

(Translation)

**Minutes of Meeting of Islands District Council**

Date : 6 May 2024 (Monday)  
Time : 2:30 p.m.  
Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room,  
14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

**Present**

**Chairman**

Ms YEUNG Wai-sum, Amy, JP

**Members**

Mr NG Man-kit  
Mr HO Siu-kei  
Mr NG Choi-wah  
Mr HO Chun-fai  
Mr YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP  
Mr CHOW Yuen-kuk, Jonathan  
Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH  
Ms KWOK Wai-man, Mealoha  
Mr HUI Chun-lung, MH  
Mr WONG Man-hon, MH  
Ms WONG Chau-ping  
Mr WAN Yeung-kin  
Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken  
Mr YIP Pui-kei  
Mr LAU Chin-pang  
Ms LAU Suk-han  
Ms LAU Shun-ting  
Mr LUO Chenghuan

**Attendance by Invitation**

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| Ms YIP Ka-yan                  | Senior School Development Officer (Islands)2,<br>Education Bureau  |
| Mr CHAN Wai-chung, Christopher | Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Infrastructure<br>Development) 1, Environmental Protection Department |

**In Attendance**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Mr MOK Mong-chan       | Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office             |
| Ms TSE Yik-ting, Ellie | Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office             |
| Mr LEE Sun-fu, Joe     | Senior Executive Officer (District Management),<br>Islands District Office |

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| Mr AU Ho-yin, Gary         | Senior Liaison Officer (1), Islands District Office  |
| Ms LIU Pui-shan, Lis       | Senior Liaison Officer (2), Islands District Office  |
| Mr YEUNG Che-yuen, Patrick | Senior Engineer/1 (Lantau),<br>Civil Engineering and Development Department                                  |
| Ms YIP Pui-yi, Alice       | District Lands Officer/Islands, Lands Department   |
| Mrs RADFORD Kit-ye, Kitty  | Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office,<br>Islands), Lands Department                         |
| Mr WONG Hoi-man            | Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/<br>Southern/Islands)2, Social Welfare Department |
| Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold   | Senior Property Service Manager/Hong Kong Island and<br>Islands, Housing Department                          |
| Mr CHAN Ka-leong           | District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands),<br>Food and Environmental Hygiene Department        |
| Mr LAU Wing-kei            | Deputy District Commander (Lantau),<br>Hong Kong Police Force  |
| Mr Clive WALTON            | District Commander (Marine Port District),<br>Hong Kong Police Force   |
| Ms LI Ka-chai, Denise      | Police Community Relations Officer (Lantau District),<br>Hong Kong Police Force                              |
| Mr CHAN Sheung-yung, Cyrus | Police Community Relations Officer (Marine Port District),<br>Hong Kong Police Force                         |
| Mr KWONG Wang-ngai, Walter | District Planning Officer/Sai Kung & Islands,<br>Planning Department   |
| Ms LIM Ting-ting, Sylvia   | Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West),<br>Leisure and Cultural Services Department                    |
| Ms HA Chung-wan, Joanne    | District Leisure Manager(Islands),<br>Leisure and Cultural Services Department                               |
| Mr AU Siu-fung, Kelvin     | Chief Transport Officer/Islands, Transport Department  |

**Secretary**

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| Ms Kennis CHAN | Senior Executive Officer (District Council),<br>Islands District Office |
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**Welcoming Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives of the government departments to the Islands District Council (IDC) meeting and introduced the following representatives of departments:

- (a) Mr YEUNG Che-yuen, Patrick, Senior Engineer/1 (Lantau) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD), who replaced Mr CHENG Yuk-lung, Stanley;

- (b) Ms YIP Pui-yi, Alice, District Lands Officer/Islands of the Lands Department, who replaced Mr LING Ka-fai;
- (c) Mr WONG Hoi-man, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/Southern/Islands)2 of the Social Welfare Department, who stood in for Ms LAM Bun-gee;
- (d) Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold, Senior Property Service Manager/Hong Kong Island and Islands of the Housing Department (HD), who stood in for Mr TO Chak-foo; and
- (e) Mr LAU Wing-kei, Deputy District Commander (Lantau) of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), who stood in for Dr CHEUNG Hoi-yan.

I. Confirmation of the Minutes of Meeting held on 12 March 2024

2. The Chairman said that the captioned minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by the government departments and Members and had been distributed to Members for perusal prior to the meeting. Members had no other amendment proposals. The minutes were confirmed unanimously.

II. Question on the impacts of the Tung Chung Line Extension project on residents (IDC Paper No. 26/2024)

3. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IDC Paper No. 26/2024. The consolidated written reply from the Highways Department and the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited (MTRCL) had been distributed to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.

4. Mr NG Choi-wah briefly presented the question and expressed his views on the above consolidated written reply:

- (a) The above consolidated written reply did not provide the expected commencement date of the construction works for the temporary noise enclosure. He would like the MTRCL to supplement the relevant information.
- (b) The shaft excavation works would commence in the fourth quarter of 2024. The progress was reasonable.
- (c) The MTRCL should embellish the slurry treatment facilities on the hillside of Shun Tung Road to match the surrounding environment.
- (d) There had been improvement to the noise and air pollution problems at the construction site recently, but the light pollution problem was still serious, affecting the daily life of residents. Therefore, he suggested

that the MTRCL adjust the angle of the spotlights at the construction site to ensure that the light would be projected downwards.

- (e) Although the MTRCL had set up a project hotline for residents to enquire about the information of the project, he hoped that the MTRCL could provide a 24-hour hotline for residents to contact the contractor directly, so that the residents' opinions could be quickly attended to.

5. The Chairman said that the above consolidated written reply stated that the contractor had already provided a 24-hour hotline manned by on-site personnel.

6. Mr NG Choi-wah opined that the MTRCL should widely publicise to the residents the hotline provided by the contractor (for example, by uploading information to the relevant websites), so that the residents could immediately reflect their opinions to the contractor through the hotline.

7. Mr YIP Pui-kei considered that the MTRCL should send representatives to attend this meeting. He said that the construction site was located in the central area of Tung Chung Crescent and, since the commencement of the construction, he had received complaints from many residents. In addition, he said that the temporary noise enclosure with cover was very important to the residents and hoped that the MTRCL could complete the construction of the enclosure within the third quarter of this year to reduce the impact of construction noise on the residents.

8. Mr YU Hon-kwan said that the MTRCL had established a "Community Liaison Group" (CLG) for the Tung Chung Line Extension project to provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss the impact of the project on the community. In this regard, he suggested that the Secretariat propose to the MTRCL that Members of the current-term IDC be invited to join the CLG, so that Members could make enquiries and express opinions on the project in the CLG.

9. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to forward the opinions of Members to the MTRCL for follow-up and reply, while at the same time asking the MTRCL to invite Members of the current-term IDC to join the CLG, so that the MTRCL could follow up on the opinions of Members more effectively.

(Post-meeting note: the reply letter from the MTRCL was forwarded to Members for reference on 26 June this year.)

### III. Question on the Integrated Waste Management Facility at Shek Kwu Chau (IDC Paper No. 27/2024)

10. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IDC Paper No. 27/2024, and welcomed Mr CHAN Wai-chung, Christopher, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Infrastructure Development) 1 of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply from the CEDD had been distributed to members for perusal prior to the meeting.

11. Mr YIP Pui-kei briefly presented the question.
12. Mr Christopher CHAN gave a consolidated response as follows:
- (a) The architectural and landscaping design of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 1 (“I-PARK 1”) mainly embraced the environmental philosophy of “Green, Clean and Lean”, with gardens, green roofs and vertical green walls designed based on the concept of the sky, sea and mountain. On the other hand, wooden boats and sea wave patterns were adopted for the decorative designs on the seawall facing the South China Sea. The facilities in I-PARK 1 (including the viewing gallery, the environmental education facilities and a small café) would be open to the public for booking in the future. The aforementioned landscape improvement works was currently at the detailed design and construction stage.
  - (b) After multiple communications with local organisations and consultations with the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design, the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects and the Hong Kong Green Building Council for their professional advice, the EPD decided to optimise the design of the chimney’s appearance from a lighthouse shape to a sailing boat shape, conveying the message of “propitious wind throughout the journey and taking the lead to strive ahead”. Members of the Community Liaison Group of I-PARK 1 (CLG) expressed support for the design at the meeting in 2018. He said that structural engineering works for the chimney was in process and the sailing boat finish were underway currently. He noted that members of the CLG were very concerned about the public’s perception of the chimney from Lantau South, and the design consultant had already proposed adding decorations to the chimney to improve its appearance. However, the lack of land-based transport in Shek Kwu Chau necessitated the provision of a helipad in I-PARK 1 for emergency casualty evacuation. According to the Government Flying Service (GFS), the installation of ropes, flags and net-shaped decorations would affect the flight safety of the rescue helicopters. The design consultant was actively exploring other alternatives.
13. Mr NG Man-kit asked if the Cheung Chau Rural Committee (CCRC) was one of the stakeholders of the I-PARK 1 project. He said that the CCRC was not informed of the project’s progress.

