

The minutes were confirmed on 26.11.2024 without amendment.

**Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the Seventh Term Yuen Long District Council**  
**Hong Kong Special Administrative Region**

Date: 24 September 2024 (Tuesday)  
Time: 2:30 p.m. to 5:25 p.m.  
Venue: Conference Room, Yuen Long District Council, 13/F., Yuen Long Government Offices,  
2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long

**Present**

Chairman : Mr WU Tin-yau, Gordon, JP  
Members : Mr MAN Yick-yeung  
Mr MAN Ka-ho, Donald, JP  
Mr WONG Wai-leung  
Mr WONG Hiu-shan  
Mr SZE TO Chun-hin  
Ms HO Hiu-man  
Mr YU Chung-leung  
Mr LUI Kin, MH  
Mr LI Kai-lap, Riben  
Ms LI Ching-yee  
Mr SHUM Ho-kit, BBS, JP  
Mr LAM Chung-yin  
Mr LAM Wai-ming  
Mr LAM Tim-fook  
Ms LAM Wai-ming  
Mr YIU Kwok-wai, MH  
Mr SEI Chun-hing  
Mr CHUI Kwan-siu  
Mr TSUI Wai-ngoi  
Ms YUEN Man-yee, MH  
Ms MA Shuk-yin  
Mr CHEUNG Wai-sum  
Mr LEUNG Ming-kin  
Mr LEUNG Yip-pang  
Mr CHONG Kin-shing, MH, JP  
Mr KWOK Wing-cheong  
Mr CHAN Ka-fai  
Ms CHAN Yin-kwan, Yankie  
Mr CHAM Ka-hung, Daniel, BBS, MH, JP  
Mr TONG Tak-chun  
Mr CHING Chan-ming  
Mr FUNG Chun-wing  
Mr WONG Yuen-tai, MH  
Mr WONG Siu-chung  
Ms WONG Wai-ling  
Mr WONG Wing-ho, Allan  
Ms CHIU Sau-han, MH  
Ms LAU Kwai-yung  
Mr TANG Che-keung, MH  
Mr TANG Sin-hang  
Mr TANG Ho-nin, MH

Mr TANG Yung-yiu, Ronnie  
Ms LAI Yuet-kwan, Fennie  
Mr TAM Tak-hoi  
Mr SO Yuen

Secretary : Ms TAM Yu-yan, Maggie Senior Executive Officer (District Council),  
Yuen Long District Office  
Assistant Secretary : Miss WONG Cheuk-ying, Executive Officer I (District Council),  
Cherry Yuen Long District Office

In Attendance

Mr Hubert CRUZ Assistant District Officer (Yuen Long) 1  
Miss ONG Kei-hang, Chelsea Assistant District Officer (Yuen Long) 2  
Miss LAU Sze-nga, Vivicia Senior Liaison Officer (1),  
Yuen Long District Office  
Ms CHUI Po-ling, Polly Senior Liaison Officer (2),  
Yuen Long District Office  
Ms OR Lai-kum, Christina Senior Liaison Officer (3),  
Yuen Long District Office  
Mr LAU Hiu-lap, Frederick Senior Liaison Officer (4),  
Yuen Long District Office  
Mr NG Kam-leung, Julian Chief Engineer/West 1,  
Civil Engineering and Development Department  
Mr CHAN Chak-sum, Jason District Lands Officer/Yuen Long (District Lands  
Office, Yuen Long), Lands Department  
Mr CHEUNG Ho-man Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands  
Office, Yuen Long), Lands Department  
Mr WONG Chun-hung, Chief Manager/Management (Tuen Mun & Yuen  
Samuel Long), Housing Department  
Mrs SHEK CHAN Lai-wah, District Social Welfare Officer (Yuen Long),  
Judy Social Welfare Department  
Miss CHEUNG Fung-heung Acting District Environmental Hygiene  
Superintendent (Yuen Long),  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Mr MOK Ka-chun Chief Health Inspector (Yuen Long)2,  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Mr CHAN Yun-kwan Chief Health Inspector (Yuen Long)3,  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department  
Miss CHAN Kam-kuk, District Commander (Yuen Long),  
Tammy Hong Kong Police Force  
Ms LAW Hoi-lam Police Community Relations Officer (Yuen Long),  
(transliteration) Hong Kong Police Force  
Mr LAM Chi-kin District Leisure Manager (Yuen Long),  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
Ms YOUENG Wai-sze, Sally Chief School Development Officer (Yuen Long),  
Education Bureau  
Mr TANG Wai-lap, Dino Senior Town Planner/Yuen Long West 1,  
Planning Department  
Mr CHEUNG Chi-yeung, Chief Transport Officer/New Territories North West,  
Fabian Transport Department

### **Item II**

Ms LI Ka-yin, Winnie	Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional North)5, Environmental Protection Department
Mr LAI Ho-leung	Environmental Protection Officer (Regional North)54, Environmental Protection Department
Mr TSANG Fan-kong	Acting Senior Engineer/Drainage Maintenance, Drainage Services Department

### **Item III**

Mr DAI Lap-phat, William	Senior Executive Officer (Planning)33, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
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### **Item V**

Dr WONG Yick-him, Simon	Veterinary Officer (Avian Influenza Surveillance), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
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### **Absence**

Mr MAN Luk-sing, MH	(Absent due to sickness)
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### **Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed Members and government department representatives to the fifth meeting of the seventh term Yuen Long District Council (“YLDC”).

2. On behalf of the YLDC, the Chairman welcomed Ms LAW Hoi-lam, Police Community Relations Officer (Yuen Long) of the Hong Kong Police Force (“HKPF”) to the meeting for the first time to succeed Ms SIN Ka-yiu, and thanked Ms SIN Ka-yiu for her assistance rendered to the YLDC in the past. Besides, Mr Dino TANG, Senior Town Planner/Yuen Long West 1 of the Planning Department and Miss CHEUNG Fung-heung, Acting District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Yuen Long) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”), stood in for Mr AU Hei-fan, Raymond and Mr KWOK Ming-gon respectively, to attend the meeting.

3. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received an application for absence from the meeting from Mr MAN Luk-sing, MH before the commencement of the meeting. Mr MAN Luk-sing, MH was unable to attend the meeting due to sickness and had submitted a medical certificate. According to Order 64(1) of the YLDC Standing Orders, a Member who could not attend a meeting because of sickness might apply to the District Council (“DC”) for absence, and the DC should decide whether consent should be given to the application for absence. The Chairman asked Members whether they would consent to the application for absence of Mr MAN Luk-sing, MH.

4. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman announced that the application for absence of Mr MAN Luk-sing, MH was endorsed.

