

立法會

Legislative Council

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Paper for the House Committee meeting on 17 October 2008

Appointment of subcommittees on policy issues

Purpose

This paper provides an overview of the position of subcommittees on policy issues under Panels and the House Committee which have been proposed for appointment since the commencement of the Fourth Legislative Council (LegCo).

Overview of the position of subcommittees

2. Rule 22(s) of the House Rules (HR) provides that a Panel may appoint subcommittees to study specific issues; rule 22(t) provides that two or more Panels may appoint joint subcommittees to study any matter of common interest to the relevant Panels. Under HR 20(j), the House Committee may appoint a subcommittee to consider an issue of public concern which falls outside the purview of Panels or any other matter relating to the business of the Council. HR 26(a) provides that the maximum number of subcommittees on policy issues and Council business other than subsidiary legislation, other instruments and appointment or removal of senior judges that may be in operation at any one time should be eight.

3. At the first meetings of the 18 LegCo Panels held on 14 October 2008, a total of four subcommittees under two Panels have been proposed to study issues of public concern falling within their respective purview. These subcommittees are expected to be appointed by the Panels when detailed information concerning these subcommittees' terms of reference, time frame and work plan, etc, are endorsed by the respective Panels at the relevant meetings scheduled for the coming weeks. At the special House Committee meeting held on 13 October 2008, Members have proposed the appointment of a subcommittee under the House Committee to study issues arising from Lehman Brothers-related minibonds and structured financial products. The Panel on Development has also proposed at its first meeting the appointment of a subcommittee under the House Committee to examine issues relating to the

West Kowloon Cultural District Development. A list of the proposed subcommittees under Panels and the House Committee is in **Appendix I**.

4. As the number of proposed subcommittees on policy issues does not exceed eight, the relevant Panels and the House Committee may proceed with the activation of the subcommittees when appointed. In future, where additional subcommittees are appointed and the total number of subcommittees exceeds eight, the advice of the House Committee will be sought as regards the activation of those subcommittees in accordance with HR 26(b) as in **Appendix II**.

Advice sought

5. Members are invited to note the latest position of subcommittees on policy issues proposed for appointment as set out above.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
15 October 2008

**(a) Subcommittees on policy issues proposed to be appointed under Panels
(position as at 14 October 2008)**

Name of Subcommittee (tentative)	Issues/Projects to be studied	Remarks
1. Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Issues relating to the planning and implementation of new railway projects and operation of existing railways 	Proposed at the first meeting of the Panel on Transport on 14 October 2008
2. Subcommittee on Review of the Urban Renewal Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of the Urban Renewal Strategy 	Proposed at the first meeting of the Panel on Development on 14 October 2008
3. Subcommittee on Planning for the New Central Harbourfront	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land use planning for the new harbourfront ● Waterfront connectivity and pedestrian access to the new harbourfront 	Proposed at the first meeting of the Panel on Development on 14 October 2008

Name of Subcommittee (tentative)	Issues/Projects to be studied	Remarks
4. Subcommittee on Review of Functions of Town Planning Board and Town Planning Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Review of functions of Town Planning Board● Review of town planning procedures	Proposed at the first meeting of the Panel on Development on 14 October 2008

**(b) Subcommittees on policy issues proposed to be appointed under House Committee
(position as at 14 October 2008)**

Name of Subcommittee (tentative)	Issues/Projects to be studied	Remarks
1. Subcommittee to study issues arising from Lehman Brothers-related minibonds and structured financial products	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Policy and regulatory issues arising from Lehman Brothers-related minibonds and structured financial products	Proposed at the special House Committee meeting on 13 October 2008
2. Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Establishment of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority● Planning and construction of arts and cultural facilities, communal and other related facilities in the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD)● Land use planning for the entire WKCD● Financial management of the WKCD project	Proposed at the first meeting of the Panel on Development on 14 October 2008 (It was also proposed at the first meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs that a joint meeting with the Panel on Development be held to discuss the WKCD project on 14 November 2008.)

Extract from the House Rules

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26. Activation and Operation of Subcommittees

(b) Where the number of subcommittees referred to in (a) has reached the maximum number provided in (a), a queuing system will automatically be activated with a waiting list formed. The order of subcommittees on the waiting list is in the order of their appointment. Where the number of Bills Committees in operation is less than that referred to in rule 21(a), the House Committee may activate subcommittees on the waiting list after having considered the following -

- (i) the number of vacant slots for Bills Committees;
- (ii) the number of bills likely to be introduced to the Council in the next three months;
- (iii) the number of subcommittees already or likely to be appointed by the House Committee for purposes referred to in rule 20(j)(i) and by Bills Committees; and
- (iv) the availability of resources in the Secretariat.

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