

**Panel on Home Affairs**

**List of outstanding items for discussion**

(as at 8 November 2004)

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**1. Management and resumption of private streets**

This subject was discussed at the Legislative Council (LegCo) Members' meetings with Kowloon City District Council (DC) and Wanchai DC on 14 March 2002 and 3 April 2003 respectively. Some DC members suggested that the Administration should introduce legislation to improve the management of private streets.

To be confirmed

Mr IP Kwok-him moved a motion on "Resumption of private streets" at the Council meeting on 11 June 2003. The motion, as amended by Mrs Sophie LEUNG, was carried.

**2. Grant of land at a nominal land premium to private groups or organizations**

An oral question was raised at the Council meeting on 13 November 2002 about the grant of government land at a nominal land premium to private groups or organizations for use as clubs or clubhouses. The Administration has been asked to review the criteria for the grant of land for sports and recreational uses.

To be confirmed

**3. Enforcement of maintenance order**

To be confirmed

**a. Setting up an intermediary body for the collection of maintenance payments**

Item proposed by Miss CHOY So-yuk. This issue was last discussed by the Panel on 8 February 2002. The Bills Committee on Interest on Arrears of Maintenance Bill 2001 has requested this Panel to discuss the setting up of such an intermediary body.

**b. Streamlining the relevant court procedures**

The Bills Committee on Interest on Arrears of

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

Maintenance Bill 2001 has requested the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services (AJLS Panel) to follow up with the Administration on ways to streamline court procedures in relation to enforcement of maintenance order and address the problem of evasion of service of summons by maintenance payers who have defaulted on their maintenance payments. Some members of the Bills Committee have suggested that the summons should be considered to have been served so long as the summons has been served to the address provided by the payer.

AJLS Panel suggests that as this item falls under the policy area of the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), it is more appropriate for it to be followed up by this Panel.

**4. Computer programme for calculation of interest and surcharge on arrears of maintenance**

The subject was last discussed on 22 March 2004. The Administration will be ready to brief the Panel on the implementation of the computer programme around February/March 2005.

**February/March  
2005**

**5. Future development of public libraries**

The Panel received the Administration's briefing on the consultancy report on the future development of public libraries on 13 December 2002. Members requested the Administration to consult the Panel before finalizing its recommendations and provide an interim report to the Panel when it was available.

To be confirmed

**6. Membership of the Full Council and Executive Committee of Heung Yee Kuk**

At the meeting of the Duty Roster Members (DRMs) with representatives of the Association of the New Territories (NT) Indigenous Residents on 16 December 2002, the latter expressed dissatisfaction with the Heung Yee Kuk (HYK)

To be  
confirmed<sup>Note</sup>

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

Ordinance (Cap. 1097) under which the NT Justices of the Peace (JPs) served as Ex Officio Councillors of the Full Council and Ex Officio Members of the Executive Committee of HYK. They considered that the NT JPs, and Special Councillors and Co-opted Councillors of HYK could not represent and protect the interests of the villagers and indigenous inhabitants of NT and requested that the HYK membership should be reviewed. Their views were referred to this Panel for consideration on 24 December 2002.

The Administration has proposed to discuss this item along with item 9 on traditional rights and interests of indigenous villagers of NT.

Note

The Administration has advised that it does not propose to discuss this item and item 9 in the near future as more research work has to be carried out so that the discussions will be fruitful.

**7. Promotion of youth development**

At the policy briefing held on 15 January 2003, members noted that the Commission on Youth (the Commission) had submitted a draft report on unemployment problems of young people to the Chief Executive. The Panel requested to be briefed on how HAB would cooperate with the Commission in tackling youth problems.

To be confirmed

**8. Sports policy review and problems pertaining to the operation of National Sports Associations**

The new administrative structure for sports development was discussed by the Panel on 14 and 29 July 2003. Supplementary information provided by the Administration on the new administrative structure was issued to members under LC Paper No. CB(2)178/03-04 on 24 October 2003.

To be confirmed

At the meeting on 9 October 2003, Mr Albert CHAN proposed to discuss problems pertaining to the operation of National Sports Associations in the areas of administration, financial arrangements, structures and selection of members.