(Post-meeting note: Mr HUNG Hin-lai, the first Vice-chairman, Mr WONG Fai-man, the second Vice- chairman and Mr CHAN Chiu-kit, the Executive Committee member of the CCRC were all members of the CLG.)

14. Mr YU Hon-kwan said that members of the CLG had asked the EPD whether it was possible not to install a chimney at I-PARK1, but the EPD advised that the chimney was a necessary feature and showed the CLG members successful cases of enhanced chimney design in other countries before they agreed to the sailing boat shape design. Under the current design, the sailing boat shape façade of the chimney could be seen from the sea towards I-PARK1, but only a joss stick shaped chimney could be seen when looking from South Lantau, which he considered to be a mistake in design. He reminded the EPD to pay attention to the orientation of the chimney at every CLG meeting and pointed out that there were problems with the relevant design after the EPD had provided the design drawings. He emphasised that the purpose of adopting the sailing boat shape design was to put residents' minds at ease. However, he was disappointed that the EPD had failed to ensure that the chimney design could be successfully enhanced, and some residents even considered that the Department was not fully committed to their promises. Back then, the Hong Kong Islands District Association had led 100-odd people to Singapore for a study visit with a view to making district leaders in the area to accept the construction of an incinerator in Shek Kwu Chau, and requested the yacht-shaped façade of the chimney to be seen from South Lantau. He considered it necessary for the EPD to explore other options so as to ensure that the sailing boat shape façade of the chimney would face South Lantau.

15. Mr HO Chun-fai pointed out that the EPD had undertaken to build some compensatory facilities, including a pier, in the area after the construction of I-PARK1. He pointed out that the pier had yet to be constructed and the EPD had only indicated that the CEDD would follow up on the matter, while the CEDD's written reply only stated that the public consultation was scheduled to be launched in the second quarter of this year. Since I-PARK1 would be commissioned in 2025, he asked the EPD whether the said pier would be completed at the same time. In addition, he learnt that an air quality monitoring station would be set up in Tong Fuk, but in view of the heavy flow of people in Pui O, he considered that the EPD should also set up an air quality monitoring station there. He said that the EPD had indicated that air quality monitoring stations would be set up at various locations in South Lantau (including Mui Wo). He enquired about the progress of the work and suggested that the EPD should visit South Lantau to identify suitable sites.

16. Mr HO Siu-kei said that the IWMF was an obnoxious facility and many residents were opposed to the project as they were concerned about the health impacts of the dioxins emitted. He criticised the EPD for failing to proactively explain the subject facility to the public to allay their concerns. He opined that the EPD should step up the relevant publicity work and communication with local community, and actively study the views of the local community.

17. Mr Christopher CHAN made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The community of Cheung Chau was one of the stakeholders of the captioned project, therefore representatives of Cheung Chau were included in the CLG. Regarding the construction of the pier, he drew Members' attention to the written reply from the CEDD.

- (b) He understood that Members and the public had concerns about the appearance of the chimney. Earlier on, at the request of Members and the CLG members, the EPD had explored the use of decorative touches such as flags and ropes as decoration to embellish the appearance of the chimney. However, as flight safety was involved, the EPD was studying the possibility of lowering the height of the flags and ropes, but such adjustments might affect the effect to be achieved. The EPD had been discussing the matter with the GFS and the consultant was also working on the back-up plan. As mentioned at the 11th meeting of the CLG, the EPD would update the CLG members on the progress of the chimney design by end of May.
- (c) The EPD had set up the I·PARK 1 information offices in Cheung Chau and South Lantau respectively. The two offices were now open to the public and project information (including works progress and air monitoring information) would be disseminated to the public.
- (d) The EPD attached great importance to communication with local stakeholders. The contractor of I·PARK1 established the CLG in 2018, comprising members of the DC, representatives of the relevant rural committees and other local stakeholders. The EPD and the contractor would report on the project progress and discuss the relevant community issues with the CLG members at the meetings. Apart from regular meetings, the EPD and the contractor would also visit local organisations to brief them on the project progress and exchange views on issues such as air monitoring and enhancement of communication signals in the district.
- (e) In accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Permit, the EPD would set up one air quality monitoring station at the SKC, Cheung Chau and the other one at South Lantau to monitor local air quality during the operation of the IW MF. At present, the air quality monitoring stations at the SKC and Cheung Chau were in operation. He said that the relevant monitoring data would be published online and would serve as a baseline for comparison with the data to be obtained in the future.
- (f) The EPD originally planned to set up an air monitoring station at the Bui O Public School but solar panels were already installed at the proposed site, and hence EPD had to seek for alternative site. Given the need for a fixed power supply for the station, many locations at South Lantau were not suitable. As Tong Fuk was equipped with a fixed power supply, it was decided that an air monitoring station would be set up there. The EPD would consider Members' suggestions and continue to identify suitable sites or may consider setting up mobile monitoring stations to strengthen the monitoring.

- (g) He knew that the Shek Kwu Chau Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre (SKCTRC) and the China Mobile had been studying the feasibility of setting up a telecommunication transmitting station at the SKC. He said the EPD would continue to liaise with the Lands Department, the SKCTRC and the China Mobile. The EPD would inform the stakeholders if there was any updated information.

18. Mr YIP Pui-kei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) It had been a year since the last CLG meeting, but there had not been any progress in the beautification of the chimney. He enquired of the EPD when the problems in beautifying the chimney were identified, whether a back-up plan had been formulated, and if so, when the back-up plan would be adopted. He pointed out that the project in question had been proposed as early as 2017 and I-PARK 1 had been expected to come into operation in 2025, but there were still many problems with the project at the moment. He hoped that the EPD would actively follow up on the views of the CLG members. Also, he enquired when the Department would consult the local community again on the construction of the pier.
- (b) It was understood that the Chairman of the CCRC was not a member of the CLG. He would like the EPD to respond to this.

(Post-meeting note: the EPD invited Mr NG Man-kit, the Chairman of the CCRC, to be a member of I-PARK 1 2023-2025 CLG on 12 May 2023. Mr NG replied on 25 May 2023 that he was not willing to take up the position).

- (c) I-PARK 1 would have long-term impacts on the environment and the community. He considered it necessary for the EPD to maintain communication with various stakeholders even after the commissioning of the facility.

19. Ms WONG Chau-ping said that meetings of the CLG had not been frequent enough and the issues discussed by the CLG had not been actively followed up. She was gravely dissatisfied with the lack of progress in beautification of the chimney. She said that in the light of the sacrifices already made by the residents of South Lantau for the construction of I-PARK 1, the EPD should explore solutions as early as possible for beautifying the appearance of the chimney in order to address the concerns of the residents. Given that the residents of South Lantau had lived there for generations and would not move away, and the chimney would not be demolished after construction, the beautification of the appearance of the chimney could brook no delay. In addition, she pointed out that other departments maintained close communication with the stakeholders when carrying out projects and made adjustment to the projects in the light of the views of the stakeholders. She requested the EPD to strengthen communication with stakeholders and follow up on the beautification of the chimney immediately.



20. Mr WONG Man-hon expressed his views as follows:
- (a) Members were very concerned about the design of the chimney, including its shape and height, but the EPD had yet to provide updates on the progress of the beautification work. He was dissatisfied that the EPD expressed years ago that air quality monitoring stations would be provided at various locations in South Lantau but claimed at present that such facilities would only be provided at Tong Fuk. He considered that the EPD should have confirmed the locations of the air quality monitoring stations before the construction of I-PARK 1, and wondered why the EPD had not pointed out that many places in South Lantau were not suitable sites until the present.
  - (b) Quite a number of Members did not know the exact locations of the I-PARK 1 Information Offices. He considered that the EPD had not fully utilised the Information Offices in providing information to the residents.
  - (c) The EPD had only visited Mui Wo Rural Committee twice regarding the subject project over the years. In addition, the meetings of the CLG were often rescheduled and their content were more or less the same. He considered that the Department should make improvements.

