

**Minutes of the 7th Meeting of
Yau Tsim Mong District Council (2012-2015)**

Date : 25 October 2012 (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 CHUNG Kong-mo, JP

Vice Chairman

Ms KO Po-ling, BBS, MH, JP

District Council Members

Mr CHAN Siu-tong, MH

Mr CHAN Wai-keung

Mr CHOI Siu-fung, Benjamin

Mr CHONG Wing-charn, Francis

Mr CHOW Chun-fai, BBS, JP

Mr HAU Wing-cheong, BBS, MH

Mr HUI Tak-leung

Mr HUNG Chiu-wah, Derek

Mr IP Ngo-tung, Chris

Ms KWAN Sau-ling

Mr LAU Pak-kei

Mr LEUNG Wai-kuen, Edward, JP

The Honourable TO Kun-sun, James

Mr WONG Chung, John

Mr WONG Kin-san

Mr WONG Man-sing, Barry, MH

Ms WONG Shu-ming

Mr YEUNG Tsz-hei, Benny

Representatives of the Government

Mr CHIU Chung-yan, Charlson	District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong) (Atg)	Home Affairs Department
Mr CHAN Hon-kwong	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Mong Kok)	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr PONG Kwok-kee, James	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Yau Tsim)	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE	District Commander (Mong Kok District)	Hong Kong Police Force
Mr CHEUNG Kwai-kee	District Commander (Yau Tsim)	Hong Kong Police Force
Mr MAN Tat-shing	Assistant District Commander (Crime) (Yau Tsim)	Hong Kong Police Force
Ms YUEN Miu-Chun, Christine	Senior Transport Officer/ Yau Tsim Mong (Atg)	Transport Department
Mr SO Ting-lut, Vincent	District Leisure Manager (Yau Tsim Mong)	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr WONG Chi-sing, Janson	Chief Engineer/ Kowloon 2	Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms TSO Pui-hing, Tammy	Housing Manager/ Kowloon West 3	Housing Department

In Attendance:

Mr AU Choi-kai, JP	Director of Buildings	Buildings Department
Mr LAW Kam-sheung	Chief Structural Engineer/F	Buildings Department
Mr WAN Che-wing, Wilson	Senior Structural Engineer/F1	Buildings Department
Ms NG Ka-yin, Pamina	Administrative Assistant to Director of Buildings	Buildings Department
Mrs FUNG CHING Suk-yee, Betty, JP	Director of Leisure & Cultural Services	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHOR Kin-lan, Anna	Senior Staff Officer (HQ)	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr WONG Tat-ming, Richard	Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong West)	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr TSANG Chin-kwong, Harry	Chief Executive Officer (Planning)1	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr YUNG Chi-shing	Chief Librarian (Operations and Computerization)	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mrs CHU LEE Mei-foon, Karen	Senior Librarian (Yau Tsim Mong)	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHUI Man-leung	Divisional Commander (Kowloon South)	Fire Services Department
Mr LAU Siu-kwong	Divisional Officer (Kowloon West)	Fire Services Department
Mr LI Chi-shing, Sammy	Senior Telecommunications Engineer (Spectrum Planning)2	Office of the Communications Authority
Mr LAM Wai-wah, Chris	Engineer/Kowloon 7	Drainage Services Department
Mr NG Ka-keung	Inspector of Works/ Kowloon 7	Drainage Services Department
Mr SO Hoi-ying, Peter	Structural Engineer/ Existing Buildings Division 2	Buildings Department
Mr LUK Kwok-po	Chief Estate Officer/ Kowloon	Lands Department
Ms WONG Yin-yee	District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/ Yau Tsim Mong)	Social Welfare Department
Mr PUI Wai-yiu, Frankie	Senior Social Security Officer (Sham Shui Po & Yau Tsim Mong)	Social Welfare Department
Mr Mason HUNG	Director, Event and Product Development	Hong Kong Tourism Board
Mr Lewis LI	Senior Executive, Product Development	Hong Kong Tourism Board
Mr LEUNG Kim-bong, Wilson	Assistant Manager (Tourism)	Tourism Commission
Mr Kris LAM	Production Co-ordinator	Hong Kong Film Awards Association
Ms Karen CHAU	PR & Marketing Executive	Hong Kong Film Awards Association
Ms Maria CHEUNG	General Manager – Corporate Communication	New World Development Company Limited
Ms Becky CHAN	Executive Manager	Avenue of Stars Management Limited
Dr CHAN See-ka, Scarlet	Medical & Health Officer (Community Liaison)2	Department of Health

Mr KEUNG Pui-Yun, Colin	Senior Environment Protection Officer (Metro Assessment)2	Environmental Protection Department
Mr CHAN Hok-man	Engineer/ Planning West 2	Transport Department

<u>Secretary</u> Ms CHUNG Siu-lan, Joanne	Senior Executive Officer (District Council)	Home Affairs Department
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Absent:

Ms HO Siu-ping, Betty, JP	District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong)	Home Affairs Department
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Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the meeting. He said that Ms Betty HO, District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong), was under training overseas so Mr Charlson CHIU, District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong) (Atg) was attending the meeting in her place. He also reported that Mr Sunny IP, Chief Manager/ Management (West Kowloon and Hong Kong Island) of the Housing Department and Mr Vincent FAN, Chief Transport Officer/ Bus & Railway 4 of the Transport Department were absent and therefore Ms Tammy TSO, Housing Manager/ Kowloon West 3 and Ms Christine YUEN, Senior Transport Officer/ Yau Tsim Mong (Atg) were attending in their place respectively. The Chairman asked participants to keep questions short and concise as there were many items on the agenda. He proposed that Members with documents to present be given two minutes to make additional remarks on the contents, and that each Member be allowed to speak twice on each item: two minutes for the first time and one minute for the second time. Members had no objection to the proposal.

Agenda Item 1: Visit of Director of Buildings to Yau Tsim Mong District Council ("YTMDC")

2. The Chairman welcomed Mr AU Choi-kai, Director of Buildings; Mr LAW Kam-sheung, Chief Structural Engineer/F; Mr Wilson WAN, Senior Structural Engineer/F1 and Ms Pamina NG, Administrative Assistant to Director of Buildings, from the Buildings Department ("BD").

3. Mr AU Choi-kai introduced the work and duties of the BD.

(Mr Barry WONG joined the meeting at 2:55 p.m.)

4. Mr Francis CHONG wondered why the BD allowed property owners to hire registered contractors to sub-divide their flat units and why the alteration plans were not required to obtain prior approval from the BD. He continued that quarterly inspections were already carried out under the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme and asked why the BD did not take this opportunity to inspect whether units were sub-divided. Pointing out that sub-division of units could lead to building safety problems, he expressed his dissatisfaction with the BD's failure to address the situation.

5. Mr HUI Tak-leung asked the BD to address the severity of sub-division of units in the district. He was dissatisfied with the BD's failure to respond to Members' appeal in respect of housing affairs and building management.

6. Ms KWAN Sau-ling claimed that she had reported a suspected serious case of unauthorised building works ("UBWs") to the Police at the end of 2011, and at the time, the BD said it would follow up on the matter actively. She wanted to know how this case had progressed. In addition, the BD had claimed at the beginning of 2011 that it would be the department's top priority to deal with 150 buildings with serious problems of sub-division of units in the territory. She asked if the BD had implemented any policies yet.

7. Mr CHAN Siu-tong believed that the BD did not value Members' views. He said that unauthorised rooftop structures or large signboards on external walls of buildings could cause serious maintenance problems, but the BD often stated that the buildings had "no imminent danger" and did not take active follow-up action. He had once helped owners of sub-divided units at Shanghai Street to apply for a deadline extension for restoration works, but the BD failed to respond actively and thus drew criticism.

8. Mr Benjamin CHOI said that a ground-level tunnel boring works of the Express Rail Link ("ERL") in Tai Kok Tsui had caused cracking of the external walls, beams and platforms of two buildings. The BD was however unable to provide any professional advice about whether the two buildings were structurally safe and who should be held responsible in the event of an accident or so. Instead, the department only said that the two buildings were in no imminent danger. He added that two other buildings in Tai Kok Tsui had tilted because of piling works nearby, and the BD also said that the buildings were in no imminent danger. He was quite dissatisfied with the BD's failure to actively assess the condition of the buildings and provide sufficient information to the residents.

9. Mr CHAN Wai-keung asked the BD if it would actively deal with long-abandoned and illegal signboards in the district, and problems brought about by electronic displays on the external walls of buildings. As to the processing of applications for installation of signboards on external walls of buildings, he was dissatisfied that the BD had failed to consider whether the applicants were owners or stakeholders of the buildings concerned or consider the objections of owners' corporations ("OCs") and occupants, before it issued letters of approval. He suggested that the BD consult the Fire Services Department ("FSD") and the Electrical Mechanical Services Department ("EMSD") for professional advice when considering such applications to ensure the safety of electrical installations.

10. The Chairman said that in the recent Housing and Building Management Committee ("HBMC") meeting, Members also pointed out that the BD had approved large signboard installation applications for external walls of buildings without consulting the owners or OCs of the buildings, and believed that this practice was extremely unreasonable.

11. Mr WONG Kin-san recommended that the BD should amend the legislation so that under the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme, registered inspectors would have to examine, *inter alia*, whether units were sub-divided and provide details of sub-divided units for follow-up by the department.

12. Mr Edward LEUNG said that the BD should review the degree of discretion in law enforcement and urge frontline staff to communicate more with occupants and OCs of

buildings so that they would not be at a loss as to what to do to comply with the relevant legislation.

13. Ms WONG Shu-ming wanted to know the figures of water seepage cases and unauthorised signboard cases processed by the BD in the Yau Tsim Mong ("YTM") District over the past year, as well as the number of repair orders issued on unauthorised structures.

(The Vice Chairman joined the meeting at 3:15 p.m.)

14. Mr AU Choi-kai responded as follows:

- (i) The BD would only take enforcement action against sub-division works that caused building safety issues (such as blocked fire escape passages, or anything that would make the building exceed its weight limits). The BD would conduct a large-scale operation and actively inspect buildings. If sub-division works that would cause building safety issues were discovered, appropriate enforcement action would be taken in accordance with the law.
- (ii) Even under the Minor Works Control System, new sub-division works could still be carried out without obtaining prior approval of plans from the BD; however, owners still had to appoint qualified professionals and registered contractors to carry out the works. The appointed professionals would be responsible for designing the works and ensuring compliance with the safety and health standards of buildings stipulated in the Buildings Ordinance. If any works failed to meet the building standards, the BD would take enforcement action.
- (iii) In 2011, the BD inspected 116 target buildings and issued removal orders against UBWs related to sub-divided units. A number of units had already been rectified. In 2012, the number of target buildings inspected by the BD increased to 369 and removal orders against UBWs would be issued.
- (iv) The BD would continue to proactively demolish abandoned or dangerous signboards and had cleared more than 1 600 of such signboards annually. The BD proactively mounted large-scale operations to remove unauthorised signboards without obvious danger every year and issued removal orders in an order of priority according to the size of signboards. Removal orders would be issued against more than 200 such signboards this year.
- (v) The BD's approval of building plans for signboards only meant that the signboards had met the safety standards stipulated in the Buildings Ordinance. Whether a person had the right to install signboards on the external walls of a building was a question of title, and was irrelevant to the approval of the plan and outside the purview of the BD.
- (vi) The BD had recently completed a review on electronic display signboard specifications with the FSD and the EMSD. In considering future plans for signboards, the BD would, as usual, consult relevant departments before approving plans for installation of electronic displays on the external walls of buildings. The BD and relevant departments would also formulate rules to regulate electronic display signboards.
- (vii) In general, after receiving a report on suspected UBW, the BD would follow up on the matter. For UBWs having been accorded high priority for

clearance under the enforcement policy, the BD would issue a removal order.

- (viii) The Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme focused mainly on the problem of building negligence. Under the schemes, qualified professionals such as registered contractors were required to notify the BD if UBWs were found on the exterior of the building. During the annual large-scale operations, the BD would include buildings with serious unauthorised structure problems in the list of target buildings and issue removal orders to the owners concerned. During an inspection, if a qualified professional or a registered contractor discovered any sub-division work that might affect the structural safety of the building, this had to be reported to the BD for enforcement action.
- (ix) The ERL was a government project monitored by the railway team of the Highways Department ("HyD"). The BD was mainly responsible for monitoring the safety of private buildings. The BD would maintain close contact with the HyD's railway team so as to monitor the impact of the ERL project on the safety of private buildings. Before the commencement of the ERL's underground tunnel works, the MTR Corporation Limited ("the MTRC") had already conducted inspections/surveys on buildings and recorded the results from various monitoring points. During the construction period, in the event of any unusual circumstances of buildings, relevant departments would take remedial action and report them to the BD. If the ERL project caused any structural danger to buildings, relevant departments would immediately take follow-up action. Regarding the two cracked buildings which Mr Benjamin CHOI had mentioned, the BD and HyD's railway team had conducted field tests and found no structural danger to the two buildings. The cracks already existed prior to the commencement of the works and showed no signs of enlargement. Nonetheless, the BD had asked the HyD's railway team to add additional monitoring points to continue its monitoring of the buildings.

15. The Chairman said Members were deeply dissatisfied that the BD, which only took responsibility for ensuring plans complied with safety standards, approved applications for the installation of signboards on the external walls of buildings without consulting the owners of the external walls or the buildings' OCs or owners. He opined that this would lead to many future problems and controversies and the BD needed to review its current policy.

16. Mr Francis CHONG thought that the Government should not delegate regulatory powers to registered contractors. He questioned the independent regulatory effect of doing so as registered contractors were employed by small owners and responsible for carrying out sub-division works. He also pointed out that under the current Minor Works Control System, registered contractors could "register" minor works with the BD after completing them. He did not agree with this practice.

17. The Vice Chairman said because most signboards were installed on the external walls of buildings, the OCs of buildings might be held legally responsible if the signboards caused safety problems. Therefore, Members had requested at the HBMC meeting that the BD should review the existing legislation to require applicants for such signboard installations to enclose a letter of consent from the OC of the relevant building when submitting the application. She urged the BD to consider this recommendation.

18. Mr HAU Wing-cheong said that according to some owners of buildings aged 40 years or above, their flat units had been constructed with mezzanines before they moved in, but the BD told them that the entrances to the mezzanines had to be closed. As these units and the mezzanines were used as separate floors, it was unfeasible to close the entrances, so he hoped that the BD could exercise some discretion in this regard.

