of the data subject to disclose his/her data to specified departments or specified persons.
- (f) In general, if the data subject had provided to the SWD staff the name of the person who would make enquiries on his/her behalf and the contents of the enquiries, the SWD staff was ready to answer the authorised person's enquiries.
- (g) If the data subject had not informed the SWD staff in advance that he/she had authorised another person to make enquiries on his/her behalf, even if the enquirer could provide the identity card ("ID") number of the data subject, the SWD staff still could not disclose information to him/her in order to protect the privacy of the data subject. If the authorised person made an enquiry by telephone, the SWD staff would answer the enquiry after verifying the identities of the data subject and the authorised person.

83. Mr HUI Tak-leung said that as someone might impersonate the data subject on the telephone, verifying the identity of the data subject over the telephone served no real purpose. He hoped the SWD could explain clearly the guidelines issued to frontline staff on handling enquiries made on behalf of the data subject.

84. Ms WONG Shu-ming understood that the SWD encountered difficulties in implementing the Ordinance. She wanted to know whether the SWD would follow the practice of credit card centres of banks of entertaining the enquiries made by authorised person on behalf of the data subject, as long as the data subject had notified the bank that he/she had authorised another person to handle a certain matter on his/her behalf and provided the ID number of the authorised person to the bank. Moreover, she opined that if the SWD officers refused to handle enquiries made by a Councillor's office on behalf of others, they should explain the reasons to the data subject to allay his/her concern.

85. The Chairman enquired whether the SWD would accept written authorisations made by the data subject to allow Councillors or their assistants to make enquiries to the SWD on his/her behalf. If the SWD accepted such an arrangement, he wanted to know the information required in the written authorisation.

86. Miss CHAN Wai-chun responded as follows:

- (a) The SWD staff would carefully verify the identity of the caller who claimed to

be the data subject before answering enquiries. If there were any doubts, the SWD subject officer would contact the data subject again to confirm the authenticity of the authorisation.

- (b) If the data subject informed the SWD staff clearly that he/she had authorised another person to make enquiries on his/her behalf, the SWD staff would disclose the data of the data subject to the authorised person.
- (c) The SWD would also accept written authorisations made by the data subject to allow Councillors or other persons to make enquiries to the SWD on his/her behalf.

87. Mr CHUNG Kong-mo said that the telephone numbers of Councillor's offices were public information. He suggested that Councillors or their assistants make enquiries to the SWD on behalf of others by calling from their office's number so that the SWD staff could easily verify the identity of the caller by the telephone number. Councillors or their assistants could then provide the information of the identity of the data subject to the SWD for verification purpose.

(Ms KWAN Sau-ling left the meeting at 5:33 p.m.)

88. Mr HUI Tak-leung noted that some departments would accept telephone authorisations from the data subject to allow a certain Councillor or his/her assistant to make enquiries about his/her case, but the SWD did not accept such a practice. He pointed out that the data subject would usually seek help from Councillors only because there was a pressing need. It was a pity that Councillors were denied right to make enquiries on behalf of the data subject on the grounds of privacy. He urged the SWD to ensure that the identity verification process would not cause inconvenience to the public while protecting the privacy of data subjects.

89. Mr CHAN Wai-keung indicated that there were frequent data exchanges among government departments. He did not understand why a Councillor, as a public officer, could not make enquiries to the SWD on behalf of the public. He added that disciplined service officers could make enquiries about a data subject to other government departments on the phone simply by providing the ID number and birthday of the data subject. He doubted if the SWD had adopted double standards in applying the Ordinance.

90. Ms WONG Shu-ming understood that it was difficult for the SWD to strike a balance between protecting the privacy of and providing convenience to the data subject. Nevertheless, the SWD should study the issue with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data with a view to providing convenience to the data subject under the principle of privacy protection.

91. Miss CHAN Wai-chun responded that according to the data protection principles of the Ordinance, unless with the prescribed consent of the data subject, personal data should not be used for other purposes. The SWD therefore could not disclose the data of the data subject to other persons or government departments in the absence of his/her prescribed consent. The interests of data subjects were best protected in this way.