21. Mr NG Man-kit said that many residents of Cheung Chau opposed the construction of an incinerator in Shek Kwu Chau at first, and the EPD had undertaken that swimming pools would be constructed in Cheung Chau as compensation. However, only one small swimming pool that could accommodate 8 people was constructed subsequently, leading to great dissatisfaction among the residents of Cheung Chau. In addition, he said that as the Chairman of the Cheung Chau RC, he had not been informed of the progress of the subject project, nor had the EPD communicated with him on the progress of the aforesaid project. He was dissatisfied with the EPD's practice.

22. Mr Jonathan CHOW said that during his last visit to Shek Kwu Chau, he noticed that the structural works of I PARK1 was substantially completed. He worried that it would be difficult for the EPD to modify the design of the chimney at this stage. He enquired whether the beautification of the chimney by the EPD could not be taken forward due to the GFS's concern for flight safety. If that was not the case, he would like to request for the details of the back-up plan. In addition, he pointed out that the EPD and the Environment and Ecology Bureau had made many promises to the residents regarding the construction of I PARK1 years ago. However, due to personnel changes among the government officials, the promises made at that time were not fulfilled, and he commented that it was undesirable.

23. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to follow-up on the consultation work on the construction of the pier with the CEDD after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Sustainable Lantau Office ("SLO") of CEDD had arranged to

brief Members on the proposal for the “South Lantau Eco-recreation Corridor” (“the Corridor”), including the proposed construction of a pier at Cheung Sha, during the DC meeting to be held on 9 July 2024. The SLO had also launched a two-month public consultation exercise on the proposal for the Corridor starting on 28 May 2024.)

24. Mr Christopher CHAN gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Due to the lack of land-based transport in Shek Kwu Chau, the helipad is a necessary facility for the GFS to provide rescue service. The GFS opined that the addition of structure decorations would pose a threat to flight safety. If the ropes or flags were set at a lower position of the chimney, they would not create visual impact when viewed from a long distance.
- (b) The chimney was currently under construction and the design of its exterior wall was completed. Apart from examining the feasibility of installing ropes, flags and net-shaped decorations on the chimney, the EPD was also considering the installation of LED wall lighting on the exterior wall of the chimney as a back-up plan. The LED wall lighting could also achieve visual effect during daytime. The Department would report the progress of the relevant work in a timely manner.
- (c) If there was no representative from the Cheung Chau RC in the current CLG, he would invite the Cheung Chau RC to send a representative to attend the next CLG meeting.
- (d) Regarding the air quality monitoring stations, it was recommended that the stations should be constructed at Shek Kwu Chau, Cheung Chau and South Lantau respectively according to the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. He reiterated that the EPD had inspected various locations in South Lantau but found that many of them were not suitable for setting up air quality monitoring stations due to constraints. The Department would continue to identify suitable sites.
- (e) He would report the progress to the Members after the meeting on when the problems of beautifying the chimney were identified, and progress report of the study on the retrofitting of decorations on the chimney.

25. The Chairman said that she understood Members’ concern about the matter since the appearance of the chimney would affect the residents’ feelings in the long run. She said that since part of the facilities of I-PARK1 were under construction at present, it might be difficult to change the location and design of the chimney substantially. The feasibility of adding ropes, flags or net-shaped decorations to the chimney was reduced for helicopter flight safety considerations. Meanwhile, the EPD was concerned that if the design was amended in response to the comments of the GFS, the final effect achieved might fall short of Members’ expectations. She opined that the back-up plan was more feasible at present. She asked the EPD to follow up on the chimney beautification as soon as possible, and hold a CLG meeting within a month to

discuss the details of the back-up plan or other feasible alternatives before consulting members of the CLG on the plan concerned.

26. Mr Christopher CHAN said that at the last meeting, members of the CLG requested the EPD to provide a written reply by the end of May with a concrete plan on the chimney beautification. The EPD was preparing the reply.

(Post-meeting note: The concrete plan mentioned by the EPD at the meeting and a simulated photo of the view from Lantau South to the chimney were forwarded to members for perusal on 28 June 2024.

The EPD replied to the enquiries from Members on 31 May for the other back-up plans of the chimney beautification works, and pointed out that the design consultant of the EPD was also studying other feasible back-up plans at present. Given the time needed for conducting studies and further assessments, the EPD planned to report the relevant progress at the CLG meeting tentatively scheduled for October 2024.)

27. Mr HUI Chun-lung asked about the date of the EPD's latest communication with the GFS on the chimney beautification, and the time the EPD would revise the chimney beautification plan in response to the opinion of the GFS, in order to know the relevant time sequence in detail. In addition, he opined that public officers should endeavour to solve problems in any circumstances to strive for the well-being of residents.

28. Mr YU Hon-kwan concurred with the Chairman's suggestion. He also agreed with Mr YIP Pui-kei that public officers should deal with the issue with empathy. He said that Members had provided assistance to the Government in persuading stakeholders and local leaders to support the construction of I-PARK1, but Members were under pressure when the EPD subsequently failed to keep its promise. He opined that efforts should be made to improve the design of the chimney, and said that the effect achieved might be affected if the height of the ropes were adjusted. He hoped that the back-up plan of the EPD was feasible, and asked the EPD to understand the pressure borne by Members and solve the urgent, difficult, worrying and long-awaited problem for the residents.

29. Mr YIP Pui-kei concurred with the opinions of the Chairman and Mr YU Hon-kwan, and opined that apart from the submission of a written reply, the EPD also had to hold a meeting within a short period of time and invite all stakeholders to attend. He hoped that the EPD would step up its efforts in following up the problem and deliver on its promise as soon as possible to give an account to the residents. Moreover, after the completion of I-PARK1, bilateral communications remained necessary during its operation.

30. Mr HO Siu-kei believed that it was necessary for the EPD to set up air quality monitoring stations in populated areas near I-PARK1 (including Cheung Chau, Lamma Island and Lantau Island) to monitor the air quality of the relevant areas, so that residents could put their minds at ease after understanding the effect of I-PARK1 on air quality after its commissioning. He believed that I-PARK1 was a large-scale

infrastructure construction and the EPD should not give up the provision of air quality monitoring stations at specific locations simply because of difficulties in power supply. He suggested that the EPD should enlist the assistance of the CLP Power Hong Kong Limited.

31. Mr WONG Man-hon asked the EPD to provide information on the site visits they had conducted to various locations in South Lantau in the past and to explain with reasons on the suitability of and the reasons for setting up air quality monitoring stations at the locations concerned in the next meeting of the CLG, so as to facilitate Members' explanation to the residents. He emphasised the importance of setting up air quality monitoring stations, as the monitoring data obtained would help alleviate residents' concerns about the smoke emission from the incinerator. He believed that it was necessary for the EPD to increase the number of air quality monitoring stations in Cheung Chau. In addition, he asked the EPD to step up the publicity on the services of the information offices so as to maximise its effectiveness.

32. Mr HO Chun-fai was dissatisfied that the EPD did not fulfil its initial promise. He believed that even though the EPD had handed over the construction works of the pier to the CEDD, the EPD still had the responsibility to follow up on its progress. In addition, he said that Members could recommend locations for setting up air quality monitoring stations to the EPD for consideration.

33. Ms WONG Chau-ping suggested that the EPD should send more representatives with decision-making power to attend meetings of the CLG to enhance the efficiency of the meetings.

34. Mr Jonathan CHOW believed that optimising the design of the appearances of the chimneys might require cross-departmental co-operation. He said Members could offer assistance if necessary.

35. Mr Christopher CHAN said that he would follow up on Members' suggestions after the meeting. He would arrange for a meeting of the CLG as soon as possible and explore the possibility of inviting representatives from the GFS to the meeting.

36. The Chairman asked the EPD to discuss with Mr HO Chun-fai after the meeting on the identification of the sites for air quality monitoring stations near Pui O.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the identification of the sites for air quality monitoring stations near Pui O, the EPD's consultant and the contractor conducted a site visit to Pui O on 22 May and would report to the EPD on the feasibility. The EPD would report the relevant progress in the next meeting of the CLG.)

IV. Question on cross-district schooling for students from the Islands District  
(IDC Paper No. 28/2024)

37. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IDC Paper No. 28/2024 and

welcomed Ms YIP Ka-yan, Senior School Development Officer (Islands)<sup>2</sup> of the Education Bureau (EDB) to the meeting to respond to questions.

