

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)2757/11-12
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

Panel on Home Affairs

Minutes of special meeting held on Friday, 26 August 2011, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building

- Members present** : Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon KAM Nai-wai, MH (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH
Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, BBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Tanya CHAN
Hon WONG Yuk-man
- Members absent** : Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS
Hon WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP
Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yea, GBS, JP
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, GBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan
Hon WONG Sing-chi

Public Officers attending : Agenda item I

Home Affairs Bureau

Mr Jonathan McKinley, JP
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mrs Betty FUNG, JP
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Mr Bobby CHENG, JP
Deputy Director (Leisure Services)

Mr LEE Yuk-man
Assistant Director (Libraries & Development)

Mr Harry TSANG
Chief Executive Officer (Planning)1

Miss Shirley CHUNG
Chief Executive Officer (Planning)2

Architectural Services Department

Mr Patrick HAU
Chief Project Manager 301

Attendance by invitation : Sha Tin District Council

Mr YIU Ka-chun
Sha Tin District Council Member

Tsuen Wan District Council

Mr Richard CHAN Kam-lam, MH
Tsuen Wan District Council Member

Ms CHAU Chuen-heung
Islands District Council Member

Mr YEUNG Cheung-li
Sha Tin District Council Member

Dr YAU Wing-kwong
Tai Po District Council Member

Clerk in attendance : Mr Thomas WONG
Chief Council Secretary (2)2

Staff in attendance : Ms Alice LEUNG
Senior Council Secretary (2)2

Miss Emma CHEUNG
Legislative Assistant (2)2

Miss Monique TSEUNG
Clerical Assistant (2)2

Action

I. Outstanding leisure and cultural services projects
[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)2522/10-11(01) to (02)]

Views of DCs/DC members

Members noted the views of 18 District Councils ("DCs") on the progress of the outstanding leisure and cultural services ("LCS") projects in their respective districts in Appendices III and IV, and information on the new LCS projects supported by DCs in Appendices V and VI, to the background brief prepared by the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Secretariat [LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02)].

2. Members received an oral presentation of views from the DCs and individual DC members in **Appendix I**. A summary of their views and the Administration's response is in **Appendix II**

3. Members noted the written submissions from 15 DCs/DC members not attending the meeting in **Appendix III**. The Chairman requested the Administration to provide a written response to their views after the meeting.

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(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration's written response to the views of the 18 DCs was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1876/11-12(01) on 2 May 2012.)

Progress of the LCS projects of the former Municipal Councils ("ex-MCs")

New Territories

4. Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed worry about the lack of a concrete timetable for the implementation of the two ex-MC LCS projects in Tsuen Wan, viz. the Sports Centre in Tsuen Wan Area 6 site and the Ecological Park at Tso Kung Tam Valley (items 43 and 42 in Appendix IV to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02)). Noting that the planning and construction of the 1600-seat Sports Centre would be undertaken by the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited ("MTRCL"), he enquired whether LegCo's funding approval for the project needed to be sought, and when the relevant details would be submitted to LegCo and the relevant DC consulted on the project. In addition, although the Ecological Park project had been discussed at various forums and was among the 25 LCS projects announced in the Chief Executive("CE")'s 2005 Policy Address for priority implementation, little progress had been made up to 2011. Noting the Administration's latest plan to deliver the project in two phases, he sought information on its implementation timetable.

5. Director of Leisure and Cultural Services ("DLCS") responded that -

- (a) while the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") would strive to complete the relevant planning/preparation works and consultation with DCs as soon as practicable, the Administration would have difficulty in providing a timetable for the projects before funding could be secured;
- (b) preparation work for the Sports Centre project in Tsuen Wan Area 6 site was in progress. The Tsuen Wan DC had endorsed the project scope. The Architectural Services Department ("ASD") was conducting the technical feasibility study ("TFS") for the project; and

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- (c) as a number of technical problems had been identified in the TFS for the Ecological Park project, LCSD would have to further review the project scope and implementation approach, with a view to consulting the Tsuen Wan DC on the project scope and the way forward in around mid-2012.

6. Mr WONG Kwok-hing further enquired when the funding applications would be made for the two projects. DLCS advised that in accordance with the established practice, the LCSD would bid for funding for its capital works projects from the centre and such bids would be considered along side with the bids of other bureaux/departments.

7. Referring to Appendix IV to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02), Ms Emily LAU sought information on the progress of item 25 on the Sports Centre in Area 24D, Sha Tin, which was under preliminary planning, and items 21 and 22 on the Indoor Recreation Centre in Area 4, Sai Kung and the Civic Centre in Area 66, Tseung Kwan O respectively, which were under review by the Administration.

