

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1404/13-14
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/SE

Panel on Security

Minutes of meeting
held on Tuesday, 18 March 2014, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun (Deputy Chairman)
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, BBS
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon WONG Yuk-man
Hon Claudia MO
Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming
Hon YIU Si-wing
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Hon Dennis KWOK
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, JP
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Member attending : Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai

Members absent : Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Public Officers attending : Item IV

The Administration

Mr John LEE Ka-chiu, PDSM, PMSM, JP
Under Secretary for Security

Mrs Millie NG KIANG Mei-nei
Principal Assistant Secretary for Security

Mr Edwin LAM Man-wing
Assistant Commissioner of Police (Support)

Mr LAU Cheng-fung
Superintendent of Police
(Field Division, Support Branch)

Item V

The Administration

Mr LAI Tung-kwok, SBS, IDSM, JP
Secretary for Security

Ms Mimi LEE Mei-mei, JP
Deputy Secretary for Security 1

Mr John Paul Ribeiro
Assistant Commissioner of Police (Crime)

Mr Ryan WONG Wai
SSP CRIME HQ (Crime Wing Headquarters) (Acting)
Hong Kong Police Force

Item VI

The Administration

Mr LAI Tung-kwok, SBS, IDSM, JP
Secretary for Security

Ms Mimi LEE Mei-mei, JP
Deputy Secretary for Security 1

Mr Richard YU Koon-hing, CDSM, CMSM
Deputy Commissioner of Customs & Excise

Mrs Sylvia LAM
Project Director 1
Architectural Services Department

Mr Francis LEUNG Lap-Ki
Chief Project Manager 102
Architectural Services Department

Item VII

Independent Commission Against Corruption

Mr Steven LAM Kin-ming
Assistant Director / Operations 3

Mrs Jennie AU YEUNG WONG Mei-fong
Acting Assistant Director / Administration

Mr Ricky TSUI Yin-fung
Principal Investigator / Engineering

Clerk in attendance : Miss Betty MA
Chief Council Secretary (2) 1

Staff in attendance : Mr Stephen LAM
Assistant Legal Adviser 11

Mr Raymond LAM
Senior Council Secretary (2) 7

Miss Kay CHU
Council Secretary (2) 1

Ms Kiwi NG
Legislative Assistant (2) 1

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting
(LC Paper No. CB(2)1029/13-14)

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2014 were confirmed.

II. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)865/13-14(01), CB(2)979/13-14(01),
CB(2)999/13-14(01), CB(2)1032/13-14(01) to (02),
CB(2)1035/13-14(01), CB(2)1062/13-14(01),
CB(2)1063/13-14(01), CB(2)1067/13-14(01), CB(2)1079/13-14(01)
and CB(2)1083/13-14(01))

2. Members noted that the following papers had been issued since the last meeting -

- (a) referral from the Public Complaints Office on immigration policy relating to Mainland-Hong Kong families;
- (b) letter from Mr Kenneth LEUNG regarding the Police's guideline for handling abusive behaviour by members of the public;
- (c) Administration's information paper on its proposals to revise fees and charges for services provided by the Hong Kong Police Force;
- (d) letter from Mr Gary FAN regarding the delivery of two fixed-wing aircrafts procured by the Government Flying Service;
- (e) Administration's response to the letter from Mr Gary FAN regarding the delivery of two fixed-wing aircrafts procured by the Government Flying Service;

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- (f) letter from Mr James TO regarding Police's enforcement of the law at meetings of district councils;
- (g) Administration's information paper on its proposals to revise a number of fees and charges for services provided by the Fire Services Department and the support and maintenance allowance to judgment debtor which was payable by the judgment creditor to the Correctional Services Department;
- (h) letter from Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre regarding the unified screening mechanism for processing non-refoulement claims;
- (i) letter from Dr Fernando CHEUNG regarding the unified screening mechanism for processing non-refoulement claims;
- (j) Administration's response to issues raised in a letter dated 10 March 2014 from Mr James TO regarding Police's enforcement of the law at meetings of district councils; and
- (k) response from the Central and Western District Office to issues raised in a letter dated 10 March 2014 from Mr James TO regarding Police's enforcement of the law at meetings of district Council.

3. The Chairman said that no member had proposed discussion of the information papers provided by the Administration referred to in paragraph 2 (c) and (g) above.