38. Mr HUI Chun-lung briefly presented the question.

39. Ms YIP Ka-yan responded as follows:

- (a) While the provision of public sector secondary school places was planned on a territory-wide basis, the secondary school nets were delineated by administrative districts of Hong Kong. Primary schools on Lantau Island, Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island fell within the school net of the Islands District. However, parents residing in the Islands District might not choose secondary schools in the neighbourhood as their first choice, but would consider whether the school could cater for their children's attributes, personalities, abilities and interests before deciding on their school selection strategies. Under the prevailing Central Allocation (CA) mechanism, Primary Six students participating in the allocation exercise might choose 3 secondary schools from any school nets under Part A "Unrestricted School Choices" at the CA stage. Regarding the transportation cost issue mentioned by Mr Hui Chun-lung, eligible students might apply for the Student Travel Subsidy Scheme administered by the Student Finance Office (SFO) under the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency, details of which could be obtained from the SFO.
- (b) To ensure an adequate supply of school places to meet the demand and to provide students with more school choices in some districts with a smaller number of school places, Part B of the current CA stage, namely "Restricted School Choices" allowed parents to choose a maximum of 30 secondary schools from the school net to which the student belongs. The EDB would make netting arrangement with neighbouring districts to cater for the needs of different stakeholders and would take into account various factors including the demand and supply of school places in different districts, location of schools and the associated transport facilities as well as the established netting arrangements, etc. to ensure a stable supply of school places in each district and to provide parents with more choices. Taking the 2024 CA as an example, under the arrangement for Part B "Restricted School Choice" at the CA stage, Primary Six students in the school net might choose not only the seven secondary schools in the Islands District school net, but also as many as 78 secondary schools mainly in the school nets of Hong Kong Island, Kwai Tsing and Tuen Mun according to their preference. Given that the planning of school nets for Secondary School Places Allocation (SSPA) involved the interests of different stakeholders, the EDB would handle the issue carefully and a mechanism was in place for reviewing the matter. Regarding the arrangement for the SSPA school net for the year of 2025, the EDB would, in consultation with the SSPA Committee, draw up the netting arrangements of a respective year after due

consideration of stakeholders' views regarding the arrangements of the SSPA school net and the netting of school places and close liaison with schools in the relevant districts in light of latest developments in transport facilities.

- (c) When planning large-scale residential developments, the Government would reserve sites for public school and kindergarten development having regard to the planned population intake and the needs for community services in accordance with "the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines". When planning for the building of secondary/primary schools, the EDB had to take into account the future development of the districts concerned, the school-age population projections, the actual number of the existing students and school places available at various grade levels, the prevailing education policies, other factors that might affect the demand for school places, etc. in considering either the setting up of new schools or the re-provisioning of the existing schools, as well as the timetable for commencing the relevant work of school building. Under the existing mechanism, the EDB has reserved seven sites for primary school use and three sites for secondary school use in the reclamation area of Tung Chung New Town. These ten sites reserved for school development would be sufficient to meet the needs of the Tung Chung New Town Extension (TCNTE) and future population growth. According to the projections of the EDB, the current primary and secondary school places in Tung Chung were sufficient to cope with the projected increase in the number of students in the TCNTE. The EDB had also commenced the preliminary work for the building of an aided primary school and an aided secondary school in Area 89. The tendering exercise for the proposed primary school project had already commenced while the proposed secondary school project was at the stage of internal vetting. The specific timetable for the developments would depend on factors such as the tender results, progress of internal vetting and the approval of funding by the Legislative Council. When the two aided schools mentioned above commenced operation, public school places in Tung Chung would be even more sufficient. Under the existing mechanism, if students need to change school to continue their studies due to a change of the district they reside, parents could apply for school places for their children at the preferred schools and seek assistance from the EDB. Upon intake of new housing estates, the EDB would distribute application forms for school transfer through the HD to the relevant households, provide the parents concerned with information on schools with vacancies in the district, or provide referral services according to the needs of parents. The EDB would continue to closely monitor the availability of school places in Tung Chung and maintain close contact with the schools in the district and the HD, so as to take appropriate measures to ensure the provision of sufficient public school places for school-age children. Moreover, the Government anticipated that some of the existing schools had to be consolidated as the actual birth rate in

Hong Kong had dropped more than expected in recent years, resulting in a structural decline in the school-age population. In this regard, the Government had to be prudent when planning school building projects, so as to commensurate with the needs of Hong Kong as a whole and in individual districts, to ensure the steady development of schools, and at the same time to enhance the learning and teaching environment of schools.

40. Mr Jonathan CHOW expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Currently, water-borne transport and land-based transport were available between Discovery Bay and the urban area, while only water-borne transport was available between Peng Chau, Cheung Chau, and Lamma Island and the urban area. He did not understand why SKH Wei Lun Primary School fell under the school net of the Central & Western District, thus making it necessary for students in Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island to travel a long way to school.
- (b) He said that although Student Travel Subsidy Scheme was available, the biggest problem was the time cost of travelling to and from schools, which could not be compensated by the subsidies.
- (c) He said that given the currently low birth rate in Hong Kong and the imminent shortage of students faced by schools in the Central & Western District, the interest of students of the Central and Western Districts would not be prejudiced. He considered that residents in Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island should not be made to feel that residents in Discovery Bay enjoyed special treatment and hoped that the Department could elaborate more in this regard.

41. Mr Ken WONG expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He said that as parents could lodge application for discretionary places, the role and importance of school nets came under question.
- (b) He pointed out that the travelling expenses for students in Peng Chau to travel to and from schools in Tung Chung were 20% more than those for students in Discovery Bay.
- (c) Students in Discovery Bay were given the priority in using buses to travel to and from Tung Chung for schooling. However, in a letter of reply to the Office of The Ombudsman (OFOMB) in 2013, the Department pointed out that land-based transportation in Discovery Bay was still subject to restriction, so SKH Wei Lun Primary School could still remain in the school net of Central & Western District.

42. Mr LAU Chin-pang expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He stated that given the special terrain of the Islands District, students in the outlying islands could only travel to and from their schools via water-borne transport, so he agreed that the school net to which Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island belong should be included in the Central & Western District.
- (b) On the development of the Tung Chung New Town on the Lantau Island, he said that he received feedback from parents that their children were allocated to secondary school in Pok Fu Lam. In addition, new Areas 99 and 100 of Tung Chung would be completed in Tung Chung next year. According to the HD, 30 000 people, including several thousand school-age children, would move in by then. He asked whether the Department could provide information on the number of students who had opted for Tung Chung District in their first five choices in CA exercise but were eventually allocated to schools outside the district, so that he could find out whether school places were sufficient.

43. Ms Mealoha KWOK expressed her views as follows:

- (a) Over the past decade or so, residents in Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island opined that they were unable to find good schools within the school net of the Islands District, therefore, children left Islands District to study on the Hong Kong Island from kindergarten onwards. The netting arrangement of the School Net NT9 was still effective as the population was relatively small in the past, but it had become obsolete now.
- (b) She said that allocating students of the outlying islands to schools on the Hong Kong Island would be more appropriate, as the student of the outlying islands would go straight to the Hong Kong Island from the outlying islands.
- (c) She pointed out that a number of requests for assistance were received each year after the allocation of school places. For example, a few years ago, a student in Cheung Chau was allocated to a school in Tuen Mun District. She hoped that in long term, the Bureau could determine to which school net it was more appropriate for students of the outlying islands to be allocated for further studies. It would be most desirable for students in Tung Chung to be allocated to schools in Tung Chung.

44. Ms YIP Ka-yan made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) She said that she would make enquiries to the responsible sections about the data on the first five school choices in Part B of the CA and the allocation results for the 2023 school year.
- (b) She said that SKH Wei Lun Primary School in Discovery Bay was placed under the school net of Central and Western District due to the



concern of public transportation. A few years ago, the EDB had discussed with the Working Group on Review of School Nets (the Group) under the SSPA Committee regarding the netting arrangement concerned. The Group decided to continue with the existing school net arrangement after the discussion.

- (c) Regarding the situation of primary schools in Peng Chau, the Group opined that the existing mechanism could cater for the needs of students in Peng Chau. The EDB accepted the Group's view and considered that the students in Peng Chau were not affected despite that Peng Chau was not included in the Central & Western District school net. On the contrary, the more flexible arrangement under the existing mechanism could better meet the different needs of the students. Therefore, the EDB continued with the present netting arrangements. In addition, only a small number of students in Peng Chau were allocated to schools in Tung Chung of the Islands District at the Discretionary Places Admission stage and the CA stage in accordance with their parent's choice of preferred schools. In fact, many students in Peng Chau chose schools within the school nets of Hong Kong Island, while most of the students in Peng Chau were allocated to schools on the Hong Kong Island through CA.
- (d) As for the concern raised by Members regarding students in Islands District being allocated to schools in distant districts, she would convey it to the responsible sections after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the enquiry about the data of the first five school choices in Part B of the CA and the allocation results for the 2023 school year, the EDB's reply was forwarded to Members for perusal on 7 June this year.)