**Item I: Confirmation of the minutes of the fourth meeting of the YLDC held on 23 July 2024**

5. Members confirmed the minutes of the fourth meeting of the YLDC held on 23 July 2024.

**Discussion Items**

**Item II: Mr SZE TO Chun-hin, Mr SO Yuen, Ms Fennie LAI, Mr TONG Tak-chun, Mr CHUI Kwan-siu, Mr LUI Kin, Ms MA Shuk-yin, Ms CHIU Sau-han, Mr FUNG Chun-wing, Mr LAM Wai-ming and Mr YU Chung-leung proposed a discussion on “Matters relating to the revitalisation of Tin Shui Wai Nullah” (YLDC Paper No. 57/2024)**

6. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 57 and the written replies from the Development Bureau (“DEVB”), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”), the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”), the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”), the FEHD, and the Drainage Services Department (“DSD”). He welcomed the following department representatives to the meeting:

Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional North)5, EPD	<u>Ms Winnie LI</u>
Environmental Protection Officer (Regional North)54, EPD	<u>Mr LAI Ho-leung</u>
Acting Senior Engineer/Drainage Maintenance, DSD	<u>Mr TSANG Fan-kong</u>

7. Mr SZE TO Chun-hin briefed Members on the paper and said that the Government had not yet initiated any beautification or revitalisation works for Tin Shui Wai Nullah, although it was one of the main drainage channels in Tin Shui Wai, with riverside parks on both sides serving as a good place for people to spend their leisure time. He asked the DEVB for detailed design information and an artist’s impression of the beautification/revitalisation plan for Tin Shui Wai Nullah. He also enquired about the cause of the frequent odours emanating from Tin Shui Wai Nullah and whether the LCSD had any plans to provide recreation and sports facilities on both sides of the nullah. Finally, he suggested that the Government consider renaming Tin Shui Wai Nullah as “Tin Shui Wai River” to highlight its position as a local attraction.

8. Mr SO Yuen suggested that the Government carry out beautification or revitalisation works for Tin Shui Wai Nullah to make it as a landmark in Tin Shui Wai. Separately, he enquired about the reasons for the reduced frequency of raids conducted by the EPD on pig farms near Mong Tseng Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan this year compared to previous years. He recommended that inspections be stepped up to tackle the illegal discharge of livestock waste from pig farms into Tin Shui Wai Nullah.

9. Mr Daniel CHAM, BBS, MH, JP said that the day-to-day management of Tin Shui Wai Nullah was currently the responsibility of several government departments. He said that different types of complaints had to be handled by different departments, resulting in slow follow-up. For example, many years ago he urged the LCSD to replant the trees along the footpaths that had been uprooted by a typhoon, but the replanting could only be done after the Highways Department (“HyD”) had completed the resurfacing, and so the replanting could not be completed even after all these years. He opined that if there were plans to revitalise Tin Shui Wai Nullah as a local attraction, consideration should be given to designating a single department to co-ordinate the various day-to-day management issues in order to enhance management effectiveness. Separately, he urged the relevant departments to actively follow up on the replanting of trees adjacent to Tin Shui Wai Nullah and to tackle the issue of miscellaneous objects accumulating under the footbridge at Tin Ying Road, where the railings were

often occupied for drying laundry. He also recommended that the Government take a leaf out of the Yuen Long Nullah's book and construct a dry weather flow interceptor at Tin Shui Wai Nullah to reduce the accumulation of silt and rubbish. Finally, he noted that the arbours and chairs on the pavement along both sides of Tin Shui Wah Nullah should be refurbished and repaired at an appropriate time, citing their current state of disrepair.

10. Mr YIU Kwok-wai, MH endorsed the revitalisation of Tin Shui Wai Nullah, and recommended the provision of recreation and leisure facilities in the vicinity of the nullah to provide a comfortable living environment for the public. He also observed that the management of Tin Shui Wai Nullah involved multiple government departments, and recommended enhanced co-ordination of their respective duties. Finally, he hoped that Tin Shui Wai Nullah would become a landmark in Tin Shui Wai in the future.

11. Mr WONG Yuen-tai, MH endorsed the revitalisation of Tin Shui Wai Nullah to make it a good leisure area for public enjoyment. He enquired whether the water quality of Tin Shui Wai Nullah was affected by the effluent discharged from the livestock farms in the Ha Tsuen and Lau Fau Shan areas. He suggested that if this was not the case, the Government should clarify the matter for the livestock farms. He also believed that the accumulated silt would also affect the water quality of the nullah, and suggested that the relevant departments should clean the nullah regularly to improve its water quality.

12. Mr LUI Kin, MH saw the potential for Tin Shui Wai Nullah to be developed into a river landscape for the Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen New Development Area and the Development of Lau Fau Shan, with a view to promoting local tourism and economic activities. To ensure the co-ordination of the development direction of the beautification/revitalisation plan for Tin Shui Wai Nullah, he proposed that the DEVB should assume a leading role in driving the project forward, drawing on the successful example of the Kai Tak River beautification works. He also remarked that the odour issue in Tin Shui Wai Nullah might be caused by the accumulation of silt in the nullah due to the backflow of seawater from Deep Bay. He suggested that the case of Yuen Long Nullah be referenced and a penstock be retrofitted at Tin Shui Wai Nullah as a solution.

13. Mr Allan WONG endorsed the revitalisation of Tin Shui Wai Nullah as a means of enhancing the physical and mental wellbeing of residents. He highlighted the safety concerns associated with the accumulation of silt in Tin Shui Wai Nullah, citing instances where there had been people trapped by silt. He also endorsed the construction of a penstock at Tin Shui Wai Nullah to address the odour issue caused by the accumulation of silt.

14. Ms WONG Wai-ling said that the day-to-day maintenance of Tin Shui Wai Nullah involved multiple government departments, and that the efficiency of the handling work was hindered by the fragmentation of responsibilities. She believed that a concerted effort from multiple government departments was necessary to address the issues surrounding Tin Shui Wai Nullah, including the management of water quality, flood prevention, and public space. She also hoped that the Government could adopt a holistic approach to re-planning the environment around Tin Shui Wai Nullah with a view to making it a new landmark and a better living environment for the people living in the neighbourhood.

15. Mr LEUNG Ming-kin opined that, due to the relatively short height of shrubs, they could hardly provide shade and were inconvenient for passers-by to appreciate trees and flowers. He therefore proposed planting more visible trees on both sides of Tin Shui Wai Nullah to enhance the green landscape.

16. Mr TONG Tak-chun suggested that the DEVB should assume a leading role in the implementation of the beautification/revitalisation plan for Tin Shui Wai Nullah to align co-ordination of the work.

17. Mr CHEUNG Wai-sum said that he had recently received reports from the public about a petrol-like smell emanating from the section of the nullah near Tan Kwai Tsuen and Wo Ping San Tsuen. He suspected that industrial petrol was being illegally discharged upstream of the Hung Shui Kiu section of the nullah, causing fish to die in the lower reaches. He suggested that the EPD should intensify inspections at the sites in question.

18. Ms Fennie LAI noted the presence of an uneven surface on the footpaths located on both sides of the Tin Shui Wai Nullah section, extending from Tin Wah Road to Tin Heng Estate. She requested information on the schedule for paving works to be carried out by the relevant departments.

