

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)369/08-09(01)

Ref : CB2/PL/HA+DEV

Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development

Proposal for appointment of a joint subcommittee under the Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development to monitor the West Kowloon Cultural District project

Purpose

This paper sets out the proposal for the appointment of a joint subcommittee under the Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development to monitor the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) project. The Terms of Reference, work plan and time frame of the joint subcommittee are also proposed for members' endorsement.

Background

2. At the joint meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development on 14 November 2008, members considered two proposals for monitoring the WKCD project, viz. the appointment of a subcommittee under the House Committee (HC) (Option 1) and the appointment of a joint subcommittee under the two Panels (Option 2). Members agreed by voting that Option 1 should be submitted to HC for consideration. Since the proposal was voted down at the HC meeting on 28 November 2008, Panel members are now invited to pursue Option 2.

Proposal for appointment of a joint subcommittee

3. Under Rule 77(9A) of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, two or more Panels may, if they consider appropriate, appoint joint subcommittees to study any matter of common interest to the relevant Panels and to report to the Panels. As issues relating to the WKCD project straddle the policy areas of arts and culture as well as planning and development, which are within the purviews of the Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Development, it is proposed that a joint subcommittee, to be known as the "Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the WKCD Project" (the Joint Subcommittee), should be appointed by the two Panels.

Proposed Terms of Reference of the joint subcommittee

4. As House Rule (HR) 22(u) requires Panels to have regard to the proposed Terms of Reference, work plan and time frame of joint subcommittees when considering the appointment of joint subcommittees, the relevant proposals are also set out hereunder.

5. The proposed Terms of Reference of the Joint Subcommittee is as follows -

“To monitor issues relating to the implementation of the WKCD project, including the work of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA), the project's interface with arts and cultural development, and other related matters.”

Proposed work plan

6. The Joint Subcommittee will focus on monitoring the WKCD project and the work of WKCDA in the following areas -

- (a) preparation of the development plan for WKCD;
- (b) planning and construction of core arts and cultural facilities and other associated facilities;
- (c) the institutional and procedural arrangements of WKCDA, such as appointment of the Chief Executive Officer and other senior staff of the Authority, appointment of Committees set up by the Authority, arrangements for enhancing the transparency of meetings of WKCDA and public access to information on its operations;
- (d) financial management and procurement procedures;
- (e) public engagement arrangements; and
- (f) development of cultural software which has a direct bearing on the planning or financing of the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD.

Proposed time frame

7. The development of WKCD is a long-term project to be completed in two phases. According to the Administration, Phase I of the project will be completed by 2014-2015. The timing for completion of Phase II of the project,

tentatively set at 2031, will depend on the results of an interim review to be conducted upon the completion of Phase I. Although HR 26(c) requires such a joint subcommittee to complete its work within 12 months of its commencement and report to the Panels, it is likely that the Joint Subcommittee may need to work beyond 12 months, having regard to the Administration's time frame for the WKCD project. It is, therefore, proposed that the Joint Subcommittee will submit a progress report on its work to the two Panels in November 2009. If necessary, the Joint Subcommittee will seek the endorsement of the two Panels, and provide justifications to HC for an extension of the 12-month period as required under HR 26(c).

Advice sought

8. Members are invited to endorse the proposal for the appointment of the Joint Subcommittee under the two Panels and the proposed Terms of Reference, work plan and time frame, as set out in paragraphs 3 to 7 above.

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4 December 2008