(Mr HUI Tak-leung left the meeting at 5:42 p.m.)

92. Mr CHAN Wai-keung considered that returning calls by the SWD staff to the data

subject for verification of identity was not a proper and official practice. In addition, the data subject might deny that the SWD had called to verify his/her identity afterwards. He added that on the one hand, the SWD claimed that a written authorisation was not a must for the data subject to entrust others to make enquiries. On the other hand, it said that the identity of the data subject would not be verified simply over the phone. The SWD seemed to have contradicted itself.

93. Miss CHAN Wai-chun responded that the data subject could authorise other persons or government departments to make enquiries on his/her behalf in writing. The data subject could also phone the subject officer, stating clearly that he/she agreed to allow a particular person to make enquiries about specified information on his/her behalf. A balance between protecting the privacy of and providing convenience to the data subject could be achieved. Under both approaches, data of the data subject would be disclosed to the authorised person only with the data subject's prescribed consent. Moreover, the SWD officers would exercise special care in handling telephone enquiries and verifying the identities of the data subject and authorised person.

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

Item 12: Request for Review of Number and Distribution of Public Telephone Booths in Yau Tsim Mong District (YTMCBC Paper No. 10/2014)

----- 95. The Chairman said that the written response of the Office of the Communications Authority ("OFCA") (Annex 5) had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

96. The Vice-chairman supplemented the contents of the paper. He indicated that according to the written response of the OFCA, there were at present a total of 163 public payphone kiosks in the YTM District. Since the kiosks were installed and operated by telecommunication operators, the OFCA did not have the statistics on the utilisation rate of the kiosks. The OFCA also pointed out that although mobile phones were very popular, some people were still not using mobile phone service. Under certain circumstances, the public might still need to use public payphone kiosks. Therefore, the OFCA considered that there was still an existence value for public payphone kiosks. Nevertheless, he considered that the OFCA had the responsibility to monitor the utilisation rate of public payphone kiosks in the district regularly, and review the need of providing payphone kiosks in the district and the distribution of those kiosks. He proposed to write to the OFCA in the name of the CBC to reflect Members' views on this item.

97. Mr CHAN Siu-tong indicated that foreign tourists would not call the police from public payphone kiosks because they could use their mobile phones to dial 112 in case of emergency. It was also inconvenient for tourists to use the public payphone kiosks because they had to use coins. Moreover, there were mobile applications available for making long distance calls by mobile phones with rates much lower than public payphone kiosks. He proposed to reduce the number of public payphone kiosks on busy roads in the district with two or more such kiosks so as to make available more road space for pedestrian use.

98. Ms WONG Shu-ming agreed to write to the OFCA in the name of the CBC to reflect

Members' dissatisfaction at the OFCA for not sending representatives to the meeting and to relay Members' views on this item. She added that many payphone kiosks in the district had been used by telecommunication operators for storing easy-mount frames. Some were even locked up by iron chains and the public was unable to use them.

99. Mr Benny YEUNG agreed with the suggestion of writing to the OFCA. He opined that the OFCA only needed to retain a small number of public payphone kiosks at tourist spots or places with high people flow in the district.

100. The Vice-chairman requested to write to the OFCA in the name of the CBC to express Members' dissatisfaction at the OFCA for not sending representatives to the meeting. He reiterated that the OFCA had the responsibility to monitor the utilisation rate of public payphone kiosks in the district and to regularly review the actual needs of providing telephone kiosks and their distribution in the district.

101. The Chairman asked if Members agreed to the Vice-chairman's suggestion and there was no objection.

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

(Post-meeting note: The CBC wrote to the OFCA on 27 February 2014 (Annex 6) to reflect the views of Members.)