19. In addition, Mr HAU Wing-cheong said that the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints ("Joint Office") was understaffed and had backward facilities, which greatly reduced the efficiency of complaint handling. He hoped that the BD would devote more resources to the Joint Office.

20. Mr Benjamin CHOI pointed out that professionals who attended the site visits at the two cracked buildings in Tai Kok Tsui said that new cracks had appeared in the relevant buildings, and these were obviously different to the old cracks.

21. Mr Barry WONG wanted to know whether the BD would actively respond to Members' requests to review and amend the existing legislation so that applicants would also have to submit a letter of consent from the OC of the building or the owners of external walls when applying to install an electronic display on the external wall of a building.

22. Ms KWAN Sau-ling wanted to know whether minor works contractors considered the structural weight capacity of a building when they sub-divided units. She also enquired who would be held responsible for the building safety problems caused by sub-division of units.

23. Ms WONG Shu-ming said, prior to the meeting, she had learned from the media that the Secretary for Development had said the BD had issued 295 removal orders against UBWs of sub-divided units, cage homes and partitioned flats within the first three quarters of the year; however 93% of the cases were yet to be rectified. In addition, over the past six years, the BD had made 41 relevant prosecutions. She was dissatisfied that the BD failed to respond to her questions and provide relevant figures at the meeting.

24. Mr John WONG expressed his disappointment with the BD's failure to address the major concerns of the local community, such as sub-divided units, water seepage, UBWs and wall signboards, and to put forward a solution. Noting that the media had already reported cracks in the two Tai Kok Tsui buildings caused by the ERL project, he was dissatisfied with the BD's failure to confirm whether the cracks had existed before commencement of the works.

25. Mr AU Choi-kai responded as follows:

- (i) Sub-division works were now covered under the Minor Works Control System. Under this system, a contractor that engaged in such works must apply for registration as a minor works contractor and report the works to the BD. A registered contractor who violated any provision of the Buildings Ordinance when carrying out minor works would be liable for disciplinary action or prosecution.
- (ii) He reiterated that the existing legislation only conferred the BD with the power to examine whether signboard plans complied with the building standards required by the Buildings Ordinance. The relevant provisions and the approval letter issued by the BD clearly stated that the approval of the plans could not be deemed as the conferment of the title to any land.

Therefore, the BD could not require applicants to submit a letter of consent by the owners or OCs of the relevant buildings when applying for the installation of signboards on the external walls of buildings.

- (iii) In regard to the closure of the entrance of the unauthorised mezzanine structure mentioned by Mr HAU Wing-cheong, he said that the BD issued orders for building safety or fire safety purposes. However, if an owner encountered difficulties in complying with the order, he or she could discuss an alternative solution with the BD.
- (iv) The Government would only intervene when flats with water seepage problems posed a health hazard. After receiving the report of a water seepage incident, the Joint Office had to first identify the source of water seepage and determine if it would cause a health hazard before having the right to take enforcement action. In addition, the Joint Office needed owners to cooperate and allow its staff members to enter the premises for an inspection before it could process water seepage complaints. The processing of water seepage complaints was therefore time-consuming. He added that the Joint Office's testing equipment was not backward. The BD was currently collaborating with the Innovation and Technology Commission to find a way to improve test results.

26. The Vice Chairman further enquired which department was responsible for clarifying legal liabilities caused by signboards on the external walls of buildings.

27. Mr CHOW Chun-fai said that the title to the external walls of a building typically belonged to the OC. As many buildings in the YTM District were "three nil" buildings with no OCs, the BD should clarify the legal authority and duties regarding external walls of buildings. He recommended that the BD include an additional condition in the approval letter to require the applicant for the installation of signboards on the external wall of a building to be held liable for future legal issues that arise in relation to the signboards.

28. The Chairman stressed that the existing legislation was unfair as property owners or OCs might be held liable for legal issues that arose in relation to signboards on the external walls of a building. In addition, it would be difficult to determine whether it was safe to install a sign on the external wall of a building if the BD did not inspect the structure of external walls when considering the applications. He asked the BD to promise to seriously review and amend the existing legislation to plug the loopholes and avoid future controversies.

29. Mr AU Choi-kai responded that the amendment of the existing legislation to monitor title issues in relation to signboards on external walls was outside the purview of the BD, but the BD would consider Members' recommendations and reflect their views to the Development Bureau.

30. The Chairman said that Mr Barry WONG requested the BD to follow up on recommendations made by Members at the meeting and account for the progress of law amendment to Members in writing.

31. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the Director of Buildings and other staff of the BD for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 2: Visit of Director of Leisure and Cultural Services to YTMDC

32. The Chairman welcomed Mrs Betty FUNG, Director of Leisure and Cultural Services; Ms Anna CHOR, Senior Staff Officer (HQ); Mr Richard WONG, Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong West); Mr Harry TSANG, Chief Executive Officer (Planning)1; Mr YUNG Chi-shing, Chief Librarian (Operations and Computerization); Mr Vincent SO, District Leisure Manager (Yau Tsim Mong) and Mrs Karen CHU, Senior Librarian (Yau Tsim Mong) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD").

33. Mrs Betty FUNG gave a powerpoint presentation on the leisure and sports facilities, minor works as well as cultural and recreational activities provided in the district by the LCSD.

34. Mr CHAN Siu-tong requested that an additional sports complex be built in the district. He was glad to hear that the LCSD was reviewing its sports facilities hiring arrangements to curb online speculation over venues and abuse of venues. He hoped that the LCSD would consult sports personalities and sports associations when reviewing its policies.

35. Ms KWAN Sau-ling praised Mr Vincent SO for his work performance in handling district matters. Then she commented that there was a lack of seating in the open space outside the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, causing inconvenience to visitors. She further recommended that the LCSD green the rooftop of the Science Museum as residents in the vicinity considered the concrete cover not aesthetically pleasing.

36. The Chairman affirmed the pragmatic attitude of Mr Vincent SO and other LCSD staff. He agreed that there was a practical need for an additional sports complex in the district and recommended that the LCSD consider building a sports venue in the open space behind Charming Garden.

37. Mr Derek HUNG said that the table tennis venue of Kowloon Park was always on loan for other purposes, which meant that members of the public who had a real need for it could not use it. He requested the LCSD to address the situation and make good use of resources. He also recommended updating the Leisure Link online booking system to reduce the printing of unnecessary tickets.

38. Mr CHAN Wai-keung hoped that the LCSD would build a large track and field stadium in the district. He also said that the cultural and recreational facilities of the district were concentrated in the older areas, and there was a lack of such facilities in the vicinity of new housing estates even though the population had grown rapidly in the last decade. He asked the LCSD to launch the construction of the public library, sports complex and standard pool in the open space near Hoi Ting Road as soon as possible.

(The Honourable James TO joined the meeting at 4:15 p.m.)

39. Mr WONG Kin-san hoped that the LCSD would build a swimming pool in Mong Kok. In addition, he said the LCSD needed to have more direct communication with members of the public to facilitate its administrative management. He recommended that the District Council ("DC") regularly hold meetings with the LCSD about the management of cultural and recreational facilities in the district to reflect the community's views to the LCSD.

40. Ms WONG Shu-ming made positive remarks about the work performance of LCSD staff. Then she said it had come to her attention that local non-government organisations (“NGOs”)’ applications for hiring the Cultural Centre venue for cultural performances were often rejected by the LCSD on the ground that their performances were not of high artistic merit. In regard to this, she wanted to know which department was responsible for assessing the artistic merit of cultural performances, and asked the LCSD to increase the transparency of artistic merit assessment for the reference of applicants.

41. Mr HAU Wing-cheong said that NGOs had told him that the waiting list for booking venues in the Cultural Centre was very long. He hoped the LCSD would make good use of the Urban Council Centenary Garden and rent stadiums and other venues within the district for local organisations to organise activities.

42. Mr Edward LEUNG said that the YTM District had some 320 000 residents and a large number of visitors, so it would be worthwhile for the LCSD to invest more resources into the district to promote recreational and cultural development. Pointing out that organisations in YTM often had to compete with applicants from all over Hong Kong when booking cultural and recreational facilities in the district, he suggested that after the launch of the West Kowloon Cultural District (“WKCD”), the management of the concert hall in one of the complexes therein should be assigned to LCSD staff of the YTM District and booking priority be given to organisations in the district. He also hoped that the LCSD would address the problems of unauthorised occupation of venues and touting of booked sessions.

43. Mr Barry WONG praised LCSD staff for their performance. He said that people often occupied public places in Kowloon Park and wanted to know if the LCSD allowed such acts.

44. The Chairman considered the park maintenance quotations relatively high and requested the LCSD to lower the amounts. In addition, he said that the DC would set aside some funding every year for the LCSD to organise cultural events, public library promotional activities and recreational activities. He discovered that the expenses for the above activities had increased annually, yet the funding allocated to the DC by the Home Affairs Department (“HAD”) for Community Involvement Projects remained unchanged. He hoped that the LCSD would discuss the matter with the HAD and adjust the allocated amount.

45. Mrs Betty FUNG responded as follows:

- (i) One hectare of land would be needed for a track and field stadium and there were practical difficulties in identifying a suitable site within the district.
- (ii) The LCSD understood that the DC wanted a building complex with a small library, an indoor games hall and a heated swimming pool to be built at a site along Hoi Ting Road, but the MTR required the land as a work site until 2016. The LCSD would consider the DC’s recommendation.
- (iii) As the Hong Kong Cultural Centre had four Venue Partners and there had long been booking requests for the Cultural Centre venues from organisations within and outside the district, a number of the LCSD’s activities for the YTM District needed to be held in venues of other districts. The LCSD hoped that after the launch of the WKCD in 2016, a number of the activities currently held at the Cultural Centre could be held in the WKCD Xiqu Centre instead, which would free up more time slots in the

Cultural Centre for use by organisations of the YTM District.

- (iv) When the redeveloped Victoria Park Swimming Pool and Kwun Tong Swimming Pool reopened for use in 2013, the Kowloon Park Swimming Pool would have more time slots for use by residents of the YTM District.
- (v) The LCSD would consider providing additional seats outside the Hong Kong Cultural Centre for visitors.
- (vi) Venue users could reflect their views to the LCSD directly. The LCSD would also consult DCs, sports associations and the LCSD's Community Sports Committee. Nevertheless, the LCSD would still consider establishing a customer service team to improve communication with members of the public or venue users.
- (vii) The Architectural Services Department and the EMSD were responsible for maintaining the venues of the LCSD. As maintenance costs had gone up, the LCSD would discuss an increase of the provisions for district minor works projects with the HAD.
- (viii) Subject to technical feasibility, the LCSD would continue greening the rooftops of various venues.
- (ix) LCSD parks were open for public use, so unless there were people acting in a way which affected other users in the park, it was difficult to require any people to leave the park according to the Pleasure Grounds Regulation. She stressed that on receipt of complaints about individuals causing nuisance to other park users, LCSD staff would follow up on the matter.

46. Mr Vincent SO responded that due to technical limitations, the Leisure Link ticketing system currently only allowed one ticket to be printed for each booked session and was unable to print a single ticket for multiple sessions.

47. Mrs Betty FUNG supplemented that the LCSD would work with computer team members to, when updating the computer systems, explore the possibility of enhancing the Leisure Link in a bid to meet Mr Derek HUNG's request.

48. The Chairman was glad to hear that the LCSD planned to build an integrated sports complex near Hoi Ting Road and hoped that more community halls and multi-purpose rooms would be included in the complex.

49. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services and other staff of the LCSD for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 3: Confirmation of Minutes of 6th YTMDC Meeting

50. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received amendments to the minutes of the last meeting proposed by the Hong Kong Police Force ("HKPF") and Mr Derek HUNG, and that the document (Annex 1) had been distributed in this meeting for Members' perusal.

51. The amended minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

Agenda Item 4: Matters Arising:

**- Continued Concern over No. 4 Alarm Fire at Fa Yuen Street and Its Follow-up Work
(YTMDC Paper No. 8/2012)**

52. The Chairman welcomed Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE, District Commander (Mong Kok) of the HKPF; and Mr CHUI Man-leung, Divisional Commander (Kowloon South) and Mr LAU Siu-kwong, Divisional Officer (Kowloon West), of the FSD.

53. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE reported that the HKPF had already submitted seven interim reports to the Coroner's Court; the last two reports were submitted on 13 August and 25 September respectively. The HKPF had received reports from all the specialists and other departments. As a number of the specialists' reports had information that needed to be clarified, the HKPF would submit the finalised report to the Coroner's Court upon receipt of the supplementary information required. At the current stage, the HKPF could not reveal anything from the investigation reports.

54. Mr CHUI Man-leung said that the FSD had already submitted investigation reports to the HKPF so that all the reports could be submitted to the Coroner's Court at the same time. The FSD had nothing to add at this juncture.

55. Mr WONG Kin-san said that it had almost been a year since the Fa Yuen Street fire. He hoped that government departments would speed up follow-up work with particular emphasis on fire prevention to prevent the tragedy from happening again. He suggested that discussions on this item be continued until the Government announced the fire investigation report.

56. Mr James TO said that the Director of Fire Services had indicated that his staff had been unable to enter a number of units at Fa Yuen Street for inspection, and he wished to know whether the problem had been resolved. In addition, noting that the Government expected the Lamma Island shipwreck survey report to be completed within six months, he questioned why the investigation of the Fa Yuen Street fire was so slow.

57. Mr CHUI Man-leung responded that with the help of the Mongkok Kaifong Association, the FSD had obtained the key to the relevant units on 23 August, and had conducted several inspections and left leaflets to remind the residents to pay attention to fire safety. The FSD later clarified in the South China Morning Post that the relevant units were not obstructed by odds and ends. As regards the suspected unauthorised alterations of the units, the case had been referred to the BD for follow-up.

58. Mr James TO asked for more details about the progress of follow-up action on the case of suspected unauthorised alterations.

59. The Chairman said that as the HKPF and the FSD were only invited to attend the meeting to give a regular report on the investigation of the fire, Mr James TO would be unable to get an immediate response about the case of suspected unauthorised alterations.

60. Mr James TO suggested inviting representatives from the BD to the next YTMDC meeting to facilitate follow-up of the case of suspected unauthorised alterations to units at Fa Yuen Street.

61. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE said that without the consent of the Coroner's Court, the HKPF could not release the contents of the investigation report. The HKPF noted Members' views about the progress of investigations and had informed the Regional Crime Unit, Kowloon West of the views. He added that the HKPF's investigation work was in its final stage, but the review of the investigation report revealed a need for further data collection.