4. The Deputy Chairman suggested that the Police's enforcement of the law at meetings of district councils should be discussed at a Panel meeting. Mr Dennis KWOK suggested that the unified screening mechanism for processing non-refoulement claims be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

III. Date of next meeting and items for discussion
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1031/13-14(01) and (02))

5. Members noted that the following items were proposed by the Administration for discussion at the next regular meeting on 8 April 2014 at 4:30 pm -

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- (a) Drug situation in Hong Kong in 2013;
- (b) Replacement and enhancement of close-circuit television systems for Stanley Prison; and
- (c) Proposed procurement of Ground Receiving Station of the Medium Earth Orbit Search and Rescue Satellite System for the Hong Kong Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre by Marine Department.

6. The Chairman said that besides the three items proposed by the Administration, the Police's handling of abusive or uncooperative behaviour of members of the public should also be discussed at the next meeting. The Deputy Chairman said that as the RESCUE Drug Testing Scheme had just been discussed two months ago, the item "Drug situation in Hong Kong in 2013" should be deferred to a future meeting to enable the discussion of another item in the list of outstanding items for discussion. The Chairman said that he would consider the suggestion before determining the agenda for the next meeting.

(Post-meeting note: After consideration, the Chairman decided that the items referred to in paragraph 4 above and the item "Police's handling of abusive or uncooperative behaviour of members of the public" would be discussed at the next regular meeting on 8 April 2014.)

7. The Chairman informed members that a visit to the Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point would be held in the morning of 24 April 2014 for members to better understand immigration clearance at control points.

IV. Use of body-worn video camera by Police
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1031/13-14(03) and (04))

8. Under Secretary for Security ("US for S") briefed members on the use of body-worn video cameras ("BWVCs") by the Police and the related field trial, as detailed in the paper provided by the Administration.

9. Members noted the background brief entitled "Use of body-worn video cameras by Police" prepared by the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Secretariat.

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Criteria for the use of BWVCs

10. The Deputy Chairman considered that the use of BWVCs was unfair in that it was up to a police officer who wore BWVC to decide whether and when to commence recording. He asked whether a member of the public could request the police officer to commence recording using BWVC. He also asked when recording would be stopped. He expressed concern that BWVCs would only capture images of the person who was video-filmed but not the police officer who wore the BWVC concerned. He considered that there should be one camera capturing the image of the person being video-filmed and another camera capturing the image of the police officer concerned at the same time. The footage captured should be made available on demand to the person who was video-filmed.

11. Mr Paul TSE considered that the use of BWVCs was not unfair as the Police had been using hand-held video-recording facilities since 2006 and the cameras of mobile phones had been widely used by members of the public to capture their confrontation with police officers. He considered that the use of BWVCs should be extended to police officers on beat duties, who might also come across confrontational scenarios.

12. Mr WONG Yuk-man considered that BWVCs were mainly intended for use at public meetings and public processions. He considered that BWVCs would create unfairness in that the cameras were outward-facing and thus would only capture the image of demonstrators. He expressed concern that the part of footage which might be to the advantage of demonstrators might be deleted.

13. Mr KWOK Wai-keung considered that there was no question of unfairness with the use of BWVCs by the Police, as many demonstrators had been using the cameras of their own mobile phones to video-film police officers who were discharging their duties. He said that the video-filming of incidents by police officers was not a new measure, as the Police had been using hand-held video recording devices since 2006. As police officers were open to the risk of being assaulted when discharging their duties, the use of BWVCs would better protect their personal safety.

14. Ms Cyd HO considered that the use of BWVCs was based on the subjective judgement of police officers and thus susceptible to abuse and unfair practice.

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15. US for S said that the use of BWVCs was fair to both parties as it recorded the event objectively and factually. He said that BWVCs had been found effective in enhancing police officers' operational efficiency in handling confrontational scenarios and incidents involving a breach of peace. They would only be used in confrontational scenarios or incidents where a breach of the peace had occurred or was likely to occur. Although a BWVC was worn by a police officer, they could capture the body movements and voice of the police officer. Video-recording would cease when the confrontation or breach of the peace came under control or ended. Guidelines had been issued by the Police to regulate the use and operation of BWVCs and compliance with such guidelines was monitored by supervisory officers of the Police.

Operation of BWVCs and internal guidelines on the use of BWVCs

16. Mr CHAN Kam-lam said that the installation of more closed-circuit television cameras on streets would facilitate the detection of crime that occurred on streets. He sought information on the detailed operation of BWVCs. Mr KWOK Wai-keung asked how a member of the public could know that he was being video-filmed with BWVC.