19. Ms CHIU Sau-han, MH agreed that the DEVB should take the lead in co-ordinating the management of Tin Shui Wai Nullah to avoid the current shortcoming of multi-departmental co-management. She also asked the DEVB for detailed design information on the beautification/revitalisation plan for Tin Shui Wai Nullah.

20. A consolidated reply provided by Ms Winnie LI of the EPD was as follows:

- (1) During its routine inspections and when following up on complaints, the EPD would collect effluent samples at the discharge point for laboratory testing and, where necessary, would conduct dye tests to trace the source of effluent discharges. In cases where there was sufficient evidence, the EPD would prosecute suspected offenders under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance, Chapter 358;
- (2) During the past three years (from 2022 to August 2024), the EPD received one odour complaint about Tin Shui Wai Nullah, which was related to an incident involving a large quantity of dead fish, as well as 10 complaints of illegal discharges, mainly related to the presence of rubbish and dead fish in the river and other issues. The EPD conducted a total of 43 inspections in response to the aforesaid complaints during the period;
- (3) The causes of the fish deaths could be linked to a basket of factors, such as changes in weather patterns and lower levels of dissolved oxygen in water;
- (4) The EPD had all along been concerned about the water quality of Tin Shui Wai Main Nullah. In addition to regular sampling for testing, the EPD would conduct routine inspections and long-term monitoring of the water quality. The overall compliance rate of Tin Shui Wai Nullah with the Water Quality Objectives for the period from 2022 to 2023 was between 88% and 90%, with the water quality indices of both upstream and downstream monitoring stations along the nullah remaining in the “Good” to “Fair” grading;

- (5) During the past three years (from 2022 to August 2024), the EPD received three reports of large quantities of dead fish in Tin Shui Wai Nullah. Following site inspections, no evidence of illegal effluent discharge was found. Furthermore, laboratory analyses of multiple water samples collected from the nullah did not indicate any abnormalities in water quality, including a decline in dissolved oxygen levels;
- (6) The EPD would continue to monitor the water quality of Tin Shui Wai Main Nullah and whether there had been any illegal discharges in the vicinity, and would take the corresponding enforcement action if any illegal activities were detected; and
- (7) With regard to the concerns raised about livestock farms, the information maintained by the EPD showed that there were currently no pig farms in the vicinity of Tin Shui Wai Nullah, and the nearest pig farm was located near Mong Tseng Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan, approximately one kilometre from Tin Shui Wai Nullah. Regarding the discharge of effluent from the aforesaid livestock farm, the EPD had been liaising with the persons-in-charge of the pig farm, reminding them to properly dispose of livestock waste from the farm site, and that liquid livestock waste generated had to be treated in accordance with the statutory requirements under the Waste Disposal (Livestock Waste) Regulations prior to discharge. Additionally, the EPD had been working closely with the AFCD and maintaining liaison with the sector and the persons-in-charge of livestock farms. Livestock farmers were reminded to be aware of the relevant legislation requirements and to raise their awareness of environmental protection in order to reduce water pollution in rivers and streams at source;
- (8) In the recent three years (from 2022 to August 2024), the EPD had conducted a total of 74 inspections and eight raids on the aforesaid pig farms in the area around Mong Tseng Tsuen, Lau Fau Shan. The raids organised by the EPD each year would be adjusted according to the details of the complaints received; and
- (9) The EPD would intensify inspections of the area around Tin Shui Wai Nullah, and noted the suggestion by a Member to intensify inspections of the upstream sites of Hung Shui Kiu Nullah.

21. A consolidated reply provided by Mr TSANG Fan-kong of the DSD was as follows:

- (1) The DSD would carry out desilting works for Tin Shui Wai Nullah during the months of November and December each year. The frequency of desilting works would be increased where appropriate;
- (2) There were many reasons for foul odour emission from drains. These could include illegal discharges, misconnections of private sewers to the stormwater drainage systems, and other factors such as rubbish floating on the river. Should any of the aforesaid situations be found, the DSD would immediately refer the case to the relevant departments for further action. Furthermore, the DSD would fully co-operate with any investigation and prosecution where necessary; and
- (3) The suggestion by a Member to retrofit a penstock at Tin Shui Wai Nullah was noted. The DSD would continue carrying out nullah inspections on a regular basis and arrange for desilting works where appropriate.

22. A consolidated reply provided by Mr LAM Chi-kin of the LCSD was as follows:
- (1) The LCSD would undertake the vegetation maintenance works on both sides of Tin Shui Wai Nullah in accordance with the division of labour arrangements set out in the relevant DEVB Technical Circulars;
  - (2) By planting different species of ornamental plants on both sides of Tin Shui Wai Nullah, the LCSD hoped to create a pleasant green environment along the nullah and allow the public to experience the change of seasons;
  - (3) The LCSD would replace shrubs in a timely manner, given their shorter lifespan compared to that of trees; and
  - (4) In response to the concerns expressed by relevant Members, the LCSD would liaise with the Tree Team of Yuen Long District to gain a better understanding of the trees being replanted along Tin Shui Wai Nullah. Due to the ongoing road resurfacing and tree pits enlargement works on the footpath along Tin Shui Path, the LCSD would arrange for tree replanting to be carried out based on the actual environment upon completion of the road resurfacing works.
23. A consolidated reply provided by Mr CHAN Yun-kwan of the FEHD was as follows:
- (1) The FEHD was mainly responsible for street cleansing work on both sides of Tin Shui Wai Nullah and the placement of litter bins;
  - (2) To address the accumulation of miscellaneous articles under the footbridge near Tin Ying Road, the FEHD had previously arranged for rubbish to be removed from the site from time to time, and had assisted in joint cleaning operations. The FEHD would continue to keep a watchful eye on the situation and enhance cleaning operations at the site in line with actual circumstances; and
  - (3) The FEHD appreciated the concerns raised by Members and the public regarding the use of Tin Shui Wai Nullah for leisure purposes, as well as their expectations for enhancement of relevant ancillary facilities. The FEHD was open to the opinions expressed by the Members and had given them due consideration. On 14 August 2024, the FEHD conducted a site visit with the Members to gain a better understanding of the situation and needs. Following a review of the feedback from the Members, the FEHD installed two solar-powered portable toilets at a convenient location in the middle section of the nullah at Tin Ying Road on 1 September 2024. Related services were also provided to enhance the public's experience, with appropriate guidelines in place to complement these services.
24. The Chairman said that the Northern Metropolis Co-ordination Office, operating under the DEVB, had participated in a YLDC meeting in March this year, during which the beautification/revitalisation plan for Tin Shui Wai Nullah was mentioned. He was confident that the DEVB would consult the YLDC on the latest progress of the plan in due course, given that the relevant studies and design work were already underway. He also requested that the Secretary relay the views of the Members to the DEVB.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat wrote to the DEVB on 2 October 2024 to convey the views of the Members and forwarded the DEVB's follow-up reply to Members on 4 November 2024.)



**Item III: Mr TANG Ho-nin, Mr KWOK Wing-cheong, Mr Ronnie TANG, and Ms HO Hiu-man proposed a discussion on “Request for the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung” (YLDC Paper No. 58/2024)**

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25. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 58 and a written reply from the LCSD and welcomed Mr William DAI, Senior Executive Officer (Planning) 33 of the LCSD, to the meeting.