8. DLCS advised that -

- (a) the Administration was working on the preliminary design for item 25, which had been accorded with the second priority for implementation by the Sha Tin DC, and the DC would be consulted on the design in due course;
- (b) regarding item 21, while the Administration noted the demand of local residents for an indoor sports centre in Sai Kung and a site had been identified for the project, more time was required for resolving the technical issues involved including the re-provisioning of the existing facilities and resumption of private land. The Administration had briefed the Sai Kung DC on the way forward for the project and the DC would be consulted on the project scope in due course; and
- (c) for item 22, the Administration would keep under review the requirement for a district performance venue in the course of planning the overall provision of cultural facilities in future, having regard to the ongoing developments of the district. Tseung Kwan O residents could make use of the Cross-District Community Cultural Centre in Kowloon East which was under active planning. The Administration would review the need for a civic centre in Sai Kung at an appropriate juncture.

Action

Hong Kong/Kowloon

9. The Deputy Chairman sought information on the progress of the re-development of the Victoria Park Swimming Pool Complex (item 4 in Appendix III to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02)) and whether it could be completed in accordance with LCSD's timetable. Deputy Director (Leisure Services) ("DD(LS)") advised that the re-development project was expected to be completed in late 2014 as scheduled.

10. The Deputy Chairman also asked about the commissioning date of the delayed project of the Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park and Swimming Pool Complex (item 1 in Appendix III to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02)). DD(LS) advised that while the major construction works of the project had been completed, some minor improvement works (e.g. fine-tuning of equipment, adjustment of lighting, etc.) were being carried out by ASD to address the technical issues identified. The Complex would be equipped with heated pool facilities. LCSD hoped that it could be opened for public use before the Kennedy Town Swimming Pool was closed for annual maintenance in November 2011. The Chairman pointed out that the Kennedy Town Swimming Pool was at present the only public swimming facility in the Central and Western district. He urged the Administration to ensure timely completion of the Complex so that local residents could continue to have access to public swimming facilities in winter.

11. Referring to the Eastern DC's views on the project of Quarry Bay Park Phase II as set out in its submission to the Panel (LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(06)), Ms Cyd HO urged the Administration to address the concern about the construction waste in the project site. Noting that the project site had been temporarily used by the Police Force as a vehicle detention centre, she asked whether a mechanism was in place within the Administration to settle issues arising from the use of government land among various government departments.

12. DLCS advised that the project site of Quarry Bay Park Phase II was currently used by several government departments. The departments concerned had identified suitable sites for relocation of their existing facilities in the project site. Some Eastern DC members had recently proposed that a swimming pool complex should be constructed on the project site. LCSD would need to look into the technical feasibility of the proposal as the site was situated on top of the entrance of the Eastern Harbour Crossing. The Department would consult the Eastern DC on the use of the project site.

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13. Ms Cyd HO opined that if it was technically infeasible to install a swimming pool at Quarry Bay Park, consideration might be given to building a swimming pool at the site in Aldrich Bay, which was formerly a golf course. DLCS responded that the site which was previously used as a golf driving range had already been developed into a public park. Ms Cyd HO urged the Administration to explain to the Eastern DC the site constraints and respect its views on the site to be chosen for the development of a heated swimming pool in the district.

14. Ms Emily LAU and the Chairman asked about the implementation timetable of the project of the local open space at Chung Yee Street, Kowloon City (item 11 in Appendix III to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02)) to which the Kowloon City DC had accorded highest priority. DLSC advised that LCSD would seek resources to implement it shortly. Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs(2) ("DSHA(2)") added that as its planning work had been completed, the project would commence as soon as the funding proposal to be submitted to LegCo was approved.

15. Referring to Appendix III to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02), Ms Emily LAU sought information on the current status of item 13 on the Lo Lung Hang Garden and item 18 on Lam Tin Park (Phase II). DLCS advised that part of the project site for the Lo Lung Hang Garden was earmarked for the ventilation building and works area of the Central Kowloon Route project. LCSD would keep the project under review. DD(LS) advised that the Kwun Tong DC had agreed to proceed with partial implementation of the project of Lam Tin Park (Phase II) under the District Minor Works Programme ("DMWP"). It had yet to discuss further details regarding the implementation of the remaining part. LCSD would continue to follow up with the Kwun Tong DC on the way forward for the project.