62. In response to the questions on fire prevention work, Mr CHUI Man-leung said that the FSD would promote fire safety at "pai dongs" within the district with the help of the YTM District Fire Safety Committee, and would also distribute fire safety leaflets to nearby buildings.

63. The Chairman proposed that representatives from the HKPF, the FSD and the BD be invited to attend the next meeting to continue discussion of this item and report on the work progress, and Members had no objection to the proposal. He then thanked the HKPF and FSD representatives for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

**Agenda Item 5: Financial Position of YTMDC as at 12.10.2012
(YTMDC Paper No. 115/2012)**

**Agenda Item 6: Funding Applications from Specified Organisations
(YTMDC Paper No. 116/2012)**

**Agenda Item 7: Change of an Ethnic Activity of 2012-2012 Working Group ("WG")
on Ethnic Affairs and Revised Budget for YTM District Ethnic
Cultural Show
(YTMDC Paper No. 117/2012)**

**Agenda Item 8: Budget for YTM District Ethnic Cultural Show to be Jointly
Organised by 2012-2014 YTM South Area Committee and WG on
Ethnic Affairs
(YTMDC Paper No. 118/2012)**

**Agenda Item 9: Funding Application from 2012-2013 Organising Committee on
Cultural Arts Events for Organising Guided Tours to Historic
Buildings in Yau Ma Tei and Cantonese Opera Workshops
(YTMDC Paper No. 119/2012)**

**Agenda Item 10: Funding Application for Production of "Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market
Oral History Project" Report
(YTMDC Paper No. 120/2012)**

**Agenda Item 11: Revised Funding Application from 2012-2013 Building
Management Promotion Campaign Organising Committee
(YTMDC Paper No. 121/2012)**

64. The Chairman proposed that Agenda Items 5 to 11 about DC funding be discussed together and Members had no objection to the proposal. The Chairman reminded Members to fill in the Declaration of Interests form on the table if necessary.

65. Members noted the financial position of the YTMDC as at 12 October 2012. Members endorsed an allocation of funding for Agenda Items 6 to 11 (YTMDC Papers No. 116/2012 to 121/2012).

Agenda Item 12: Review of Funding Applications for Organising Special District Programmes
(YTMDC Paper No. 122/2012)

66. The Chairman said that at its meeting on 4 October, the Community Building Committee ("CBC") agreed to send letters to invite district groups to apply for DC funds for the Special District Programmes, and had uploaded the letter of invitation onto its website for public information. As at 19 October, the closing date for application, the Secretariat had received two applications each requesting an allocation of \$200,000. At its special meeting on 22 October, the Working Group ("WG") on Community Funds vetted the two applications and agreed to recommend them to the DC. He asked Members to consider approving an allocation of \$400,000 for the two applicants to organise the Special District Programmes.

67. Mr WONG Kin-san said that he supported the two funding applications in principle. However, as each application involved an allocation of \$200,000 and the information provided on the application form was not detailed enough, he had asked for further information from the applicants at the special meeting of the WG on Community Funds held on 22 October. He wanted to know if the applicants had already submitted the information required.

68. Mr Derek HUNG wanted to learn more about how the funding would be used for the events. He hoped that the applicants would provide additional information for Members' reference.

69. The Secretary responded that after the special meeting of the WG on Community Funds held on 22 October, as requested by Members, the Secretariat had requested the applicants to provide additional information. The applicants had already submitted the information to the Secretariat before the meeting. Members could obtain the information from the Secretariat if necessary.

70. Mr HAU Wing-cheong supplemented that at the meeting, the WG on Community Funds had agreed that applicants should have experience in organising large-scale activities, and that the activities had to be rich in the characteristics of the YTM District. Therefore, the WG had recommended the two funding applications for over \$100,000 to the DC. He was also aware that the applicants had already submitted the required additional information to the Secretariat before the meeting.

71. Mr WONG Kin-san said that he was not picking on any applicant but in order to ensure proper use of DC funds, Members had to be particularly prudent when vetting funding applications involving a large sum. He suggested the Secretariat take the initiative to request applicants to submit more detailed information when processing future funding applications which involved a large sum.

72. The Chairman said that Members could consider on-site inspections of activities for monitoring purpose.

73. There being no further comments, the Chairman declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 13: Concern over Reception of Mobile Phone Network Signals in Shenzhen Bay Port (Hong Kong Port Area)
(YTMDC Paper No. 123/2012)

74. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 2) of the Office of the Communications Authority ("OFCA") had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He welcomed Mr Sammy LI, Senior Telecommunications Engineer (Spectrum Planning)² of the OFCA to the meeting.

75. Mr CHAN Siu-tong briefly introduced the contents of the document. He said many people had told him that even when they were in remote locations such as the Shenzhen Bay Port or Lantau Island and had not yet entered Mainland China, they would already be covered by mobile phone service networks in the Mainland ("Mainland networks"), which meant that they were forced to use expensive roaming services to take calls in those locations. He hoped that the OFCA and the Mainland authorities concerned could resolve the problem.

76. Mr Sammy LI responded that this technical problem of "over-spilling" of mobile signals was difficult to avoid because a number of mobile phone networks in Hong Kong and the Mainland used the same radio wave channel and both places were right next to each other. However, the OFCA would regularly communicate with Mainland authorities to find a way to reduce possible roaming brought by such "over-spilling" of mobile signals.

77. Mr Barry WONG did not understand why areas within Hong Kong would be covered by Mainland networks when the reverse situation did not happen in the Mainland.

78. Mr Derek HUNG wanted to know whether outdoor areas of Shenzhen Bay Port within Hong Kong boundary were under the jurisdiction of Hong Kong. He said that according to the written response of the OFCA, Hong Kong telecommunications companies needed additional outdoor transmitting stations to provide coverage to outdoor areas within Hong Kong jurisdiction in Shenzhen Bay Port. He considered that the OFCA needed to discuss ways to reduce this "over-spilling" of mobile signals problem with telecommunications companies and relevant Mainland departments.

79. The Chairman agreed with Mr Derek HUNG's views. He hoped that telecommunications companies could provide network services to outdoor areas within Hong Kong jurisdiction in Shenzhen Bay Port to benefit the people.

80. Mr HAU Wing-cheong said that the "over-spilling" problem also occurred at Shenzhen Bay Port and Huanggang Port.

81. Mr Sammy LI's response was as follows:

- (i) "Over-spilling" of mobile signals affected the Mainland as well, which meant that Mainland users would also be charged for network roaming in border

areas because they would receive signals from Hong Kong's mobile phone networks ("Hong Kong networks").

- (ii) Shenzhen Bay Port's Hong Kong passenger terminal building was located in Shekou, Shenzhen, so if additional transmitter stations were to be installed in the outdoor areas within Hong Kong jurisdiction in Shenzhen Bay Port, Mainland mobile phone users would be affected. Due to this technical reason, Hong Kong's telecommunications companies could not provide mobile services in the outdoor areas within Hong Kong jurisdiction in Shenzhen Bay Port.

82. Mr Derek HUNG said that according to Mr Sammy LI, it was unavoidable that Hong Kong areas in Shenzhen Bay Port of Shekou, Shenzhen would receive Mainland's mobile phone signals; however, Mr LI had also said that Shenzhen residents received Hong Kong's mobile phone signals, and he thought that the two points contradicted each other.

83. Mr Sammy LI explained that owing to the transmission characteristics of radio waves, mutual coverage from Mainland and Hong Kong networks occurred in border areas. As regards Shenzhen Bay, if additional outdoor transmitter stations were installed in the Hong Kong jurisdiction area located in Shekou to give Hong Kong mobile phone networks coverage for the area, Mainland mobile phone users around Shenzhen Bay Port would be affected.

84. The Chairman proposed that the OFCA set up large signboards and distribute leaflets at the Hong Kong passenger terminal building to enhance travellers' awareness of the mobile phone network reception problems in the Hong Kong jurisdiction area of Shenzhen Bay Port. In addition, the OFCA could also negotiate with telecommunications companies to try to provide Hong Kong mobile phone service coverage to boundary areas.

85. Mr Sammy LI agreed to pass on Members' views to the OFCA and to arrange for more publicity of this matter in the Hong Kong jurisdiction area of Shenzhen Bay Port.

86. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the OFCA representative for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 14: Strong Denunciation of Labour and Welfare Bureau's Repeated Refusal to Send Representatives to Attend YTMDC Meetings
(YTMDC Paper No. 124/2012)

87. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 3) of the Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB") had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

88. Mr HUI Tak-leung pointed out that the LWB did not send representatives to attend the CBC meetings on 3 May, 7 June, and 26 July of 2012 or the current DC meeting. He requested that the DC continue discussing this item and said that he would express his strong dissatisfaction to the Secretary for Labour and Welfare when the latter visited the YTMDC.

89. Ms WONG Shu-ming shared Mr HUI Tak-leung's views. She considered that the Secretaries of the current SAR Government were willing to visit the districts to listen to public opinions but some middle-level officials failed to do so. She asked the Secretariat to

inform the LWB of Members' dissatisfaction.

90. The Chairman said that according to the LWB, the policy and operational matters related to the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme ("WITS") had been handed to the Labour Department ("LD"). He added that Mr Charlson CHIU had conveyed Members' views on the scheme to the LWB, and he hoped that Mr CHIU could make some supplementary responses.

91. Ms WONG Shu-ming said she had learnt that another item on the day's agenda required the response of the LWB. She asked whether the LWB had sent staff to attend the meeting to answer Members' enquiries. She questioned whether the Bureau was selectively attending DC meetings, depending on the item to be discussed.

92. Mr HUI Tak-leung presented the contents of the paper he had submitted: "At the CBC meeting on 7 June, the Acting District Officer responded that Members' dissatisfaction about the LWB's repeated failure to send representatives to the meeting had been conveyed to the Bureau, but the Bureau was still unable to send representatives to the meeting." He said that the LWB had only, just before the meeting, said that the policy and operational matters related to the WITS had been handed to the LD. He questioned why the LWB only notified the YTM District Office ("DO") and Members of this arrangement after the item had been discussed in three meetings. He considered the LWB's practice unacceptable.

93. The Chairman asked Members' if they had any other comments about adding this item to "Matters Arising". He also asked Mr Charlson CHIU to make a supplementary response.

94. Mr Charlson CHIU said that he had communicated with the LWB before the meeting and learned that the Bureau had handed the policy research and implementation of the WITS to the LD and, therefore, the Council could contact the LD directly on the matters concerned.

95. Mr James TO asked about when the LWB had handed the policy research and implementation of the WITS to the LD. He commented that if the LWB's words were true, the LWB could have informed Members as soon as possible, and could even have assigned LD officials to attend the meeting to respond to Members' questions.

96. Mr Charlson CHIU responded that the LWB had only passed the WITS work over to the LD after the latest CBC meeting, which meant that the DC had acted appropriately when it had previously asked the LWB to send representatives to discuss the scheme at the meeting.

97. Mr James TO agreed with Mr HUI Tak-leung's views and said that the LWB's practices were unacceptable.

98. Mr Derek HUNG wondered why the LWB did not assign LD officials to attend this meeting and thought that there was an internal communication problem between the LWB and the LD. He also said that the LWB's repeated failure to send representatives to CBC meetings was a display of disrespect towards the Council. He hoped that the DO could require the LD to send representatives to meetings to listen to Members' views.

99. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to discuss this item under "Matters Arising". In addition, he considered that a letter could be sent in the name of the DC to reprimand the LWB. He proposed that since the LWB had said that matters in

relation to this item had been handed to the LD, the CBC should follow up on the matter.

100. Mr HUI Tak-leung reiterated that he had submitted the document to the DC mainly to strongly reprimand the LWB for its repeated failure to send representatives to attend CBC meetings, and that whether the LD would send representatives to attend future CBC meetings was another matter that should be discussed separately.

101. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to send a letter to reprimand the LWB and to deal with this item under "Matters Arising". He also hoped that the LWB would send representatives to attend the next DC meeting.

102. Ms WONG Shu-ming supported Mr HUI Tak-leung's recommendation to send a letter to reprimand the LWB.

103. Ms KWAN Sau-ling asked whether the LWB had already sent a written response to Mr HUI Tak-leung.

104. Mr HUI Tak-leung stressed that the reprimand against the LWB for its repeated failure to send representatives to CBC meetings and the matter of the LWB handing the WITS to the LD were two separate matters that should be discussed separately.

105. Mr Barry WONG agreed with the Chairman's suggestion.

106. The Chairman recommended that a letter be sent in the name of the DC to reprimand the LWB and to invite the Bureau's representatives to attend the next meeting. There being no further comments, the Chairman declared the discussion of this item closed.

(Post-meeting note: The Chairman conveyed Members' requests to the Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Annex 4) in the name of the DC on 8 November 2012.)

Agenda Item 16: Concern over Elderly Poverty
(YTMDC Paper No. 126/2012)

107. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 5) jointly made by the LWB and the SWD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He welcomed Ms WONG Yin-yee, District Social Welfare Officer (Kowloon City/YTM) and Mr Frankie PUI, Senior Social Security Officer (Sham Shui Po & YTM) of the SWD.

108. Mr CHAN Wai-keung supplemented the paper with additional information. He said that the rent allowance provided under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme was insufficient to cover the rent of urban housing and it was indeed necessary for the SWD to review the policies concerned. He also urged the Government to implement the Old Age Living Allowance ("OALA") as soon as possible to benefit the financially needy elderly aged 65 and above.

109. Ms WONG Yin-yee explained the contents of the paper and the proposed OALA scheme. She said that under the adjustment mechanism adopted by the Legislative Council in 1998, the maximum rates of the CSSA rent allowance were adjusted annually in accordance with the movement of the rent index for private housing in the Consumer Price Index (A); and the SWD last increased the rates by 5.7% on 1 February 2012 according to the mechanism.

She said the Government would continue to monitor the situation and adjust the maximum rates of the rent allowance according to the established mechanism.

110. Mr Barry WONG requested the SWD to pass Members' views to the Social Security and Retirement Protection Task Force of the Commission on Poverty.

111. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the SWD representatives for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 15: Request for Convening Inter-departmental Meetings to Deal with / Ameliorate Community Problems at Rear Lane between 215-229 Sai Yee Street and 224-242 Fa Yuen Street, Prince Edward
(YTMD Paper No. 125/2012)

112. The Chairman said that the written response (Annexes 6-8) of the HyD, the BD and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He welcomed:

- (a) Mr CHUI Man-leung, Divisional Commander (Kowloon South) and Mr LAU Siu-kwong, Divisional Officer (Kowloon West) of the FSD;
- (b) Mr Chris LAM, Engineer/Kowloon 7 and Mr NG Ka-keung, Inspector of Works / Kowloon 7 of the Drainage Services Department ("DSD");
- (c) Mr CHAN Hon-kwong, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Mong Kok) of the FEHD;
- (d) Mr Wilson WAN, Senior Structural Engineer/F1 and Mr Peter SO, Structural Engineer/ Existing Buildings Division 2 of the BD;
- (e) Mr LUK Kwok-po, Chief Estate Officer/Kowloon of the Lands Department ("LandsD"); and
- (f) Mr Charlson CHIU, District Officer (YTM) (Atg) of the HAD.

113. Mr WONG Kin-san said that the rear lanes of 215-229 Sai Yee Street and 224-242 Fa Yuen Street had long been riddled with community environment and safety problems, such as food scrap and debris littered ground surface, blocked gullies, serious obstruction of back doors and fire escape passages of buildings, and suspected UBWs, but the Government had never addressed the problems and worked out a thorough solution. He hoped that the DO could take the lead and rectify these problems in collaboration with other departments.

114. The Chairman agreed with Mr WONG Kin-san's recommendation to request the District Officer to convene an inter-departmental meeting to resolve the abovementioned rear lane problems, considering it the right approach. He also hoped that representatives from relevant departments could provide an initial reply to Members' questions on this item.

115. Mr LUK Kwok-po said that the LandsD had conducted on-site inspection(s) and found iron structures on the private land in the rear lanes of 215-221 Sai Yee Street. The government land in the rear lanes of 223-229 Sai Yee Street was also found to have been used by nearby shops to store goods and sundries, but no independent structures were found. He added that over the past few years, the LandsD had only received a few complaints against accumulation of miscellaneous items and iron structures at the above locations, and that these complaints had been referred to the relevant departments for action. He also added that the

LandsD was willing to take part in the work of the inter-departmental team to follow up on the matters.

116. Mr CHUI Man-leung responded that the FSD had discovered five suspected UBWs in the rear lanes of the above street sections, but had not found backdoors that were obstructed by miscellaneous items. He said that the FSD would continue to actively inspect the area to follow up on the above problems.

117. Mr SO Hoi-ying said that in a recent inspection, the BD had found five unauthorised iron structures in a private rear lane of the above street sections. The BD had issued an advisory letter to the OC of 224 Fa Yuen Street and the shops at 215-221 Sai Yee Street to request them to remove the UBWs in the rear lanes themselves, but the shop operators at 215 and 221 Sai Yee Street claimed that the iron structures had nothing to do with their shops. Mr SO hoped that the proposed inter-departmental team would be able to find out the owner(s) of the illegal structures.

118. Mr CHAN Hon-kwong said that over the past two years, the FEHD had received ten complaints about the rear lanes of the above street sections. These complaints were mainly related to nullah blockages caused by accumulation of garbage and passage obstruction caused by accumulation of debris. The FEHD had already investigated and followed up on those cases. He added that the FEHD provided regular cleaning services at the above-mentioned rear lanes.

119. Mr Chris LAM responded that the duty of the DSD was to ensure that drains were unobstructed. If the DSD received complaints about obstructed underground drains of rear lanes, the department would send staff to inspect the situation and clear the blocked drains.

120. Mr Charlson CHIU said the DO had confirmed that the above street sections had many problems and would arrange relevant departments to inspect the situation and take follow-up actions.

121. Mr LAU Pak-kei further enquired how the departments would handle complaints about private rear lanes and wanted to know the procedures for and limitations in handling complaints. He hoped that the inter-departmental team would be able to work together to improve the environmental health and safety of private rear lanes in the district.

122. Mr Derek HUNG said that many problems of the YTM District could not be resolved by a single department. He agreed with Mr WONG Kin-san's suggestion of establishing an inter-departmental team to handle the problems of private rear lanes. He then asked whether the existing legislation allowed individuals (such as owners of private rear lanes) to close a rear lane and bar other people from entry.

123. Mr Benny YEUNG said that the DO did not have to take up the coordinating role for every case which required the intervention of multiple departments as he thought that departments should work together with one of them being the coordinator. He wanted to know which department should be responsible for coordinating the efforts against the rear lane problems of the above street sections.

124. Mr CHOW Chun-fai said that in the 1980s and 1990s, the British Hong Kong government had once reclaimed private streets and private lanes as government land. He asked the Government to consider the resumption of this practice to deal with the long-standing environmental health issues of private streets and private lanes.

125. Mr James TO said that according to the BD's written reply, the rear lane between 215-221 Sai Yee Street and 224-226 Fa Yuen Street was a private lane, whereas according to the FEHD's response, private lanes which were open to the public were generally covered by the FEHD's cleaning services. He asked the FEHD whether it had sent staff to clean the rear lane between 215-221 Sai Yee Street and 224-226 Fa Yuen Street.

126. Mr CHAN Hon-kwong responded that because public funds were involved, in principle the FEHD would not provide cleaning services at privately owned places, especially private lanes that had been fenced or were clearly marked as such. The FEHD would request landowners to make their own cleaning arrangements if a private lane had environmental health issues.

127. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the representative of departments for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 20: Progress Reports

- (1) District Management Committee
(YTMDC Paper No. 130/2012)
 - (2) District Facilities Management Committee
(YTMDC Paper No. 131/2012)
 - (3) Food and Environmental Hygiene Committee
(YTMDC Paper No. 132/2012)
 - (4) Housing and Building Management Committee
(YTMDC Paper No. 133/2012)
 - (5) Traffic and Transport Committee
(YTMDC Paper No. 134/2012)
 - (6) WG on Concern for Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market
(YTMDC Paper No. 135/2012)
 - (7) WG on Care of the Community
(YTMDC Paper No. 136/2012)
 - (8) WG on Ethnic Affairs
(YTMDC Paper No. 137/2012)
 - (9) Area Committees
(YTMDC Paper No. 138/2012)
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128. Members noted the contents of the progress reports.

Agenda Item 21: Any Other Business

Metro Harbour View's Public Open Space

129. Mr LAU Pak-kei said he was aware that the DC had written to the Development Bureau ("DEVB") to request the Bureau to submit documents about the Metro Harbour

View's public open space for the DC's further discussion. He wanted to know if the DEVB had given a reply, and what the Bureau would do to follow up on this matter. He suggested that if the DEVB had not replied yet, the DO or the Secretariat should invite representatives from the Bureau to attend the next DC meeting to give an account of the progress.

130. The Secretary responded that the Secretariat had already written to the DEVB after the previous DC meeting, but had yet to receive a written reply from the Bureau.

131. Mr LAU Pak-kei reiterated that the DEVB had to respond on this matter and send representatives to attend the DC meeting to explain the current policy and report on the developments.

132. Mr Charlson CHIU said that he would convey Members' requests to the DEVB and urge the Bureau to send a written reply to the DC as soon as possible.

(Post-meeting note: The Chairman had conveyed Members' requests to the Secretary for Development in the name of the DC in writing (Annex 9) on 8 November 2012.)

133. The Chairman requested the DEVB to give a written reply to the DC and send representatives to attend the DC meeting on 13 December to proactively explain the developments of the issue concerning the Metro Harbour View's public open space as well as the Bureau's standpoint.

134. There being no further comments, the Chairman declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 17: Request for Improvements to Avenue of Stars, Tsim Sha Tsui
(YTMDC Paper No. 127/2012)

135. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 10) of the LCSD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He welcomed:

- (a) Mr Mason HUNG, Director of Event and Product Development, and Mr Lewis Li, Senior Executive, Product Development of the Hong Kong Tourism Board;
- (b) Mr Wilson LEUNG, Assistant Manager (Tourism) of the Tourism Commission;
- (c) Mr Richard WONG, Chief Leisure Manager (HKW) and Mr Vincent SO, District Leisure Manager (YTM) of the LCSD;
- (d) Mr Kris LAM, Production Co-ordinator and Ms Karen CHAU, PR & Marketing Executive of the Hong Kong Film Awards Association ("HKFAA");
- (e) Ms Maria CHEUNG, General Manager – Corporate Communication of the New World Development Company Limited (the "New World"); and
- (f) Ms Becky CHAN, Executive Manager of the AOS Management Limited.

136. Mr Chris IP pointed out that international media had given negative comments on the Tsim Sha Tsui Avenue of Stars and he wanted to know whether the LCSD or the management company had plans to improve the facilities of the Avenue of Stars and carry out landscaping works at the attraction.

137. Ms KWAN Sau-ling believed that the Avenue of Stars was getting old and was no longer as attractive as it used to be. She wanted to know whether the relevant departments, especially the management company, had any plans to revitalise the Avenue of Stars.

138. Mr Richard WONG said that in 2004, the LCSD had entrusted AOS Management Limited of the New World with the management of the Avenue of Stars for a period of 20 years. The LCSD would keep in contact with the management company regarding daily operational matters of the Avenue of Stars. He agreed that there was a need to regularly review the facilities and operation of the place to maintain its attractiveness.

139. Ms Becky CHAN's response was as follows:

- (i) Since taking charge of the management of the Avenue of Stars in 2004, the management company had kept in close contact with relevant institutions and stakeholders.
- (ii) To make the Avenue of Stars more attractive, the management company would regularly organise wide-ranging cultural, artistic and recreational activities there. On average, there were at least 30 such activities organised every month. The management company would also invite overseas organisations to hold joint activities at the Avenue of Stars. An example of this was the "Le French May" promotional activity organised with Alliance Française during the year.
- (iii) The management company planned to invite a group of entertainment industry celebrities to a hand imprinting ceremony at the Avenue of Stars in early November. The management company would invite YTMDC Members to the ceremony. The hand prints would be molded and inlaid on the surface of the Avenue of Stars before the end of the year and YTMDC Members would be invited to attend the function.
- (iv) In view of the aging facilities of the Avenue of Stars, the management company would carry out a series of improvement works at the attraction early next year. For example, seats with umbrellas would be installed at the Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade next to the Avenue of Stars, and planters would be replaced. The works were expected to be completed in the first quarter of the next year. The management company would also install seats with unique designs at the Avenue of Stars to increase the artistic atmosphere of the attraction.

140. Ms Maria CHEUNG said that the New World was actively investigating ways to forge the Avenue of Stars Promenade into a world-class waterfront promenade. She also said that the New World would consult the YTMDC once the plan was available.

(Mr Francis CHONG left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.)

141. Mr Chris IP was pleased to hear about the proposed enhancement of the Avenue of Stars. He hoped that the District Facilities Management Committee ("DFMC") of the YTMDC could continue to monitor and follow up on the long-term improvement plans for the Avenue of Stars.

142. Mr Derek HUNG enquired about the procedures for ethnic minorities to stage small-scale performances at the Avenue of Stars as well as the performance sessions open to

application by the public. He also asked whether the HKFAA would add elements of internationally renowned superstars to the Avenue of Stars.

143. Ms KWAN Sau-ling hoped that the long-term improvement works of the Avenue of Stars would be supported by government departments and would be completed as soon as possible. She also recommended that the management company install umbrellas at the Avenue of Stars to give visitors shade.

144. Mr Benny YEUNG opined that the noise restrictions around the Avenue of Stars could be relaxed since there was no residential buildings nearby. He hoped that the management company could organise music performances at the Promenade there. In addition, he believed that the DFMC could play some role in the long-term improvement works of the Avenue of Stars.

145. The Vice Chairman said that since there were always coaches parked near the Avenue of Stars, supporting traffic plans should be made as soon as possible to tie in with the improvement works there. She added that the YTMDC would be happy to provide advice on the project to the management company or the LCSD. She also asked whether the criteria adopted by the management company in handling event applications were same as those adopted by the LCSD in approving its recreational venues for non-designated use.

146. Ms Becky CHAN's response was as follows:

- (i) Organisations interested in performing at the Avenue of Stars only needed to download the form from the Avenue of Stars website and fill in their performance experience and other necessary details for application. The management company would arrange performance sessions for the suitable applicant organisations, and would provide the audio equipment for the performance.
- (ii) The Avenue of Stars was made to compliment outstanding personalities of the Hong Kong film industry and the management company had no intention to include internationally renowned superstars in the attraction.

147. Ms Maria CHEUNG's response was as follows:

- (i) The management company would make arrangements for umbrellas to be changed at the Avenue of Stars and would actively consider adding other sources of shade there.
- (ii) The management company would employ an experienced planning team to investigate ways to direct the flow of people towards the attraction.
- (iii) The management company would consider nearby supporting facilities while planning the Avenue of Stars improvement works.

148. Mr Richard WONG added that in general, the management company would follow the LCSD's guidelines for activities of non-designated use when examining performance applications for the Avenue of Stars. For large-scale performances, the management company would notify the LCSD or the Avenue of Stars Management Committee in advance.

149. The Chairman and Mr CHAN Siu-tong shared the view that the item should be followed up by the DFMC.

150. Mr CHOW Chun-fai proposed that on completion of the planning for the Avenue of Stars improvement works, the management company should report the progress directly to the DFMC.

151. The Chairman asked Members whether they agreed to the above proposal made by Mr CHOW Chun-fai. There were no objections.

152. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the representatives of departments for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

Agenda Item 18: Government Vaccination Programme and Vaccination Subsidy Schemes
(YTMD Paper No. 128/2012)

153. The Chairman said that the written response (Annex 11) of the Department of Health ("DH") had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He then welcomed Dr Scarlet CHAN, Medical & Health Officer (Community Liaison)² of the DH.

154. Mr John WONG wanted to know why primary school students were not listed as a high-risk group. Considering that the DH had not publicised the Government Vaccination Programme and the Vaccination Subsidy Schemes sufficiently, he said there was really a need to enhance publicity in this regard.

155. Dr Scarlet CHAN briefly explained the Government Vaccination Programme and the Vaccination Subsidy Schemes. She said that in determining the target groups for influenza vaccination every year, the DH's Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases would make recommendation after considering many factors, including the latest influenza situation, scientific evidence of influenza research, local disease data, the experience of other national health authorities in the prevention and control of diseases, health risk assessments of different groups of people as well as recommendations of the World Health Organisation. The recommended target groups were usually groups having a higher risk of serious complications or even death after being infected with influenza, so these groups should be accorded priority for seasonal influenza vaccinations. She said that every year, the Government would also consider other public health factors as well as the affordability of vaccinated persons when determining the target groups that could receive free influenza vaccinations at public hospitals/clinics under the Government Vaccination Programme. Members of the high-risk group who receive the CSSA could get free vaccinations from public medical institutions through the Government Vaccination Programme.

