

Mr. Caspar Tsui
Secretary for Home Affairs,
Home Affairs Bureau, 12/F, West Wing,
Central Government Offices,
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar

May 10, 2020

Re: Amendment of Pleasure Grounds Regulation

Dear Secretary,

It is delighted to know that the Bureau would adopt the Amendment of Pleasure Grounds Regulation by negative vetting this year. Residents surrounding the Tuen Mun Park anticipate such amendment for over a decade and they have finally see the administration would step up the effort to control of noise nuisance in parks managed by Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

Although the residents living near Tuen Mun Park could file complaints to the Department once the amendment has passed, I would like to point out that the capacity of the Department to handle noise nuisance at Tuen Mun Park and other public parks in Hong Kong is seemingly inadequate.

There are not enough frontline staff to be trained for issuing tickets on violating the Regulations. More importantly, the current LCSD officers who are authorised to ticket park users who generate noise nuisances do not cover out-of-office hours.

It is know that the *dama* a.k.a. singing aunties conduct unauthorised performance with amplifiers and collect pecuniary reward in public parks on weekends and in the evening across all regions in Hong Kong. It is important for the LCSD to strengthen their capacity to handle the complaints so that such amendment would become an effective tool to tackle the issue of *dama* in public parks.

It is also vital for the Department to develop procedures for genuine performers to use amplifiers and to collect pecuniary reward. Such procedure should be easy for individuals to apply and be transparent to them. Knowing that the Department has similar booking practice at the Piazza Area D of Hong Kong Cultural Centre, it would be grateful if the Department could refer such arrangements so that genuine performers could still make use of the public space to pursue their activities in public parks.

Yours truly,



Michael Mo
Elected Member - Sam Shing
Tuen Mun District Council

cc. Panel on Home Affairs - Legislative Council