16. Noting the Sham Shui Po DC's dissatisfaction with the implementation progress of the Tung Chau Street Complex (item 20 in Appendix III to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02)), Ms Emily LAU asked about the latest position of the project. DLCS advised that the Complex was a municipal services building comprising facilities to be provided by different departments. Chief Executive Officer (Planning)1/LCSD added that when the Sham Shui Po DC was consulted on the scope of the project in 2010, it requested the inclusion of an air-conditioned market in the Complex. The request was still being considered by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") and this had affected the planning work of the project. LCSD undertook to follow up with FEHD on the matter.

Action

17. The Chairman expressed concern about whether the development project of the Tung Chau Street Complex, which included a mix of recreational facilities, would be aborted if FEHD did not accede to the request for the inclusion of an air-conditioned market in the Complex. Ms Emily LAU expressed dissatisfaction at the Administration's handling of the project and doubted whether the Administration had attached importance to the views of the Sham Shui Po DC. DLCS advised that the inclusion of an air-conditioned market in the Complex or otherwise affected the scope and planning of the project and hence had to be settled before it could be taken forward. LCSD recognized the need to provide an additional indoor sports centre in Sham Shui Po district and would seek DC's views on the project scope again.

18. Ms Emily LAU sought clarification on whether there were any planned ex-MC LCS projects which would not be pursued/implemented by the Administration. DLCS advised that the Administration would continue to pursue the remaining ex-MC LCS projects in consultation with the DCs concerned. Of the 139 planned ex-MC LCS projects, 63 projects had been completed or under construction; 17 projects had been deferred/deleted after consultation with DCs; 16 projects had been accorded low priority by the DCs concerned and hence planning work for them had yet to be started; 11 projects were in an advanced planning stage (including the project in Area 14B, Sha Tin); seven projects were under preliminary planning; seven projects had undergone partial development; 14 projects were under review for various reasons such as revision of project scope arising from latest views received from local residents and the DCs concerned; and four projects would be implemented at a later stage due to unavailability of sites. She undertook to provide a detailed breakdown on the latest progress of the 139 ex-MC LCS projects for the Panel's reference.

Admin

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's update on the latest progress of the ex-MC LCS projects was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1876/11-12(01) on 2 May 2012.)

Progress of new/non ex-MC LCS projects supported by DCs

19. Referring to Appendix VI to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02), Ms Emily LAU asked about the latest position of item 12 on the provision of heated-pool facilities and cover at the Ma On Shan Swimming Pool and item 18 on the provision of an indoor heated swimming pool in Tai Po.

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20. DLCS advised that -

- (a) given that the utilization rates of the two existing public heated swimming pools in Sha Tin (viz. the outdoor heated pool at the Sha Tin Jockey Club Swimming Pool and the indoor heated pool at the Hin Tin Swimming Pool) were not high and large-scale upgrading works were required to convert an existing outdoor pool into a heated pool, the Administration had to consider whether there were strong justifications for implementing the proposed project. As there was only one main pool at the Ma On Shan Swimming Pool and the proposed conversion works would require the closure of the main pool for a period of about 29 months, the Administration would need to consider the impact of the closure of the facility on local residents and other users such as schools; and
- (b) the provision of an indoor heated swimming pool in Tai Po was part of the LCS project in Area 1, Tai Po, which also included the development of football pitches, a community hall and a sports centre. The scope of the project had been endorsed by the Tai Po DC and LCSD was preparing a Project Definition Statement following which TFS and preliminary planning work would commence.

21. Ms Emily LAU believed that as the heated pool facilities project at the Ma On Shan Swimming Pool was proposed by the Sha Tin DC, it should be fully aware of and have no problem with the required temporary closure of the main pool concerned for the upgrading works. Given the Government's huge fiscal reserves, she queried why the Administration did not implement the project to meet the needs of Ma On Shan residents.

22. Referring to Appendix V to LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(02), the Chairman asked about the implementation progress of item 6 on the construction of a footbridge with lift at the Ap Lei Chau Wind Tower Park to connect the Ap Lei Chau Estate; item 7 on the provision of heated pool at the Pao Yue Kong Swimming Pool; and item 8 on the refurbishment of the operation depot at Deep Water Bay Beach, to which the Southern DC had accorded top priorities for implementation.

