

立法會 *Legislative Council*

LC Paper No. CB(1)299/04-05

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Panel on Transport

Meeting on 26 November 2004

Duty visit outside Hong Kong

Purpose

This paper invites members to give views on whether the Panel should conduct a duty visit outside Hong Kong to study specific subject matters under the purview of the Panel.

Visits by committees of the Council and Panel on Transport

2. From time to time, committees of the Council including Panels undertake duty visits outside Hong Kong to study specific subject matters which fall within their respective purview and are relevant to Hong Kong.

3. In February 1997, the Panel on Transport conducted a duty visit to London, Paris, Hamburg and Singapore to gain an insight into the monitoring and operation of mass transit railway systems, other transport facilities and the fare revision mechanisms of these major cities.

Funding arrangements

4. As approved by The Legislative Council Commission on 20 February 2001, each Member (except the President) is provided with an overseas duty visit account of \$61,000 for the purpose of duty visits outside Hong Kong organized by committees, other than the Parliamentary Liaison Subcommittee, of the Council. The fund in the account is for use by the Member in a four-year term. Any expenditure incurred in one term in excess of \$61,000 has to be paid by the Member personally.

Size and composition of the delegation

5. The broad guidelines for determining the size and composition of a delegation are that members of the relevant committee should have priority in

participating in the visit, and the delegation should be of a manageable size in order not to create difficulties in logistical arrangements.

6. Non-committee Members may join a duty visit outside Hong Kong with the consent of the relevant committee.

Prior permission of the House Committee

7. Under the House Rules, prior permission of the House Committee is required for a Panel to undertake duty visits outside Hong Kong under the name of the Panel.

Advice sought

8. Members are invited to give views on whether the Panel should conduct a duty visit outside Hong Kong to study specific subject matters, and if so, to give further views on the objectives, places and timing of such a visit.

Way forward

9. Subject to members' views, the Secretariat will work out a more detailed proposal in consultation with the Panel Chairman for members' further consideration at a working meeting to be arranged.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
22 November 2004