

## **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 meeting held on 31 October 2025.

#### **2. Upcycling of Pylon W18 of 132-kV Overhead Line System into a Public Leisure Facility in Aberdeen Country Park**

2.1 The Hong Kong Electric Company Limited (HKE) proposed to phase out three 132-kV overhead lines on Hong Kong Island which had been in service for over 40 years. The Phase 1 works was completed in 2024. The Phase 2 works, which included the removal of overhead lines and pylons for the Bowen Line (“B-Line”: from Tin Wan Praya Road to Bowen Road) and the Wong Nai Chung Line (“W-Line”: from Tin Wan Praya Road to Deep Water Bay Road) at Aberdeen and Pok Fu Lam Country Parks, was expected to be completed by April 2027. The Construction Industry Council – Zero Carbon Park (CIC-ZCP) approached the HKE and proposed to upcycle the Pylon W18 near Middle Gap Road and Lady Clementi’s Ride in Aberdeen Country Park into a public leisure facility. The CIC-ZCP presented the details and design proposal of the works at the meeting.

2.2 Members suggested suitably raising the height of the pavilion and providing a viewing platform to allow visitors to enjoy the panoramic view from a higher ground. Another Member suggested fully utilising the space available on the information board to display information on topics such as carbon neutrality and characteristic plants and animals, with a view to enhancing the storytelling elements and educational value of the site. The CIC-ZCP said that the information board would provide latest information about the CIC and promotion on green energy, and part of the space could be shared with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). The Development

Bureau opined that the attractiveness of the pavilion alone would be finite as a sight-seeing spot, and suggested that other elements should be incorporated to create synergy. For example, the existing volunteer team of the CIC could instil environmental protection knowledge in participants during clean-up activities and promote environmental education through co-operation with schools, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness.

### **3. Proposed Design and Operation Mode of New Type of Camping Facilities at Tai Tong in Tai Lam Country Park**

3.1 At the Country and Marine Parks Board meeting held in February 2024, the site selection for the new type of camping facilities was discussed. Upon evaluation, the AFCD decided to set up new type of campsite facilities at Tai Tong first. During the meeting, the consultant gave a detailed account of the preliminary design proposal and the suggested operation modes for the Tai Tong site.

3.2 Members generally supported taking the project forward with an innovative mindset to overcome the limitations of the current operation mode. It was suggested that while greater operation flexibility should be allowed for operators, the camping experience of campers from diverse backgrounds should also be taken into account to ensure that all members of the public have an opportunity to participate. Some Members also proposed exploring a revenue sharing model based on an agreed split with operators to promote sustainable operation mode in the long run. The AFCD and the consultant said that they would prudently examine various options and strike a balance between factors such as operation feasibility, affordability of the public and the sustainability of facilities, and hoped that by introducing a novel operation mode, the public would be provided with higher quality and more diverse recreational services.

### **4. Review of Guidelines on Permit Applications for Holding Organised Events in Country Parks and Special Areas**

4.1 The AFCD strictly regulated the holding of events in country parks. In view of the AFCD's observations and the comments received from event organisers about the permit application procedures, the AFCD had recently reviewed the current mechanism of application, vetting and permit issuance, and proposed modifications to the procedures to ensure fairness for all and optimise the use of country park resources. The AFCD had

consulted relevant event organisers on the proposed modifications through a consultation paper, a briefing cum Q & A session, and received no adverse comments.

4.2 Members had no objection to the proposed modifications. A Member suggested raising application fees based on the nature and scale of event and the trail to be used to subsidise trail maintenance costs, as well as specifying environmental commitments and penalty provisions in the application document. The AFCD said that the current fees which were prescribed under the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulations (Cap. 208A) reflected the administrative costs only. The feasibility of recovering trail maintenance costs would be assessed in future review of permit fees. When vetting an application, the AFCD would request applicants to submit proposals addressing issues such as waste management and environmental protection. Furthermore, the AFCD encouraged event participants to join trail maintenance workshops and would assess whether it was necessary to set an upper limit on the number and scale of events to be held each year. The AFCD would communicate with stakeholders thoroughly in advance should there be a need to implement such arrangements with a view to formulating fair and reasonable regulations.

## **5. Presentation**

5.1 This paper is prepared for Members' information.

Country and Marine Parks Authority  
March 2026