

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1155/20-21

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Ref : CB2/PL/SE

Panel on Security

Minutes of meeting
held on Tuesday, 4 May 2021, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

**Members
present**

: Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon MA Fung-kwok, GBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS, JP

**Members
absent**

: Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP
Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Public Officers attending : Item IV

Ms Ivy LAW Chui-mei, JP
Commissioner for Narcotics
Security Bureau

Mr Kevin LAI Ming-fai
Principal Assistant Secretary (Narcotics) 1
Security Bureau

Dr Billy LI Yeuk-goat
Senior Statistician (Security)
Security Bureau

Item V

Mr Sonny AU Chi-kwong, PDSM, PMSM, JP
Under Secretary for Security

Ms Joceline CHUI Shih-yen
Principal Assistant Secretary for Security E

Mr Simon CHENG Tei-wah
Principal Management Services Officer (Security)
Security Bureau

Mr Ronny CHAN Man-tak
Assistant Commissioner of Police (Personnel)

Ms Alice LEE Nga-lai
Chief Superintendent of Police (Planning and Development)

Mr Michael LI Kiu-yin
Project Director 2
Architectural Services Department

Mr WONG Chi-lok
Senior Project Manager 231
Architectural Services Department

Item VI

Mr Sonny AU Chi-kwong, PDSM, PMSM, JP
Under Secretary for Security

Miss Rebecca CHEUNG Pui-ling
Principal Assistant Secretary for Security B

Mr Simon CHENG Tei-wah
Principal Management Services Officer (Security)
Security Bureau

Mr Terrance TSANG Wing-hung
Assistant Director (Headquarters)
Fire Services Department

Mr LI Wai-cheong
Senior Divisional Officer (Planning Group)
Fire Services Department

Mr Michael LI Kiu-yin
Project Director 2
Architectural Services Department

Mr Anthony WONG Kin-tam
Senior Project Manager 240
Architectural Services Department

Ms Donna TAM Yin-ping
District Planning Officer / Sai Kung & Islands
Planning Department

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

Staff in attendance : Mr Timothy TSO
Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Ms Gloria TSANG
Senior Council Secretary (2) 7

Ms Priscilla LAU
Council Secretary (2) 1

Ms Kiwi NG
Legislative Assistant (2) 1

Ms CHAU Kwan-bing
Legislative Assistant (2) 7

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I. Application for late membership
(LC Paper No. CB(2)998/20-21(01))

Members accepted the application for late membership from Mr Wilson OR in accordance with Rule 23 of the House Rules.

II. Information paper issued since the last meeting

2. Members noted that no information paper had been issued since the last meeting.

III. Date of next meeting and items for discussion
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1030/20-21(01) and (02))

Regular meeting in June 2021

3. Members agreed that the following items would be discussed at the next regular meeting on 1 June 2021 at 2:30 pm:

- (a) Initiatives for preventing and combatting deception cases;
- (b) Enhancement of services by the Immigration Department through better use of digital technology in the epidemic; and
- (c) Developing the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy as a regional training centre for emergency rescue and a local platform for community emergency preparedness education.

IV. Drug situation in Hong Kong in 2020
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1030/20-21(03) and (04))

4. Commissioner for Narcotics ("C for N") briefed members on the drug situation in Hong Kong in 2020 and the Government's anti-drug efforts in response to the latest drug situation.

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5. Members noted an updated background brief entitled "Drug situation and anti-drug efforts in Hong Kong" prepared by the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Secretariat.

Drug situation and anti-drug work

6. Mr MA Fung-kwok noted that there was a 4% decrease in the total number of reported drug abusers in 2020, and was concerned whether the drug situation in Hong Kong in 2020 might be truly reflected by the figures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. C for N replied that as mentioned in the paper, the figures in 2020 might have been affected by the pandemic. For instance, reporting agencies might have come into contact with fewer drug abusers, and might have taken more time to submit data of drug abusers to the Central Registry of Drug Abuse ("CRDA"). Having said that, a decreasing trend was observed in the total number of reported drug abusers over the past five years.

