

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2) 2777/01-02
(These minutes have been seen by the
Administration)

Ref : CB2/BC/2/01

**Bills Committee on
Juvenile Offenders (Amendment) Bill 2001**

**Minutes of meeting
held on Wednesday, 17 July 2002 at 8:30 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon Margaret NG (Chairman)
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP
Dr Hon LAW Chi-kwong, JP
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
- Members absent** : Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yea, JP
Hon Ambrose LAU Hon-chuen, GBS, JP
Hon Michael MAK Kwok-fung
Hon WONG Sing-chi
- Public Officers attending** : Miss Eliza YAU
Principal Assistant Secretary for Security
- Miss Angela LEE
Assistant Secretary for Security
- Mr Alfred MA
Senior Superintendent (Crime) (Headquarters)
Hong Kong Police Force
- Ms Stella CHAN
Government Counsel
- Clerk in attendance** : Mrs Constance LI
Chief Assistant Secretary (2)5

Staff in attendance : Mr LEE Yu-sung
Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Ms Joanne MAK
Senior Assistant Secretary (2)2

I. Election of Chairman

Miss Margaret NG was elected Chairman of the Bills Committee.

II. Meeting with the Administration

2. The Bills Committee deliberated (Index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).
3. As directed by the Chairman, the Clerk would circulate the following papers to members for their reference -
 - (a) Written submission from the Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights provided for the meeting of the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services on 18 September 2001;
 - (b) Administration's paper on raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility provided for the Panel meeting; and
 - (c) Chapter 5 of the report on "The Age of Criminal Responsibility in Hong Kong" published by the Law Reform Commission (LRC).

(Post-meeting note : The papers were circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2) 2626/01-02 dated 19 July 2002.)
4. The Administration was requested to provide information on the following -
 - (a) The systems and practice in other jurisdictions (such as the United Kingdom) in dealing with unruly children below the minimum age of criminal responsibility, and the effectiveness of such systems;
 - (b) Whether the Administration will consider providing alternative arrangements for juvenile offenders between the age of 10 and 14;
 - (c) A breakdown of the statistics in Annex B to the LegCo Brief to indicate how many of those arrested persons of age between 7 and 14 had been prosecuted and had not been prosecuted in 1993 - 2000; and

- (d) The impact on the provision of probation services, if the age of criminal responsibility was to be raised to 10.

Principal Assistant Secretary for Security agreed to provide the information as soon as possible.

5. Members agreed that public views (including the views of the 18 District Councils) should be invited on the Bill, and the 74 organisations/individuals that had given views to LRC on its Consultation paper on the age of criminal responsibility in Hong Kong should also be invited to make submissions to the Bills Committee.

III. Date of next meeting

6. The next meeting would be held at 8:30 am on 19 September 2002 to meet with deputations.

7. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9:15 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
16 September 2002

Bills Committee on Juvenile Offenders (Amendment) Bill 2001
Meeting on Wednesday, 17 July 2002 at 8:30 am
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building

Time	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
000000 - 000410	Miss Cyd HO Sau-lan	Election of Chairman	
000410 - 000725	Administration	Brief on the Bill	
000725 - 001313	Chairman	a. AJLS Panel discussion on the Bill b. Invitation of deputations to make representations to the Bills Committee c. Information papers for members' reference	The Clerk to invite public views on the Bill and circulate information papers to members
001313 - 001448	Ms Audrey EU Yuet-mee Chairman	Initial views on the minimum age of criminal responsibility	
001448 - 002840	Chairman Administration Miss Cyd HO Sau-lan	The need to review the juvenile justice system to provide alternatives to prosecution, with reference to the systems in overseas jurisdictions	Admin to provide information on overseas experience
002840 - 003011	Mr Jasper TSANG Yok-sing Chairman Administration	Request for information on the numbers of persons aged 7 -14 arrested for crime who had been prosecuted and who had not been prosecuted	Admin to provide information
003011 - 003809	Dr LAW Chi-kwong Chairman Administration Clerk Mr Jasper TSANG Yok-sing	a. Request for information on the impact of the Bill on the provision of probation services b. Date of next meeting	Admin to provide information

Note : The audio records of the above proceedings are kept at the LegCo Library