23. DLCS clarified that the three projects were not ex-MC LCS projects but other LCS projects supported by the Southern DC. She further advised that -

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- (a) item 6 was proposed by the Southern DC after completion of the construction works of the Wind Tower Park with the objective to facilitate access to the Park by the residents of Ap Lei Chau Estate. The proposal involved installation of a lift and construction of a footbridge on a slope. The total project cost was estimated to exceed \$21 million. Subject to the confirmation of the project's feasibility upon completion of TFS, the Administration would seek resources to proceed with the design work under the Public Works Programme ("PWP"); and
- (b) LCSD had invited ASD to conduct an initial assessment on the feasibility of item 7, which probably involved conversion of an existing pool into a heated pool. As the Pao Yue Kong Swimming Pool comprised several pools, LCSD was exploring whether any of the pools could be converted into an indoor heated pool while maintaining the service of other pools during the construction period.

Implementation issues

24. Noting from DLCS's response that MTRCL could take less time to deliver a public works project in accordance with its tendering procedures and its speedy completion of the re-provisioning of the Kennedy Town Swimming Pool, Ms Emily LAU requested the Administration to expedite the implementation of its LCS projects with reference to MTRCL's experience. DLCS advised that the Administration and MTRCL each had its own planning and tendering procedures. The Administration had to go through necessary planning/preparation work including consultation with various stakeholders, such as DCs and the local residents, before finalization of the project details and to seek funding for its implementation. Nevertheless, there was not much difference in the time required for the construction works conducted by MTRCL or the Administration.

25. Mr WONG Yuk-man expressed dissatisfaction with the little progress made by the Administration in implementing the ex-MC LCS projects and its failure to deliver the projects committed and address the needs of the local community. In his view, the implementation problems of ex-MC projects stemmed from the defects in the existing government structure and administrative policies, which included LCSD's inability to take up such a large number of projects and the powerlessness of DCs and even LegCo to push the Administration to take forward the outstanding projects.

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26. Ms Emily LAU recalled that the Panel had appointed in the Third LegCo the Subcommittee to Follow Up the Outstanding Leisure and Cultural Services Projects of the Former Municipal Councils ("the Subcommittee") to monitor and expedite the implementation of various outstanding ex-MC LCS projects. Although the Subcommittee had been dissolved, she considered it necessary for the Panel to continue to monitor the Administration's performance on taking forward the projects. The Administration should be more proactive in following up the projects.

27. DSHA(2) advised that the Administration provided an information paper on the latest progress of the outstanding ex-MC LCS projects to the Panel in February 2011. The Panel was briefed in June 2011 that the construction of 15 sports facilities with a total investment of over \$9.2 billion was underway. The Administration was also carrying out active planning and detailed design work and conducting consultations for a number of other LCS projects. The Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") had all along accorded high priority to its LCS projects. However, as HAB was not provided with dedicated funding each year for the implementation of outstanding LCS projects and funding applications for individual projects would have to be made under the annual resource allocation exercise ("RAE"), whether funding could be sought for individual projects was subject to the funding needs of different bureaux/departments and the overall funding priorities set by the Government. He assured members that HAB would continue to compete for resources to implement the ex-MC LCS projects.

28. Mr LAM Tai-fai considered it unacceptable for the Administration to attribute its failure to provide concrete implementation timetables for ex-MC LCS projects to the Government's central mechanism for resource allocation and the need to seek funding approval from LegCo. Taking the ex-MC project in Area 14B, Sha Tin, which had been planned for 15 years, as an example, he queried why the Administration had not submitted the funding proposal for the project to LegCo over the years if there was indeed a resource problem hindering the implementation of the project. He urged the Administration to provide, before the 2011 DCs Election, a tentative timetable for the project to the Sha Tin DC.

29. Ms Cyd HO opined that as the Government's current fiscal reserves were much stronger than those in 1999 when the former MCs were dissolved, there should not be a resource problem for implementing the ex-MC LCS projects. The Administration's failure to allocate sufficient funding for the construction of sports facilities was inconsistent with its policy objectives for sports development.

Action

30. DSHA(2) advised that the funding proposals for the projects could be submitted to LegCo only after the funding for them had been sought under RAE. The Administration aimed to submit the funding proposal for the ex-MC project in Area 14B, Sha Tin to the Finance Committee ("FC") of LegCo for consideration in the coming legislative session.

31. Mr YIU Ka-chun suggested that the Panel write to CE urging him to make reference to the similar initiative announced in 2005 Policy Address and allocate additional resources in the 2011-2012 Policy Address for the implementation of ex-MC LCS projects. Ms Emily LAU expressed support for Mr YIU Ka-chun's suggestion. She further sought information on the annual amount of funding allocated to HAB/LCSD for implementing the LCS projects under the central resource allocation mechanism.