45. Mr LUO Chenghuan said that regarding cross-district schooling for students from Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island to the Central and Western District, both fairness and the actual circumstances had to be taken into account. With the current declining birth rate, the number of school-age children in the Central and Western District would also drop and the surplus school places in the Central and Western District should be available to students from Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island. He hoped that the Bureau would seriously consider and resolve the problem.

46. Mr NG Man-kit said that students and parents had been frustrated by the school net issues. In order to arrange for their children to attend schools in the Central and Western District, parents had been bringing their children to schools outside the islands since kindergarten. He saw grandparents and domestic helpers bringing children to school every morning on the 6:20 a.m. ferry. While the children were at school, the adults would loiter in Central for five to six hours until the end of school hours to pick up the children. In addition, since students were leaving the islands for

further studies, schools in the Islands District were facing the crisis of closure due to under-enrolment. He hoped that the above situation would improve.

47. Mr YIP Pui-kei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) School places were still available at some secondary schools in Tung Chung and the Islands District but students were still crossing districts for schooling due to practical constraints.
- (b) New schools were built while the existing school resources had not been fully utilised. He hoped that the EDB would give priority to optimising the use of secondary school resources in the current school nets. He asked if the Bureau could provide the relevant information, such as whether the number of secondary one classes in each secondary school had been fully utilised. If not, whether the number of school places would be increased in the future to meet the demand arising from the population growth in the near future.
- (c) The proposed construction of a school at Area 89 of the TCNTE had not yet commenced and was expected to take three to four years to complete. About 70 000 to 80 000 people, including a large number of school-age children, were expected to move in afterwards. Therefore, the school nets in the district should be reviewed in the short term to see if there is room for increasing the number of places in the school net, so that more students can be admitted to schools in the district.
- (d) He said that he had recently received cases in which cross-border families had encountered difficulties when arranging mid-term enrolment in Hong Kong for their children. While the number of school-age children in the other districts was decreasing, the number of school-age children in Tung Chung New Town continued to increase. The Bureau should take appropriate measures in response.

48. Mr Ken WONG expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He enquired about the monthly income limits for 3-member families to be eligible for full and half levels of Student Travel Subsidy. It was understood that the household income of the applicants had to be below several tens of thousands of dollars to be eligible for application. He said that the round trip fare for Peng Chau students taking a Kaito ferry to Tung Chung was \$15 while the round trip bus fare for non-Discovery Bay residents was \$28.6, taking the total travelling cost to over \$40. However, the fare per single journey to Tung Chung for a student from Discovery Bay was only \$11.6, which was a rather significant difference.

- (b) Given that most Peng Chau students were allocated to schools in the Central and Western District school net, he asked why Peng Chau was not placed under the Central and Western District school net.
- (c) He asked why principals in the Islands District were not listed as stakeholders by the Secondary School Places Allocation Committee (SSPAC). He opined that the current system should be reviewed to relieve the transport fare burden of Peng Chau students.

49. Mr Jonathan CHOW expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He opined that it was necessary to take into account both time and the circumstances when formulating public administration policies. He pointed out that the response of the EDB had failed to convince Members why there were differential treatments between Peng Chau, Cheung Chau, Lamma Island on the one hand, and Discovery Bay on the other.
- (b) He agreed with Mr LUO Chenghuan on the feasibility of reviewing the existing surplus school places in the Central and Western district school net and adjusting the policies in the light of the overall declining birth rate. He said that he had discussed this issue at the Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Area Committee two months ago, but the EDB had never given a proper reply. Members expressed their strong dissatisfaction since their families and the students had to endure frustration every day.

50. Ms YIP Ka-yan gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) She said that information on the income of 3-member families applying for the Student Travel Subsidy Scheme would be provided after the meeting.
- (b) She said that the EDB had invited secondary school principals to join the SSPAC. The information online also revealed that there had been principals of the Islands District who had joined the SSPAC before.
- (c) With regard to the suggestion of making flexible use of the existing classrooms in the secondary schools in Tung Chung, she said that at the resident intake of Mun Tung Estate a few years ago, the Islands District School Development Section had discussed appropriate arrangements with the schools in the district to meet the demand for school places. The EDB would continue to closely monitor the school places in Tung Chung and maintain close liaison with the schools there.
- (d) The EDB would maintain close liaison with the HD. According to the information provided by the HD, the resident intake of Chun Tung Estate

and Cheung Tung Estate would gradually commence in 2025, the EDB would ensure that there would be sufficient supply of school places.

(Post-meeting note: The aforementioned total household income limit for the application of the Student Travel Subsidy was distributed to members for perusal on 20 May 2024.)

51. Mr NG Choi-wah suggested that the EDB should adopt a more scientific method to assess the number of students in Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island. Given the decreasing number of school-age children in the Central and Western district, the under-enrolment of students in secondary schools in the Central and Western district might be alleviated when the primary school students in Peng Chau, Cheung Chau and Lamma Island progressed to secondary schools in the future.

52. Mr HUI Chun-lung expressed his views as follows:

- (a) The issue of school places was a matter of concern and keen expectation of the entire Islands District for a proper solution. He hoped that the EDB could take a wide range of views and conduct a detailed analysis.
- (b) It would be fair if Discovery Bay could be included into the school net of Central & Western District because students had to take land-based transport to Tung Chung before changing to the MTR, and the fares would be similar to those for students from other islands. This arrangement would not give the impression that students from Discovery Bay were given special treatment. He enquired about whether primary school students in Tung Chung would be included into the school net of the Central & Western District under the Secondary School Places Allocation System of the EDB. Although this was a difficult issue, it reflected the aspirations of non-Discovery Bay residents on the Lantau Island. He hoped that the EDB could address this issue proactively.
- (c) Some schools in Tung Chung had not used up their class quotas, and therefore he considered that the surplus school places should be put to better use.

53. Ms YIP Ka-yan gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The EDB would utilise surplus classrooms to address the demand for school places as deemed necessary.
- (b) Regarding the proposal that the secondary school net of the primary schools in the Islands District (including Tung Chung) be incorporated into the school net of Central & Western District, she said that the existing school places allocation and school net arrangements provide a diverse and sufficient choice of secondary schools for students in the Islands District (including Tung Chung).

54. Mr HUI Chun-lung said the Association of School Heads of Islands District had earlier written a letter to the EDB, which had replied that schools were no longer bifurcated into schools using Chinese as the medium of instruction (MOI) and schools using English as the MOI. However, the media reported that, since no secondary schools were using English as the MOI in the Islands District, students still preferred going to schools in the Central & Western District so that they could study at schools using English as the MOI despite having to travel a long distance. He considered it most desirable for students to be allocated secondary school places in their residing district, and he hoped that there could be schools using English as the MOI in Tung Chung.

55. Ms YIP Ka-yan responded as follows:

- (a) Although schools were no longer bifurcated into “schools using Chinese as the MOI” and “schools using English as the MOI” at present, the EDB had implemented many policies to tie in with the development of schools. For example, schools could utilise the arrangements of “Extended Learning Activities (ELA)” and “allocation of time to subjects” to increase the opportunities for students who learnt non-language subjects in their mother tongue to gain exposure to English in the classroom. Secondary schools were required to submit a form to the EDB each year, listing which subjects would adopt the above arrangements. Furthermore, schools generally provide students with opportunities to be exposed to and use English within and beyond classroom.
- (b) She appreciated the opinions and concerns raised by each Member, which would be relayed to the relevant sections as soon as possible.

V. Lantau District Action Plan 2024  
(IDC Paper No. 21/2024)

56. The Chairman drew Members’ attention to the IDC Paper No. 21/2024 and asked Mr LAU Wing-kei, Deputy District Commander (Lantau) of the HKPF to present the paper.

57. Mr LAU Wing-kei briefly presented the Lantau District Action Plan 2024 as follows:

- (a) The Lantau District Action Plan 2024 encapsulated the operational priorities of Lantau Police District namely national security, violent crime, triads, syndicates and organised crime, drugs and substance abuse by students and youths, quick cash crime, cyber security and technology crime, burglary/smuggling, street management, public safety and terrorism.