Item 13: Any Other Business

(i) Progress Report on Widening Nathan Road Tree Planters by Leisure and Cultural Services Department

103. The Chairman said that the progress report of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") on the captioned item had earlier been distributed to Members for perusal. He then welcomed Mr LAI Ka-yin, Deputy District Leisure Manager (Yau Tsim Mong) 1 of the LCSD to the meeting.

104. Mr LAI Ka-yin gave a PowerPoint presentation on the results of the first phase of the trial scheme on enlarging planters at Nathan Road, the proposed works for the second phase and the proposed follow-up measures to be taken by the LCSD.

(Mr SIU Hong-ping left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.)

105. Mr Chris IP said the LCSD had indicated at earlier meetings that it would remove the Chinese Banyan next to the soccer pitch of Kowloon Park in due course but the department had yet to take any actions so far. He wanted to know when the LCSD would remove the tree and reopen the soccer pitch.

106. The Vice-chairman asked whether the area adjacent to the new planters would not be concreted anymore to facilitate the growth of roots of old trees.

107. Mr CHUNG Kong-mo said that the new planters were made of processed wood materials which were conducive to drainage but it was not known whether they were inflammable. He worried that the planters would easily catch fire if the public dropped

cigarette ends in them.

108. Mr LAI Ka-yin responded as follows:

- (a) The Expert Panel on Tree Management (“the Expert Panel”) would convene a meeting in March 2014 and would only discuss whether to remove the Chinese Banyan concerned and the timetable by then.
- (b) The LCSD would remove the existing pavement blocks at the enlarged planters and replace the soil approximately 20 cm underneath the pavement blocks. Thus, apart from the soil newly placed 40 to 50 cm underneath the new planters, the existing soil would be retained.
- (c) The LCSD would, as a regular plant maintenance practice, cover the soil layer of the new planters with materials made of processed wood chips and tree barks. The department did not have any data concerning the fire resistance of the materials for the time being but it had not received any reports on serious fire hazards caused by the materials so far.

109. Ms WONG Shu-ming said there were recent media reports on the high mortality rate of shrubs at the central reservation of Nathan Road. In addition, tree branches projected over the road and endangered the safety of drivers. She hoped the LCSD would reflect to the expert panel the situation concerned and consider not planting the same species of trees in the same area following the death of those shrubs.

110. Mr Chris IP said that if the Brown Root Rot (“BRR”) disease of the Chinese Banyan adjacent to the soccer pitch of Kowloon Park could not be cured, the LCSD should remove the tree as soon as possible to reopen the spectator stand of the soccer pitch for public use.

111. Mr Ernest CHIU said that a Member requested the Government to replace the paving blocks of Park Lane Shoppers’ Boulevard (“PLB”) at the CBC meeting on 17 October 2013. As the current tree planter widening project at Nathan Road of the LCSD might enable roots of old trees to project outwards, he wanted to know whether the replacement of paving blocks at PLB would be affected.

112. Mr CHAN Siu-tong requested the LCSD to explain to the CBC the final decision made by the Expert Panel regarding the Chinese Banyan adjacent to the soccer pitch of Kowloon Park after meeting the panel.

113. The Vice-chairman indicated that Members had agreed to remove the Chinese Banyan adjacent to Kowloon Park soccer pitch by the LCSD at a previous CBC meeting to prevent neighbouring trees of the Chinese Banyan from contracting BRR disease. Since the BRR infected Chinese Banyan might be incurable, the LCSD had to enclose it. By doing so, the spectator stand adjacent to the soccer pitch also had to be enclosed for a long period of time. He hoped that the LCSD could reflect the views of the CBC to the Expert Panel and remove the Chinese Banyan decisively.

