



# Legislative Council meetings

While in session, the Legislative Council normally meets on Wednesdays at 11:00 am in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Complex.

## Supplementary information

### (a) Business transacted at Council meetings

The business transacted at regular Council meetings mainly includes:

#### *Tabling of subsidiary legislation, papers and reports*

All subsidiary legislation published in the Gazette as well as documents such as annual reports of government departments and public bodies, and reports of the Council's committees may be tabled in Council. Legislative Council Members and public officers may address the Council on these reports.

#### *Questions*

Members may address questions to the Government on its work, either to seek information or ask for official action with regard to a particular matter.

The Member raising a question should specify whether an oral or a written reply is required. Normally, not more than 22 questions may be asked at any one Council meeting, of which no more than 6 require an oral reply and 16 require a written reply from the Government. For example, Members have raised oral questions regarding sports facilities and competition events, and expediting public housing production. Besides, Members have raised written questions regarding addiction of minors to online games, and popularization of electric vehicles.

For questions seeking an oral reply, supplementary questions may be put by any Member to request further elaboration after the public officer has replied.

#### *Bills*

A "bill" is a proposed new law or amendments to an existing law. The Government and Members may introduce bills to propose new legislation or amendments to existing legislation for consideration by the Legislative Council. A bill goes through the three-reading procedure for its passage by the Council before it becomes a law. After a bill is introduced into the Legislative Council, Members debate and vote on it.

For details of the three-reading procedure, please refer to supplementary notes on exhibition panels "How do Members perform their duties?/What Members do" under the "Education" section of the Legislative Council Website.

#### *Proposed resolutions*

The Legislative Council approves or amends subsidiary legislation by way of proposed resolutions. Subsidiary legislation refers to any proclamation, rule, regulation, order, resolution, notice, rule of court, bylaw or other instrument made by designated authorities under or by virtue of relevant ordinances and having legislative effect.

#### *Motions not intended to have legislative effect*

Members may debate motions not intended to have legislative effect to express their views on issues concerning public interest or call on the Government to take certain actions. Public officers will attend such debates and respond to Members' views. The Government may also move motions to seek the Council's endorsement of certain proposals. In normal circumstances, not more than two motion debates initiated by Members should be held at each regular Council meeting.



For example, the Legislative Council has debated and voted on motions which requested the Government to enact legislation to combat false information on the Internet, and foster the achievement of carbon neutrality.

### **(b) Roles of the President of the Legislative Council, Members and public officers at a Council meeting**

President of the Legislative Council (“the President”), Members and public officers perform the following roles at a Council meeting:

**The President:** The President presides over a Council meeting and ensures the smooth conduct of a meeting.

**Members:** Members attend a Council meeting to raise questions on the work of the Government, enact laws and debate issues concerning public interest.

**Public officers:** Public officers attend a Council meeting to answer questions raised by Members, introduce legislative proposals and respond to motions moved by Members.

### **(c) Meetings attended by the Chief Executive**

The Chief Executive delivers the Policy Address on government policies for administering the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region at a Council meeting, and normally attends a Question and Answer Session on the Policy Address after the delivery of the Policy Address to expound on policy vision and to answer questions from Members. In addition, the Chief Executive also attends Chief Executive’s Interactive Exchange Question and Answer Sessions to express and exchange views on significant, macro and strategic topics with Members. Apart from answering questions, the Chief Executive may also consult Members’ views for consideration in the administration.

### **(d) Other persons at a Council meeting**

Other persons at a Council meeting include the Clerk to the Legislative Council, Council business staff, security staff, stewards, technicians, in-house TV production team, simultaneous interpreters, photographers, TV/radio crew, and sign language interpreters. Members of the public and media representatives can observe the proceedings of a Council meeting in the Public/Press Gallery of the Legislative Council Chamber.

## **Questions and answers**

**Q1:** *Which day of the week and what time does the Legislative Council normally meet in the Legislative Council Chamber to conduct its business while in session?*

The Legislative Council normally meets on Wednesdays at 11:00 am in the Legislative Council Chamber to conduct its business while in session.

**Q2:** *Please name any three items of business transacted at regular Council meetings.*

The business transacted at regular Council meetings mainly includes: (a) tabling of subsidiary legislation, papers and reports; (b) questions; (c) bills; (d) proposed resolutions; and (e) motions not intended to have legislative effect.

**Q3:** *How many questions may normally be asked by Members at any one Council meeting?*

Not more than 22 questions may normally be asked by Members at any one Council meeting.

**Q4:** *Can members of the public observe Council meetings in person? If they can, where will they be seated?*

Members of the public can observe Council meetings in person at the Public Gallery of the Legislative Council Chamber.

## Online resources

- (a) *Quick Information*  
Legislative Council Website ([www.legco.gov.hk](http://www.legco.gov.hk)) → Education → [Quick Information](#)
- (b) *Legislative Council in Brief*  
Legislative Council Website ([www.legco.gov.hk](http://www.legco.gov.hk)) → Education → Understand → [Legislative Council in Brief](#)
- (c) *Animations and videos*  
Legislative Council Website ([www.legco.gov.hk](http://www.legco.gov.hk)) → Education → Understand → [Animations and videos](#)
- (d) *Exhibition panels*  
Legislative Council Website ([www.legco.gov.hk](http://www.legco.gov.hk)) → Education → Understand → [Exhibition panels](#)
- (e) *PowerPoint slides*  
Legislative Council Website ([www.legco.gov.hk](http://www.legco.gov.hk)) → Education → Teach → [PowerPoint Slides](#)
- (f) *Council meetings*  
Legislative Council Website ([www.legco.gov.hk](http://www.legco.gov.hk)) → LegCo Business → Council → [Council meetings](#)