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**9. Traditional rights and interests of indigenous villagers of NT**

At LegCo Members' meetings with HYK Councillors on 10 June 2003 and 2 March 2004, issues relating to the enactment of legislation to implement Article 40 of the Basic Law and exemption from payment of Government rent were discussed. Members agreed that the issues involving policy consideration about the traditional rights and interests of indigenous villagers in NT should be referred to this Panel for follow-up. Members also suggested that HYK Councillors should be invited to attend the relevant meeting(s) of this Panel to give views when the issues were discussed.

To be  
confirmed<sup>Note</sup>

The Administration has proposed to discuss this item together with item 6 on membership of the Full Council and Executive Committee of HYK.

Note

The Administration has advised that it does not propose to discuss this item and item 6 in the near future as more research work has to be carried out so that the discussions will be fruitful.

**10. Request for the Government to formulate a child policy as well as measures to improve the living environment of poor children and assist them to eradicate poverty**

At the DRM meeting with representatives of the Society for Community Organization (SOCO) on 20 November 2003, the latter expressed dissatisfaction with the Government's failure to fully implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child. SOCO representatives considered that the Government should devise a child policy and improve the living conditions of poor children. SOCO representatives also provided a survey report on the overcrowded living conditions of poor children to DRM members. The subject has been referred to this Panel and the Panels on Welfare Services and Housing for consideration.

**Proposed to be  
deleted**

**The Administration suggests that the Panels on Welfare Services and Housing will be more suitable venues for the discussion of this item than this Panel, since the focus of discussion is more on child poverty. Wherever it is discussed, HAB will be happy to send representatives to**

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**attend for this item if necessary.**

**11. Impact of authorized football betting**

At the Council meeting on 9 July 2003, the Administration undertook to review its policy of authorisation of football betting against certain benchmarks, such as changes in the intensity of illegal gambling activities and prevalence of problem and pathological gamblers, and report the findings to this Panel after authorised football betting had been implemented for two years.

To be confirmed

The Panel discussed "Measures to address gambling-related problems" at the meeting on 12 December 2003 and "Codes of Practice for the conduct of football betting and lotteries" on 13 February 2004.

**12. Review of built heritage conservation policy**

The subject was last discussed on 22 March 2004. The Administration has not yet provided a progress report on the review which should have been provided in June/July 2004.

**July 2005**

At the meeting on 12 October 2004, Miss CHOY So-yuk pointed out that while the Administration had insisted on conducting a public tendering process to select developers for the Central heritage complex project, it had granted a site in Stanley free to an organization for operating a fee-charging horticultural park. She suggested that the Administration should explain the inconsistency in its policy.

The Panel has scheduled to discuss this item on 9 November 2004. **The Administration has also advised that a report on phase two of the review can be made to the Panel in July 2005.**

**13. Provision of leisure and cultural services facilities**

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**January 2005**

The subject was last discussed on 16 April 2004. According to the recommendations of the Subcommittee to follow up the outstanding capital works projects of the former municipal councils, this Panel should follow up those outstanding projects involving leisure and cultural facilities and receive periodic reports from the Administration.

At the LegCo Members' meeting with North DC members on 27 May 2004, request for the provision of a new civic centre in the North District was discussed. Some Members suggested that policy issues relating to the construction of civic facilities in various districts should be followed up by this Panel. A case conference was held on 20 July 2004 to discuss the request for the provision of a new civic centre in the North District. The Administration advised that consideration of adopting the "Private Sector Finance" approach for other capital projects would depend on the response of the private sector on the pilot projects which were still at a starting stage.

At the LegCo Members' meeting with Eastern DC members on 10 June 2004, the latter expressed dissatisfaction with the delay in the construction of Siu Sai Wan Complex which was once included in the Government Priority Project Programme but had been deferred due to financial constraints. Members agreed that the above concerns raised by Eastern DC members should be referred to this Panel for consideration.

In his reply to a question raised on this subject matter at the Council meeting on 20 October 2004, the Secretary for Home Affairs undertook to provide a list of the outstanding projects of the two Provisional Municipal Councils which were subject to review in three months' time.