156. Dr Scarlet CHAN continued that the circulating seasonal influenza strains might change from time to time, so it was necessary to update the seasonal influenza vaccine composition every year according to the circulating strains to enhance protection. There was currently no scientific evidence to suggest that a person's immunity would decrease after receiving an influenza vaccination. The DH would make use of various channels to promote the vaccination programme to the public and she would reflect Members' recommendations to the DH.

157. Mr John WONG hoped that the DH would actively consider making primary school students a target group of the Government Vaccination Programme.

158. Mr WONG Kin-san sought to ascertain whether, as stated in last year's media reports, the DH had disposed of expired and leftover vaccinations and wanted to know the number of disposed vaccinations. He commented that instead of disposing of expired and leftover vaccinations, the DH might provide free vaccinations to primary school students before they expired.

159. Dr Scarlet CHAN responded that the DH would refer to the recommendations made by the experts from the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases and would consider other public health factors when formulating the Government Vaccination Programme. The department would make flexible arrangements this year and would not set a hard deadline for the termination of vaccinations, which meant that so long as private doctors had effective and valid vaccines, they could still vaccinate children and elderly persons that were eligible for financial assistance and claim reimbursements for this.

160. Mr John WONG added that in view of the limited resources for the Government Vaccination Programme, parents who believed that their children were not suitable for influenza vaccinations should directly refuse such vaccinations for their children.

161. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the DH representative for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

**Agenda Item 19: To Follow Up on Scheme for Removal of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's Carpark at Sai Yee Street
(YTMDC Paper No. 129/2012)**

----- 162. The Chairman said that the written response (Annexes 12 and 13) of the Environmental Protection Department ("EPD") and the FEHD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting. He welcomed:

- (a) Mr Colin KEUNG, Senior Environment Protection Officer (Metro Assessment)2 of the EPD;
- (b) Mr CHAN Hon-kwong, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Mong Kok) of the FEHD; and
- (c) Mr CHAN Hok-man, Engineer/Planning West 2 of the Transport Department.

163. Mr James TO asked about the details of the local consultation work on the reprovisioning of Sai Yee Street parking lot and whether the consultation had progressed according to statutory environmental impact assessment procedures.

164. Mr CHAN Hon-kwong said that the FEHD had requested the DO to help out with the consultation work. At the same time, the FEHD was preparing to seek Councillors' views on the reprovisioning of Sai Yee Street environmental hygiene offices-cum-vehicle depot at the 8th DC meeting on 13 December.

165. Mr Charlson CHIU added that the DO had already launched local consultation work on 25 October in response to the FEHD's request. The target of the consultation was

identified by the FEHD and the consultation period would end on 8 November.

166. Mr LAU Pak-kei said that the reprovisioning project had been widely discussed recently, and requested the FEHD to consult in particular residents near the site, including the residents of the Metro Harbour View and the staff of the West Kowloon Disciplined Staff Quarters. In addition, he hoped that relevant departments would provide stakeholders with adequate information, such as the impact of the reprovisioning on traffic flow in the vicinity, the types of vehicles that would access the parking lot and the time of day that they would access the parking lot.

167. The Chairman said that vehicles that would access the parking lot might be used for special purposes, so the local consultation work should be more detailed than usual.

168. Mr Benjamin CHOI had reservations about the new parking lot site and said he did not understand why the FEHD had decided to reprovision the parking lot to the site.

169. Mr John WONG pointed out that the Vice Chairman and he had received drawings for the Sai Yee Street parking lot reprovisioning project from the Planning Department ("PlanD") in late August. He then contacted the owners of Hampton Place and The Long Beach and learned that most owners were worried about the reprovisioning project and not a few of them were even against it. He subsequently found out the Government had not carried out local consultation on the project, so he was surprised to learn that the planning had been completed by the PlanD. Having regard to the site location, he opined that the relevant departments should consult all those affected and the Sham Shui Po District Council.

170. Mr WONG Kin-san expressed his regret to hear that the Government had only just carried out local consultation. He pointed out that many organisations and residents had already raised objections about the site before the launch of the consultation. He said that due to the principle of efficient use of land resources, the community had already reached a consensus about the relocation of the Water Supplies Department ("WSD") and the FEHD's Sai Yee Street offices. He said that even if the Council opposed the reprovisioning project, he could not agree to set aside the reprovisioning of the Sai Yee Street parking lot.

171. Mr James TO believed that certain unwelcome premises would give people the impression that nearby land would also be used for the same purpose as the premises. He recommended that the Government provide sufficient information, such as information about the supporting facilities of the reprovisioning project, during the consultation. The Government should also make comprehensive plans for the reprovisioning project and should not make piecemeal changes to the project in response to the views of some residents.

172. The Vice Chairman was concerned about how departments would comprehensively consult the affected persons.

173. Mr CHOW Chun-fai pointed out that the DC of past terms had always had a consensus on the relocation of the WSD and FEHD offices from Sai Yee Street to make room for other developments. He agreed that the Government had to expand the scope of local consultation for the reprovisioning project and should analyse the data in detail after the end

of the consultation period.

174. Mr CHAN Hon-kwong responded that the vehicles currently parked in the FEHD Sai Yee Street vehicle depot serviced the YTM and Sham Shui Po Districts so it would be suitable for the offices-cum-vehicle depot to be reprovisioned to another location within the two districts to allow quick deployment of vehicles in response to service needs. He added that in finalising the reprovisioning project, the Government would conduct traffic and environmental impact assessments, taking into account, *inter alia*, the capacity of the surrounding road network and the various environmental mitigation measures, to reduce the impact that the works and the operation of the new facility would have on the environment. The design of the new facilities would be enhanced so that all primary facilities, other than the small open-air parking area, would be located inside a roofed building to reduce noise and air pollution. Greening works would also be carried out on the rooftop and external walls. Mr CHAN added that drivers that were currently driving vehicles in and out of Sai Yee Street had always had good driving records.

175. The Chairman said that the less information residents received, the lower the support rate for the reprovisioning project would be.

176. Mr CHAN Hon-kwong added that the FEHD, the consultant company and relevant government departments would participate in the local consultation work so the departments would be more than happy to directly address any questions residents had about the reprovisioning project.

177. The Vice Chairman reiterated the importance of consulting the affected persons comprehensively. She also hoped that the Government would not neglect the residents of the old Tai Kok Tsui area when planning traffic routes for the reprovisioning project.

178. Mr Benny YEUNG pointed out that Members had initially learned that nearby residents had reservations about the site of the reprovisioning project, and suggested that relevant departments should prepare a fallback option.

179. The Chairman said that departments needed to find another suitable site as a fallback option.

180. Mr Charlson CHIU responded that although the consultation documents had not provided detailed information such as vehicle routes, service frequency and cargo types, members of the public could contact the FEHD directly if they had any questions or opinions about the reprovisioning project, and the FEHD would give them detailed answers.

181. The Chairman said that departments should carry out local consultations in a highly transparent manner or else they had a high chance of being rebuffed.

182. There being no further comments, the Chairman thanked the representatives of departments for attending the meeting and declared the discussion of this item closed.

(Post-meeting note: After Members' views on the consultation were conveyed by the YTMDO, the FEHD had already commenced the second round of consultation through the DO and provided consultation targets with more

detailed information. The consultation period had also been extended to 6 December 2012.)

183. There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 13 December 2012 (Thursday).

Yau Tsim Mong District Council Secretariat
November 2012

**Proposed Amendments for the Draft Minutes of
the 6th Meeting of Yau Tsim Mong District Council (2012-2015)
held on 23 August 2012**

The amendments proposed by the Hong Kong Police Force ("HKPF") were as follows:

Paragraphs 70-74:

Original Text:

'70. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE said that he had reported the number of sex offences in the Mong Kok Police District ("MKPD") at the meeting of Yau Tsim Mong District Fight Crime Committee ("YTMDFCC") on 22 August. The report included a comparison of the number of related crimes in the first half of 2012 and 2011; and among the MKPD, Mong Kok MTR station, Kowloon West and the overall figure of Hong Kong. During the reporting period, cases of indecent assault, clandestine photo-taking with smart phones and rape in Mong Kok District accounted for 2.5% of all sex offences in Hong Kong. In the first half of 2012, MKPD had received 74 cases of sex offences in total, among which 59 cases had been detected, representing a detection rate of 79.7%. He stressed that the Police took all sex offences seriously. The number of sex offences had dropped by 8.6% from 81 cases over the same period in 2011. As for the two sex offences committed at Hoi Fu Court in Tai Kok Tsui, the Police had already made verbal reports to the DC members and the local community. The defendants and victims of both cases lived in the same housing estate, and the suspects were arrested within 24 hours of the incidents (i.e. 15 and 17 July). He further remarked that of the 708 cases of indecent assault recorded in Hong Kong in the first half of 2012, 177 cases took place in Kowloon West. Among them, 54 cases took place in Mong Kok, which included 14 of indecent assault inside the MTR train compartments and only 5 in Tai Kok Tsui. In regard to the rape case occurred in the Mong Kok District on 23 July, the suspect who lived on Hong

Kong Island had a meeting with the victim at a guesthouse and committed the crime thereafter. The Police timely arrested the suspect right before his departure from Hong Kong. The sex offence in Yau Ma Tei mentioned in the discussion paper was actually a robbery case and bore no relation to any sex offences in the MKPD.

71. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE supplemented that Members proposed a number of measures to combat sex offences at the YTMDFCC meeting on 22 August, which included public publicity on reporting the crimes, installation of alarm systems, enhancement of building security and improvement on lighting systems. He continued to indicate that police school liaison officers would also organise publicity activities at schools to call on women who returned home late at night to pay special attention to their surroundings. If they felt threatened by approaching strangers, they could call the Police for help, take shelter at nearby convenience stores or seek aid from passers-by.

72. Mr CHEUNG Kwai-kee clarified that the Yau Ma Tei case mentioned in the discussion paper was a robbery. He reported that during the first seven months of 2012, 3 074 cases were recorded in the Yau Tsim Police District ("YTPD"), down by 325 cases (or about 9.6%) from 3 399 cases over the same period last year, and the number of late-night violence cases also dropped by 25.3%. During the period, a total of 41 robbery cases took place, which was approximately 14% less than the 48 cases recorded over the same period last year; a total of 79 cases of indecent assault took place in the YTPD, which was around 25% more than the 63 cases recorded over the same period last year. Cases of indecent assault accounted for only 2.6% of the overall crime figure in the YTPD, and the detection rate was 76%. Of the 79 indecent assault cases, 23 cases (i.e. 30%) happened at noon or night in railway premises with heavy pedestrian flow; 56 cases happened at grade, among which 36 (i.e. 65%) occurred in bars or areas nearby; 12 (i.e. 21%) in indoor areas such as cinemas, offices or restaurants, 1 (approximately 1.3%) on a bus, and the remaining 7 cases on

streets. None of these cases involved violence or weapons.

73. Mr CHEUNG Kwai-kee supplemented that the YTPD would make appropriate manpower arrangements to ensure public safety. For example, Tsim Sha Tsui and Yau Ma Tei division districts were divided into 54 patrol beats, which were 30 and 24 respectively. Also, 93 visiting books were placed near banks, money exchangers as well as goldsmith shops in the district. He further said that with the consent of the owners' corporations and assistance from the building management offices, the Police had set up 18 community liaison points at areas of high pedestrian activity in the Yau Tsim District so as to develop policing strategies in line with the local needs and exchange views with the residents. The Police would also patrol the secluded areas of the district by patrol motorcycles and police patrol vehicles. He continued to state that the YTPD was dedicated to take measures to prevent and fight crimes, and the Anti-triad Unit was on duty round the clock in the YTPD. Deployment of police officers of the Tactical Unit and Emergency Unit would be made by the Kowloon West Regional Headquarters to maintain sufficient manpower in the YTPD round the clock. In addition, police officers from the Crime Wing and back offices would be deployed to support frontline police officers during festival celebrations, public meetings and processions. According to the past experience, major public events had no negative impact on the overall crime figure of the district. The crime rate of the YTPD had continued to drop since the third quarter of last year.

74. Mr CHEUNG Kwai-kee supplemented that to combat sex offences, the YTPD would increase the exchange of intelligence with the MTR Police District and distribute publicity flyers inside the MTR stations. In addition, the Police would step up inspections of liquor-licensed premises and remind liquor licensees not to sell liquor to minors and drunk people. The Police would also advise young people to spend less time at bars through Operation "Retriever" and remind frontline staff to pay attention to dark corners in patrol areas. Relevant departments

had been asked to improve the lighting system for rear lanes with poor lighting.'

Proposed
amendment:

'70. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE said that he had reported the number of sex offences in the Mong Kok Police District ("MKPD") at the meeting of Yau Tsim Mong District Fight Crime Committee ("YTMD FCC") on 22 August. The report included a comparison of the number of related crimes between the first half of 2012 and that of 2011, and an analysis of related crime figures in the MKPD, Tai Kok Tsui, the Mongkok MTR station, Kowloon West and Hong Kong.

71. Sex offences referred to cases of under-skirt photo-taking with smart phones whereas indecent assault offences referred to those involved inappropriate physical contact, no matter they occurred in the railway premises or any other locations. Such cases together with the rape cases accounted for 2.5% of the overall crime figure of MKPD for the first half of 2012. Although the figure was relatively low, the Police took every case seriously. The MKPD received reports of 74 cases of sex offences this year, and 59 cases (i.e. 79.9%) had been detected, which was quite a high detection rate. The number of sex offences had dropped by 8.6% from 81 cases in 2011. He stressed that sex offences were grave crimes, and the Police would take each sex offence seriously even if there was a decrease in the number. As for the two sex offences committed at Hoi Fu Court in Tai Kok Tsui, the Police had already made verbal reports to the local DC members and local community. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE said that both cases were 'residents against residents'. The suspects hunted the victims in the housing estates in which the suspects and the victims lived. The Police arrested the suspects of the two cases within 24 hours of the incidents (i.e. 15 and 17 July).