114. Mr LAI Ka-yin responded that the Expert Panel had not prepared the agenda of the meeting in March 2014. The LCSD would try to include an item on the agenda about the Chinese Banyan adjacent to Kowloon Park soccer pitch, and report the decision of the Expert Panel to the CBC after the meeting. He added that the LCSD was aware of the unsatisfactory growth condition of shrubs along Nathan Road. The LCSD had urged the

contractor to take proper measures, including reinforcing irrigation and replacing the plants, etc. The condition of those shrubs had seen some improvements. The LCSD had also urged the contractor to step up pruning the shrubs for the sake of road safety. Moreover, the LCSD would review whether the species of shrubs were suitable for growing along busy roadsides. If unsuitable, the LCSD would replace those shrubs with other species. As regards the issue of replacing paving blocks at PLB, the HyD had advised that the replacement works might affect the health and structure of the old trees since the roots might continue to grow under the paving blocks. The LCSD had requested the HyD to propose feasible plans for consideration, but the HyD had not responded yet.

115. The Chairman indicated that as there was no HyD representative present at the meeting, he suggested that the LCSD should continue discussing with the HyD the replacement of paving blocks at PLB after the meeting. Members could submit papers and request to discuss the issue if necessary.

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

(ii) Inspection of Activities Held by First-year Applicant Organisations

117. The Chairman indicated that CBC Members had the obligation to attend the activities held by first-year applicant organisations. In the current round of funding application, three activities would be held by first-year applicant organisations.

118. The Chairman asked Members to discuss among themselves the arrangement for attending the activities.

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

120. There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 8 May 2014 (Thursday).

Yau Tsim Mong District Council Secretariat
April 2014

議項八
書面回應

油尖旺區議會轄下
社區建設委員會

重新檢視大角咀區老化水管 加快進行全面更換
水務署回應

就劉柏祺議員的提問，本署的回覆如下：

- 1) 過去三年，大角咀區內曾發生 18 宗爆水管事故，主要發生於大角咀道、楓樹街、福全街、松樹街。
- 2) 大角咀區內的食水及鹹水的主要水管分佈於深旺道、聚魚道、大角咀道、晏架街、博文街及櫻桃街。區內部分水管已於近年更換或修復，其餘大部分水管都已使用超過三十年。
- 3) 大角咀區內已經納入更換及修復水管工程的管道約長 12.6 公里。截至 2013 年 12 月底，已完成了約 86%，餘下的水管工程將會在 2015 年年底分階段完工。
- 4) 本署非常關注大角咀區內水管老化的問題，對於區內的管網、急切需要更新的老舊喉管已經納入現有的更換及修復計劃，本署現正加緊進行有關工程。因應區內的各項限制包括交通、環境等，我們預計現正進行的水管工程將於 2015 年完成。至於區內其他舊水管，本署現正積極研究下一階段的改善計劃，包括以水管更換及修復、水壓管理及加強測漏等不同方式多管齊下，務求將水管改善計劃對居民的影響減至最低。

水務署
2014 年 2 月 7 日

油尖旺區議會轄下
社區建設委員會第十三次會議
關注九龍站周邊多次爆水管事件
水務署回應

就孔昭華議員的提問，本署的回覆如下：

- 1) 根據資料顯示，最近一年九龍站附近共發生兩次水管爆裂或滲漏事故。

第一宗事故發生於 2013 年 9 月 27 日早上約 11 時，位於佐敦道連翔道交界港鐵廣深港高速鐵路(簡稱「高鐵」)工程地盤內一條直徑 150 毫米的鹹水管出現滲漏，大量鹹水由破裂水管流出。本署於中午 12 時左右截斷該段水管的供水，以便進行緊急維修工程。截水期間，位於九龍站範圍東面數所屋苑(包括漾日居、凱旋門等)的鹹水供應受到不同情度的影響。緊急維修工作完成後，鹹水供應於下午約 3 時 30 分逐步恢復正常。

