

Steering Committee on District Governance convenes third meeting (with photos)

The Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki, chaired the third meeting of the Steering Committee on District Governance today (July 31). The meeting discussed the preparatory work of various bureaux and departments on the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and formulated strategies to address district issues of people's concern.

Mr Chan said, "This year's National Day is of great significance, being the first such anniversary after the improvement of governance at the district level and the legislation on Article 23 of the Basic Law by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. Bureaux and departments are pressing ahead at full steam with preparations for an array of rich and diverse celebratory activities, with a view to sharing the joy of the National Day with members of the public and strengthening the sense of patriotism in the community. We will mobilise the support of different sectors in society to foster a colourful and enthusiastic atmosphere for the National Day."

On district issues, the Steering Committee on District Governance discussed further promoting digital inclusion among the elderly and tasked the Digital Policy Office under the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau with setting up community-based help desks and organising digital inclusion activities. The objective is to provide the elderly with necessary digital support and strengthen their interest and capability in adopting digital technologies, so that they can enjoy the benefits of digital services. Also, the Steering Committee formulated an enhanced mechanism to handle some common complaints at the district level; and followed up the progress of the seven district initiatives previously identified, namely (1) expanding after-school care service and enhancing support for parents; (2) caring for the elderly and enhancing community support; (3) fostering clean markets and mobilising the community to participate in anti-rodent work; (4) enhancing public order and combatting crimes on all fronts; (5) improving pedestrian facilities and ensuring road safety; (6) enhancing the walking experience for citizens and creating a pedestrian-friendly environment; and (7) improving the environment of public housing estates and creating comfortable homes.

In accordance with the overall strategies set by the Steering Committee on District Governance, the Task Force on District Governance, chaired by the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Cheuk Wing-hing, will continue to co-ordinate bureaux and departments in taking forward the various district initiatives to raise people's standard of living with concrete results and enhance their sense of achievement, satisfaction and security.