**14. The Centre for Youth Development Project**

The Panel discussed a progress report on the project on 14 July 2004. The Administration would commission a consultancy study to review the provision of facilities at the Centre for Youth Development (CYD) and assess the feasibility of constructing and operating CYD through a public-private partnership approach.

**December 2004**

The Administration agreed to provide information, including

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

the response of non-governmental organizations and other organizations to the offer of running the centre, the views of the Steering Committee on the contracting out arrangements, and problems anticipated to arise under the Limited Company Model, early in the 2004-05 session for further discussion.

**15. Review of advisory and statutory bodies**

The Administration provided three progress reports comprising 12 interim reports on the review of advisory and statutory bodies in the public sector to the Panel during the 2003-04 session.

**December 2004  
&  
April 2005**

**The Administration plans to submit further interim reports on individual topics in December 2004 and April 2005. One of the topics to be discussed in December 2004 will be the progress report on the establishment of the consultative forum.**

**16. Regulating property management companies by legislation and implementation of the requirement that an owners' corporation has to take out third party insurance in respect of the common parts of a building under section 28 of the Building Management Ordinance (Cap.344)**

The item of regulating property management companies by legislation was proposed by Miss TAM Heung-man on 12 October 2004. She pointed out that property management companies were only required to apply for business registration to operate and property owners had little protection under the existing regulatory system. She suggested that the Panel should discuss whether the Administration should regulate property management companies by legislation.

**April/May 2005  
(tentative)**

The item of implementing of the requirement that an owner's corporation had to take out third party insurance in respect of the common parts of a building was proposed by Miss TAM Heung-man on 27 October 2004. Miss TAM suggested that the Administration should be invited to explain why the above statutory requirement passed in 2000 had not been

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

implemented yet and to provide information on any progress made.

The Administration proposes that these two items be discussed together since both are related to building management.

**17. Safeguarding Hong Kong's core values**

This item was proposed by Miss TAM Heung-man on 12 October 2004. A group of professionals and academics initiated a declaration on safeguarding Hong Kong's core values around May/June 2004. In June 2004 the Chief Executive met with the group to hear their views. Miss TAM suggested that the Panel should discuss this item with the Administration.

To be confirmed

**18. Promotion of creative industries**

At the meeting on 12 October 2004, Mr Albert CHAN proposed to further discuss this item as he felt that the Administration had made little progress in this regard. This item was last discussed on 13 June 2003.

To be confirmed

**19. Report of the independent panel of inquiry to look into the incidents relating to the Equal Opportunities Commission**

This item was proposed by Mr Albert HO on 12 October 2004. The panel of inquiry is required to submit its report to the Administration by 15 February 2005.

**March 2005**

**20. Survey on public attitudes towards people of a different sexual orientation**

The Administration will conduct a survey on public attitudes towards sexual minorities to better understand the latest public opinion in this area. It proposes to keep the Panel posted on the developments relating to the conduct of the survey.

**February 2005**



**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**21. Progress report of Team Clean**

The Home Affairs Department plans to brief the Panel on the above progress report around February 2005.

**February 2005**

**22. Funding proposals**

**(a) on hosting the 2009 East Asian Games**

The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the above funding proposal in May 2005 before submitting it to the Finance Committee for approval; and

**May 2005**

**(b) on setting up Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum at Kom Tong Hall**

The Administration is conducting a feasibility study on setting up Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum at Kom Tong Hall. A funding proposal will be submitted to the Panel in due course.

To be confirmed

**23. Submission of reports by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government to the United Nations under international human rights treaties**

The second report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) submitted to the United Nations (UN) under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is scheduled for UN Committee hearing in April/May 2005.

**June 2005**

The initial report of the HKSAR submitted to the UN under the Convention on Rights of the Child is likely to be heard by UN Committee in May/June 2005.

**24. Revision of fees and charges for services not directly**

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**affecting people's livelihood under the purview of HAB**

The Administration is conducting a study on the above and will submit a proposal to the Panel in due course.

To be confirmed

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
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