26. Mr TANG Ho-nin, MH briefed Members on the paper. He said that the Government had proposed the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung over a decade ago, but that the relevant works had yet to commence. He therefore requested the construction schedule for the sports centre.

27. Ms HO Hiu-man said that the population of Kam Tin and Pat Heung was expected to grow in line with the completion of various development projects. These included the public housing developments at Kam Tin South in Yuen Long, which were scheduled for completion in phases from 2026 onwards, as well as other private housing developments, such as Grand Mayfair. In light of the lack of land allocated for the construction of recreation and sports facilities, such as sports centres, in the aforesaid public housing developments, she requested the LCSD expedite the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung to meet the strong demand for such facilities from residents of Kam Tin and Pat Heung.

28. Mr LEUNG Ming-kin enquired whether the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung was included in the Government’s proposed “10-Year Development Blueprint for Sports and Recreation Facilities” and the “10-year Development Blueprint for Arts and Cultural Facilities”. Furthermore, he said that the development of the Northern Metropolis would lead to an increase in the population of Yuen Long District. However, as there was currently a lack of recreation and sports facilities in rural areas, a positive response from the Government to the demands of rural residents could help to ease the conflict between the Government and villagers over land resumption issues. Furthermore, he pointed out that some of the future stations on the Northern Link would be situated in Kam Tin and Pat Heung, enhancing accessibility to Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung for individuals from other districts.

29. In response to the LCSD’s reply that the project of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung would be reviewed only after the completion of other recreation and sports facilities projects, Mr CHUI Kwan-siu expressed concern that the project might be put on hold indefinitely. He therefore requested a definite schedule for the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung.

30. Mr YIU Kwok-wai, MH was pleased to learn that Tin Sau Road Swimming Pool had recently been opened to the public after many years of preparation. He also hoped that the project for Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung, which had been discussed for many years, would be implemented as soon as possible. The completion of residential buildings above Kam Sheung Road Station, the nearby transitional housing and the light public housing projects would contribute to a significant population increase in Kam Tin and Pat Heung. If the works projects were prioritised as stated in the LCSD’s reply, it was likely that Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung would not be able to keep pace with the development progress of Kam Tin South. He therefore hoped that the LCSD would proactively respond to the strong demand from residents for recreation and sports facilities.

31. Mr Daniel CHAM, BBS, MH, JP said that the YLDC had proposed the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung many years ago. However, the LCSD did not take forward the proposal on the grounds that the area lacked sufficient population. Nevertheless, with the continued development of Kam Tin South, it was anticipated that there would be an increasing demand for recreation and sports facilities from the growing population. He put forward a public-private partnership model, whereby developers would be required to construct public recreation and sports facilities while developing their private land, with conditions such as land premium deductions. The Leighton Hill Community Hall was cited as an example of how this model could be implemented. In light of the recent rezoning of numerous sites in Kam Tin and Pat Heung as “Comprehensive Development Areas” (“CDAs”), he proposed the Planning Department to amend the Outline Zoning Plan after securing the relevant policy support, and include the construction of recreation and sports facilities in the lease conditions for CDA sites developed by developers.

32. Ms LI Ching-yee enquired as to why the Government had not yet confirmed the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung, and whether the Architectural Services Department had conducted a technical feasibility study on the project. Besides, she hoped that the Government would expedite the commencement of the construction project and provide a timetable for the joint-user complex at Site 1, Kam Tin South, so as to meet the demand for recreational, sports, medical and social welfare facilities for the residents of housing developments and transitional housing units at Kam Tin South.

33. Mr KWOK Wing-cheong said that the overall provision of recreation and sports facilities in Pat Heung was insufficient. There was only one pitch in Sheung Tsuen, one mini-pitch in Wang Toi Shan and one small playground in Kam Tsin Wai, which had recently been approved for construction. He expected the Government to show concern over the demands of Pat Heung residents for recreation and sports facilities.

34. Mr TANG Sin-hang pointed out that the recreation and sports facilities included in the “10-Year Development Blueprint for Sports and Recreation Facilities” were mainly located in the Yuen Long town centre. He believed that the provision of recreation and sports facilities in rural areas, such as sports centres, would help to divert traffic away from the Yuen Long town centre, thereby alleviating the existing traffic congestion problem. With a number of public and private housing estates being completed in Kam Tin, the Government should construct Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung as soon as possible to meet the demand for recreation and sports facilities from the growing population.

35. A consolidated reply provided by Mr William DAI of the LCSD was as follows:

- (1) In line with the fiscal consolidation programme, the Government would assess the priority, necessity and importance of projects at the planning stage. This would include an assessment of how public resources could be used more efficiently and the effectiveness of works expenses. As for some projects that were still at the preliminary planning or conceptual stage, the implementation schedule would be adjusted, taking into account factors such as the importance of the project;
- (2) The LCSD and relevant departments were also actively involved in the planning of several works projects, namely the “Leisure and Cultural Complex at Tin Yip Road, Tin Shui Wai Phase 2”, the “Sports Facilities with Public Vehicle Park in Tung Tau Industrial Area, Yuen Long” and the “Sports Centre in Area 12, Yuen Long”. Upon completion of

the main planning for each of the aforesaid works projects, the LCSD would conduct a review of the priorities of other projects (including Sports Centre Project at Kam Tin Pat Heung), and then proceed with planning for future cultural, recreation and sports facilities in the district;

- (3) The LCSD was undertaking relevant advance work for the proposed joint-user complex at Site 1, Kam Tin South. This included technical feasibility studies, specific planning and detailed design work. The LCSD would continue to maintain close liaison and co-ordination with various departments to ensure the timely completion of the works project, and would liaise with the YLDC again where appropriate to provide an update on the progress of this project;
- (4) When planning for new recreation, sports and leisure facilities, the LCSD would refer to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and take into account relevant factors and conditions such as the existing sports facilities provided at both the territory-wide and district levels, policy objectives for sports development, the usage of existing sports facilities, demographic changes in the district, the views of the DCs, available land and technical feasibility. The aim was to ensure the provision of adequate recreation, sports and leisure facilities in Yuen Long District; and
- (5) The LCSD would implement the District Minor Works Programme in rural areas in a phased manner, having regard to Members' views and subject to the availability of resources.

36. The Chairman concluded that the Members expected the Government to expedite the commencement of the proposed joint-user complex at Site 1, Kam Tin South, and to give due consideration to the construction of Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pat Heung in order to meet the strong demand for recreation and sports facilities from the residents of Kam Tin and Pat Heung. He requested that the LCSD and the Government Property Agency proceed with the works as soon as the relevant resources were available.

**Item IV: Mr CHONG Kin-shing proposed a discussion on “Illegal parking of bicycles on the footbridge at the YOHO MALL II exit of Yuen Long West Rail Station” (YLDC Paper No. 59/2024)**

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37. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 59 and the written replies from the HyD and the Transport Department (“TD”).