72. In addition, 708 cases of indecent assault were recorded in Hong Kong in the first half of 2012. 177 of these cases took place in Kowloon West; 54 cases occurred in the MKPD which

included 14 cases in the MTR stations, 35 cases in Mong Kok District and 5 in Tai Kok Tsui. As regards the four cases that took place in July mentioned by the Members, the Criminal Investigation Team of the MKPD had thoroughly investigated all of them. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE further indicated that the victim involved in the rape case that occurred on 23 July had a meeting at a guesthouse with a man whom the victim had met while having drinks on Hong Kong island. The woman reported that she was raped afterwards, and subsequently the investigators timely arrested the man right before his departure from Hong Kong. Another case that took place in Yau Ma Tei and was mentioned in the discussion papers was not a case of indecent assault but a robbery. It bore no relation to other cases that occurred in the MKPD and was under investigation by officers of YTPD.

73. In regard to combating measures against sex offences, Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE said that the Working Group on Prevention of Sex Assault under the YTMDFCC ("Working Group") could consider two more possible measures. The first one was to encourage the report of such offences through promoting the message "Don't be a Silent Victim, Report Indecent Assault". The second one was that the YTMDFCC might study how to promote panic alarm buzzer, which the Crime Prevention Bureau had produced about 10 years ago in crime fighting publicity activities. He agreed with the suggestions made by the Members about the need to prevent such cases and discuss various crime prevention issues at the YTMDFCC meetings, such as building security, visitors' records, security personnel (tenement buildings in particular), improvements on lighting system and cleaning of rear alleys. Members, the Police and all relevant people of the community could work together to prevent night-time robbery and indecent assault crimes. The improvement of community lighting systems and cleaning of rear alleys were of great importance.

74. Speaking of the effective measures to protect the public, Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE referred to the advice and talk

given to schools by school liaison officers in 2011. The Working Group could remind night shift workers and women who returned home late to pay special attention to the surrounding environment and people around. If they felt threatened by approaching strangers, they could call 999 to seek help from the Police, take shelter at nearby convenience stores or seek aid from passers-by. The adoption of these measures could prevent them from becoming victims of sexual offences.'

Paragraphs 86-87

Original Text:

'86. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE responded as follows:

- (i) According to the international standards, the law and order of YTPD was satisfactory. The crime rate of the MKPD for the first seven months this year had decreased by 7.6% compared to the same period last year.
- (ii) Round-the-clock patrol beats at high-risk areas, such as dark corners on streets, rear alleys and old tenement buildings, would be arranged.
- (iii) The Police would discuss the measures to step up law and order at the meeting of the District Facilities Management Committee in September and would reflect Members' views to the Police Headquarters.
- (iv) The Police would deploy police officers to the rooftops for surveillance at height to prevent crimes if necessary.
- (v) There was no evidence to show that the recent sex offences in the district were serial incidents.
- (vi) The police found it more difficult to discover leads for cases that the suspect and the victim did not know each other.

87. Mr CHEUNG Kwai-kee responded as follows:

- (i) The MKPD, YTPD and other police districts would keep in close contact with each other; and

the Intelligence Unit would also hold regular meetings to inform the MKPD, YTPD and the Kowloon West Region of the information about habitual offenders.

- (ii) The MKPD and YTPD would communicate with each other about the manpower deployment before any joint operations.
- (iii) Most sex offences that occurred in railway premises or at bars in the YTPD were indecent assault cases. The Criminal Investigation Team would analyse the modus operandi, involved persons and location of the cases.
- (iv) Visiting books would be placed at high-risk areas of YTPD, of which the location would be regularly reviewed and varied if necessary.'

Proposed
amendment:

'86. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE supplemented that it was considered to be very safe on the streets in MKPD and YTPD by international standard. That said, they would continue to do their best to make the streets safer. Although the sex crime rate of the MKPD for the first six months of the year had decreased by 8.6% when compared to the same period in the previous year, the Police would still keep a close watch on sex offences. In response to questions about police patrols raised by Members, Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE pointed out that the Police would patrol quiet places, rear alleys, and high-risk buildings such as tenement buildings with 'three nos'. The Police had already conducted such patrols before the occurrence of the recent cases and would continue such patrol beats round the clock throughout the year.

87. In regard to Mr HUI Tak-leung's enquiry about the intelligence exchange between police districts, Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE said that he would communicate with various parties. He pointed out that every morning, senior police officers would examine serious crimes within the district and allocate sufficient resources to allow investigators to commence investigations as soon as possible. This had facilitated the

police to arrest suspects in some cases within 24 hours, and was the reason why the police could arrest the suspect of the case that occurred on 23 July before his departure from Hong Kong.

88. In regard to Mr CHAN Wai-keung's recommendation about the provision of electronic visiting books, Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE indicated that it was a feasible solution that could not only keep the visiting books safe but also maintain the confidence of the community in police patrols. He hoped that he could explore further on this in the coming Community Liaison Meeting in September so that trials could be implemented in the MKPD and advice could be sought from the Police Headquarters.

89. In regard to the question of whether the police patrol coverage was adequate, Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE replied that the Police would use its resources effectively. In response to Mr HUI Tak-leung's query about why police officers sat on the rooftops of buildings, Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE responded that members could recall the incidents of objects being thrown from a height in buildings on Sai Yeung Choi Street, which was the reason why police officers stationed on the rooftops. The Police would ensure safe streets as far as possible according to the crime situation and manpower allocation. Besides, Mr James TO asked whether the multiple sex offences in July were any indication of a serial offender. Mr Peter David CORNTHWAITE replied that the current investigation revealed that the cases were unrelated single ones. The Police were actively searching for and identifying the suspects. In this type of case, the victims usually knew the suspects whom were met either online or at bars. The investigation for the cases in which the victims did not know the suspects would be more difficult, but the Police would spare no effort to track down the suspects. The detection rate of this type of cases was as high as 80%.

The amendments proposed by Mr Derek HUNG were as follows:

Paragraph 120:

Original Text: ‘Mr Derek HUNG said that he had learned from the Owners’ Committee of The Cullinan that the residents of the estate were against the liquor license application of Shop R009 in Elements. He expressed (regret) that the Liquor Licensing Board...’

Proposed amendment: ‘Mr Derek HUNG said that he had learned from the Owners’ Committee of The Cullinan that complaints had been raised against the alfresco dining area of Elements. He expressed regret that the Liquor Licensing Board...’

Paragraph 128:

Original Text: ‘The Chairman said that the 47th Hong Kong Brands and Products Expo (“HKBPE”)... Members noted the matter and agreed that the Working Group on Ethnic Affairs under the DC would be responsible for inviting local groups to perform at the HKBPE.’

Proposed amendment: ‘The Chairman said that the 47th Hong Kong Brands and Products Expo (“HKBPE”)... Members noted the matter and agreed that the Chairman of the Working Group on Ethnic Affairs under the DC was responsible for inviting local groups to perform at the HKBPE.

Post-meeting note: Arrangements were made for the Bangladesh Association of Hong Kong to perform a folk dance between 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on 5 January 2013.)’

關注深圳灣口岸(港方管轄範圍)流動電話網絡接收問題

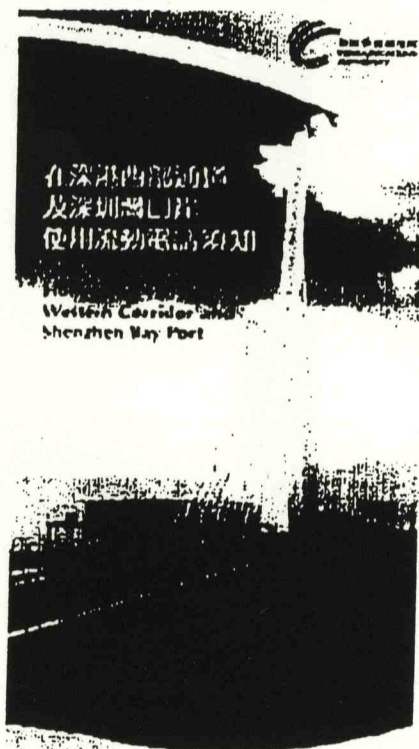
通訊事務管理局辦公室的書面回應

就有關查詢及要求回應如下:

- 目前,在深圳灣口岸的港方旅檢大樓內,由香港流動電話網絡的戶內發射站提供服務。在深圳灣口岸的戶外地方,只有內地的流動電話網絡提供服務。為讓市民瞭解香港流動電話服務在深圳灣口岸的情況,通訊事務管理局已備有《在深港西部通道及深圳灣口岸使用流動電話須知》單張供市民參閱(見附件)。有關單張可從通訊事務管理局辦公室網站下載。
- In Shenzhen Bay Port, mobile service inside the Hong Kong Portion of the Passenger Terminal Building is now provided by indoor transmitting stations of Hong Kong's mobile networks. In the outdoor area of the Shenzhen Bay Port, only the mobile service provided by the Mainland's mobile networks is available. To help the public understand the use of Hong Kong mobile service at the Shenzhen Bay Port, the Communications Authority has made available a leaflet "*Use of Mobile Phones at Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Corridor and Shenzhen Bay Port*" for public information (see Appendix). The leaflet can be downloaded from the website of the Office of the Communications Authority.
- 若港方流動電話網絡要覆蓋深圳灣口岸港方管轄範圍的戶外地方,須鋪設戶外發射站,但由於港方管轄範圍的戶外地方貼鄰深圳,技術上並不能限制該戶外發射站的電波覆蓋港方管轄範圍以外的深圳地方,亦即不能防止香港流動電話服務覆蓋深圳灣口岸以外的深圳地方,這會對內地的流動電話使用者做成影響。基於上述的技術原因,港方不能在深圳灣口岸港方管轄範圍提供未能接收港方流動電話訊號
- If the Hong Kong's mobile service is required to cover the outdoor area of the Hong Kong port area of Shenzhen Bay Port, outdoor transmitting stations are needed to be installed. Given the proximity between the Hong Kong port area and Shenzhen, it is technically infeasible to stop these outdoor transmitting stations from extending their radio coverage into a Shenzhen area outside Shenzhen Bay Port (i.e. it cannot stop the Hong Kong's mobile service from extending its service coverage to a Shenzhen area outside Shenzhen Bay Port), which will affect users of the Mainland's mobile service. In the light of the above technical issue, we cannot provide mobile service in outdoor area of Hong Kong port area of Shenzhen Bay Port.

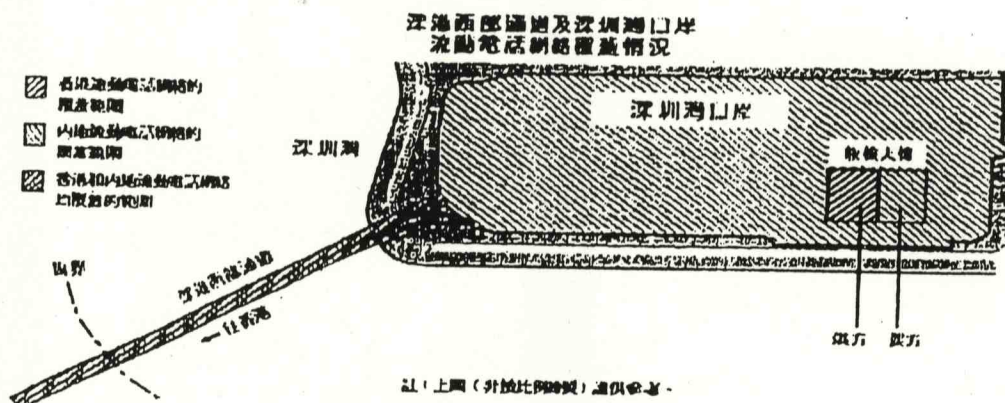
通訊事務管理局辦公室- 資料單張

在深港西部通道及深圳灣口岸使用流動電話須知



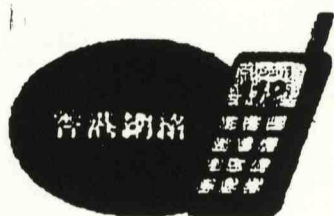
深港西部通道是香港與內地之間一條車輛過境通道，接連新界西北的繁磡石與深圳蛇口。

- 本港及內地的流動電話網絡均覆蓋深港西部通道（下稱「大橋」）。市民如欲在大橋上使用本港的流動電話服務，請檢查手機是否已接駁至你一向使用的本港網絡。如有需要，請手動選擇網絡。



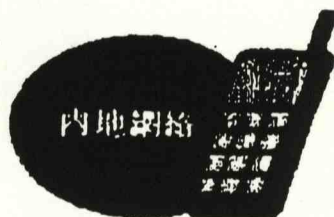
- 旅檢大樓位於蛇口。大樓分「港方」及「深方」兩部份。大樓內「港方」室內範圍備有本港的流動電話網絡，方便市民選用本港網絡商提供的流動電話服務。如要在大樓內使用香港流動電話服務，請檢查你的手機是否已接駁至你一向使用的本港網絡。如有需要，請手動選擇網絡。
- 在深圳灣口岸的戶外範圍，只有內地網絡商提供的流動電話服務。如要使用內地的流動電話服務，你必須預先委託本港網絡商安排漫遊服務，或者使用直駁內地網絡的智能卡。
- 如果你需要召喚香港的緊急服務，而流動電話經已接上任何一個本港流動網絡（不一定是你一向使用的網絡），請撥 112。若果你的流動電話已接駁至內地網絡，請撥警察報案中心電話 00852-3154-6510 聯絡香港警方。
- 旅檢大樓外設有接駁本港網絡的公共收費電話機。如需要召喚本港的緊急服務，請撥 999。

以手機召喚香港緊急服務



112

如手機已接上任何一個香港網絡，致電 112 便可接駁至 999 緊急通話中心。



00852-3154-6510

如手機已漫遊至內地網絡，致電 00852-3154-6510 聯絡香港警察報案中心。

油尖旺區議會第 124/2012 號文件

勞工及福利局的書面回應

黃嘉穎女士：

多謝你 2012 年 10 月 16 日的電郵。勞工處負責處理「鼓勵就業交通津貼計劃」的政策及運作事宜。正如你在電郵中所述，勞工處已另行書面回覆許德亮先生，本局並無任何補充。

如對有關事項仍有查詢，請電 2690 9628 與冼德文女士聯絡。

勞工及福利局局長辦公室
高級行政主任郭志成
(電話：2810 3622)

Ref No. : () in HAD YTMDC 13-10/6/12
Tel No. : 2399 2591
Fax No. : 2722 7696

8 November 2012

Mr CHEUNG Kin-chung, Matthew, GBS, JP
Secretary for Labour and Welfare

By Fax
(Fax No. : 2523 1973)

Dear Mr CHEUNG,

**Strong Denunciation of
Labour and Welfare Bureau's Repeated Refusal to
Send Representatives to Attend Yau Tsim Mong District Council Meetings**

The Community Building Committee ("CBC") of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council ("DC") sent letters to your bureau on three occasions to invite your bureau to send representatives to attend the meetings held on 3 May, 7 June and 26 July 2012 for discussion of YTMCBC Paper No. 13/2012 "Request for Review of Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme". However, your bureau declined the invitations with all sorts of excuses and no representatives were sent to the meetings for discussion on the matters concerned.