32. DLCS advised that HAB/LCSD had to make funding applications for individual LCS projects rather than being given a lump sum allocation for implementing LCS projects. LCSD could, however, provide information on the amount of funding approved by LegCo for the LCS projects in the past years. In 2009-2010, the total approved project estimates of the LCS projects that commenced construction in the year was \$6.7 billion. Subject to the progress and circumstances of individual projects, the amount of funding sought/approved might vary from year to year. DSHA(2) reiterated that as no dedicated funding provision was made available for the implementation of LCS projects under the central resource allocation mechanism, individual funding applications for LCS projects would have to be made and each of them would be considered by the Government on its own merits. Every year HAB/LCSD drew up a list of LCS projects with their priorities set for bidding resources for their implementation under the annual RAE before submitting the funding proposals to LegCo for consideration.

33. Ms Emily LAU enquired whether a specific amount of funding would be set aside in the Budget next year for the implementation of outstanding LCS projects, such as the Chung Yee Street project, for which all planning/preparatory works had been completed and funding applications were to be made. DLCS explained that while minor works projects costing up to \$21 million could be respectively funded under DMWP and the capital works block vote managed by ASD, capital works projects exceeding \$21 million, like the Chung Yee Street project, had to be implemented under PWP and individual funding applications had to be submitted to the LegCo Public Works Sub-committee and FC for consideration.

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Admin 34. To facilitate the Panel's reference and follow-up, Ms Emily LAU requested the Administration to provide a list of outstanding LCS projects which were on HAB's priority list for implementation pending LegCo's approval of their funding proposals. Ms Cyd HO added that the list should cover all outstanding LCS projects for which the Administration had completed the planning/preparatory works and obtained support from DCs, so that LegCo could follow up on them collectively and more effectively. DSHA(2) undertook to provide the requested information.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's written response to members' request for a list of outstanding ex-MC LCS projects and non-ex-MC LCS projects for which the Administration had completed all the planning/preparatory works and obtained support from DCs was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2666/10-11(01) on 28 September 2011.)

Clerk Ms Emily LAU proposed and members agreed that the Chairman should, on behalf of the Panel, write to CE urging him to pledge in his 2011-2012 Policy Address to allocate resources to expedite the implementation of the LCS projects supported by DCs and on HAB's priority list.

(Post-meeting note: The Chairman's letter to CE was issued on 28 September 2011 and circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2674/10-11(01) on the same day.)

Planning and provision of LCS facilities

35. Prof Patrick LAU enquired whether the Administration had reviewed the adequacy of the current provision of LCS facilities in individual districts with reference to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines ("HKPSG"), and whether new standards had been set for determining the level of provision of LCS facilities at the district level.

36. DSHA(2) advised that in addition to making reference to HKPSG, the Administration took into consideration other relevant factors including preference of the public for different types of sports and the views of the local community on the provision of LCS facilities at the district level. As HKPSG might not fully address the present planning needs of Hong Kong (e.g. the need to tie in with the Government's policy objectives for sports development), further discussion with the Planning Department ("PD") might be needed to review the applicability of HKPSG in the Administration's planning of provision of LCS facilities in individual districts.

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37. Noting that swimming was the second most popular sport in Hong Kong after jogging, Ms Cyd HO considered that the current standard of provision for public swimming pool complexes ("SPCs") as recommended by HKPSG, i.e. 1 m² water per 85 residential population, was far from adequate to meet the public needs and enquired when such standard was drawn up. She urged the Administration to review the relevant standards in HKPSG and increase the level of provision of public swimming facilities as appropriate, including making available an indoor heated swimming pool in each district so as to address the increasing demand for year-round access to public swimming facilities.

38. DSHA(2) advised that the standards on the provision of LCS facilities as set out in HKPSG were last reviewed about 10 years ago in conjunction with the former Hong Kong Sports Development Board. According to the current standards in HKPSG, there was a shortfall in LCS facilities in many districts in Hong Kong. As such, subject to PD's views, while he considered it appropriate to conduct a review on HKPSG, the more imminent task of the Administration was to ensure that the provision of LCS facilities in individual districts would at least meet the current basic requirements in HKPSG. DLCS added that apart from the public swimming pools operated by LCSD, many private housing estates also provided swimming facilities for their residents. Under the current standards in HKPSG, one SPC would be provided per 287 000 residential population. The Administration would endeavour to provide indoor heated swimming pools in building new SPCs and redeveloping the old SPCs. Conversion of existing outdoor pools into heated pools would be technically more complicated as it would require temporary closure of the SPCs concerned during conversion works.

