

## Panel on Education

### List of outstanding items for discussion (position as at 6 November 2009)

Proposed timing  
for discussion

#### 1. Increasing the commitment for Start-up Loan Scheme

Item proposed by the Administration. The item seeks to have Members' support for increasing the commitment of the Start-up Loan Scheme by \$2 billion to support the development of self-financing post-secondary institutions.

December 2009

The Administration intends to submit the above proposal to the Finance Committee for consideration on 22 January 2010.

#### 2. Injection into the Language Fund

Item proposed by the Administration. This item seeks to have Members' support for injecting \$300 million into the Language Fund to strengthen the teaching and learning of English in primary and secondary schools.

December 2009

The Administration intends to submit the above proposal to the Finance Committee for consideration on 8 January 2010.

#### 3. Reduction of textbook prices, review of School Textbook Assistance Scheme (the Scheme) and development of e-textbooks

At the meeting on 11 May 2009, members urged the Administration to consider formulating measures to reduce textbook prices and expanding the scope of the Scheme to cover Internet access service fee. At the meeting on 15 October 2009, members agreed that the development of e-textbooks should be considered in that context.

December 2009

The Administration intends to brief members on the Report submitted by Working Group on Textbooks and e-Learning Resources Development.

Proposed timing  
for discussion

**4. Trial scheme on school drug testing in Tai Po District (the Scheme) and development of rehabilitation centre-cum-schools**

At the meeting on 8 September 2009, the Administration agreed to provide an interim report on the Scheme as well as the estimated additional resources required for downstream services.

25 November  
2009 (Special  
meeting of Panel  
on Security)

At the meeting on 15 October 2009, members agreed to follow up the development of drug rehabilitation centre-cum-schools.

**5. Education services and development of private universities**

At the meeting on 20 October 2009, members agreed to discuss education services and development of private universities outlined in the 2009-2010 Policy Address.

January 2010

It was also suggested that the Panel should discuss training of personnel for the six industries proposed by the Task Force on Economic Challenges.

**6. Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (the Scheme)**

The subject was proposed by Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong. Mr CHEUNG was of the view that the objectives and effectiveness of the Scheme were unclear.

To be confirmed

**7. Liberal Studies**

The subject was discussed at the meeting on 11 July 2009. At the meeting on 15 October 2009, members suggested that the Panel should continue to discuss the subject.

To be confirmed

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

In the context of discussing the school leaving arrangements for students with intellectual disability at the various meetings in June and July 2009, members considered that the Panel should discuss the provision of education for students with SEN.

To be confirmed

Proposed timing  
for discussion

At the meeting on 15 October 2009, members agreed to follow up the school leaving arrangements for students with intellectual disability.

**9. Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme**

At the meeting on 15 October 2009, members agreed to follow up the implementation of the Scheme.

To be confirmed

**10. 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

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

Members were concerned about the issues relating to sub-degree education and considered it appropriate to discuss the number of publicly-funded first-year-first-degree places remaining at 14 500 for many years in that context.

To be confirmed

The Administration proposes that this item be covered under Item 5 – Education services and development of private universities.

**12. Arts education in schools**

At the meeting on 15 October 2009, members proposed to discuss the provision of arts education in schools. Subject to the outcome of discussion, the Panel may consider holding a joint meeting with the Panel on Home Affairs.

To be confirmed

The Administration considers it more appropriate to discuss the subject in the context of West Kowloon Cultural District Project, and suggests that this item be deleted.

Proposed timing  
for discussion

**13. International schools**

At the meeting on 15 October 2009, members raised the concern about student enrolment in international schools built on land granted by the Government. Pending the provision of written information from the Administration on the policy concerning proper use of public resources allocated to international schools, the Panel will consider the need to discuss the subject.

To be confirmed

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
6 November 2009