第二宗事故發生於 2014 年 1 月 21 日早上約 10 時，位於連翔道近漾日居及高鐵工程地盤旁一條直徑 100 毫米鹹水管和一條直徑 150 毫米消防水管出現滲漏，大量水滲漏出路面，恐防行車路面下陷，引致交通意外，本署隨即安排緊急維修和聯絡警方安排交通改道。在完成準備工作後，本署分別於下午 3 時和 4 時 30 分左右截斷該段鹹水管和消防水管的供水，以便進行緊急維修工程。工程進行期間，整段位於佐敦道及柯士甸道西之間的連翔道需要暫時封閉。同時，本署發現該處一條直徑 150 毫米的食水管亦出現滲漏，於 1 月 22 日晚上約 10 時 15 分截斷該段食水管的供水，以便進行緊急維修工作。截水期間，位於九龍站範圍內數所社區服務設施和幼兒學校的鹹水和食水供應受到影響。緊急維修工程完成後，於 1 月 22 日晚上約 10 時恢復消防和鹹水供應，而食水供應則於晚上約 11 時 55 分恢復正常。

在上述事故中，本署已即時作出跟進，以確保儘快完成緊急維修及恢復供水，並減低對受影響人士帶來的不便。

- 2) 以上兩次事故出現滲漏的水管只使用了約十五年，此階段因水管老化而引致爆裂或滲漏的機會不大。根據調查結果，本署相信第一宗事故的成因可能與港鐵高鐵工程有關，而第二宗事故的成因則仍在調查中。

新鹹水管，以助減少一旦出現水管爆裂或滲漏而需要暫時截斷供水的範圍。此外，本署已提醒港鐵加強監察九龍站附近水管的狀況及實施更多有效措施保護有關水管，以減低高鐵工程對水管的影響。

- 4) 本署經常與港鐵及其承建商進行會議，以檢視水管監察及保護工作。本署亦定期派員巡查港鐵工程地盤範圍內及附近的水管，以監察及提醒港鐵承建商妥善保護相關水管。

水務署

2014年2月7日

2012 - 2015

油尖旺區議會社區建設委員會

促當局放寬醫療券使用者資格至 65 歲

貴會於二零一四年一月二十四日提呈的文件，就醫療券計劃（以下簡稱「計劃」）所提出的要求和建議已收悉，現謹回覆如下：

盡快向合資格長者發放 2,000 元醫療券

根據現時的計劃，政府已在二零一四年一月一日，向每名合資格長者發放醫療券金額 1,000 元。基於計劃愈來愈受歡迎，行政長官在二零一四年施政報告宣布，除了在二零一四年把醫療券試驗計劃轉為恆常長者支援計劃，當局將於本年內把每名合資格長者的醫療券金額由每年 1,000 元進一步增加至 2,000 元。我們會在二零一四至一五年度的財政預算案通過後，安排發放新增的醫療券金額 1,000 元予長者使用。

增加醫療券的累積上限

在二零一四至一五年度的財政預算案通過後，政府亦會相應地將每名合資格長者的醫療券累積金額上限由現時的 3,000 元調整至 4,000 元。

降低合資格年齡

我們留意到長者和社會各界對降低醫療券合資格年齡的訴求。我們需要審慎檢視以醫療券方式資助基層醫療服務的成效及詳細評估政府的長遠財政承擔能力。我們認為維持合資格長者年齡在 70 歲，而增加醫療券金額至每年 2,000 元，是適當而平衡的方案。

邀請更多醫療服務提供者參加計劃

自計劃實施以來，已有超過 4 000 名醫療服務提供者參與計劃，於接近 6 000 個分布全港 18 區的執業地點接受長者使用醫療券。衛生署一直有透過網站和去信予醫護人員及相關專業團體，向醫療服務提供者推廣醫療券計劃，及介紹計劃運作安排，又特別設立了電話熱線，解答醫護人員的查詢，我們會繼續透過各途徑推廣計劃，希望能吸引更多醫療服務提供者參與計劃。

最後，謝謝貴會的文件，衛生署會繼續聽取長者和社會各界的意見，務求能進一步優化計劃。

2012 – 2015
Yau Tsim Mong District Council
Community Building Committee

Request for Lowering the Age Eligibility
of the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme

We have received your Committee's paper dated 24 January 2014 and the requests and suggestions in relation to the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme ("the Scheme") therein are noted. Our response is provided below.