7. Noting from the Administration's paper that students accounted for only 35% in the reported drug abusers aged under 21 in 2020, the Deputy Chairman expressed concern about the assistance provided to young drug abusers aged under 21 who were not students. She was also concerned about the relatively high proportion of newly reported abusers being young adults (i.e. age 21 to 35).

8. C for N explained that the Narcotics Division ("ND") had been implementing/facilitating various community preventive education and publicity initiatives, including projects funded by the Beat Drugs Fund ("BDF"), to enhance awareness of the drug problem among young people aged under 21 and young adults. The Government had also been providing drug treatment and rehabilitation ("T&R") services to drug abusers of varying backgrounds and needs, including the needs of young adult drug abusers. She supplemented that according to CRDA's figures, the most common reasons for young adults' drug use were "to relieve boredom/depression/stress", followed by "peer influence/to identify with peers".

9. Dr CHENG Chung-tai was concerned about the 69% increase in young abusers of ketamine from 2019 to 2020. He asked whether the increase was in connection with the supply and retail price of ketamine as a result of the drop in the number of drug-related arrests in 2019. C for N explained that ketamine was popular in Hong Kong around a decade ago. One possible reason for the recent increased ketamine

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abuse in Hong Kong could be that the drug had become more popular in Southeast Asia and with more supply in the region. Meanwhile, the retail price of ketamine in Hong Kong had remained relatively stable. She added that the Police and the Customs and Excise Department ("C&ED") had been committed to tackling drug supply at source. With enhanced law enforcement action, there was a substantial increase of 75% in the amount of drugs seized as compared to 2019.

10. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung was concerned about the increase of young drug abusers aged under 21 in 2020. Noting that one of the reasons for young people taking drugs was "peer influence/to identify with peers", he enquired about the effectiveness of the Administration's anti-drug efforts. Mr Holden CHOW referred to paragraphs 10 and 11 of the Administration's paper and expressed concern about the popularity of cannabis among young drug abusers aged under 21. Mr MA Fung-kwok expressed a similar concern. Mr Holden CHOW noted that a public figure had recently admitted using cannabis before and advocated that cannabis was not a dangerous drug. Mr CHOW urged the Administration to refute such mistaken information. He further considered that the Administration should strengthen stemming the illegal import of dangerous drugs. The Chairman expressed concern about online purchase of illegal drugs.

11. C for N explained that subsequent to the legalization of so-called "recreational" use of cannabis in a small number of overseas jurisdictions, some people with ulterior motives (such as profit-making) had been disseminating wrong information about cannabis particularly through the Internet. She condemned the acts of these people, in particular public officers should fulfill social responsibility and be circumspect in their words and deeds. She emphasized that the World Health Organization had clearly stated the harms of cannabis abuse. With an increasing number of young cannabis abusers aged under 21 in 2020 and the most common reason for them to take drugs being "peer influence/to identify with peer", ND had been enhancing anti-drug efforts to raise the awareness of drug harms of cannabis through different media and web-based platforms. Modes that were more appealing to the younger generation, such as involving peer key opinion leaders and making use of animation and infographics, were being deployed. As for parents, ND also put great efforts to enhance their knowledge of drug harms and how to identify and help their children with drug problems. They were also encouraged to seek assistance through ND's helpline "186 186" and instant messaging service "98 186 186" where necessary. As for law

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enforcement, the Police and C&ED had strengthened cyber patrol and detection of drug trafficking involving postal packets and express parcels. Several enforcement operations were recently conducted, leading to arrests after investigation. To remind members of the public, in particular youngsters, not to fall prey to drug trafficking syndicates, ND and C&ED had jointly produced and launched recently television and radio announcements in the public interest. Mr Holden CHOW suggested providing information about the negative impact of the legalization of recreational use of cannabis in overseas jurisdictions to members of the public. C for N noted the view.

12. Mr CHAN Chun-ying referred to paragraph 18 of the Administration's paper and enquired about the public education strategy in distinguishing between cannabis and cannabidiol ("CBD") (which was a cannabinoid not controlled under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Cap. 134) ("DDO"). C for N explained that cannabis contained numerous cannabinoids, and the two major ones were tetrahydrocannabinol ("THC") and CBD. THC was a dangerous drug controlled under DDO, while CBD was not psychoactive and did not have abusive potential as a drug. To provide members of the public with more information on the distinction between THC and CBD, ND and the Department of Health ("DH") had jointly issued "Information on Cannabidiol Products" which was available online. ND also made use of its social media platforms to disseminate relevant messages.