In this connection, Mr HUI Tak-leung, the Chairman of CBC, proposed the captioned item for discussion at the DC meeting on 25 October 2012. The DC Secretariat subsequently sent a letter to invite your bureau to send representatives to attend the meeting. However, your written reply on 22 October indicated that no representatives would be sent to the meeting because the policy and operational matters related to the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme were under the purview of the Labour Department. At the meeting on 25 October, Members made many comments and asked many questions on the issue, but immediate responses and clarifications from your bureau were unavailable due to non-attendance of your representatives. Members expressed deep regret about this and were very dissatisfied about your repeated refusal to send representatives to the meetings.

The meeting resolved to write to your bureau to express their strong dissatisfaction and hoped that the Labour and Welfare Bureau would attach great importance on maintaining good communication with the DC by sending representatives to the meetings of the DC and its committees at their invitations as far as possible to hold direct dialogues with their Members. I hope that your bureau will send representatives to attend the eighth meeting of the DC on 13 December 2012 to continue the discussion of the captioned item.

Yours sincerely,

CHUNG Kong-mo, JP
Chairman of Yau Tsim Mong District Council

cc: Mr HUI Tak-leung, Chairman of CBC
District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong)

Rent allowance under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, and the proposed Old Age Living Allowance

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to respond to the views of Mr CHAN Wai-keung, District Councillor, on the rent allowance under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme, and to briefly introduce the proposed Old Age Living Allowance (OALA).

CSSA rent allowance

2. The CSSA Scheme helps families in financial hardship meet basic needs. Rent allowance is payable to CSSA households for meeting accommodation expenses. The amount of the allowance is the actual rent paid by the household, or the maximum rate determined with reference to the number of members in the household who are eligible for CSSA, whichever is the less.
3. Using the adjustment mechanism approved by the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 1998, the Government adjusts the maximum levels of the rent allowance (MRA) annually in accordance with the movement of the Consumer Price Index (A) rent index for private housing. The index is compiled by the Census and Statistics Department based on information collected through a monthly sample survey on private rented households, and is used to measure the rental movements of private housing, including those of the relatively low expenditure non-CSSA households and households residing in rooms/cubicles.
4. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) last increased the MRA by 5.7 per cent on 1 February 2012 in accordance with the above mechanism. The prevailing MRA is set out at Annex. We will continue to monitor the situation, and adjust the MRA in accordance with the established mechanism.
5. For CSSA households living in private housing and on the waiting list either for compassionate rehousing or admission to a subvented home for the elderly, the Director of Social Welfare may exercise discretion to approve a rent allowance higher than the applicable MRA to cover the actual rent paid.

OALA

6. The Chief Executive announced, at the LegCo Question and Answer session on 16 July 2012, that the Government would introduce OALA as an additional form of financial assistance for Hong Kong (HK) elders aged 65 or above who were in need of financial support, and that OALA would be pitched at \$2,200 per month.
7. OALA aims at alleviating poverty and supplementing the living expenses of needy elders. Its applicants therefore must meet income and asset requirements. Meanwhile,

HK' s population is rapidly ageing. It is estimated that the number of elders aged 65 or above will surge from about 980 000 at present to 2.56 million in 2041, representing 30% of the population at that time. It will put increasing pressure on our recurrent expenditure on welfare and medical services. HK will also see a drastic increase in the elderly dependency ratio and economic dependency ratio. This will pose immense challenge to our fiscal sustainability in future. It is therefore necessary that a proper declaration mechanism with prescribed income and asset requirements be put in place under OALA so that our limited public resources can be focused to help those who are in need.

8. The Government is committed to enhancing the support for needy elders. Given the public' s wish for a set of liberal and simple eligibility criteria, we have come to the conscious decision to adopt the eligibility criteria of Normal Old Age Allowance, which are familiar to elders and well established. In other words, OALA applicants must -

- (a) be aged 65 or above;
- (b) have been a HK resident for at least seven years, and have resided in HK continuously for at least one year (with a grace period of 56 days) immediately before the date of application (i.e. the one-year continuous residence rule); and
- (c) meet income and asset requirements.

9. In view of the large volume of potential applications at the initial stage of implementation and to save elders the trouble of having to queue up at social security field units of SWD, we have devised a set of simplified application procedures for different types of elders.

10. We now propose to set the effective date for OALA payment on the first day of the month of the LegCo Finance Committee (FC)' s approval. In other words, for eligible elders, the first OALA payment will include a lump sum payment in arrears counting from that effective date, as well as the first regular monthly payment.

11. The Government will seek the approval of the FC on 26 October 2012. Subject to the funding approval by FC in October 2012, SWD plans to formally launch OALA and start receiving applications in March 2013.

Labour and Welfare Bureau
Social Welfare Department

October 2012

**Maximum rates of the rent allowance (MRA)
under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme
(October 2012)**

Number of members in the household eligible for CSSA	Monthly MRA
1	\$1,335
2	\$2,695
3	\$3,520
4	\$3,745
5	\$3,750
6 or above	\$4,690

油尖旺區議會第 125/2012 號文件

路政署的書面回覆

"要求召開跨部門工作會議處理/改善太子洗衣街215-229號與花園街224-242號間後巷的社區問題"

"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。有關後巷的管理、衛生問題不是本署職能範圍。如有任何提議需要本署協助，請通知本署，本署會積極配合。"

回 覆 油 尖 旺 區 議 會

第 125/2012 號文件

要求召開跨部門工作會議處理/改善

太子洗衣街 215-229 號與花園街 224-242 號間後巷的社會問題

1. 過去多年間，各部門收到與上述地段後巷的投訴數字和個案處理進度如何？

自 2008 年 1 月至今，屋宇署共接獲 5 宗有關洗衣街 215-221 號及花園街 224-226 號後巷僭建物的舉報。經視察後，屋宇署已向六個後巷僭建物的擁有人發出勸諭信件，要求自行清拆該後巷僭建物。政府在 2011 年 4 月 1 日 公布「修訂僭建物執法政策」，以加強取締建於天台/平台/天井/庭院/巷里的違例建築工程，故上述後巷僭建物已屬於即時取締類別；但鑑於這類別的現存違建工程數量相當龐大，屋宇署會按次序向上述後巷僭建物的擁有人發出法定清拆命令。

2. 上述地段後巷是否為坊間所指的「私家巷」？如是者，會如何影響各部門處理社區上的投訴？當局在處理涉及私人業權的街道或後巷的社區投訴時的程序和局限性又如何？

根據屋宇署的紀錄，在洗衣街 215-221 號與花園街 224-226 號之間的後巷屬於私人業權的後巷；而在洗衣街 223-229 號與花園街 228-242 號之間的後巷則屬於政府業權的後巷。在私人業權的後巷僭建物，屋宇署可按《建築物條例》賦予的權力採取執法行動。

屋宇署

2012 年 10 月

油尖旺區議會第 125/2012 號文件

要求召開跨部門工作會議處理/改善洗衣街 215-229 號與
花園街 224-242 號後巷的社區問題

食物環境衛生署的回應如下：

1. 根據本署記錄，上址後巷近太子道西的部份為私家巷，而近運動場道及洗衣街的部份則為公共後巷。
2. 一般而言，凡容許公眾人士通過的私家小巷，本署亦會列入清掃範圍內。
3. 若收到有關上址後巷的投訴，本署會就每一宗個案作出調查和採取適當行動，包括在有需要時轉介相關部門作出跟進。
4. 在過去兩年(2010 年 10 月至 2012 年 9 月)，本署共收到 10 宗有關上址後巷的投訴，主要涉及後巷垃圾堆積引致明渠淤塞和雜物阻塞通道等問題。本署已就有關個案作出調查和跟進，包括安排清潔承辦商清理淤塞明渠和堆積垃圾等，並就一宗有關私家巷地段內有僭建「屋仔」的投訴轉介相關部門跟進。
5. 本署會繼續留意上址後巷的衛生情況和採取適當行動。

食物環境衛生署
2012 年 10 月

Ref No. : () in HAD YTMDC 13-10/6/12
Tel No. : 2399 2591
Fax No. : 2722 7696

8 November 2012

Mr CHAN Mo-po, Paul, MH, JP
Secretary for Development

By Fax
(Fax No. : 2845 3489)

Dear Mr CHAN,

Public Open Space of Metro Harbour View

I refer to the letter of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council ("DC") dated 20 September 2012 in regard to granting the waiver on the land lease condition of making the public open space of Metro Harbour View in Tai Kok Tsui available to the public. The DC requested your bureau to take the lead in following up the matters and urged your bureau to submit relevant documents to the DC and the Yau Tsim Mong West Area Committee for consultation. I should be grateful if your bureau would inform us, in writing, of the progress of this matter as soon as possible to address the concerns of the Members.

Yours sincerely,

CHUNG Kong-mo, JP
Chairman of Yau Tsim Mong District Council

cc: District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong)

2012 至 2015 年度

油尖旺區議會

要求改善尖沙咀星光大道

康樂及文化事務署的書面回應

康樂及文化事務署（本署）自 2004 年起委託新世界發展有限公司（新世界）轄下的星光大道管理公司（管理公司）負責星光大道的管理工作，為期二十年。星光大道的設施包括標示本地電影工業的里程碑、相關的雕塑擺設、在地面上鋪設電影明星的掌印及簽名、座椅、蔭棚及小型舞台等，並設置特別燈光效果以配合晚上「幻彩詠香江」的燈光表演。管理公司除了負責清潔、保安及維修等工作外，並營運銷售站以提供紀念品、食物及照相等服務。同時，管理公司及本署均經常舉辦多種文化藝術及康樂活動和表演，以吸引更多遊人到星光大道參觀。

最近，本署除了在星光大道附近增設指示牌以指示遊人前往星光大道外，並於星光大道旁的尖沙咀海濱花園加設多套座椅連太陽傘供遊人休憩之用。同時，本署已與新世界展開初步商議，以檢討星光大道的設施及運作，並研究短期及長遠改善星光大道的方案，以期加強星光大道的吸引力。短期的改善工作包括加設電影明星的掌印及簽名，和增設座椅及遮蔭設施，至於長期的改善工作，本署待有進一步具體及可行的方案時，會再向委員匯報。

康樂及文化事務署

油尖旺區康樂事務辦事處

2012年10月

有關油尖旺區議會黃頌、黃舒明、莊永燦、黃健新區議員對「政府防疫注射計劃」與疫苗資助計劃的提問，本署現謹覆如下：

「政府防疫注射計劃」與疫苗資助計劃

1. 衛生署衛生防護中心轄下的疫苗可預防疾病科學委員會是依照什麼理據來建議接種流感疫苗的目標群組？(Q2)

衛生署轄下的「疫苗可預防疾病科學委員會」由私營、公營及學術界別的醫學專家組成。他們會參考多項因素，包括流感的最新情況、流感研究的科學實證、本地的疾病數據、其他國家如美國、英國、澳洲及歐洲等的衛生當局的防控經驗、不同組別人士的健康風險評估、世界衛生組織的建議等，就每年應接種季節性流感疫苗的目標組別人士作出建議，訂立接種流感疫苗的目標群組。建議的目標組別一般都屬於高危組群，感染流感的風險以及因感染流感而產生嚴重併發症甚至死亡的風險較高，所以有關目標組別人士應優先接種季節性流感疫苗。

The Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases of the Centre for Health Protection, which comprises of medical experts from the private and public sectors as well as academia, make recommendations on the target groups for seasonal influenza vaccination annually based on a number of factors, including latest situation of influenza, scientific evidence of influenza researches, local epidemiology and data, prevention and control experience of health authorities of developed countries such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Europe, health risk assessment of different groups of people, etc., on top of the recommendations of the World Health Organization. Recommended target groups are the high-risk groups, who have higher risk of contracting influenza infection, having serious complications and death as a result of the infection. As such, they should be prioritized to receive seasonal influenza vaccination.

2. 衛生署衛生防護中心是如何界定什麼類別的人士該納入免費注射疫苗類別？政府可會有其他方式資助低收入家庭成員注射流感疫苗？

(Q1 & Q3)

政府每年會參考「疫苗可預防疾病科學委員會」專家的建議，並考慮其他公眾健康因素，如院舍爆發流感的防控，以及接受疫苗注射人士的負擔能力等，訂定每年在「政府防疫注射計劃」下獲免費於公營醫院／診所接種流感疫苗的目標組別人士。

高危群組如年長者及幼兒、長期病患者中領取綜援的人士，可透過政府防疫注射計劃，在公營醫療機構免費接種疫苗。另外，政府亦為居於安老院舍及殘疾人士院舍的院友提供免費疫苗接種。其他高危群組如醫護人員、家禽業從業員及從事養豬或屠宰豬隻行業的人士，政府亦把他們納入「政府防疫注射計劃」，提供免費流感疫苗接種，以預防同時感染人類流感及禽流感或豬流感，降低衍生的新型流感病毒大流行的風險。疫苗接種資助計劃下，長者及幼兒可獲政府資助到私家診所接種疫苗。

In deciding on the eligibility for free influenza vaccination under the Government Vaccination Programme, the Government takes into account the recommendations of the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases, assessment of personal health risks and the public health concerns such as prevention and control of outbreaks in residential care homes, as well as the affordability of the vaccine recipients.

For those high-risk groups such as the chronically ill receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA), elders and young children can receive free vaccination in the public hospitals/clinics under the Government Vaccination Program. Furthermore, the Government is providing free vaccination to the residents of residential care homes for elderly and the disabled as well. Other high-risk groups such as healthcare workers, poultry workers and those engaged in pig-slaughtering industry, they have been included as target groups eligible for free influenza vaccination under the Government Vaccination Program, that aims to prevent co-infection of human influenza and avian influenza, or swine flu, and reduce the risk of the new influenza virus arising. Under the Vaccination Subsidy Schemes, elders and young children are eligible for subsidy by the Government upon receiving vaccination in private clinics.