17. Mr Paul TSE asked about the concerns raised by the United Nations Human Rights Committee over the use of video-recording devices by the police and how such concerns were addressed by the Police.

18. Mr Christopher CHUNG asked whether a person being examined by a police officer could use his own mobile phone to video-film the process or request the police officer to switch on a BWVC and video-record the process.

19. US for S explained that under the guidelines on the use and operation of BWVCs, only police officers who had received relevant professional training could use BWVCs. BWVCs could only be used in confrontational scenarios or incidents where a breach of the peace had occurred or was likely to occur. Police officers using BWVCs should be in uniform, should overtly wear the cameras, and unless impracticable, notify the person concerned prior to the commencement of recording. BWVCs were equipped with red light, which would flash when recording, and an outward-facing screen which enabled the person concerned to know that he was being video-filmed and see the captured images.

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20. US for S informed members that at the commencement of a video recording, the police officer concerned had to first record his own name, time, place and a description of the incident to be recorded. Recording would cease only when the incident concerned had ended. Any use of BWVCs should be reported and would be reviewed by the supervisor concerned. Footage with investigative or evidential value would be treated as case exhibit and be retained for investigation and court proceedings. Footage carrying no investigative or evidential value would be deleted after 31 days from the date it was produced.

21. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed concern how the Police and members of the public could know whether a police officer had violated the Police's internal guidelines when using BWVC. He expressed concern whether there had been any violation of the internal guidelines on the use and operation of BWVCs. He asked about the number of cases in which the footage concerned had been retained for more than 31 days and the nature of such cases. Ms Cyd HO considered that the Police's internal guidelines on the use of BWVCs should be made public.

22. US for S responded that it was not appropriate to make public the guidelines, as they related to the Police's operational matters. He pointed out that general information relating to BWVC, including the scope, use and access to data collected, had been uploaded to the Police's website. Regarding the monitoring of compliance with internal guidelines, he said that the memory card of each BWVC incorporated digital signature and a log to facilitate review by supervisory officers and the device-issuing officer. He pointed out that hand-held video recording devices could be used to record public order events for crowd management purpose in general whereas BWVCs were used in confrontational scenarios and incidents where a breach of the peace had occurred or was likely to occur. He stressed that when and where there was a crime or a breach of the peace, the Police had a duty to take action under section 10 of the Police Force Ordinance (Cap. 232).

23. Ms Claudia MO said that some people might become more confrontational when being video-filmed. She asked who would decide whether BWVC should be used in a public order event and how footage captured with BWVCs would be used.

Action

24. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung expressed concern that demonstrators had become increasingly violent in Hong Kong and he had watched a video in which a driver stopped by a police officer swore continuously at the police officer. He sought information on the number of cases where demonstrators had calmed down when being video-filmed with BWVCs.

25. US for S responded that the field trial indicated that in more than half of the cases, the persons involved had apparently become calm and restrained after being video-filmed. He said that members of the public should not vent their anger or swore at police officers. If police officers were not respected, their effectiveness in law enforcement would be undermined.

26. Dr LAM Tai-fai expressed concern that there had been confrontation and swearing at some public meetings and public processions. He supported the use of BWVCs by the Police, as it could facilitate the identification of what actually happened at the scene.

Security of information stored in BWVCs

27. Mr Charles MOK expressed concern about the possible loss of memory card inside BWVCs or leakage of information stored inside the memory card by officers who used file-sharing software. He considered that the Police should strengthen training on the custody of information and maintain statistics on the loss of memory cards and leakage of information by police officers who used file-sharing software.

28. US for S agreed that the safe custody of memory cards was important. He said that all memory cards in BWVCs incorporated digital signature which would detect unauthorised tampering of information stored inside. Police officers were not allowed to use their own memory cards in BWVCs. As regards what statistics should be maintained by a government department, it was a decision for the head of the department, having regard to its priorities and resource implications.

Whether footage captured with BWVCs had been presented as evidence in court

29. Dr LAM Tai-fai sought information on the number of cases in which BWVCs had been used at public meetings and public processions, the number of cases in which the footage thus captured had been presented as evidence in court and the number of successful prosecutions.

