

Country and Marine Parks Board
Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee

1. Purpose

1.1 This paper informs members on issues discussed at the Country Parks Committee (CPC) meeting held on 25 August 2015. Major issues discussed at the meeting are summarized below.

2. Processing Applications for Organizing Events or Sporting Competitions in Country Parks

2.1 Members were briefed about the background of events organized in country parks, the recent trend of race events, the Authority's concerns and proposed implementation of criteria for processing applications for organizing events.

2.2 Members suggested the Department establish clear principles for the application guidelines, including the safety of participants as well as other users of country parks, the maintenance of country park trails and the conservation of natural environment, etc. Then, individual applications would be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking account of the said principles and criteria proposed by the Authority.

2.3 A member also suggested the Department take note of the trend of events other than -fund raising or sports activities and the impact caused, including fee-charging or free major activities.

2.4 The Chairman and members suggested the Department adopt appropriate wordings when revising the application guidelines. The Chairman concluded that the members raised no objection to the revision of the existing guidelines for permit applications using the criteria discussed.

3. Other business

3.1 Members noted the Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report.

4. Advice sought

4.1 This paper is prepared for members' information.

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