- (b) It set out the key operational areas which the Police District would accord priority to during the year. The Action Plan was a continuation of the priorities identified last year with refinements, in line with the work priorities of the HKPF for the year to cope with the current operating environment and future challenges of the District. Lantau Police District would also continue its efforts to engage the community and work with stakeholders to prevent and combat various crimes.
- (c) The three major work priorities of the HKPF for the year included:
- (i) Continuing its efforts in safeguarding national security: The Police would guard against acts of “soft resistance” in the society, and continue to uphold the principle of “laws are observed and strictly enforced, so as to bring offenders to account”. The Police would keep up effort to strengthen the effectiveness of intelligence gathering, with a view to cracking down on those who endangered national security. Various approaches would also be adopted to proactively raise public awareness on “Spot and Report”.
  - (ii) Enhancing community engagement and soliciting support from members of the public: the Police would continue to proactively strengthen communication with various sectors of the community, particularly the young people, and make good use of different channels (including traditional ones and social platforms) so as to extend its reach with members of the public; and
  - (iii) Focusing on crime fighting and prevention as well as combating fraud: The Lantau Police District recorded a total of 767 fraud cases in 2023, representing a year-on-year increase of 44.2%, which was similar to the increase in the New Territories South Region, and there had been an increase of 63.3% in the number of fraud cases in Hong Kong last year. In terms of the types of fraud, as many as 140 cases involved online shopping, accounting for 18.3% of the total number of fraud cases; followed by job seeking and phishing scams, which accounted for 17.2% and 10.2% of the total number of fraud cases respectively; and then online dating and loan scams, which accounted for 3.9% and 3% of the total number of fraud cases respectively. In view of the upsurge in deception, the Lantau Police District would step up publicity on prevention, which included the distribution of anti-deception publications and publicity materials, in public housing estates, private housing estates, village houses, restaurants, eateries, public transport interchanges, government buildings and hospitals etc. The Police would also disseminate information on the latest modus operandi on deception through social media platforms to raise public awareness.

- (d) *Scam Brief • End Scam*, the latest quarterly anti-deception bulletins published by the Regional Crime Prevention Office of New Territories South (NTS) were placed on the table. The publication covered a range of topics and columns, including the “Scam Charts” which set out the number of deception cases reported and amount of loss in each quarter. The bulletin also provided anti-deception tips to inform the public of the latest modus operandi and relevant information to boost public awareness. He said that Members were welcome to suggest to the Police Community Relations Office appropriate locations in the district for distribution of the anti-deception bulletin.
- (e) The HKPF had launched a number of anti-deception tools since 2022. The “Scameter” was linked to the Faster Payment System since last year to alert users when they made transfers to suspicious accounts. Automation elements were also incorporated into the “Scameter” in February 2024, enabling the application to issue alerts when users browsed suspicious websites and receive suspicious calls. Moreover, users could report suspicious websites or phone numbers to the HKPF directly through the newly added function, Public Intelligence, in “Scameter+” to further enrich the scam database of the HKPF. In addition, the Anti-Scam Helpline 18222, operated by the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre (ADCC), would continue to answer public enquiries and minimise the victims’ losses. With some 52 000 calls received last year, \$1.29 billion of fraudulent payments were intercepted.
- (f) The HKPF would formulate policing strategies in the light of the development of the Lantau Island district to meet the needs of the public and the community. He appealed to Members, government departments and all sectors of the community to support the work of the Police.

58. Mr YIP Pui-kei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He asked about the details of the Lantau Police District Upgrade project. According to the information for 2021, the police-to-public ratio of the Lantau North Division was 1:981. He opined that the HKPF had to upgrade the police strength in the Lantau North District in the light of the future increase in population in the area, so as to maintain law and order in the district.
- (b) The duration of the pedestrian flashing green time of the traffic light of the crossroad in front of Yu Nga Court in Tung Chung was too short for crossing two crossings in one go, and as a result many pedestrians would cross the road diagonally. He agreed that the HKPF should stringently combat jaywalking, but he asked the HKPF to take note of the situation, and suggested that the HKPF should wait until the traffic arrangement of the location had improved before taking enforcement actions.

59. Mr LAU Chin-pang said that quite a number of residents in Tung Chung West reflected that many electric bicycles were running illegally in high speed on pedestrian roads within the estate area (in particular Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate), endangering the safety of pedestrian. He had reflected the situation to the security staff of the estates but the security staff said that they had no power to enforce the law and could only give verbal advice. He had already written to the Lantau North Police Division, in hope that the HKPF would step up their efforts in combating the behaviour. Moreover, the residents of Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate reflected the door-to-door distribution of illicit cigarette leaflets by visitors. Many parents were worried that their minor children would purchase the illicit cigarettes because of their relatively low prices and the seller would not verify the age of customers. He requested that the HKPF step up efforts in combating the sale of illicit cigarette in collaboration with the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department (C&ED).

60. Ms LAU Suk-han asked the Police, in addition to strengthening manpower, whether there were any plans to construct new police stations in the LTDIST Upgrade project. If yes, she enquired about the time schedule. She pointed out that the Police had proposed to upgrade the LTDIST three year ago, however, there had been no progress since then. She asked the Police to provide more information.

61. Mr HO Siu-kei said that the Police had stepped up anti-deception publicity and the Government had implemented the Real-name Registration Programme for Subscriber Identification Module Cards. Although these measures had resulted in a decline in the number of local telephone scams, telephone scams originating from outside Hong Kong remained rampant. He suggested that the Police should encourage the public to “Spot and Report” suspicious calls in order to combat telephone scams originating from outside Hong Kong.

62. Mr Jonathan CHOW said that there had been many traffic accidents in Discovery Bay, including the fatal one which happened recently. He opined that although Discovery Bay was managed by a private developer, the Transport Department also had the responsibility to review the road safety problems in the district. Currently, the private developer was planning to add 4 taxi stands in Discovery Bay, he believed that the vehicular flow in the district would rise by then. He opined that it was necessary for the Transport Department to enhance traffic arrangements, including the addition of traffic lights and speed enforcement cameras, to ensure the safety of residents.

63. Mr LAU Wing-kei gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The Police was aware that the population of Tung Chung would nearly double by 2031, therefore they had put forward the LTDIST Upgrade project to cope with the future demand for Police services from the residents. Apart from upgrading the District Commander from a Senior Superintendent to a Chief Superintendent of Police the manpower of the Lantau Police district would also be enhanced with a plan to construct new police stations in Tung Chung east. The aforesaid work



was expected to be completed by 2031 at the earliest. During the interim, the Police would flexibly deploy manpower within the district and Region when necessary to cope with the demand for the Police's service arising from the increasing population in Tung Chung, and to prepare for the Lantau District Upgrade project.

- (b) Regarding road safety, the Police had been closely monitoring the problems of electric bicycles in Tung Chung and Discovery Bay. Taking Discovery Bay as an example, the police held regular meetings with the residents' association and the property management company to better understand the situations and formulate strategies to prevent crime and enhance traffic safety. The Police would continue to combat illegal acts of jaywalking and driving of electric bicycles in the District to enhance road safety, and Members were welcomed to liaise with the Police on these concerns.
- (c) The Police also received reports of outsiders distributing leaflets on illicit cigarettes within the estate boundaries. Although the HKPF was not the main enforcement agency against the sale of illicit cigarettes, they were highly concerned about the law and order issues in public housing estates. The Police would regularly reach out to the property management companies with the deployment of police officers disguised as visitors in the public housing estates, so as to test the alertness of the security guards and to enhance their awareness on crime prevention.
- (d) Given that a lot of telephone scams and social media deception involved servers and service provider based outside Hong Kong, investigation into these cases often took long time with substantial difficulties. Whilst prevention is considered as the best solution, the HKPF had been stepping up anti-deception publicity and launched the "Scameter" App to assist the public in identifying scam calls and websites, so that they could better avoid falling into traps.

64. The Chairman encouraged Members to download the "Scameter" app and publicise the use of the app to residents.

VI. Marine Port District Action Plan 2024  
(IDC Paper No. 22/2024)

65. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IDC Paper No. 22/2024 and asked Mr Clive WALTON, District Commander (Marine Port District) of the HKPF to present the paper.