Action

30. Ms Cyd HO considered that no part of a footage to be presented as evidence in court should be deleted.

31. US for S responded that during the first phase field trial, BWVCs had been used in 25 incidents, 13 of which the persons involved turned calm and restrained when being video-filmed. In the other 12 incidents, the footage had been retained for investigation and court proceedings. Among these, legal action had been completed in seven cases. As the accused had either pleaded guilty or agreed to be bound over in these cases, no footage thus captured had been presented as evidence in court.

Access to footage captured with BWVCs

32. Mr Kenneth LEUNG and Ms Cyd HO asked whether a person who was video-filmed with BWVCs could request viewing the relevant footage captured under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486) ("PD(P)O"). He expressed concern whether there was a central registry of footage captured which contained information about the date, time and location of the use of BWVCs, whether and when the footage concerned had been destroyed and name of the controlling officer concerned.

33. US for S responded that the Police's webpage on BWVCs had highlighted the rights of members of the public to request access to their own personal data kept by the Police under PD(P)O. All such requests would be handled in accordance with the Ordinance, which set out the procedure, time requirements and considerations to comply with the request. He said that any captured footage which was retained for investigation would be converted into two copies of CD-ROMs, one of which would serve as exhibit while the other one would be used as working copy for investigation purpose.

34. Mr Christopher CHUNG asked whether a person who was video-filmed could obtain a copy of the footage thus captured for presentation as evidence in court. US for S responded that evidence obtained during investigation would be provided to the defendant regardless of whether the Police would present it as evidence in court. Besides, requests for access to the footage captured would be considered having regard to the requirements under PD(P)O and the Police's internal guidelines.

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Consultation on the use of BWVCs

35. Ms Emily LAU considered that the Administration should consult the legal profession, human rights concern groups, police powers concern groups and the Independent Police Complaints Council ("IPCC") on the Police's use of BWVCs.

36. US for S responded that the Police had approached IPCC and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data ("PCO") and provided them with details on the Police's use of BWVCs. The Police had also sought legal advice on the matter.

Clerk

37. Ms Cyd HO suggested that IPCC and PCO be requested to provide the Panel with their views, if any, submitted to the Administration regarding BWVCs. Members agreed.

Experience of other jurisdictions in the use of BWVCs

38. Ms Emily LAU expressed concern whether the police of other jurisdictions had encountered any difficulties in the use of BWVCs.

39. Mr WONG Yuk-man said that although BWVCs were also used in overseas jurisdictions, there were no draconian laws similar to the Public Order Ordinance (Cap. 245) in these jurisdictions.

40. US for S said that BWVCs were widely used by the police of many other jurisdictions, including the United Kingdom, Holland, France, some provinces of Australia and some states of the United States of America ("USA"). Overseas experience in the use of BWVCs had been generally positive. A judge in USA had stated that BWVCs provided an objective record of the incident to reviewing officers and the court. The judge asked for the launching of a pilot scheme in which police officers on patrol would wear BWVCs for trial for one year.

41. In response to Ms Cyd HO's question about the problems identified with police officers who used BWVCs in overseas jurisdiction, US for S said that there were cases overseas in which the police officers had lost temper or used inappropriate language.

Action

Expansion of the use of BWVCs

42. Mr CHAN Kin-por considered that the use of BWVCs should be expanded, if the results of the first phase field trial were positive. US for S responded that although the results of the first phase field trial were positive, the Administration considered it more prudent to expand the use of BWVCs in Hong Kong in a progressive manner. It would be more appropriate to consider the future use of BWVCs after BWVCs evidence had been tested in trials in court. The Police planned to launch the second phase field trial in the second quarter of 2014, which would last for a period of one year, with the participation of various units including Emergency Units and Police Tactical Units of all police regions, as well as frontline operational units responsible for performing tasks of a similar nature, such as the Quick Reaction Force of New Territories North Region and patrol cars of all police districts.

[To allow sufficient time for discussion, members agreed that the meeting be extended to 1:00 pm.]

V. Police's handling of serious assault and wounding cases

(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1031/13-14(05) to (06) and CB(2)1061/13-14(01))

43. Secretary for Security ("S for S") briefed members on the Administration's paper regarding Police's handling of serious assault and wounding cases. Regarding the recent assault on Mr Kevin LAU, who was person-in-charge of a media organisation, on 26 February 2014 ("the case"), he said that the Police would not rule out any possibilities regarding the motive of the assault, including whether it was related to journalistic work.