Providing the voucher amount of \$2,000 to eligible elders as soon as possible

Under the existing Scheme, the Government has provided the voucher amount of \$1,000 to each eligible elder on 1 January 2014. Given the increasing popularity of the Scheme, the Chief Executive announced in the 2014 Policy Address that, apart from converting the Pilot Scheme into a recurrent support programme in 2014, the Government will further increase the annual voucher amount from \$1,000 to \$2,000 this year. After passage of the 2014-15 Budget, we will arrange to provide the additional voucher amount of \$1,000 to the elders.

Raising the financial ceiling on unspent voucher balance

After passage of the 2014-15 Budget, the financial ceiling on unspent voucher balance for each eligible elder will be adjusted from \$3,000 to \$4,000 accordingly.

Lowering the age eligibility

We note the request for lowering the age eligibility for health care vouchers from elders and different quarters of the community. We need to critically review the effectiveness of subsidizing the primary care services through the provision of health care vouchers and carefully assess the long-term financial commitment of the Government. We consider the present proposal of maintaining the existing age eligibility at 70 while increasing the annual voucher

amount to \$2,000 is an appropriate and balanced approach.

Inviting more healthcare service providers to enroll in the Scheme

Since the launch of the Scheme, over 4 000 healthcare service providers have enrolled in the Scheme, involving about 6 000 places of practice in 18 districts of Hong Kong. The Department of Health has promoted the Scheme and provided its operational details to healthcare service providers through the website and issue of letters to the healthcare professionals and relevant professional bodies. We have also set up a hotline to answer enquiries of healthcare professionals. We will continue to promote the Scheme to healthcare professionals through various channels with a view to encouraging their participation in the Scheme.

Lastly, thank you for your Committee's paper. The Department of Health will continue to listen to the views of elders and different quarters of the community so as to further enhance the Scheme.



油尖旺區議會

YAU TSIM MONG DISTRICT COUNCIL

Only Chinese version is available
Annex 3

檔號：() in HAD YTMDC 13-30/3/1 Pt. 31

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衛生署署長

陳漢儀醫生，JP

傳真函件

(傳真：2836 0071)

陳署長：

促當局放寬醫療券使用者資格至 65 歲

油尖旺區議會社區建設委員會在 2014 年 2 月 13 日會議上，曾討論標題議項。

提呈標題文件的三位議員在會上就「長者醫療券試驗計劃」提出多項意見，衛生署代表在回應時表示，行政長官已在《二零一四年施政報告》中宣布，「長者醫療券試驗計劃」將於年內轉為恆常長者支援計劃，受助人的醫療券金額會由每人每年 1,000 元增至 2,000 元。政府並會待立法會通過 2014-2015 年度財政預算後，把每名合資格長者的醫療券累積金額上限由 3,000 元上調至 4,000 元。此外，政府會繼續透過多種途徑推廣醫療券計劃，以吸引更多醫療服務提供者參與此計劃。

有關議員對貴署代表的回應表示歡迎，但他們仍希望當局切實考慮把長者醫療券使用者的年齡限制由現時 70 歲降至 65 歲，以增加受惠人數。特此致函貴署，盼能反映委員的意見，促成政府早日落實此項安排，讓更多長者得享醫療券福利。

有關上述會議的內容，請登入油尖旺區議會網頁 (http://www.districtcouncils.gov.hk/ytm/tc/2012_2015/committee_meetings.html) 收聽會議錄音，會議記錄(擬稿)容後寄上。

油尖旺區議會
社區建設委員會主席

黃建新

2014 年 2 月 27 日

油尖旺區議會
社區建設委員會文件 9/2014 號
(供 2014 年 2 月 13 日委員會會議參考)

《個人資料(私隱)條例》

目的

本文件旨在回應黃舒明議員就有關《個人資料(私隱)條例》(下稱“條例”)的提問。

《個人資料(私隱)條例》

2. 條例於一九九六年十二月二十日生效。廣義而言，條例控制資料使用者對個人資料的收集、持有、處理及使用，同時讓個別人士能夠要求查閱及改正任何與其有關的個人資料。條例適用於所有資料使用者，包括控制個人資料的收集、持有、處理及使用的任何人士、機構和政府部門。

