

## **COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD**

### **Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee**

#### **1. Purpose**

1.1 This paper aims to inform members of the major issues discussed at the Country Parks Committee (CPC) meeting held on 24 June 2022.

#### **2. Hill Fire Prevention Work in Country Parks and Special Areas**

2.1 The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has taken various management measures to prevent hill fires in country parks. The measures to prevent the spread of hill fires, firefighting facilities and fire crews, as well as the application of technology for hill fire detection and site rehabilitation were explained in the meeting. The AFCD reported that the number of hill fire incidents in the country parks has significantly decreased from about 300 cases/year in the 1980s to about 20 cases/year in the past five years.

2.2 Some members enquired about the effectiveness of the hill fire detection system piloted in Tin Fu Tsai Fire Lookout and the potential of extending it to cover all country parks. The preliminary results showed that the system could successfully detect all hill fire incidents that occurred within its detection range. The AFCD would review the feasibility and practicability of the wider application of the system in other fire lookouts in country parks. Some members suggested the AFCD enhance public education to help prevent hill fires. The AFCD elaborated on its education programmes and stated that the Department would continue to enhance the hill fire management regime and engage the public in collaboration with other Government departments.

### **3. Any Other Business**

Events of country parks to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)

3.1 As part of the celebration programmes to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, the AFCD would organise two events: the Hong Kong Country Parks Photo cum Video Competition and the Hong Kong Hiking Challenge. The events aimed to encourage members of the public to explore the country parks in Hong Kong and raise public awareness of protecting the countryside. Members noted the events and complimented the AFCD's initiative to promote hiking etiquette in the celebration events.

### **4. Presentation**

4.1 This paper is prepared for members' information.

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
October 2022