44. Members noted the background brief entitled "Police's handling of cases of violence against well-known personalities" prepared by the LegCo Secretariat.

Whether the case was related to journalistic work

45. Noting that the Police would not rule out any possibilities regarding the motive of the assault in the case, Ms Claudia MO queried why the Commissioner of Police ("CP") had said at a press conference on 12 March 2014 that there was no direct evidence to indicate that the case

Action

was related to journalistic work, when two suspects arrested in the Mainland in connection with the case were not yet returned to Hong Kong at that time. Mr Gary FAN considered that CP should withdraw what he had said about the motive of the case. He said that Ming Pao had provided the Police with at least 10 newspaper articles that might be related to the assault. He expressed concern whether the Police had carried out in-depth investigation into these newspaper articles.

46. Ms Cyd HO expressed concern that the mastermind in the case might not be identified, if the possibility of the motive being related to journalistic work was ruled out. The Deputy Chairman said that he had been a friend of Mr Kevin LAU for about 40 years. He was gravely concerned about what CP had said about the motive of the case. He considered that CP should be more cautious in his remarks about the motive of assault in undetected cases.

47. Mr KWOK Wai-keung said that besides pointing out that there was no direct evidence to indicate that the case was related to journalistic work, CP had also said at the press conference that the Police would not rule out any possibilities. He considered that what CP had said was only a description of the facts at that time.

48. S for S said that what CP had said was in response to a question raised by a reporter at the press conference. In that response, CP had said that the Police would not rule out any possibilities and according to information on hand at that time, there was no direct evidence to indicate that the case was related to journalistic work.

Progress of investigation of the case

49. Noting that a number of persons had been arrested in connection with the case, Mr Kenneth CHAN asked whether the case would be classified as detected when the mastermind was not yet identified. S for S responded that investigation in the case was still ongoing.

50. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung considered that the Administration should try its best to identify the mastermind in the case. Mr Gary FAN said that he would, at the motion debate on the case at the Council meeting of 19 March 2014, request S for S and CP to identify and arrest the mastermind of the case by a deadline.

Action

51. Mr YIU Si-wing considered that exerting excessive time pressure on the Police might affect the comprehensiveness of the investigation. Mr KWOK Wai-keung said that it was not realistic to impose a deadline for the Police's detection of a case.

52. S for S responded that it was unfair to set a deadline for the Police's detection of a case. He said that the Police was deeply concerned about the case and had devoted much effort to the investigation of the case.

53. Mr Christopher CHUNG asked whether more resources would be deployed by the Police for investigating the case.

54. S for S said that much resources had been deployed for investigation of the case, thus resulting in the early arrest of suspects. He stressed that investigation was not only based on information provided by the victims, but also all other information available. Assistant Commissioner of Police (Crime) ("ACP(C)") said that a total of 11 persons had been arrested in connection with the case and investigation was still ongoing.

55. S for S stressed that while he was not in a position to disclose the investigation details, the Police would continue to carry out thorough investigation and would not give up any clues or rule out any possibilities. He pointed out that the prompt arrest of two suspects related to the case reflected the ongoing close cooperation between the Police and Mainland public security authorities in combating crime.

Detection of wounding and serious assault cases involving journalists

56. Noting from the Administration's paper that the detection rate of cases of wounding and serious assault was about 70% in 2013, Mr Kenneth CHAN asked about the detection rate of wounding and serious assault cases which involved journalists.

57. ACP(C) responded that the Police did not keep separate statistics on the detection rate of wounding and serious assault cases which involved journalists. He said that the detection rate of about 70% for wounding and serious assault cases was higher than the overall crime detection rate of about 40% in 2013.

Action

58. Mr YIU Si-wing asked how the detection rate of wounding and serious assault cases in Hong Kong compared to those of other jurisdictions. He also asked whether the investigation of a case would cease after a certain period of time. ACP(C) responded that the Police did not have information on hand regarding the detection rate of wounding and serious assault cases in other jurisdictions. He said that although investigation in a case would cease after a certain stage, investigation could be resumed whenever there was new information.

59. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung considered that the Administration should try its best to identify the mastermind in cases of assault against members of the media.

60. Ms Emily LAU said that members of the media were very concerned that many cases of assault against members of the media had not been detected. She had recently written to S for S and provided a list of undetected cases of assault against members of the media. She considered that the Administration should provide information on the difficulties encountered in the undetected cases of assault against members of the media.