39. Ms Cyd HO considered that in determining the provision of public swimming facilities at the district level, the Administration should not take into account the swimming pools and other recreational facilities provided in clubs of private housing estates the access to which was restricted to their residents only. DLCS confirmed that LCSD did not count the swimming facilities provided in clubs of private housing estates as public swimming facilities.

Improvements to existing LCS facilities

40. Prof Patrick LAU recalled his previous inspection on the progress of the improvement works to the cycle tracks in the New Territories and considered that the existing/planned velodromes were intended mainly for the staging of competitions rather than general cycling practices. He

Action

expressed concern about the increase in cycling accidents in the New Territories and urged the Administration to identify the causes. Mr YEUNG Cheung-li added that there was currently no large-scale cycling practising venue in Sha Tin (like the former cycle park in Tai Wai) where members of the public could practise before starting cycling on public roads. The Sha Tin Road Safety Park was built 40 years ago for cycling practices by small children, while the Adventure Cycling Area at Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground was relatively small and remote. He urged the Administration to provide more practising venues which, in his view, would help minimize cycling accidents. In particular, the Administration should expedite the construction of the cycling practising venue at Whitehead for public use.

41. DLCS advised that according to her understanding, the Sha Tin DC had yet to set priorities for the project at Whitehead as well as a number of other LCS projects in the district. While LCSD would discuss with the PD the future use of the site at Whitehead, the Sha Tin DC could review the priorities set for the outstanding LCS projects in the district including the use of the Whitehead site. As regards cycling safety, LCSD was responsible for managing cycle parks/cycling areas in its leisure venues. For instance, the BMX cycling area in Po Ko Village Road Playground under construction would be managed by LCSD. To tie in with the opening of this new cycling area towards the end of 2011, LCSD would organize a promotional campaign on cycling safety in collaboration with the Hong Kong Cycling Association.

II. Any other business

42. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:48 pm.

Appendix I

List of the oral presentation of views from District Councils ("DCs")/individual DC members

1. *Sha Tin DC*
(represented by Mr YIU Ka-chun, Sha Tin DC member)
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(03)]
2. *Tsuen Wan DC*
(represented by Mr Richard CHAN Kam-lam, MH, Tsuen Wan DC member)
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(06)]
3. *Ms CHAU Chuen-heung, Island DC member*
4. *Mr YEUNG Cheung-li, Sha Tin DC member*
5. *Dr YAU Wing-kwong, Tai Po DC member*

Panel on Home Affairs

**Special meeting on Friday, 26 August 2011
on outstanding leisure and cultural services projects**

Summary of views of District Councils ("DCs")/DC members and the Administration's response

DCs/DC members	Summary of views	The Administration's response
(a) Implementation of ex-Municipal Council ("MC") leisure and cultural services ("LCS") projects		
<p>Sha Tin DC (represented by Mr YIU Ka-chun, Sha Tin DC member)</p> <p>[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10/11(03)]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sha Tin DC welcomed the long-awaited preliminary design for the Sports Centre, Community Hall and Public Library in Area 14B, Sha Tin presented at its meeting on 25 August 2011 by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") and the Architectural Services Department ("ASD"). LCSD and ASD should fine-tune the design in consultation with the public as soon as possible. 2. While a preliminary design for the project in Area 14B had been available and the designing work for the Sports Centre in Area 24D, Sha Tin was proceeding, there were another six ex-MC LCS projects in Sha Tin still under review by LCSD and with no implementation timetable. 	<p>Sha Tin DC had been consulted on the preliminary design for the Sports Centre, Community Hall and Public Library in Area 14B, Sha Tin. The Administration accorded very high priority to the project and would proceed with the detailed design work and submit the funding proposal to the Legislative Council ("LegCo") as soon as practicable.</p>