13. The Deputy Chairman considered that the anti-drug public education on the criminal offences of drugs appeared to focus much on drug trafficking and less on consumption of dangerous drugs. She asked whether consideration would be given to enhancing public awareness in the latter. C for N stressed that illicit consumption, possession, cultivation, manufacturing, trafficking, etc, of dangerous drugs controlled under DDO were all criminal offences. ND had suitably publicized the legal consequences of both drug trafficking as well as illegal possession or consumption of dangerous drugs. However, it would be important not to over-emphasize the legal consequence of drug consumption in order not to deter drug abusers from seeking help and participating in suitable T&R programmes.

14. The Chairman sought details about cannabis-related arrests and the types of cannabis abused by newly drug abusers aged under 21. C for N said that the Police and C&ED detected 830 cannabis-related cases in 2020, registering a significant rise compared to 442 cases in 2019. The

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number of people arrested also increased substantially from 390 in 2019 to 820 in 2020. C for N supplemented that CRDA did not maintain information on the types of cannabis abused. Based on frontline information, herbal cannabis in the form of roll-up cigarettes was the most common means of consumption.

Anti-drug education in schools

15. Mr Jimmy NG noted that the number of schools participating in the Healthy School Programme with a Drug Testing Component ("HSP(DT)") had only increased from 43 in the 2011-2012 school year to 182 in the current school year, and expressed concern about the relatively low participation rate among some 500 secondary schools in Hong Kong.

16. C for N advised that despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of schools participating in HSP(DT) had increased by 4% in 2020-21 compared with the previous school year, demonstrating a positive response from schools. In fact, according to previous research findings, students, parents and teachers of participating schools were highly supportive of HSP(DT). C for N further pointed out that some non-participating schools were worried about the labelling effect and public image after joining the programme. As such, ND would continue to promote HSP(DT), with a view to encouraging schools to cultivate a drug-free school culture. In addition, ND had launched the "Beat Drugs with Sports" Programme to promote healthy lifestyles and an anti-drug culture in secondary schools through student-led sports-related activities. About 50% of the secondary schools had joined HSP(DT) and/or the "Beat Drugs with Sports" Programme.

17. Given that online teaching had become more prevalent under the pandemic, Mr CHAN Chun-ying was concerned that the Survey of Drug Use among Students ("the Survey") conducted in the 2020-2021 school year might not be able to fully gauge the situation of drug abuse among students. He also asked about the specific measures for conducting anti-drug education in schools under current circumstances as face-to-face teaching was limited.

18. C for N advised that ND had commissioned a professional research company to conduct the Survey in the 2020-21 school year. ND had been working closely with the company and would explore the need for extending the fieldwork period for the Survey so as to ensure that a sufficient number of students would be enumerated. Besides

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implementing HSP(DT) and the "Beat Drugs with Sports" Programme, ND had engaged some NGOs to provide anti-drug training and programmes for teachers and school management personnel to facilitate early identification of and offer assistance to drug abusing students.

Drug treatment and rehabilitation services

19. In response to Dr CHENG Chung-tai's enquiry about the operation of various T&R services under the pandemic in 2020, C for N expressed her gratitude to DH and the Auxiliary Medical Service for ensuring a smooth and continuous operation of the voluntary outpatient methadone treatment programme despite riots and the pandemic. As regards other voluntary T&R programmes, in particular the services of community-based counselling centres run by NGOs, while their operation was affected to a certain degree at the beginning of the pandemic, they had promptly adjusted their mode of service delivery to maintain social distancing whilst ensuring the provision of continued support to drug abusers in need.

V. Redevelopment of Western Police Married Quarters site
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1030/20-21(05) and (06))

20. The Chairman drew Members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure concerning the requirement of disclosing personal pecuniary interest.