38. Mr CHONG Kin-shing, MH, JP briefed Members on the paper. He opined that while increasing the number of bicycle parking spaces in the district could improve the situation of illegal parking of bicycles to a certain extent, the footbridge at the YOHO MALL II exit of Yuen Long MTR Station remained a popular spot for bicycle owners due to its proximity to the station than the nearby bicycle parking spaces and its covered design, resulting in a serious problem of illegal parking. In response to this problem, the Yuen Long District Office had recently conducted a joint operation with the TD and the Police to remove 26 illegally parked bicycles on the footbridge pursuant to the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228), which had begun to bear fruit. To alleviate the congestion problem on footbridges caused by illegal parking of bicycles in the long run, he suggested that a two-pronged approach should be adopted. Apart from regular enforcement actions against illegal parking of bicycles, transparent plastic boards could be installed on railings of footbridges to prevent bicycle owners from locking their bicycles on the railings.

39. Mr YU Chung-leung pointed out that the problem of illegal parking of bicycles on the footbridge on Fung Cheung Road in Yuen Long had remained unresolved for years. He considered that joint clearance operations could not address the root cause of the problem. As the existing design of the railings on footbridges allowed cyclists to easily secure their bicycles, he suggested that the Government should enhance the design of the railings or install materials such as aluminium panels to the handrails to address the problem of illegal parking of bicycles in a targeted manner.

40. Mr Daniel CHAM, BBS, MH, JP considered that installing transparent plastic boards on railings had limited effectiveness as bicycles could still be secured to the handrails, while removing the handrails would cause inconvenience to the elderly and the disabled. To achieve a deterrent effect, he suggested that the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228) should be invoked to immediately remove illegally parked bicycles on the ground that it was prohibited to leave any article that might obstruct, inconvenience or endanger any person or vehicle in a public place. He pointed out that such approach had also been used to tackle the problem of illegal parking of bicycles on the cycle track near Locwood Court at Tin Yiu Road in Tin Shui Wai and on the footbridge at Sheung Shui MTR Station, and the results were remarkable.

41. Mr SHUM Ho-kit, BBS, JP said that many citizens parked their bicycles on the footbridge at the YOHO MALL II exit of Yuen Long MTR Station for their own convenience, while the pavement along the nullah underneath the footbridge was also full of illegally parked bicycles. He considered that frequent joint bicycle clearance operations with deterrent effect could effectively tackle the problem of illegal parking of bicycles by increasing the cost for bicycle owners to park their bicycles illegally.

42. Mr CHING Chan-ming said that conducting joint bicycle clearance operations with deterrent effect could effectively tackle the problem of illegal parking of bicycles. He suggested that illegally parked bicycles could be immediately removed in accordance with the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228) on the ground that it was prohibited to leave any article that might obstruct, inconvenience or endanger any person or vehicle in a public place, thereby achieving a deterrent effect.

43. Mr LEUNG Ming-kin enquired about the implementation timetable of the TD's plan to increase the number of public bicycle parking places near Yau Tin Road East, Fung Yau Path and Long Yat Road, and the Hong Kong Housing Society's reprovisioning of 64 public bicycle parking spaces in its housing development at Yuen Lung Street. Besides, he suggested strengthening education and publicity to improve the problem of illegal parking of bicycles.

44. Mr WONG Yuen-tai, MH considered that joint operations against illegal parking of bicycles were ineffective and limited in number. He suggested that the problem of illegal parking of bicycles should be tackled at root by the provision of additional bicycle parking spaces and strict enforcement of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228). Regarding the inconvenience caused to pedestrians and prams by bicycles parked on both sides of the footbridge at the YOHO MALL II exit of Yuen Long MTR Station, he considered it necessary for relevant departments to deal with the situation promptly. Lastly, he suggested that consideration should be given to utilising the open space adjacent to Shun Fung Building in Yuen Long to provide more bicycle parking spaces in the district.

45. Mr KWOK Wing-cheong said that many rural residents had to rely on bicycles for travelling because of the remoteness of their residences. He hoped that the Government could balance the needs of different stakeholders and suggested that more bicycle parking spaces should be provided to tackle the problem of illegal parking of bicycles.

46. Mr SEI Chun-hing opined that in order to solve the problem of illegal parking of bicycles in the long run, apart from providing more public bicycle parking spaces, consideration could also be given to providing more private bicycle parking spaces, such as encouraging shopping malls to convert some of their car parking spaces into bicycle parking spaces, which could not only provide a convenient parking location for bicycle owners, but also prevent bicycles from being exposed to the sun and rain, thereby meeting the needs of bicycle owners.

47. Ms HO Hiu-man believed that bicycle parking facilities needed to keep pace with the times and suggested that reference should be made to the advanced technologies in the Mainland and other places. Besides, she noted that the problem of illegal parking of bicycles was also prevalent on both sides of the footbridge opposite to exit B of Kam Sheung Road MTR Station, and suggested that joint operations should be strengthened to clear illegally parked bicycles.

48. Ms MA Shuk-yin considered that the main reason for bicycle owners to park their bicycles on the footbridge at the YOHO MALL II exit of Yuen Long MTR Station was the convenience of the location, and installing plastic boards on both sides of the railings would increase the difficulty for owners to secure their bicycles, thus improving the situation of illegal parking of bicycles. Besides, she suggested that suitable sites should be identified near the above location for the provision of bicycle parking places.

49. Mr SZE TO Chun-hin understood that many citizens used bicycles to connect to buses and railways for convenience, however, illegal parking of bicycles on footbridges would cause inconvenience to pedestrians. He agreed that installing plastic boards on both sides of the railings could deter bicycle owners from securing their bicycles to the railings. To optimise the use of limited public space, he suggested that reference should be made to the practice in North District of providing double-deck bicycle parkers and utilising the space underneath footbridges for bicycle parking to facilitate cyclists.

50. Mr Riben LI suggested that reference should be made to the “7” type railings installed along the cycle track leading from Tai Po Market Station to Wong Shiu Chi Secondary School to prevent bicycles from being illegally locked to the railings. Besides, he suggested that education and publicity should be strengthened to guide cyclists to use nearby bicycle parking places.

51. A consolidated reply provided by Mr Fabian CHEUNG of the TD was as follows:

- (1) As observed by the TD in Yuen Long and other districts, the effectiveness of installing plastic boards or mesh on railings to prevent bicycle parking was insignificant, and illegal parking of bicycles still persisted. Therefore, the TD had no plan to install plastic boards or mesh on railings of the footbridge (NF305) at the YOHO MALL II exit of Yuen Long MTR Station for the time being;

- (2) The TD and relevant departments would take a multi-pronged approach to improve the situation of illegal parking of bicycles, including the provision of additional bicycle parking spaces in the district. The TD had already planned to provide public bicycle parking places near Yau Tin Road East, Fung Yau Path and Long Yat Road. Upon the completion of district consultation, the TD would issue the works orders promptly to expedite the implementation of the relevant works. The TD would also request the provision of bicycle parking spaces in new development projects; and
- (3) The TD had set up the Cycling Information Centre on its website to provide one-stop information on cycling, including parking sites and parking tips, so that citizens could locate parking spots.