66. Mr Clive WALTON said that the abovementioned plan covered five operational priorities:

- (a) The Police would proactively take actions to safeguard national security and enlist public trust in carrying forward the relevant duties.
- (b) The Police would devote counter-terrorism effort and conduct various exercises to ensure the protection of port facilities (including the refuse incineration plant in Shek Kwu Chau and the nearby liquefied natural gas receiving terminal).
- (c) The Police would target triad personalities and activities, syndicated smuggling and illegal immigration, and would continue to work closely with Mainland public security authorities in taking forward the above work.
- (d) The Police would work with event organisers and community leaders to ensure the order and safety at public events and large-scale activities (including the monthly pyrotechnic and drone shows and the upcoming Bun Festival). In addition, the Police would take measures to ensure marine safety for the public and would work with different stakeholders (including boat clubs) to raise public awareness of marine safety and enhance the public's capability to cope with inclement weather. Since members of the public took part in more leisure water sports in summer and the typhoon season was approaching, the Police would be well prepared to cope with the above situation.
- (e) The Police would work with the District Fight Crime Committee (Islands District) to raise public awareness of anti-deception. He thanked the community leaders for their support to the work of the Police in 2023. He said that the Police would continue to work with stakeholders in the district to take forward the abovementioned plan.

67. Ms LAU Shun-ting said that she, together with Mr CHOW Yuk-tong and Legislative Council Member Mr CHAN Hok-fung, had held a meeting with the Police on 21 December 2023 to discuss the unmanned Sok Kwu Wan Police Post. She thanked Mr Clive WALTON for his proactive follow-up actions but the above problem remained unsolved, which had caused worries to many residents. She hoped that the Police would arrange for police officers to station at the Sok Kwu Wan Police Post as soon as possible so as to boost the confidence of the residents in the law and order of the district.

68. Mr Clive WALTON said that the Sok Kwu Wan Police Post was temporarily closed due to insufficient manpower but it was not considered a long-term measure. He pointed out that the number of police officers recruited in 2024 was higher than that of 2023 and the Police would continue to study the feasibility of increasing manpower. The Police would monitor the situation closely and consider deploying manpower from the Cheung Chau Division to station at the Sok Kwu Wan Police Post when there was sufficient manpower.

VII. The Housing Department's Programme of Activities for Estate Management in the Islands District in 2024/25  
(IDC Paper No. 23/2024)

69. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IDC Paper No. 23/2024 and asked Mr HAU Chi-leung, Arnold, Senior Property Service Manager/Hong Kong Island and Islands, HD to present the paper.

70. Mr Arnold HAU briefly presented the paper.

71. Mr LUO Chenghuan expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He opined that the programme of activities above was very comprehensive and focused, which would help improve estate management.
- (b) He suggested that the Department should step up the inspection of the hygiene black spots and the cleaning up of rubbish such as cigarette butts and tissue paper, etc. in public rental housing (PRH) estates.
- (c) Positive feedback was received from residents in Mun Tung Estate on the recent installation of Smart Food Waste Bins (SFWBs) in the estate. Therefore, he suggested that the Department should expedite the installation of the SFWBs in the PRH estates in the district.

72. Mr WONG Man-hon enquired whether refuse chutes were still being used at the PRH estates in the district to deliver waste from each floor to the central refuse collection points at ground level. He pointed out that garbage bags might break as a result of such practice, causing the cleaning workers more time to clean up the waste.

73. Mr LAU Chin-pang pointed out that in the past, Members could obtain information about a PRH estate through the meetings of the Estate Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) and reflect residents' opinions to the estate management staff (including cleaning companies and the HD). However, since the cessation of the operation of EMAC, it became difficult for Members to reflect residents' opinions to estate management staff. Therefore, he hoped that the Department would arrange regular meetings for Members to discuss estate management issues with estate management staff.

74. Ms LAU Suk-han gave her opinion as follows:

- (a) She had previously suggested that the Department should broadcast announcements of public interest (APIs) produced by the Islands District Office (IsDO) on the public television sets at each of the estate buildings in the Islands District, but the Department had responded that there was no such plan at that time. She hoped that the Department could make use of the public television sets to broadcast APIs.

- (b) The buildings in Fu Tung Estate and Yat Tung Estate were over 20 years old, and the facilities in the vicinity of the estates (including the artwalk in Yat Tung Estate) were very dilapidated. She hoped that the Department could expedite the progress of maintenance and enhancement works in the estates.

75. Mr YIP Pui-kei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He concurred with Mr LAU Chin-pang's view that in the past, apart from holding regular meetings, the EMAC had also established an appraisal system for monitoring and evaluating the performance of PRH estates' service contractors. He considered that the appraisal system was effective in monitoring the performance of contractors and therefore suggested that the Department should establish such a system.
- (b) It was mentioned in the said Programme of Activities that the Department would issue Fixed Penalty Notices to offenders in statutory non-smoking areas of PRH estates in the District. He enquired whether the Department would issue Fixed Penalty Notices to offenders who were not residents of the subject estates.
- (c) The soil in planters of PRH estates in the District (e.g. Mun Tung Estate) had become infertile after years of exposure to wind and rain. He hoped that the Department would step up greening efforts in PRH estates.
- (d) He hoped that the HD would work with the HKPF to enhance the security of PRH estates by, for example, reminding security guards to obtain information from strangers entering the buildings and distributing publicity leaflets to residents.
- (e) New PRH estates in the district (e.g. Cheung Tung Estate and Chun Tung Estate) would be completed successively and ancillary facilities such as shopping centres and social welfare organisations would be provided in the estates by then. In this connection, he enquired the Department about the timing for the commissioning of the ancillary facilities.

76. Mr NG Choi-wah opined that the utilisation rate of SFWBs in Mun Tung Estate was not high and not every block was equipped with the SFWB. In this connection, he enquired about the current frequency of emptying of SFWBs by the HD and suggested that the Department should explore long-term solutions on the manpower arrangement for the emptying of SFWBs.

77. Ms WONG Chau-ping pointed out that the planning of PRH estates in Area 42 had been discussed at the previous meeting and she had noted that the departments concerned had no plans to build a market. She opined that the mere provision of supermarkets in PRH estates was insufficient to meet the needs of residents, and said

that as the existing market in Mun Tung Estate could not meet the needs of residents. She was concerned that the situation would become even worse upon the population intake of Area 42. She therefore hoped that the Department would follow up on the matter.

78. Mr Arnold HAU gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) He agreed with the suggestion made by Mr LUO Chenghuan, and said that the HD would step up the relevant work.
- (b) The HD would collaborate with the EPD to provide an additional SFWB in Mun Tung Estate and Fu Tung Estate respectively such that one SFWB would be available for use by residents in each block of the estate. Moreover, there were already three SFWBs in Ying Tung Estate, and the HD had not yet identified a suitable location for the provision of more SFWBs.
- (c) The smart system alerted property management companies automatically once the collected food waste reached 70 per cent capacity of the SFWBs, facilitating property management companies to arrange for emptying of bins by cleaners. The HD had also applied for funding to arrange additional manpower to empty the SFWBs upon the implementation of the Municipal Solid Waste Charging Scheme. Moreover, the HD had provided large garbage bins next to the SFWBs to facilitate waste disposal by residents.
- (d) Garbage of each floor would be delivered to the central refuse collection points on the ground floor through the refuse chute in many PRH estates in the Islands District. Such practice would likely cause breakage of garbage bags. In this regard, the HD would discuss with cleaning service companies on the disposal options and would consult the EPD.
- (e) The HD had collected residents' views through a series of measures (such as the launch of an electronic opinion survey and the provision of an opinion box at the ground floor lobbies of the PRH blocks) after the cessation of operation of the Estate Management Advisory Committees (EMACs). If necessary, Members might contact the property management companies or the property services managers of the HD to arrange for meetings or inspection of the works sites to follow upon the issue.
- (f) The HD had broadcasted TV APIs of government departments on public televisions in PRH blocks, such as the APIs about the District Council Ordinary Election last year. He said that he would convey the suggestion of broadcasting other APIs of government departments to the HD.

- (g) The HD could issue fixed penalty notices to anybody smoking within the statutory no smoking areas of the PRH estates irrespective of whether the persons concerned were residents of the estates.
- (h) Regarding the issue of planters in Mun Tung Estate, he said that he knew the location of the planters concerned and would follow up with the greening work in the estate.
- (i) If residents found any suspicious persons entering or leaving the building, they might notify the security staff or the property management company. The property management company would immediately deploy staff to intercept the suspicious person(s) upon receiving the notification and notify the HKPF or the C&ED. The HD would maintain close liaison with property management companies to provide assistance, and enhance publicity work to raise residents' awareness of burglary prevention and security.
- (j) Regarding the time of commissioning of the ancillary facilities in Areas 99 and 100, and the planning for Area 42 in Tung Chung, he said that no relevant information was available at present, and he would relay Members' questions to the staff of the relevant divisions for follow-up after the meeting.