21. Under Secretary for Security ("US for S") briefed members on the proposal to upgrade the redevelopment project of the Western Police Married Quarters site to Category A public works programme item.

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

The redevelopment project

23. While expressing support for the proposal, Mr Christopher CHEUNG queried why the redevelopment project had not been kicked off for over a decade. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan expressed support for the redevelopment project and called for an early implementation of the works, so as to better utilize land resources and development potential of the site. Despite previous requests from the Central and Western

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District Council for community and public facilities, he agreed to the Administration's final decision of not incorporating public facilities into the redevelopment project having regard to considerations of security and operational efficiency of the Western Police Station. He asked about the construction time required for the redevelopment project. While expressing support for the redevelopment project, Mr Tony TSE was particularly concerned about the period between 2012 and 2017, which appeared that nothing relating to the project had been done. He said that it would inevitably give a public perception that the Administration was "slow" and "delaying" in taking forward the project.

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24. US for S explained that upon the vacation of the Western Junior Police Officers ("JPO") Married Quarters block in 2006, relevant departments had been studying on the use of the site in order to make optimal use of it. However, owing to a number of site constraints and complicated technical issues, the development plan for the site could not be finalized. In 2017, the Police commenced a study with the Architectural Services Department ("ArchSD") in redeveloping the site into departmental quarters ("DQs"). In doing so, approval had to be sought from the Town Planning Board for relaxation of the building height restriction. As regards the Government's work relating to the redevelopment project between 2012 and 2017, the Chairman requested the Administration to provide supplementary information when the proposal was submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC").

25. US for S further said that the redevelopment project was expected to be completed in seven years. The Deputy Chairman expressed concern about the long lead time of the project. Project Director 2, ArchSD ("PD2/ArchSD") explained that while the Modulated Integrated Construction method would be adopted to enhance construction efficiency, there were several complicated phasing plans in the redevelopment project. For instance, the temporary reprovisioning of facilities of the Western Police Station to the Aberdeen Police Station and subsequent reinstatement, reprovisioning of police ancillary facilities to Western Police Station and subsequent reinstatement, demolition of the vacant Inspectorate Officers Quarters block and Western JPO Married Quarters block (the latter of which acted as a retaining structure for part of Queen's Road West), construction of an approximately 17-metre-deep underground works and about 28-storey high residential towers. Despite the complexity, ArchSD would strive to complete the project as early as practicable. Mr Tony TSE urged ArchSD to explore ways to further shorten the time required for the redevelopment project.

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Shortfall of Police's departmental quarters

26. Noting that the Police Force had a shortfall of more than 3 400 DQ units currently and the waiting time for JPO married quarters was around five years, Mr Christopher CHEUNG said that the construction and redevelopment of DQ projects had to be expedited so as to attract more young people to join the Police Force. Mr MA Fung-kwok expressed support for the proposed redevelopment project. In order to attract more people joining disciplined service departments, he asked whether consideration would be given to converting public rental housing units or home ownership scheme flats to DQs. To effectively resolve the shortfall of disciplined service DQs, Mr YIU Si-wing asked whether consideration would be given to improving the housing benefits (e.g. raising cash allowance) to eligible staff, so that fewer staff would opt for DQs. While expressing support for the proposed redevelopment project, Mr Wilson OR was concerned about other ways to increase the supply of DQs. Specifically, he asked whether the Security Bureau ("SB") had been liaising with the Development Bureau ("DevB") to identify suitable sites for the construction of DQs in future planning and development. Mr MA Fung-kwok and Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan enquired about the waiting time for JPO married quarters upon the completion of the redevelopment project.