52. In conclusion, the Chairman hoped that the TD would adopt a multi-pronged approach to tackle the problem of illegal parking of bicycles in the district by providing not only bicycle parking places but also measures to curb illegal parking of bicycles.

**Item V: Mr SO Yuen, Mr LUI Kin, Ms MA Shuk-yin, Mr SZE TO Chun-hin, Mr CHUI Kwan-siu, Ms LAM Wai-ming, Mr Riben LI, Mr LAM Wai-ming, Mr YU Chung-leung and Ms Fennie LAI, proposed a discussion on “Enforcement issues relating to illegal feeding of feral pigeons in Yuen Long District starting from August 1” (YLDC Paper No. 60/2024)**

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53. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 60 and the written replies from the AFCD, the Housing Department (“HD”), the DSD, the LCSD and the FEHD tabled at the meeting. He also welcomed Dr Simon WONG, Veterinary Officer (Avian Influenza Surveillance) of the AFCD to the meeting.

54. Mr SO Yuen briefed Members on the paper. He opined that the written replies provided by the departments failed to give a clear explanation on the law enforcement against illegal feeding of wild animals or feral pigeons under the Wild Animals Protection (Amendment) Ordinance 2024 (“Amendment Ordinance”). He pointed out that some citizens might leave the area immediately after scattering food around to take a chance that enforcement officers might not witness their act of feeding and thus could not initiate prosecution against them by invoking the Amendment Ordinance. However, the act of scattering food around itself had constituted littering offences. Besides, he enquired the staffing establishment of HD’s Special Operation Teams and the LCSD’s law enforcement.

55. Mr LAM Wai-ming favoured the implementation of the Amendment Ordinance and considered that it would reduce the threats to citizens and public health posed by the illegal feeding of wild animals or feral pigeons. He enquired whether it was required that the law enforcement officers could only take law enforcement action upon witnessing the illegal act under the Amendment Ordinance. He also enquired about the number of designated enforcement officers in Yuen Long District deployed by the AFCD and whether it would conduct surprise inspections at illegal feeding black spots on a regular basis. Moreover, he queried if the AFCD and other departments concerned could issue fixed penalty notices (“FPNs”) to or take other enforcement actions against persons who were spotted feeding feral pigeons illegally in a video footage provided by the public, as well as whether special notification mechanism was in place for the public to directly communicate with the law enforcement officers.

56. Mr YU Chung-leung quoted an scenario in which feral pigeons were being attracted to the site when members of the public were feeding other animals, he wondered whether this would constitute an offence under the Amendment Ordinance.

57. Ms Fennie LAI enquired about the manpower arrangement and operation frequency of HD's Special Operation Teams. She also enquired whether public rental housing ("PRH") residents would be allotted penalty points under the Marking Scheme for Estate Management Enforcement in Public Housing Estates ("Marking Scheme") and issued with FPNs if they engaged in illegal feeding in housing estates which were not within their living areas.

58. Mr WONG Yuen-tai, MH suggested that the AFCD should draw on the experience of Shanghai to set up dovecotes at black spots for catching feral pigeons with the aim of improving environmental hygiene. It was also suggested that the AFCD should communicate more frequently with members of the local community to seek a solution to the problem.

59. Mr LUI Kin, MH enquired about the staffing arrangements in Yuen Long District for the designated enforcement teams ("DETs") set up by various departments to enforce the Amendment Ordinance, and whether the HD's Special Operation Teams could only take enforcement action within areas of PRH or Tenants Purchase Scheme ("TPS") estates.

60. Mr TONG Tak-chun enquired about whether various departments were empowered to issue penalty tickets to persons who engaged in illegal feeding in accordance with the Amendment Ordinance and the staffing arrangements for law enforcement officers.

61. Ms LAM Wai-ming said that the Amendment Ordinance had been effective in deterring illegal feeding once it was in force but it was less effective in deterring habitual feeding of feral pigeons, and suggested the installation of closed circuit televisions ("CCTVs") at black spots to strengthen deterrence.

62. Mr Daniel CHAM, BBS, MH, JP considered that the increase in penalties would achieve deterrence and that the Amendment Ordinance would also be applicable to the feeding of animals other than feral pigeons, it would be necessary to keep in view the situation for a period of time before delving into the enforcement scenarios and improvement measures. As the Amendment Ordinance did not empower private property management companies to enforce the law, he agreed that the situation should be handled by the Government's enforcement officers in order to avoid disputes.

63. Mr LEUNG Ming-kin proposed the installation of CCTVs at black spots of illegal feeding of feral pigeons (such as along the nullah at Yau Tin East Road, the section of Yuen Long Nullah near Yee Fung Garden) to strengthen deterrence.

64. Mr Riben LI opined that the AFCD, as a major law enforcement agency, should further strengthen its law enforcement actions to serve deterrent and educational purposes, and he was pleased to note that the FEHD had been enforcing the law dutifully before the Amendment Ordinance came into effect.

65. Mr SHUM Ho-kit, BBS, JP enquired about the types of animals classified as domestic animals that were excluded from the feeding ban and whether captive animals were covered under the Amendment Ordinance.

66. Mr SZE TO Chun-hin expressed concern about the ineffective law enforcement due to the lack of law enforcement officers. Besides, he enquired the AFCD of the ways to drive feral pigeons away and whether it would provide relevant guidelines to the HD, for example, on the use of pigeon repellents and contraceptive feeds, etc.

67. Mr TANG Ho-nin, MH suggested that reference should be drawn from overseas experience in introducing a feral pigeon hunting season in Hong Kong to reduce the population of feral pigeons.

68. Ms CHIU Sau-han, MH asked if a resident was caught red-handed for illegal feeding of feral pigeons within the areas of housing estates, whether the HD would allot penalty points to the resident under the Marking Scheme.

69. The Chairman said that some members of the public had complained to him that their neighbours were feeding feral pigeons on the balconies or at planters of their homes and thus enquired about the enforcement arrangements. He added that the FEHD had installed CCTVs at feral pigeon feeding black spots before the Amendment Ordinance came into effect and had successfully enforced the law.