DCs/DC members	Summary of views	The Administration's response
<p>Mr YEUNG Cheung-li Sha Tin DC member</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vacant sites in Ma On Shan left over by ex-MCs had posed serious mosquito problems, thereby causing nuisance to local residents. The Administration should follow up on the disposal of these vacant sites expeditiously. The District Open Space in Area 90, Ma On Shan, which involved the provision of sports ground and playground, should be delivered as soon as practicable. 2. LCSD should follow up on the project of Ma On Shan Waterfront Promenade, which should be connected with the 7-a-side soccer-pitch and playground in Area 90, Ma On Shan according to the ex-MCs' plan. 	<p>The commissioning of the Ma On Shan Waterfront Promenade, which was adjacent to the project site of the District Open Space in Area 90, Ma On Shan, had improved the environment of and facilities in the nearby waterfront areas. There was another piece of land available in the vicinity for the construction of a small soccer pitch. The Administration would follow up on the District Open Space project having regard to the priorities to be set by the Sha Tin DC.</p>
<p>Tsuen Wan DC (represented by Mr Richard CHAN Kam-lam, MH, Tsuen Wan DC member)</p> <p>[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10/11(04)]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The implementation of the project of the Sports Centre between Tsuen Wan Park and Tsuen Wan Road in Tsuen Wan Area 6 site, which was originally proposed to be built at the current site of Tsuen Wan West Station, had been delayed for a long time owing to the relocation of the project site and issues relating to the construction of the foundation of the site. Tsuen Wan DC hoped that international competitions would be held at this Sports Centre with a seating capacity of 1 600, and it would be built as soon as possible for public use, as it would benefit not only the residents of Tsuen Wan but also those living in New Territories West. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project of the Sports Centre between Tsuen Wan Park and Tsuen Wan Road in Tsuen Wan Area 6 site was expected to commence more expeditiously, as the Administration had reached a consensus with the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited, which undertook the construction works of the project, on the project scale and details. 2. The Administration accorded high priority to the proposed development of the Ecological Park at Tso Kung Tam Valley, Tsuen Wan. However, as the project involved resumption of private land and large-scale slope stabilization works, its scope needed to be revised. The Administration planned to implement the project in two phases. LCSD would discuss with the relevant government departments the preliminary plan

DCs/DC members	Summary of views	The Administration's response
	<p>2. While the planning work of the Ecological Park at Tso Kung Tam Valley, Tsuen Wan had commenced before the dissolution of ex-MCs, no concrete implementation details were available up to date. Tsuen Wan DC called on the Administration to expedite the commissioning of the Park with a view to providing the Tsuen Wan residents as well as other members of the public with a venue for the promotion of environmental protection and nature conservation.</p>	<p>for the project and consult Tsuen Wan DC in due course, with a view to expediting the implementation of Phase I of the project.</p>
<p>Ms CHAU Chuen-heung Islands DC member</p>	<p>The local residents had expressed strong wish for the resumption of planning and early implementation of the development of a Civic Centre for the Islands District for the reasons below -</p> <p>(a) the Administration had already reserved a site in Tung Chung for the project in its planning for the development of Tung Chung New Town;</p> <p>(b) given the geographical remoteness of the Islands District, there was barely any support available from the arts and cultural facilities in the vicinity to meet the needs of the local residents, who had to travel a long way and bear high transport costs to access such facilities in other districts;</p>	<p>A site had been reserved in Tung Chung for the proposed project. As civic centres were territorial facilities the development of which was determined on a need basis, the Administration would keep the proposed project under review. In the short term, LCS D would explore with the Islands DC ways to utilize the existing facilities to meet the needs of local residents and arts organizations.</p>

DCs/DC members	Summary of views	The Administration's response
	<p>(c) the lack of venues in the district for the organization of local arts and cultural activities would grossly hinder the arts and cultural development at the district level. It was unfair to the local residents who were deprived of easy access to quality arts/cultural programmes; and</p> <p>(d) while Tung Chung had gradually developed into a new town with multifarious commercial, tourist and recreational activities and accommodating over 100 000 employees, there was no single performing venue for the promotion of arts and culture.</p>	
(b) Implementation of non ex-MC LCS projects supported by DCs		
<p>Sha Tin DC (represented by Mr YIU Ka-chun, Sha Tin DC member)</p> <p>[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10/11(03)]</p>	<p>A number of non-ex-MC LCS projects for the Sha Tin district, which had been proposed in the light of the views of the local residents (e.g. a proposal to install a cover/provide heated pool facilities at Ma On Shan Swimming Pool) and involved a total capital cost of around \$21 million, had yet to be included in the list of projects for priority implementation by the Administration. The number of such non-ex-MC projects supported by Sha Tin DC increased from six in 2009 to 10 in 2011. The Government should pledge designated resources for the implementation of ex-MC LCS projects, so that other non-ex-MC LCS projects supported by DCs could be dealt with separately and implemented more expeditiously.</p>	