3. 對於市民對防疫注射的疑慮，衛生署除了現有的電話熱線和 24 小時健康教育熱線外，可會有其他具主動性的宣傳協助市民了解更多關於防疫注射的正確資訊？以及如何有效地解決市民對防疫注射的疑慮？(Q4)

除了現有的電話熱線(2125 2125)和24小時健康教育熱線外，衛生署會透過多個不同途徑向公眾宣傳疫苗接種及有關計劃的正確資訊，包括：在電視及電台播放宣傳短片、安排專家接受訪問、印製及派發海報和宣傳單張等。

在本年7月及9月，衛生署衛生防護中心總監曾浩輝醫生主持了兩場新聞發佈會。此外，衛生署亦與其他相關部門合作，包括透過社會福利署發信提醒領取綜援家庭的合資格兒童前往接種流感疫苗；亦會透過醫管局張貼宣傳海報、分發單張等，以鼓勵市民接種流感疫苗。

此外，本署透過與醫管局協作，安排家庭醫學及婦產科專科醫生接受媒體訪問，藉此向市民解釋對流感接種的疑慮。衛生防護中心亦將有關流感及流感疫苗，及有關接種計劃的最新資訊上載於衛生防護中心的網頁。中央健康教育組每年亦製作最新關於流感疫苗及接種計劃的各種教育資料如海報和宣傳單張等。本署亦計劃透過互聯網，在以父母為對象的網上平台，以及公共交通工具如巴士上的宣傳頻道作出公眾教育與宣傳。

現時沒有科學證據顯示接種流感疫苗後會降低自身的免疫力。世界衛生組織及各國均建議市民應每年接種流感疫苗，是由於流行的季節性流感病毒的類型每年均可能改變，流感疫苗的成份需每年根據流行的毒株更新以加強保護。

預防流感，除了接種疫苗外，市民還須維持良好的個人及環境衛生習慣(例如：保持雙手清潔、打噴嚏或咳嗽時應掩著口鼻，如有呼吸道感染病徵應佩戴口罩)，保持空氣流通。市民須養成健康生活，注意飲食均衡、恆常運動、休息充足。

In addition to the existing telephone hotline (2125 2125) and the 24-hour health education hotline, the Department of Health undertakes publicity and education on influenza vaccination and related programmes/ schemes through various means and channels, including broadcasting of API on TV and Radio, arranging media interview with experts, production and distribution of posters and leaflets, etc. Earlier this year in July and September, Dr Thomas Tsang, the Controller of Centre for Health Protection of Department of Health, made public announcement and publicity through two press conferences; and the Department's doctor promulgated influenza vaccination and vaccination schemes from public health perspectives. In addition, the Department of Health collaborates with other relevant bodies, including the District Councils for dissemination of information to the public about the vaccination schemes, the Social Welfare Department in the delivery of letters to remind eligible children from CSSA families for influenza vaccination; and the Hospital Authority in publicity via display of posters and distribution of leaflets in order to encourage the public to receive influenza vaccination.

In addition, there has been further collaboration with the Hospital Authority in organising media interviews with specialist in Family Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology, respectively to help reassure the public on influenza immunization. Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health has also uploaded the latest information on influenza, influenza vaccination and respective schemes to the website. Also, the Central Health Education Unit is producing a variety of educational materials on flu vaccination and vaccination schemes annually. The Department of Health is considering to conduct public education and publicity through the Internet, online platform targeting at parents and media channel on public transport, for example, bus.

At present, there is no scientific evidence that receiving influenza vaccination will lower self immunity. The World Health Organization and other countries recommend the public to receive influenza vaccine annually as the types of the circulating seasonal flu virus can change every year, and therefore the influenza vaccine composition needs to be updated annually, based on the circulating strains, in order to strengthen the protection.

Further, to prevent influenza, in addition to vaccination, people need to maintain good personal and environmental hygiene practices (e.g. keep hands clean, cover nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing, put on a surgical mask when having respiratory symptoms), maintain good ventilation. The members of the public should develop healthy lifestyle, maintain balanced diet, exercise regularly and take adequate rest.

衛生署 Department of Health

2012年10月 (October 2012)

Annex A

EPD's responses to Enquiry No 7 of the paper titled “跟進食物環境衛生署洗衣街停車場搬遷計劃”

提問7：“在環境局的文件中顯示，西九龍紀律部隊宿舍及浪澄灣被列為 ‘potential sensitive receiver’，但以該用地為原點計算，上述兩屋苑與維港灣1及2座和港灣豪庭2座距離一致，何以則不在名單之列？這劃分會否把維港灣及港灣豪庭在諮詢持份者的名單中刪除？”

回應：

在西九龍填海區欽明路重建食物環境衛生署(食環署)洗衣街車房是屬於環境影響評估(環評)條例附表2第I部A.6項的指定工程項目，建造和營辦該指定工程項目必須先取得環境許可證。

食環署在2012年4月17日根據環評條例提交申請環評概要。該申請包括提交工程項目簡介以提供工程項目及周邊環境資料。食環署所提交的工程項目簡介亦已上載到環境保護署(環保署)的環評條網頁上以供公眾參閱。

環保署於2012年5月25日向食環署發出環評概要(編號 ESB-254/2012)以進行環評研究。環評報告的批准必須符合環評條例所列的法定程序(包括公眾查閱)及要求。食環署並未向環保署提交環評報告以作審批。

關於提問7提及的環境局文件，根據我們與油尖旺民政事務處的通話了解，該文件應指食環署所提交並已上載到環保署的環評條網頁上的工程項目簡介。該工程項目簡介的第4.2節列出一些潛在的敏感受體包括浪澄灣、西九龍紀律部隊宿舍等。雖然維港灣及港灣豪庭並不列於食環署的工程項目簡介上，它們屬於敏感受體並位於環評研究中影響評估的研究地區內。因此，環評報告將會評估維港灣及港灣豪庭所受的環境影響。

The proposed reprovisioning of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) Sai Yee Street Vehicle Depot at Yen Ming Road, West Kowloon Reclamation Area is a designated project under A.6 of Part I, Schedule 2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance, which requires an environmental permit for its construction and operation.

FEHD submitted an application for EIA Study Brief under the EIA Ordinance on 17 April 2012. The application includes a Project Profile (PP) providing the information of the project and its surrounding environment. The PP submitted by FEHD was uploaded to Environmental Protection Department (EPD)'s EIA Ordinance website to facilitate public inspection.

On 25 May 2012, EPD issued an EIA Study Brief (No. ESB-254/2012) to FEHD to carry out the EIA study. The approval of the EIA report will be subject to the statutory procedures (including public inspection) and requirements under the EIA Ordinance. FEHD has not yet submitted the EIA report to EPD for approval.

Regarding the ENB document mentioned in question 7, our telephone discussion with Yau Tsim Mong District Office has clarified that it should refer to the PP submitted by FEHD and uploaded to EPD's EIA Ordinance website. Section 4.2 of the PP has listed out some

potential sensitive receivers including the Long Beach, the West Kowloon Disciplined Services Quarter, etc. Although the Island Harbourview and the Metro Harbour View are not listed in FEHD's PP, they are sensitive receivers falling within the study area of the EIA study. Therefore, the environmental impacts at the Island Harbourview and the Metro Harbour View will be assessed in the EIA report.

Annex 13

YTMDC Paper No. 129/2012

Yau Tsim Mong District Council (2012-2015) **Following up on the FEHD Sai Yee Street Vehicle Depot Relocation Project**

The existing Environmental Hygiene Offices-cum-Vehicle Depot of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) at Sai Yee Street occupies an area of about 6 500 m². It is one of the main offices of FEHD. The building provides office facilities for Operations Division 2 of the FEHD Environmental Hygiene Branch, including the Environmental Hygiene Section, Hawkers and Markets Section, Mong Kok District Hawker Control Teams and Hawker Control Task Forces of the Kowloon Region. The service targets are members of the public in the Kowloon Region. The Hawkers and Markets Section is open to the public, delivering services to traders in the Kowloon Region regarding matters on market stalls and hawker licensing etc. Moreover, the Vehicle Depot provides parking spaces for refuse collection vehicles, street washing vehicles, light buses/light goods vehicles, vans and so forth, and also serves as a vehicle maintenance workshop providing vehicle repair and maintenance services. The vehicles parked in the Depot offer transport support to the District Environmental Hygiene Offices of Mong Kok, Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim, as well as the Hawker Control Task Forces of the Kowloon Region. Goods for daily and emergency use by the Department such as personal protective equipment, disinfectants, and solvents and gases for vehicle maintenance are also stored in the building.

2. To tie in with the Government's development plan on the Sai Yee Street lot, FEHD has planned on the reprovisioning of the existing Environmental Hygiene Offices-cum-Vehicle Depot at Sai Yee Street on a site at Yen Ming Road, West Kowloon Reclamation Area (see location at **Appendix I**) for the continued delivery of services to the residents and traders in the Kowloon Region, including rapid deployment of vehicles and staff to various locations in the region to respond to the service demand.

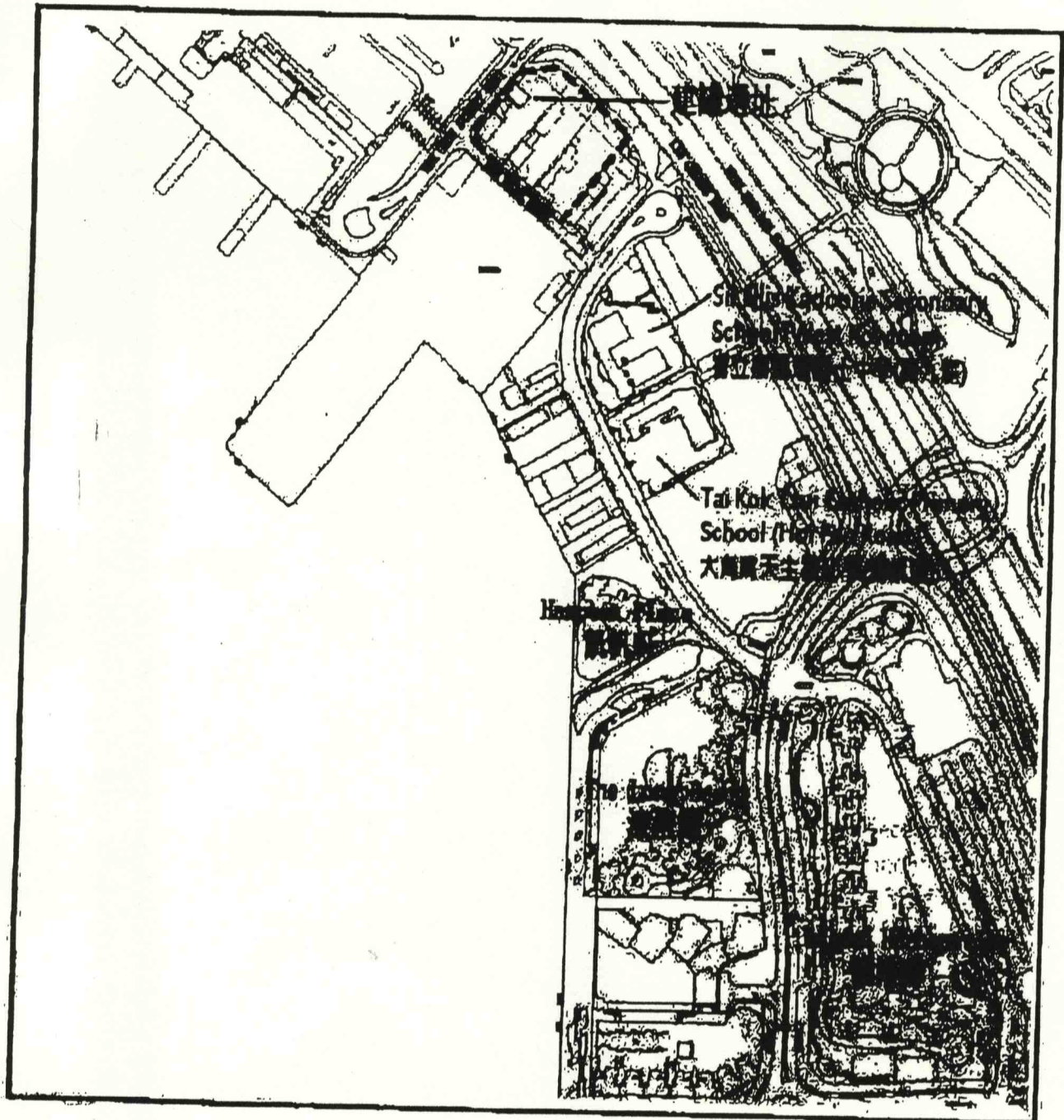
3. FEHD entrusted the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) in March 2012 with the hiring of a consultancy for provision of preliminary works consultancy service which consists of the following technical and design assessment items:

- environmental impact assessment (EIA);
- traffic impact assessment;
- site investigation, topographic survey etc;

- tree survey; and
- building design work

With the assistance of the Yau Tsim Mong District Office, FEHD will launch the district consultation exercise which includes consultation with the District Council and the stakeholders.

4. The Project covers an area of about 8 300 m² and the site is being occupied as site office for the Civil Engineering and Development Department.
5. The construction floor area of the Project is about 28 500 m², which is estimated to be sufficient for the reprovisioning of the Environmental Hygiene Offices-cum-Vehicle Depot at Sai Yee Street and the upgrading of facilities therein. With the exception of a few uncovered parking spaces, all the major facilities will be provided under cover inside the building. Moreover, green designs will be incorporated into the roof and external walls of the building so that it can take on an appearance which integrates well into the surrounding environment and scenery.
6. FEHD has already entrusted the ArchSD with the hiring of a consultancy for the preparation of an EIA report on the Project. The consultancy has included, inter alia, Island Harbourview and Metro Harbour View into the areas for EIA on the basis of the EIA study brief issued by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) on 25 May 2012. Various environment mitigation measures will be considered to reduce the impact on the environment during the construction phase of the Project and the operation of the Environmental Hygiene Offices-cum-Vehicle Depot. The EIA report will be available for public inspection free of charge in accordance with the EPD requirements. It is expected that the EIA will be completed in the first quarter of 2013 at the earliest.
7. According to the traffic impact assessment made by the consultancy, the capacity of the road network in the vicinity of the project site is sufficient to accommodate the traffic volume to be generated after the relocation of the Vehicle Depot and completion of other major developments. The vehicular access is shown on the map at Appendix II for information.



工程項目選址位置圖

Vehicular Access (車輛進出路線)

Appendix II (附錄二)