70. A consolidated reply from Dr Simon WONG of the AFCD was as follows:

- (1) In addition to the officers of the AFCD and the Police, officers of the FEHD, the LCSO and the HD who were authorised by the AFCD might also take enforcement action against illegal feeding invoking the Amendment Ordinance. This would enable the Government to deploy more flexibly officers from different departments based on the venues under their respective purview for participation in enforcement actions against illegal feeding of wild animals and feral pigeons in different parts of Hong Kong through issuing FPNs;
- (2) The AFCD had set up two to three DETs which were partly consisted of part-time workers. Through the adoption of a risk-based enforcement strategy and re-allocation of internal resources, the AFCD and relevant departments would take corresponding enforcement actions against illegal feeding in different locations throughout the entire territory based on intelligence and reports received;
- (3) Management office staff of private places would only be informants while departmental officers would take up the investigation and monitoring work. Information such as photographs and video footages captured by the public would only be supplementary in nature and could not be regarded as substantial evidence. Such information could be relayed to the department through 1823 for follow-up action. Successful investigations and prosecutions relied on effective and sufficient intelligence from the public. This would enable our staff to obtain sufficient information for devising the strategy and capturing the feeding process in order to issue FPNs to suspected offenders;



- (4) The AFCD was mainly responsible for enforcement of the Amendment Ordinance in private places and in some public places;
- (5) The Amendment Ordinance was also applicable to the feeding of other wild animals (see Item (13) below) and the enforcement would depend on actual circumstances and the offender's motive;
- (6) The AFCD had conducted a long-term study on the proposal of establishing dovecotes and would continue to examine on its feasibility and take into account factors including the impact of the proposal on the natural habits of feral pigeons, its effectiveness on controlling feral pigeon population, availability of viable potential sites, and impact on the nearby residents;
- (7) TPS estates were private places. Complaints about illegal feeding of feral pigeons at these places would be handled and followed up by the AFCD;
- (8) The AFCD noted the views on the installation of CCTVs at black spots of feral pigeon feeding, and would liaise with venue managers or relevant organisations to explore the feasibility of installing CCTV cameras at suitable black spots of feral pigeon feeding where appropriate;
- (9) If someone fed feral pigeons at home, the AFCD might require the complainant to provide clear information and request to set up the best possible observation point in the complainant's residence. If necessary, the AFCD would seek assistance from the property management offices concerned;
- (10) The AFCD had established an inter-departmental working group on feeding ban enforcement with the FEHD, the LCSD and the HD. The working group regularly reviewed and discussed enforcement actions against illegal feeding and would arrange joint enforcement operations when necessary. So far, operations had been conducted on six occasions;
- (11) As of 18 September 2024, the Government had issued FPNs to 22 persons involved in illegal feeding, of whom 10 were involved in feeding feral pigeons or wild birds, and four cases occurred in Yuen Long District;
- (12) In respect of the definition of captive animals, the owner was required to prove that the animals were kept by him, for example, he was a holder of exhibition licence for lawful keeping of pigeons or a holder of an exemption permit, or the animal was under the care of human beings and was ordinarily kept in captivity in a specific area, before the animal could be defined as a captive animal;
- (13) Under the Amendment Ordinance, wild animal was defined to mean any animal, other than those classed at common law as domestic (including those which had gone astray or had been abandoned). Wild pigs, monkeys and wild birds were considered wild animals under the Amendment Ordinance whereas feral pigeons were specified as animals in Schedule 2A of the Amendment Ordinance, and it was prohibited to feed them;
- (14) Pigeon repellent was only effective in a small area. The AFCD had been finalising the assessment on the Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Feral Pigeons and would report the progress in due course; and
- (15) The Amendment Ordinance aimed to alleviate the environmental and public health

problems caused by feral pigeons in residential areas by minimising the feeding of feral pigeons and slowing down their breeding rate.

71. A consolidated reply from Mr Samuel WONG of the HD was as follows:

- (1) Departmental officers, including managers, deputy managers and officers, were authorised to take enforcement actions against illegal feeding of feral pigeons, whereas staff of the outsourced management companies, such as management staff or security guards, who were not public officers, did not have the power to take enforcement actions;
- (2) Special Operation Teams of the HD would take turns visiting various housing estates to step up inspections of black spots. In Tuen Mun and Yuen Long Districts, there were a total of five Special Operation Teams, one of which was the Central Task Force, which could take enforcement action against illegal feeding; and
- (3) In July 2024, the Hong Kong Housing Authority (“HA”) had revised the Marking Scheme which would take effect from the fourth quarter of this year. Three new misdeed items including “feeding of feral pigeons or other wild animals”, which carried seven penalty points, would be added to further combat illegal feeding behaviour of residents within the boundaries of housing estates. Under the Marking Scheme, residents who committed misdeeds within their residing estates were liable to allotment of points.

72. The Chairman concluded that since the Amendment Ordinance had just come into effect, it would take time to review the enforcement situation. Where appropriate, Members could follow up on the matter with the departments concerned.

**Item VI: Mr YIU Kwok-wai and Ms LAU Kwai-yung proposed a discussion on “To better address the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners in Yuen Long District with an inter-departmental and inter-disciplinary approach” (YLDC Paper No. 61/2024)**

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73. The Chairman referred Members to Paper No. 61 and the written replies from the HD and the FEHD.

74. Mr YIU Kwok-wai, MH briefed Members on the paper. While acknowledging the efforts made by relevant departments in addressing the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners, he hoped that the effectiveness could be further enhanced. In this connection, he suggested that the HD should provide self-paid air-conditioner maintenance service for tenants in need to ensure that the maintenance cost was reasonable and to encourage tenants to address the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners as early as possible.

75. Ms LAU Kwai-yung considered it thorny to address the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners. She relayed that water dripping from air-conditioners in Tin Fu Court was serious due to the high position of the air-conditioner drain-pipe, yet substantial expenditure would be incurred if relevant rectification works were to be carried out for the whole housing estate. Regarding the lack of accuracy in visually locating the source of water dripping from air-conditioners by management company staff, she enquired about the effectiveness of the HD’s trial use of infrared thermal imaging equipment this summer and suggested that the HD should consider using new technologies such as drones to address the problem.

76. Mr LAM Wai-ming said that he had reported the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners in Long Ping Estate to the HD through 1823. However, as Long Ping Estate was a TPS estate not under the management of the HD, the matter was referred by the HD to the FEHD for follow-up. He hoped that 1823 could enhance its communication with various government departments in order to handle local issues more effectively.

77. Ms LAM Wai-ming pointed out that the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners in Yuen Long town centre was serious, and suggested that the FEHD should step up on-site investigations and encourage residents to address the problem of water dripping from air-conditioners expeditiously to enhance the cityscape.

78. Mr Allan WONG supported the use of drones to identify the source of water dripping from air-conditioners, but reminded relevant departments of the need to comply with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance and to notify the affected households in advance. Besides, he pointed out that it was difficult to identify the source of water dripping from air-conditioners located in the middle floors of residential buildings, and suggested flying handheld drones from the floor closest to the source of water dripping to minimise the number of households affected.

79. A consolidated reply provided by Mr Samuel WONG of the HD was as follows:

- (1) Tin Fu Court was a private housing estate while Long Ping Estate was a TPS estate. If the complaint about water dripping from air-conditioners in Long Ping Estate involved the HA's public housing flats, the HD would follow up on the case. Estate offices of public housing estates did not maintain information on the suppliers of air-conditioner maintenance service in the district, but they would provide appropriate assistance to tenants in need or refer cases to relevant departments/organisations for support;
- (2) Regarding the suggestion to enhance management through the application of technology, the HD had tried out equipment with infrared thermal imaging and night vision functions this summer. Frontline staff could narrow down possible sources of water dripping through images, which assisted in the detection of sources of water dripping from air-conditioners and enhanced the effectiveness of follow-up actions; and
- (3) As detections of sources of water dripping were often carried out at night, noise and privacy issues had to be considered in the use of drones and therefore the HD had not trialled their use. Before using drones to inspect the concrete on the external walls of buildings, the HD would post notices to inform residents.