3. 根據條例保障資料原則的第 3 原則，有關個人資料的使用須符合以下條文：

- (1) 如無有關的資料當事人的訂明同意，個人資料不得用於新目的。
- (2) 資料當事人的有關人士可在以下條件獲符合的情況下，代該當事人給予為新目的而使用其個人資料所規定的訂明同意—
 - (a) 該資料當事人—
 - (i) 是未成年人；
 - (ii) 無能力處理本身的事務；或
 - (iii) 屬《精神健康條例》(第 136 章)第 2 條所指的精神上無行為能力；
 - (b) 該資料當事人無能力理解該新目的，亦無能力決定是否給予該項訂明同意；及
 - (c) 該有關人士有合理理由相信，為該新目的而使用該資料明顯是符合該資料當事人的利益。
- (3) 即使資料使用者為新目的而使用資料當事人的個人資料一事，已得到根據第(2)款給予的訂明同意，除非該資料使用者有合理理由相信，如此使用該資料明顯是符合該當事人的利益，否則該資料使用者不得如此使用該資料。

(4) 在本條中—

新目的就使用個人資料而言，指下列目的以外的任何目的—

- (a) 在收集該資料時擬將該資料用於的目的；或
- (b) 直接與(a)段提述的目的有關的目的。

4. 根據條例保障資料原則的第4原則，有關個人資料的保安須符以下條文：須採取所有切實可行的步驟，以確保由資料使用者持有的個人資料(包括採用不能切實可行地予以查閱或處理的形式的資料)受保障而不受未獲准許的或意外的查閱、處理、刪除、喪失或使用所影響。

披露個人資料

5. 社會福利署(下稱“社署”)作為政府部門和資料使用者，必須按照條例，保障個案的個人資料及處理任何機構或人士要求披露個人資料的事宜。不過，若資料當事人明確和自願給予同意，社署亦會按其同意內容使用(包括披露和移轉)其個人資料。

總結

6. 請各議員備悉文件內容。

社會福利署

2014年2月

要求重新檢討油尖旺區公共電話亭數目與分佈

提問及要求

- (1) 現時在油尖旺區內有多少個電話亭，主要分佈在何處？
- (2) 現時電話亭一般的使用量有多少？
- (3) 公用電話亭的設立是有需要的，但部門應作全面檢討，參考使用量與分佈，減少部份位置如彌敦道和天星碼頭的電話亭數目，以釋出更多空間予行人使用。

通訊事務管理局辦公室（「通訊辦」）的回應

- (1) 根據資料，目前在油尖旺區共設有163個公眾收費電話亭，其中159個屬於香港電話有限公司及Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited（以下統稱為「電盈」），另外4個屬於和記環球電訊有限公司。
- (2) 由於公眾收費電話亭是由營辦商興建及營運，我們並沒有公眾收費電話亭使用率的統計資料。
- (3) 根據《電訊條例》(第106 章) 第35B 條，通訊事務管理局可規定一個或以上的固定傳送者牌照持牌人負上全面服務責任，以確保所有在香港境內的人合理地獲得良好、有效率和持續的基本電話服務，當中主要包括公共交換式電話服務及公眾收費電話機(包括公眾收費電話亭)。

現時，電盈是唯一一家提供全面服務責任的營辦商。就公眾收費電話機而言，電盈須根據有關的《電訊條例》條文及其牌照條款，提供合理數目的公眾收費電話機，包括設置在公有或私有設施之內而公眾可使用的收費電話機。電盈會根據其評估及公眾的要求，在有需求的地方裝設公眾收費電話機，以符合上述規定。而其他營辦商所提供的公眾收費電話亭，則主要取決於其商業考慮。

