

**Panel on Education**

**List of outstanding items for discussion**  
(position as at 7 January 2009)

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**1. Academic and Administration Building, City University of Hong Kong**

Item proposed by the Administration. This item seeks to brief members on a capital works project proposed by City University of Hong Kong to build on its campus a multi-storey academic and administration building comprising two blocks. The building will accommodate mainly classrooms, teaching and research laboratories, offices, amenities and support facilities. February 2009

The Administration plans to submit the proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee for consideration on 8 April and 24 April 2009 respectively.

**2. Governance structure and grievances and complaints mechanisms of the University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded institutions**

At the meeting on 12 November 2007, members agreed that the Administration, UGC and members of the public be invited to comment on the research report on academic freedom and institutional autonomy prepared by the Research and Library Services Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat. Members also agreed to discuss the subject upon receipt of submissions from interested parties and the responses from the Administration and UGC. February 2009

The Panel discussed the governance structure and grievances and complaints mechanisms of the UGC-funded institutions and received deputations at the meeting on 17 July 2008. Members passed a motion urging the councils and the administrative arms of the UGC-funded institutions to, among others, establish an elected independent inter-institutional complaints committee. At the meeting on 14 October 2008, members agreed to revisit the subject after receipt of the responses from the UGC-funded institutions on the motion passed and other issues raised at the meeting on 17 July 2008.

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**3. Implementation of the Education Amendment Ordinance**

Item proposed by Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Mr CHEUNG suggested that the Panel should discuss the implementation of the Amendment Ordinance and the need to extend the deadline for submission of draft constitutions to the Permanent Secretary for Education for the establishment of Incorporated Management Committee (IMC) in aided schools to 1 July 2011. At the meeting on 8 December 2008, Mr CHEUNG suggested discussion on the subject in February 2009. March 2009

The Administration advised that it had engaged a professional consultant to conduct a three-year review study on the implementation of the Amendment Ordinance covering the period from 2005-2006 to 2007-2008 school years. The study report is expected to be completed in January 2009. The Administration indicated that it needed time to study the findings and recommendations and would not be able to discuss the subject in February 2009. The Administration proposed to brief the Panel in March 2009 on the study report including whether a resolution will be moved to extend the deadline for submission of draft IMC constitutions by aided schools.

**4. School of Design Development, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**

The Administration has indicated that it will propose discussion of the item at the meeting on 9 March 2009. March 2009

**5. Student Hostel, Phase 3 (1 650 places), The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**

The Administration has indicated that it will propose discussion of the item at the meeting on 16 April 2009. April 2009

**6. Electronic textbooks**

The Chairman suggested a briefing by the Administration on the progress of work of the Working Group on Development of Textbooks and E-learning Resources. May 2009

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**7. Sub-degree education and first-year-first-degree places**

Item proposed by Miss Tanya CHAN at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Miss CHAN is concerned about the issues relating to sub-degree education. Members' concern about the number of publicly-funded first-year-first-degree places remaining at 14 500 for many years will be considered when the subject is discussed. May/June 2009

**8. Developing Hong Kong into a regional education hub**

Item proposed by Professor Patrick LAU at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Professor LAU suggested that the discussion should cover the provision of hostels for non-local students and the use of vacant school premises for such purpose. To be confirmed

**9. Review of financial assistance schemes for primary and secondary school students**

Item proposed by Mr LEE Cheuk-yan at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Mr LEE considered that the Government should comprehensively review the eligibility criteria for the financial assistance schemes for primary and secondary school students administered by the Student Financial Assistance Agency, including the School Textbook Assistance Scheme and the Student Travel Subsidy Scheme. To be confirmed

**10. Review of Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme**

Item proposed by Miss Tanya CHAN at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Miss CHAN requested the Administration to review the eligibility criteria of the Scheme to cover both non-profit-making and private independent kindergartens. To be confirmed

**11. Liberal Studies**

Item proposed by Mrs Regina IP at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Mrs IP was concerned about the teaching and learning of the subject of Liberal Studies at senior secondary levels, and considered it imperative to carefully plan the implementation to avoid adverse impact on the quality of education. To be confirmed

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**12. International school places**

Item proposed by Miss Tanya CHAN at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Miss CHAN was concerned about the supply of places in international schools. To be confirmed

**13. Education for students with special educational needs (SEN)**

Item proposed by Mr Abraham SHEK at the meeting on 14 October 2008. Mr SHEK considered that the Panel should continue to discuss the provision of education for students with SEN. To be confirmed

**14. Native-speaking English Teacher Scheme**

The Benefits and Welfare Committee of the Native English-speaking Teachers' Association wrote to the Panel in July 2008 concerning the remuneration package and qualifications for native-speaking English teachers under the Scheme. Members agreed to include the item on the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion. To be confirmed

**15. The arts and culture in the school curriculum**

Item proposed by Mrs Selina CHOW at the meeting on 13 October 2005. Mrs CHOW considered that the Panel should discuss the curriculum for arts and cultural studies in schools in the light of the Government's policy commitment to enrich the quality of life in Hong Kong. The Chairman suggested that the subject be discussed in the context of the West Kowloon Cultural District Development at a joint meeting with the Panel on Home Affairs. To be confirmed

**16 Preparation for implementation of the new academic structure**

Item proposed by Ms Audrey EU at the meeting on 10 November 2008. Ms EU was concerned about the progress of preparatory work for the implementation of the new academic structure in the 2009-2010 school year. To be confirmed

**Proposed timing  
for discussion**

**17. Progress of promotion of the Hong Kong Diploma of  
Secondary Education qualification**

At the meeting on 10 November 2008, members agreed to revisit the subject when the results of the study conducted with the Universities and Colleges Admission Services and other international agencies were available. To be confirmed

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