79. Mr LAU Chin-pang said that the refuse chute at Mun Wo House of Mun Tung Estate had been in a state of disrepair for a prolonged period, causing refuse malodour in the lobby of the building. In this connection, he requested the HD to take follow-up actions.

(Post-meeting note: According to the HD, the refuse chute at Mun Wo House had resumed operation and the problem of refuse malodour had been solved.)

VIII. Islands District Office 2024 to 2025 Annual Work Plan  
(IDC Paper No. 24/2024)

80. The Chairman drew Members' attention to the IDC Paper No. 24/2024 and presented the paper.

81. Mr LUO Chenghuan expressed his views as follows:

- (a) This year marked the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China and the 27th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. He opined that elements of the National Security Law, patriotic education and the deeds of resistance against Japanese aggression in the Islands District could be incorporated in the relevant celebration activities.

- (b) He suggested that young people should be educated on the origins of the “Treaty of Nanking” and the “Convention between Great Britain and China Respecting an Extension of Hong Kong Territory”.
- (c) He opined that the national pride of the public could be enhanced through the National Day celebration activities.

82. Mr HO Siu-kei said that the "Meet-the-Public Scheme" (the Scheme) had been launched for almost six months. Given the geographical uniqueness of the Islands District, he invited the IsDO to provide information about the Scheme to facilitate understanding of its effectiveness.

83. The Chairman said the Scheme was conducted between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. across-the-board at the 18 District Councils (DCs) in Hong Kong and therefore there was limited room for changes. She understood that some members of the public had sought assistance from the DCs through the Scheme and she would provide the relevant information after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: the Secretariat provided the relevant information to all Members on 20 May this year.)

84. Mr WAN Yeung-kin hoped that the IsDO could increase the funding for the organisation of National Day celebration activities to enrich the contents of the activities.

85. Mr WONG Man-hon suggested inviting representatives from the Social Welfare Department and HD to participate in the Scheme to enhance its attractiveness.

86. The Chairman said the focus of the Scheme was not on the number of the participating members of the public, but on the fact that it provided a channel for them to seek assistance from Members at a fixed timeslot. She opined that Mr WONG Man-hon’s opinion reflected that there was a certain demand for the public services provided by the relevant departments. Therefore, she suggested exploring different ways to enable the public to understand how to access the public services concerned.

87. Mr Jonathan CHOW expressed his views as follows:

- (a) On Mr LUO Chenghuan’s suggestion of incorporating elements of the deeds of resistance against Japanese aggression in the Islands District in the celebration activities for the National Day and reunion events, he said the relevant content was already covered by the “Funding Scheme for Youth Positive Thinking Activities” launched by the Youth Development and Civic Education Committee of the Islands District. Also, he suggested that as it was the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People’s Republic of China, the opportunity should be seized to promote patriotic education in the Islands District and to educate the youth on the history of the Islands District.

- (b) He said quite a number of residents who no longer lived in the Islands District but were still electors of the district. He hoped that the IsDO could relay the situation to the Registration and Electoral Office (REO).

88. The Chairman responded as follows:

- (a) IsDO would relay the aforementioned situation to the REO for appropriate handling and follow-up actions. Members were welcome to provide relevant information to the REO or IsDO if they noted that a resident had left Hong Kong permanently.
- (b) She agreed that national and history education should be promoted through the organisation of celebratory activities for the National Day and Hong Kong's reunification with the Motherland, and opined that such elements could be incorporated into the regular youth work.
- (c) She said that IsDO could discuss with the Youth Development and Civic Education Committee of the Islands District the feasibility of assisting in its relevant publicity and education work to enhance the youth's understanding of the history and culture of the Islands District.

(Post-meeting note: The reply of the REO was forwarded to Members for perusal on 8 July.)

89. Mr HO Chun-fai said that since the traffic in the Islands District was not as convenient as that in the urban areas, the transport costs were higher, resulting in higher publicity expenses for the annual celebratory activities of the Islands District as compared to those in the urban areas. In this connection, he hoped that IsDO could allocate more resources for publicity.

90. The Chairman asked Mr WAN Yeung-kin about the details of his request for additional funding support for the organization of activities.

91. Mr WAN Yeung-kin said that Members would raise funds from the local community and organisations for organising activities. However, their willingness to sponsor would be affected by the IsDO's need to know more about the background of the persons or organisations concerned. As such, he opined that IsDO should allocate more resources to support Members in organising activities.

92. The Chairman said that the amount of funding allocated for the organization of activities would be reviewed, given that resources had to be utilised effectively.

IX. Follow-Up on Study Reports on Issues of Community Concern  
(IDC Paper No. 25/2024)

93. The Chairman thanked Members for submitting their reports on or before 11 March this year. The studies of Members were consolidated into two study reports,



namely Topic I “Road Traffic Congestion Problem in Tung Chung Town Centre and Nearby Areas” and Topic II “The Use and Parking Problems of Bicycles (including Electric Bicycles)”.

94. The Chairman said that regarding Topic I, the majority of Members opined that Tat Tung Road was the core road section of Tung Chung Town Centre and the essential path for eastbound and west-bound traffic flow. As such, the frequent traffic congestion at the road section would have extensive impacts. It was suggested that Members should give priority to exploring the solutions to the traffic problem of Tat Tung Road, and study feasible solutions with the relevant departments at meetings of the Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC) before handling in phases the problems in other locations raised by Members. In addition, regarding Members’ suggestion of the provision of digital panels for the display of available car parking spaces, this could also be taken forward through the TTC and the relevant departments and organisations. In Topic II, Members opined that illegal parking and abandonment of bicycles in rural areas of the Islands District were prevalent. In light of the relatively large number of problematic black spots and the difficulty in making comprehensive and substantial improvements within a short period of time due to resources constraints, it was suggested that the TTC should follow up and first focus on exploring and implementing feasible measures in the vicinity of the Yung Shue Wan Public Pier on the Lamma Island on a trial basis, such as stepping up enforcement and management of bicycle parking spaces, as well as increasing the number of bicycle parking spaces, etc. She asked Members to actively participate in the TTC meetings to put forward their views, so as to alleviate or solve the existing problems as soon as possible.

X. Reports on the Work of the IDC Committees  
(IDC Papers No. 29-33/2024)

95. The Chairman drew Members’ attention to the IDC Papers No. 29-33/2024. Regarding the contents of the reports, the Chairman asked whether the Chairmen of the Committees had anything to add and whether Members had any comments to raise.

96. Mr WAN Yeung-kin said that a site visit to the parking spaces for bicycles on Lamma Island was arranged for 25 April this year after the discussions in the TTC. On that day, representatives from the Transport Department, District Lands Office (Islands), the IsDO, the HKPF, the Fire Services Department and the Pier Improvement Unit under the CEDD attended the visit. However, no consensus was reached on the suitability of the specific locations for designation as bicycle parking spaces.

97. The Chairman thanked Mr WAN for his views. However, she hoped that the discussion under this agenda item could focus on the contents of the work reports.

98. Ms WONG Chau-ping added that the site inspection on that day aimed to look into two main issues. First, to study the feasibility of designating specific locations for bicycle parking. Second, to explore the possibility of allowing village vehicles to use the road linking the north and the south of Lamma Island. The TTC would follow up on the subsequent arrangements after the site visit. She said that

transport was very important to the smooth operation of all districts (including the Islands District). She would work with Members and the relevant departments at the TTC meetings to explore feasible response measures to resolve the relevant traffic problems in the long term.

99. The Chairman thanked Members for their cooperation, and hoped that under the leadership of Ms WONG, the TTC could achieve substantial progress on the two issues as soon as possible. Finally, Members noted and unanimously endorsed the papers.

#### XI. Any Other Business

##### “Sport For All Day 2024”

100. The Chairman said that the “Sport For All Day 2024” would be held by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) on 4 August (Sunday) this year. The event took “Stay Active, Healthy and Happy!” as its slogan this year, with “parent-child exercise for fun and fitness” as the main focus to encourage the public to take up the good habit of engaging in physical activities regularly, and to promote good physical health and family relationships. It was proposed that the DC should accept LCSD’s invitation to become the supporting organisation of the “Sport For All Day 2024” and assist in the promotion of the “Sport For All Day 2024” in the district during July to August this year, so as to enhance the promotion of the importance of regular physical exercise to the public. All Members present expressed support for the proposal.

101. Members raised no other issue for discussion.

#### XII. Date of Next Meeting

102. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 9 July 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

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