61. S for S responded that the Administration was aware of the concerns of members of the media. He said that the Police accorded equal importance to all cases under investigation, the detection of which was dependent on a number of factors, including the availability of evidence. To his knowledge, some of the cases had already been detected.

[To allow sufficient time for discussion, members agreed that the meeting be further extended to 1:15 pm.]

VI. Construction of departmental quarters for customs officer grade officers at Yau Yue Wan Village Road, Tseung Kwan O (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1031/13-14(07) and (08))

62. The Chairman drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure concerning personal pecuniary interest to be disclosed.

63. S for S appealed to Members for supporting the proposal to construct rank and file quarters for Customs and Excise Department ("C&ED") at Yau Yue Wan Village Road, Tseung Kwan O ("the project"), details of which were set out in the Administration's paper.

Action

64. Members noted the background brief entitled "Construction and provision of departmental quarters for disciplined services departments" prepared by the LegCo Secretariat.

65. Dr Elizabeth QUAT expressed support in principle for the project. She said that she had visited Yau Yue Wan Village ("the Village") and discussed several times with the residents in the vicinity who generally expressed concern about the possible adverse impact of the project on the traffic condition and community facilities in the area. Specifically, the only vehicular access to the Village had always been obstructed by illegal parking due to the lack of public transport and inadequate car parking spaces. She had raised the issues with relevant government departments which had yet to work out solutions. The residents were concerned that the problems would be aggravated following the completion of the new departmental quarters ("DQ"). Dr QUAT urged the Administration to actively consider increasing the number of car parking spaces in the new DQ and widening the vehicular access to the Village when taking forward the project.

66. Ms Cyd HO asked whether the Administration would consider providing the rank and file grade officers of C&ED with housing allowance instead of DQ units, such that the eligible officers might buy their own flats located in the vicinity of their workplaces. Ms HO also suggested that, in view of the substantial shortfall in DQ units for C&ED rank and file grade officers, the plot ratio of the project should be increased.

67. S for S stressed that the Administration attached great importance to the provision of DQ units to the disciplined services. Given the difficulties in identifying suitable sites and the great demand for DQs, the Administration would optimise every possible site, including those not in the vicinity of the workplace, for the construction of DQ. As for the proposed project, S for S said that its maximum plot ratio permitted had already been fully utilised. S for S further said that the eligibility of housing benefits of government employees was under the purview of the Civil Service Bureau.

68. Noting that there was a shortfall of nearly 900 DQ units, Mr KWOK Wai-keung considered that the project, which would provide 136 DQ units only, was far from adequate to alleviate the problem. Having said that, he supported the project as C&ED officers had reflected to him their grave concern about the long waiting time for DQ allocation and that they were generally content with the location of the new DQ.

Action

Mr KWOK asked whether the Administration would increase the number of car parking spaces in the new DQ to facilitate the staff of DQ to drive their own vehicles to work in remote areas, such as boundary control points.

69. While expressing support in principle for the project, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen considered that the number of car parking spaces at the new DQ was far from adequate. As illegal parking in the Village was a prevalent problem, he envisaged that the problem would be further aggravated upon the completion of the project.

70. S for S said that the ratio of car parking spaces to the number of DQ units was determined in accordance with the standard set by the Government Property Agency.

Admin

71. The Chairman concluded that members supported in principle the Administration's submission of its proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee. He urged the Administration to take note of members' concerns about the car parking spaces at the new DQ and the traffic condition in the vicinity of the Village.

VII. Replacement of radio communications system of the Operations Department of the Independent Commission Against Corruption
(LC Paper No. CB(2)1031/13-14(09))

72. The Chairman drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure concerning personal pecuniary interest to be disclosed.

73. Assistant Director/Operations 3, Independent Commission Against Corruption briefed Members on the proposal of the Independent Commission Against Corruption ("ICAC") to replace the existing radio communications system of its Operations Department with a new radio communications system ("the proposed system").

ICAC

74. Ms Cyd HO requested ICAC to provide, before the submission of its proposal to the Finance Committee, information on the encryption technology to be deployed, whether there would be any interference between the proposed system and civilian radio communications systems, whether the repeater stations under the proposed system would be constructed on government land or private land and how the repeater stations of the existing radio communications system would be disposed of.

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75. The Chairman concluded that members supported in principle ICAC's submission of its proposal to the Finance Committee.

76. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:16 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
29 April 2014