

Panel on Home Affairs

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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Governance of major performing arts groups

Arising from the termination of contract of a principal dancer of the Hong Kong Ballet which had aroused public concerns about various management issues of the major performing arts companies, Hon Tanya CHAN suggested and members agreed at the meeting in April that issues relating to the governance of the major performing arts companies subsidized by the Government should be discussed at the May meeting, and the nine major performing companies should be invited to the meeting to express their views on the issue.

May 2009

Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong further suggested that rather than focusing on personnel issues of the relevant performing companies, the discussion should cover mainly the expenditure of the respective companies such as the remuneration of the staff members and their administration structure. The Administration should provide the Panel with the relevant information to facilitate the discussion.

2. Promotion and development of local football

At the April meeting, Hon KAM Nai-wai suggested and the Panel agreed that the promotion and development of local football (including the funding to the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) and the monitoring mechanism for football matches) should be discussed at the May meeting. The issue was raised in the light of the recent allegation about match-fixing within the local football sector and the strong public concern about professionalism of local football. The meeting also agreed that HKFA should also be invited to join the discussion and explain how HKFA would work with the respective football associations to maintain the standard of local football.

May 2009

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

3. Redevelopment of the Victoria Park Swimming Pool Complex

Hon KAM Nai-wai suggested and the Chairman concurred that the project entitled “Redevelopment of Victoria Park Swimming Pool Complex” which would be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee for upgrading to Category A on 20 May 2009 should be discussed at the regular meeting in May.

May 2009

4. Strengthening the software and humanware for culture and the arts

The Panel first discussed the subject on 14 December 2007 and received views from deputations on 15 February, 9 May and 30 June 2008. The Panel agreed to follow up on this item and relevant issues, such as the Administration's plan to conduct research study to develop a new set of assessment criteria for the major performing arts groups for future funding purpose, as well as the development of inclusive arts for persons with disabilities.

June 2009
(Note)

Note: At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA held on 3 November 2008, the Administration advised that the study on the funding mechanism would be completed around the second half of 2009. The Administration provided in February 2009 information related to the progress of the study and the plan to promote the development of inclusive arts. The supplementary information was circulated to members on 5 February 2009 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)798/08-09(01). Hon Emily LAU and Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che requested in March 2009 that the supplementary information, in particular the funding mechanism and the promotion of inclusive arts, be discussed by the Panel.

5. Future development of museum services

When the Panel discussed the future development of private museums at its meeting on 11 January 2008, the Panel agreed to follow up on (a) the establishment of a standard mechanism for supporting the operation of private museums

3rd quarter of 2009

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

and (b) progress made by the Administration in the establishment of a statutory Museums Board and in the consultation with museum staff on the proposed changes in mode of governance.

6. Setting up an intermediary body for the effective enforcement of maintenance orders

This item was last discussed on 13 June 2008. Some members were of the view that instead of making piecemeal changes to the existing system of enforcement of maintenance orders, the Administration should consider the establishment of an intermediary body for the collection of maintenance payments and make reference to the successful experience of Australia. These members considered that such a body could assist the maintenance payees in handling the cumbersome legal procedures in collecting maintenance payments.

End 2009
(Note)

At the meeting on 14 October 2008, Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che expressed concern that the issue had been outstanding for a long time and little progress had been made. He suggested that the Panel should revisit this item in the current session.

Note: At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA held on 3 November 2008, the Administration has advised that it maintains the view that an intermediary body per se would not bring significant benefits over and above those that can be achieved by improving the existing system through various legislative and administrative measures. The Administration does not consider that there are justifiable reasons to support the establishment of an intermediary body to help maintenance payees to collect maintenance payments. In view of members' concern, the Chairman suggested that the item be re-visited, where appropriate.

7. Implementation of recommendations of the 2006 District Council (DC) Review

At the meeting on 13 February 2009, Hon IP Kwok-him suggested that senior officials of the relevant Bureaux be

End of 2009/early
2010

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

invited to the Panel to discuss various issues relating to the operation of DCs and measures to enhance communication between DCs and the relevant Bureaux/departments in the management of district facilities and services. The meeting further agreed that issues relating to District Minor Works should be further reviewed towards the end of 2009, i.e. two years after the full implementation of the recommendation of the 2006 DC Review.

8. Promotion of sports development

The operational problems of National Sports Associations (NSAs) were last discussed on 3 July 2006. The issue was proposed by Hon Albert CHAN at the meeting on 11 October 2007 for further discussion, with emphasis on problems with NSAs' selection process of athletes to represent Hong Kong for participation in international sports events.