80. A consolidated reply provided by Miss CHEUNG Fung-heung of the FEHD was as follows:

- (1) The FEHD collaborated with the Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre to develop a new specialised night vision camera system for locating the source of water dripping from air-conditioners at night and in poor lighting conditions at a longer distance. The system was recently launched on a trial basis, and if the results were satisfactory, the FEHD would consider extending the use of the system to all districts. The FEHD would continue to actively consider the use of technology to assist in the detection of sources of water dripping to enhance the effectiveness of the investigation of water dripping from air-conditioners;

- (2) The FEHD had explored the use of drones to assist in locating sources of water dripping, but the use of drones in urban areas was subject to various constraints, such as privacy and safety issues, and was therefore not adopted for the time being;
- (3) The FEHD had launched the pilot enforcement operation, codenamed “CLEARSKY”, in May this year, initiating several large-scale operations in six districts, including Yuen Long, to strengthen enforcement against offences relating to water dripping from air-conditioners. Based on past experience in handling relevant complaints and analysing the information of previous complaint cases, the FEHD had taken strategic enforcement actions targeting locations or buildings with severe dripping problem to enhance the effectiveness in addressing the problem. Currently, the black spots of dripping air-conditioners in the district were concentrated in Yuen Long Main Road, Kau Yuk Road, On Ning Road and Hop Yick Road; and
- (4) The FEHD would continue to take a proactive and targeted enforcement approach to tackle the problem of water-dripping from air-conditioners and step up publicity and education efforts.

81. The Chairman concluded by requesting the HD and the FEHD to proactively follow up on Members’ views and suggestions.

### **Report Items**

#### **Item VII: Progress Reports of Committees and Working Groups**

- (i) **Town Planning and Development Committee (YLDC Paper No. 62/2024)**
- (ii) **District Facilities and Works Committee (YLDC Paper No. 63/2024)**
- (iii) **Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (YLDC Paper No. 64/2024)**
- (iv) **Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (YLDC Paper No. 65/2024)**
- (v) **Social Welfare and Labour Committee (YLDC Paper No. 66/2024)**
- (vi) **Traffic and Transport Committee (YLDC Paper No. 67/2024)**
- (vii) **Community Affairs Committee (YLDC Paper No. 68/2024)**
- (viii) **Housing Committee (YLDC Paper No. 69/2024)**
- (ix) **Working Group on Mass Transit Services (YLDC Paper No. 70/2024)**

82. The Chairman referred Members to the nine progress reports of the Committees and Working Group as set out in Paper Nos. 62 to 70.

83. Members noted the aforesaid progress reports.

#### **Item VIII: HKPF’s report on the district’s law and order situation and crime figures between July and August 2024**

84. The Chairman invited Ms Tammy CHAN of the HKPF to report on the law and order situation and crime figures in the district.

85. Ms Tammy CHAN reported on the law and order situation and crime figures in the district between July and August 2024.

86. Mr WONG Siu-chung relayed the recent occurrence of street deception targeting the

elderly in Yuen Long Town and the rural areas. Fraudsters would lure victims by giving out religious articles or other small gifts and then demand for donations, relentlessly pursuing those who refused. He enquired the Police about the measures to curb such crime.

87. Ms YUEN Man-ye, MH thanked the Yuen Long Police District for enhancing public awareness against fraud through publicity and education, and for working closely with the community to remind the elderly and others to guard against different types of fraud.

88. Mr YIU Kwok-wai, MH commended the Police for their recent raid on the illegal on-street gambling dens in the pedestrian subway at Tin Sau Road recently and hoped that the Police would continue to crack down on gambling black spots in other housing estates.

89. Mr TSUI Wai-ngoi thanked the Police for their relentless efforts in combating crimes, particularly the recent raid on the rampant gambling dens in the pedestrian subway at Tin Sau Road, preventing the spread of gambling activities within the community.

90. Ms HO Hiu-man acknowledged the Police's recent operations against illegal street gambling in Tin Shui Wai, which had resulted in the arrest of 13 persons and the seizure of over \$10,000 in cash. Besides, she supported the Police's co-operation with the community in stepping up publicity and education on fraud prevention in rural areas to reduce the incidence of fraudulent crimes.

91. A consolidated reply provided by Ms Tammy CHAN of the HKPF was as follows:

- (1) Members were welcomed to provide information on street deception cases. The Police would continue to step up patrols and collection of evidence in the district and take timely enforcement actions to bring fraudsters to justice;
- (2) As deception tactics were ever-evolving, it was crucial for all sectors of the community to assist the Police in carrying out anti-deception publicity to raise public awareness in order to effectively reduce the incidence of fraudulent crimes. Even though the growth of fraud cases had slowed down, residents should continue to keep abreast of the latest deception tactics and remain vigilant to avoid falling victim to deception; and
- (3) The majority of people engaged in illegal gambling were residents and retirees in the neighbourhood. The Police had always been concerned about illegal on-street gambling in the district and would continue to step up patrols and enforcement actions at black spots of on-street gambling.

92. The Chairman concluded by asking the Police to take note of Members' views and suggestions.

#### **Item IX: Report on the work progress of District-led Actions Scheme**

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93. The Chairman invited Mr Hubert CRUZ, Assistant District Officer (Yuen Long) 1, to report on the latest progress of the District-led Actions Scheme ("DAS").

94. Mr Hubert CRUZ introduced the DAS and its work progress.
95. Mr YIU Kwok-wai, MH suggested enhancing the grass-cutting work of roadside planters along Tin Shui Road (Wetland Park Road to Chung Fu roundabout).
96. Mr Ronnie TANG enquired about the handling of vehicles abandoned at roadsides that were removed during inter-departmental joint clearance operations.
97. Mr Riben LI hoped that the Government would assist in removing an abandoned vehicle near the temporary refuse collection point next to the United Court at Shan Pui Road.
98. Mr Hubert CRUZ responded that abandoned vehicles seized under inter-departmental joint clearance operations would be handed over to the HyD for disposal.
99. Mr Jason CHAN of the Lands Department said that abandoned vehicles occupying government land would be taken possession of and removed in accordance with the Land (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, and would be put up for sale by auction if they were not claimed by the deadline.
100. In conclusion, the Chairman noted the views and suggestions raised by Members.

**Item XI: Any other business**

**Item XII: Date of next meeting**

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101. The Chairman said that the sixth meeting of the YLDC was to be held in the conference room of the YLDC at 2:30 p.m. on 26 November 2024.
102. There being no other business, the Chairman announced that the fifth meeting of the seventh term YLDC closed and thanked Members and the department representatives for their attendance.

Yuen Long District Council Secretariat  
November 2024