27. Assistant Commissioner of Police (Personnel) ("ACP P") said that the shortfall of DQs was alleviated to a certain extent between 2004 and 2006 subsequent to the "Purchase of surplus Home Ownership Scheme flats for reprovisioning departmental quarters for the disciplined services". However, since 2015, the shortfall for JPO married quarters had exceeded 3 000 units and reached 3 400 units in 2021. While the shortfall rate and the waiting time for DQs would be affected by a number of factors (including the recruitment situation, marriage rate, and the number of eligible staff etc.), the shortage of JPO married quarters remained severe for years. US for S added that as stated in the 2014 Policy Address, eight DQ projects for the disciplined services would be expedited. Among the eight projects, four of them had been completed and most of the residents had moved in. The remaining four projects were expected to be completed shortly, which included the Fan Garden of the Hong Kong Police Force comprising 1 184 units of JPO married quarters. Upon move-in, the shortfall rate of DQ units for the Police Force would reduce from 22% to 15%. The shortfall rate would be further reduced to 11% (using current demand figure for estimation) upon

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the completion of the redevelopment project of the Western Police Married Quarters site in 2028.

28. US for S further said that subject to the availability of resources, it had all along been the Government's established policy to provide DQs for eligible officers in the disciplined services so as to attract, retain and motivate staff. In view of the shortfall of DQs for the Police and other disciplined services, SB and the Police had been proactively examining various methods to increase the supply of DQ units as far as practicable. For example, the Inspectorate Officers Quarters block, which was situated adjacent to the Western JPO Married Quarters, was proposed to be included in the scope of the proposed redevelopment. Apart from redevelopment, SB had also liaised with DevB with an attempt to identify feasible sites in New Development Areas (such as Kwu Tung North or Yuen Long South) for the construction of DQs. US for S stressed that security issues in DQs had been a major consideration since the "black violence" incidents in 2019. The provision of housing allowance in lieu of DQs would have to take into account the security issues involved. ACP P added that in the light of the recruitment difficulties currently faced by the Police, the provision of DQs was essential to attract and retain staff. The Police would liaise with SB to expedite the construction of DQ projects.

29. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung expressed support for the proposal. In view of various security concerns since the "black violence" incidents and the high shortfall rate of Police DQs, he asked whether consideration would be given to allocating more Government sites for the construction of DQs. US for S undertook to convey Mr LEUNG's view to relevant bureaux/departments. He further pointed out that the Government had been attaching great importance to the security of disciplined services quarters since the "black violence" incidents. Chief Superintendent of Police (Planning and Development) ("CSP(P&D")) added that the security of existing DQs had been enhanced. As the proposed redevelopment was situated within the boundary of Western Police Station, enhanced security arrangements would already be in place. The following features would also be included: (i) installation of closed-circuit television, (ii) surveillance connection to police station control room, (iii) construction of higher perimeter wall, (iv) installation of access control system and (v) provision of separate entrances/exits to the Western Police Station and DQs compound.

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30. The Deputy Chairman and Mr CHAN Chun-ying expressed support for the proposal. Noting that the redevelopment project included demolition of the vacant Western JPO Married Quarters block and the existing Inspectorate Quarters block, but nothing about the Western Police Station was mentioned in the Administration's paper, Mr CHAN asked about the future plan of the Western Police Station. Considering that the provision of DQs for eligible disciplined service staff would attract and motivate staff, the Deputy Chairman queried why the Western Police Station was not included in the scope of the redevelopment project to further increase the supply of DQs. She was also concerned about the arrangement of the existing 10 units of Inspectorate Officers Quarters which was proposed to be demolished, as well as the demand for inspectorate officers quarters.

31. US for S explained that the Western Police District included the Western Division and the Aberdeen Division. As it was anticipated that the development of Aberdeen would be more rapid and large-scale in future, it was considered to be more cost-effective to relocate the Western District Headquarters (originally at Western Police Station) to Aberdeen Police Station in the medium term. Hence, there was no plan to redevelop the Western Police Station at present. ACP P pointed out that the proposed redevelopment project, which included the demolition of the vacant Western JPO Married Quarters block and the existing 10 units of Inspectorate Officers Quarters for the construction of three JPO married quarters blocks offering a total of 540 units, was believed to be more cost-effective. ACP P added that the current shortfall of Inspectorate Officers Quarters was around 50 units. Having said that, the Police would keep an eye on the demand and supply for Inspectorate Officers Quarters and plan ahead as appropriate.