Early 2010
(Note)

At the policy briefing given by SHA to the Panel held on 20 October 2008, members raised various concerns about the promotion of sports development in Hong Kong, such as the Administration's failure to promote the development of local football, the lack of a concrete plan to promote the long-term sports development such as the positioning of Hong Kong in the development of elite sports for participation in major sports games, the Administration's support for young athletes with potential, and the shortage of community sports facilities.

Note: At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA on 3 November 2008, the Administration agreed to provide a written response to the Panel on the above issue. The supplementary information on "Monitoring Mechanism for Government Subvention to National Sports Associations" provided by the Administration has been circulated vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1206/08-09(01) on 1 April 2009.

As regards development of local football, the Administration aims to appoint a consultant in May 2009 to carry out a Consultancy Study on Football Development in Hong Kong. Upon completion of the consultancy study in early 2010, the Administration will report back to the Panel accordingly.

9. Provision of arts and cultural facilities in Hong Kong

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman and SHA on 30 October 2007, the Administration agreed that it would report to the Panel on its overall review of the provision of arts and cultural facilities in Hong Kong.

To be confirmed
(Note)

Note: The Administration agreed to provide a written response to the Panel on the provision of performing arts facilities at the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA on 3 November 2008.

10. Provision of an allowance for village representatives

At the meeting on 11 October 2007, Hon Andrew CHENG suggested that the Administration should explain its considerations of the proposal to provide an allowance for village representatives, as well as whether the same arrangement should be made for other holders of public offices and the criteria.

To be confirmed
(Note)

At the meeting on 14 October 2008, Hon Emily LAU suggested that this issue should be discussed at the Panel meeting in November 2008 together with other issues related to village representatives.

Note: At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA on 3 November 2008, the Administration explained that it would not be ready to discuss this item as more time would be required to study and consider the issue. The Administration has advised in February 2009 that the relevant proposal has been forwarded to Heung Yee Kuk for deliberation.

11. Review of advisory and statutory bodies

This item was last discussed on 13 January 2006. The Panel discussed 14 interim reports and a progress report on the review during the 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 sessions, and the interim report No. 15 on 13 January 2006. The Administration will continue to submit interim reports on various topics concerning the review to this Panel.

When the Bills Committee on Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2005 discussed a proposed amendment to the

To be confirmed
(Note)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Legal Aid Services Council (LASC) Ordinance (Cap. 489) on extending the deadline for LASC to submit its annual report, some members expressed concern that there should be consistency in the time limit within which statutory bodies should submit their annual reports. HAB has then agreed to include review of the time limit for submission of annual reports by statutory bodies in its review of advisory and statutory bodies.

Note: At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA on 3 November 2008, the Administration agreed to provide a written response to the Panel on the issue.

12. Regulation of property management companies

The Panel received a briefing by the Administration on the findings of the first phase of a consultancy study on the regulation of property management companies at its meeting held on 4 July 2008. A motion was passed at the meeting urging the Administration to expeditiously introduce licensing control of property management companies. The Panel agreed to follow up on this issue.

2010
(Note)

Note: The Administration is conducting the second phase consultancy study to examine the detailed arrangements and the pros and cons of possible models for the regulation of property management companies, and will report to the Panel upon completion of the consultancy study. At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA on 3 November 2008, the Administration agreed to provide the Panel with an interim report on the progress of the consultancy study in 2009.

13. Membership of the Full Council and Executive Committee of Heung Yee Kuk (HYK)

At the meeting of the Duty Roster Members 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) Ordinance (Cap. 1097) under which the NT Justices of the Peace (JPs) served as Ex Officio Councillors of the Full

Not suggested for
discussion in the
near future
(Note)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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 14 on traditional rights and interests of indigenous villagers of NT.

Note: At the informal meeting between the Panel Chairman/Deputy Chairman and SHA on 3 November 2008, the Administration did not suggest this item and item 14 for discussion in the near future as more research work needs to be carried out to make the discussion more fruitful.

14. Traditional rights and interests of indigenous villagers of NT

At the LegCo Members' meetings with HYK Councillors on 10 June 2003 and 2 March 2004, a proposal of enacting legislation to implement Article 40 of the Basic Law regarding the protection of lawful traditional rights and interests of indigenous villagers as well as issues relating to the exemption from payment of Government rent were discussed. Members agreed that the issues involved policy consideration about the traditional rights and interests of indigenous villagers in NT, and 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.

See item 13 above

The Administration has proposed to discuss this item together with item 13 on membership of the Full Council and Executive Committee of HYK.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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