儘管現今流動電話已很普及，但仍有少數市民未有使用流動電話服務，而且在某些情況下，例如在沒有攜帶流動電話時，市

民會使用公眾收費電話亭與親友聯絡或在遇上緊急事故時致電999求助。另外，由於漫遊服務費用一般較為高昂，訪港遊客或會使用公眾收費電話亭撥打本地或長途電話。據我們所知，目前全球各地的先進城市仍設有路邊公眾收費電話亭供市民和遊客使用。因此，通訊辦認為公眾收費電話亭仍有其存在需要。

Responses of the Office of the Communications Authority ("OFCA")

- (1) According to our record, there are at present a total of 163 public payphone kiosks installed in the Yau Tsim Mong District, of which 159 belong to PCCW-HKT Telephone Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited (hereinafter collectively referred to as "PCCW") and the other 4 belong to Hutchison Global Communications Limited.
- (2) As the public payphone kiosks are installed and operated by the operators, we do not have the statistics on the utilisation rate of the public payphone kiosks.
- (3) In accordance with section 35B of the Telecommunications Ordinance (Chapter 106), the Communications Authority may require that one or more fixed carrier licensees have a universal service obligation to ensure that a good, efficient and continuous basic service is reasonably available to all persons within the areas of Hong Kong covered by that obligation. The basic service mainly comprises public switched telephone service and public payphones (including public payphone kiosks).

At present, PCCW is the only operator has a universal service obligation. As far as public payphones are concerned, PCCW is required to provide a reasonably number of public payphones in accordance with the relevant provisions set out in the Telecommunications Ordinance and PCCW's licence including payphones located within publicly or privately owned facilities to which the public have access. PCCW will, in the light of its assessment and the need of the public, install public payphones at the places concerned in order to meet the above-mentioned provisions. For the payphones provided by the other operators, it is the commercial decision of the operators to install such payphones.

Although mobile phones are very popular nowadays, some of the people are still not using mobile phone service. Under some situations, such as forgetting to bring the mobile phone, people may use public payphone

kiosks to contact their friends and relatives or in case of emergency, dial 999 for assistance. Besides, the mobile roaming charges are generally at a high level and visitors may use public payphone kiosks to make international or local calls. We understand that public payphone kiosks are still installed on public streets for use by the public and visitors in advanced cities around the world. Thus, OFCA considers that there is still a need for the public payphone kiosks to exist.



油尖旺區議會

YAU TSIM MONG DISTRICT COUNCIL

檔號：() in HAD YTMD C 13-30/3/1 Pt. 31

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通訊事務管理局辦公室

通訊事務總監

利敏貞女士

傳真函件

(傳真：2803 5110)

利女士：

要求重新檢討油尖旺區公共電話亭數目與分佈

油尖旺區議會社區建設委員會在 2014 年 2 月 13 日會議上，曾討論標題議項。

根據通訊事務管理局辦公室(“通訊辦”)的書面回應，由於公眾電話亭由電訊營辦商興建和營運，通訊辦並沒有公眾收費電話亭使用率的統計資料，社建會委員對通訊辦的簡單回覆表示不滿。

通訊辦的書面回應另指出，香港電話有限公司及 Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited 會根據其評估及公眾的要求，在有需求的地方裝設公眾收費電話機，以符合《電訊條例》條文及其牌照條款，而其他營辦商，則主要從商業角度考慮提供公眾收費電話亭。儘管如此，社建會委員認為通訊辦仍有需要檢視油尖旺區公眾收費電話亭的使用率，並重新檢討區內電話亭的數目和分佈，以遷拆使用率低的電話亭，騰出更多路面空間供行人使用。

此外，社建會委員對通訊辦未有派員出席上述會議，直接回應委員的提問，亦感不滿。

特函轉達社建會委員上述意見，以備知悉。

有關上述會議的內容，請登入油尖旺區議會網頁
http://www.districtcouncils.gov.hk/ytm/tc/2012_2015/committee_meetings.html 收聽會議錄音，會議記錄(擬稿)容後寄上。

油尖旺區議會
社區建設委員會主席

黃建新 

2014 年 2 月 27 日