DCs/DC members	Summary of views	The Administration's response
<p>Dr YAU Wing-kwong Tai Po DC member</p>	<p>The development of a Bathing Beach at Lung Mei, Tai Po was controversial given the environmental protection issues involved. The project had been discussed for many years and a design had been available pending endorsement for construction. As New Territories East had all along been lacking a public beach and both the Tai Po DC and the local community strongly supported the project, it was hoped that the Legislative Council would support the funding proposal and early implementation of the project.</p>	<p>The planning/preparation works for the project had basically been completed, and the funding proposal would be submitted to LegCo for consideration.</p>
(c) Improvements to existing LCS facilities in districts		
<p>Mr YEUNG Cheung-li Sha Tin DC member</p>	<p>1. Although the overall town planning and development of Sha Tin was largely based on its cycle track network and cycling had become an increasingly popular sport in recent years, there was no large-scale cycling training/practising facilities in Sha Tin. In addition, the number of cycling accidents in Sha Tin increased from 90-odd to over 180 in the first two quarters of 2011. Sha Tin DC called on the Administration to step up efforts to improve the cycling facilities in Sha Tin and was pleased to note from the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services at the Sha Tin DC meeting in June 2011 that consideration would be given to building a dedicated cycling training/practising area and a road safety park at Whitehead.</p>	<p>1. The site at Whitehead, which was proposed to be developed into a cycle park, was being used by the Hong Kong Sports Institute ("HKSI") as a temporary velodrome for elite athletes' training. HKSI planned to conduct the training at the Indoor Velodrome-cum-Sports Centre in Tseung Kwan O after its completion. Sha Tin DC had been advised that LCSD would discuss with the Planning Department ("PD") whether and how the site at Whitehead could be utilized for the provision of sports and recreational facilities. Meanwhile, there were two cycling grounds in Sha Tin, viz. the Adventure Cycling Area at Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground and the Sha Tin Road Safety Park for users.</p> <p>2. LCSD noted that the implementation of VPS might affect the availability of STTH for use by Sha Tin residents and local organizations. It would strive to</p>

DCs/DC members	Summary of views	The Administration's response
	<p>2. Given the high level of patronage of the Sha Tin Town Hall ("STTH") and the implementation of the Venue Partnership Scheme ("VPS") under which STTH was one of the LCSD venues designated for priority use by selected arts groups/organizations, the existing performing venues in Sha Tin were insufficient to meet the needs of individuals wishing to pursue a career in arts and culture. More information should be provided on the Government's plan to build a Cross-District Community Cultural Centre ("CDCCC") in New Territories East.</p>	<p>balance the service demands of different users for the venue. The New Territories East CDCCC to be built at the vacant site next to the Sheung Shui railway station would provide the residents along the East Rail line with a convenient venue for appreciation of arts and cultural performances, and, together with the Xiqu Centre to be built at the West Kowloon Cultural District, help alleviate the demand pressure on STTH.</p>
<p>Dr YAU Wing-kwong Tai Po District Council Member</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tai Po district lacked a public heated swimming pool and supported the early installation of the facility. 2. More soccer pitches should be built in Tai Po, as football was very popular among the local residents and the number of soccer pitches in the district fell short of the demand for such facilities. 	<p>The Administration had embarked on the planning of a LCS project at Plover Cove Road in Area 1, Tai Po. With the Tai Po DC's endorsement, the project was to replace the original Sports Centre project in Area 33, Tai Po, which had been terminated owing to technical difficulties. Consensus had been reached with the Tai Po DC on the scope of the project which included an indoor heated swimming pool, a community hall and football pitches. The Administration was mindful of the strong demand of Tai Po residents for heated pool and football pitch facilities and would strive to expedite the implementation of the project after completion of its technical feasibility study.</p>

Appendix III

List of written submissions from District Councils ("DCs")/members of DCs not attending the meeting

1. *Central and Western DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(05)]
2. *Eastern DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(06)]
3. *Southern DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(07)]
4. *Kowloon City DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(08)]
5. *Kwun Tong DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(09)]
6. *Sham Shui Po DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(10)]
7. *Wong Tai Sin DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(11)]
8. *Yau Tsim Mong DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(12)]
9. *Islands DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(13)]
10. *Kwai Tsing DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(14)]
11. *Sai Kung DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(15)]
12. *Tai Po DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(16)]
13. *Tuen Mun DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(17)]

14. *Yuen Long DC*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(18)]
15. *Mr CHAU Yin-ming, Sai Kung DC member*
[LC Paper No. CB(2)2522/10-11(19)]