Other issues

32. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan was concerned about the impact on the traffic in the vicinity of Queen's Road West and Pok Fu Lam Road during the construction period. Mr YIU Si-wing noted that a vehicular access to the redeveloped quarters would be set up at Queen's Road West and expressed concern about the safety risks on vehicles passing therein. US for S said that according to the traffic impact assessment conducted, the project would not cause severe impact to the nearby area. Besides, the pavement at Queen's Road West next to the quarters would be extended from 1.5 to 2.6 metres, which would be more convenient to members of the public. CSP(P&D) added that based on the traffic

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impact assessment, and for safety consideration, the quarters' vehicular ingress/egress would be situated at the far end of the quarters site along the Queen's Road West. Entrance/exit for DQs residents would also be provided at Queen's Road West, but with a widened pedestrian pavement. There were also existing pedestrian crossings outside the DQs' site.

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33. Mr CHAN Chun-ying said that the estimated cost of about \$2,020 million for taking forward the redevelopment project to provide 540 units of married quarters appeared to be expensive. He suggested the Administration to provide a detailed financial breakdown, including among others, the demolition cost, the temporary reprovisioning cost of facilities of the Western Police Station, the cost associated with the retaining wall at Queen's Road West, so as to reflect the actual construction cost for the 540 units. PD2/ArchSD undertook to provide such information when the proposal was submitted to PWSC.

34. The Chairman concluded that members had no objection to the Administration's submission of its proposal to PWSC.

VI. Construction of fire station-cum-ambulance depot with departmental quarters and facilities for the Fire Services Department in Area 72, Tseung Kwan O
(LC Paper No. CB(2)1030/20-21(07))

35. The Chairman drew Members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure concerning the requirement of disclosing personal pecuniary interest.

36. US for S briefed members on the proposal to upgrade the construction project of a fire-station-cum-ambulance depot ("FSAD") with DQs and facilities of the Fire Services Department ("FSD") in Area 72, Tseung Kwan O ("TKO") to Category A public works programme item.

The construction project

37. The Deputy Chairman and Mr Tony TSE expressed support for the proposal and urged for an early commencement of the construction project. Mr TSE was concerned about the proposed public refuse collection point ("RCP") nearby, as well as the development of the Government, Institution or Community ("GIC") site in opposite of the

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proposed FSAD. PD2/ArchSD advised that the proposed FSAD would be surrounded by a GIC site, yet relevant project had not been commenced. He further assured members that the Government would take into account the impact of RCP to nearby areas. Mr TSE urged the Administration to optimize land resources and expedite land development.

38. Mr YIU Si-wing sought information about the anticipated demand for fire and emergency ambulance services in TKO town centre and the Tiu Keng Leng new town areas. Assistant Director (Headquarters), FSD ("AD(H)/FSD") said that apart from the existing graded response time, FSD had taken into consideration the population growth in the abovementioned areas, which was anticipated to increase from 400 000 at present to 460 000 in 2029, in proposing the construction project.

39. The Deputy Chairman and Mr YIU Si-wing were concerned about the noise impact of the proposed FSAD on residents accommodating at the upper DQs. AD(H)/FSD said that FSD had been proactively working with ArchSD on the layout and design, with a view to mitigating noise impact on residents in DQs. He assured members that the proposed FSAD would be built with better acoustic insulating materials, and daily operation which might generate noise would be conducted during day time as far as possible. Besides, the audio warning signal of fire services vehicles and ambulances would only be activated when necessary.

Other issues

40. In response to Mr YIU Si-wing's enquiry about the demand for FSD's DQs, AD(H)/FSD said that at present, there was a shortage of some 1 800 DQ units for FSD's other ranks staff. With more staff members becoming eligible and the additional staff being recruited, the demand for DQs was expected to be on a rising trend. FSD was committed to identifying suitable sites for the construction of more DQ units to alleviate the shortage.

41. The Deputy Chairman asked whether consideration would be given to adopting retired dogs by respective FSD's dog handlers who resided at DQs. The Chairman added that to his knowledge, the Police had implemented a pilot programme under which retired dogs were allowed to be adopted and kept as pets at newly constructed DQs. AD(H)/FSD undertook to study members' suggestions.

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42. The Chairman concluded that members had no objection to the Administration's submission of its proposal to PWSC.

43. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:38 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
4 June 2021