

**Panel on Education**

**List of outstanding items for discussion**  
(position as at 9 March 2012)

Proposed timing  
for discussion

**1. Improvement measures to the administration and governance of Direct Subsidy Scheme ("DSS") Schools**

Item proposed by the Administration. The Administration will brief members on measures to improve the administration and governance of DSS schools recommended by the Working Group on DSS which has been set up by the Education Bureau to study the recommendations made in Report No. 55 of the Public Accounts Committee.

20 April 2012

**2. Improvement measures to student loans for post-secondary students**

Item proposed by the Administration. The item seeks members' views on the proposed package of improvement measures to the non-means-tested loans for post-secondary students, having taken into account views received during Phase 2 Public Consultation, as well as the proposed changes to the interest rate, repayment period, and mechanism to determine the loan ceiling of means-tested living expenses loans. The Administration aims to submit the proposals to the Finance Committee ("FC") in May 2012.

20 April 2012

**3. Yi Jin Diploma under the New Academic Structure ("NAS")**

Item proposed by the Administration. The Administration will brief members on the arrangement for the proposed implementation of the Yi Jin Diploma under NAS. The Administration aims to submit the proposal to FC in May 2012.

20 April 2012

#### **4. Self-financing post-secondary sector**

At the meeting on 13 October 2011, members agreed that the Panel should be briefed on the policies and progress on the development of self-financing degree-awarding institutions (including private universities) in Hong Kong, including the criteria for considering applications for establishing such institutions, the granting of sites for campus development, financial arrangements, and quality assurance mechanism.

20 April 2012

At the meeting on 9 January 2012, members expressed concern about the huge profits made by some post-secondary institutions from their self-financing programmes. Members considered this unfair to students, in particular those who had to borrow loans to pay for the high tuition fees. Members agreed that the Panel should discuss the issues relating to the huge surplus generated from the self-financing programmes.

The Administration proposes to brief members on the policies and progress of the development of self-financing degree-awarding institutions in Hong Kong, and the financial situation of the University Grants Committee ("UGC")-funded institutions in respect of their self-financing programmes at the Panel meeting on 20 April 2012.

#### **5. Revitalizing vacant school premises**

Tai Po District Council members raised concern about revitalizing vacant school premises in Tai Po at its meeting with Legislative Council Members held on 3 June 2010. Members had made several suggestions concerning the effective use of vacant school premises and agreed that the subject of use of vacant school premises be referred to the Panel as well as the Panel on Home Affairs for follow up. The referral memo was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2197/09-10(01) on 24 August 2010.

To be  
confirmed

In August 2011, the Administration provided an information paper to the Panel to report on the latest

Proposed timing  
for discussion

position on the use and disposal of vacant school premises (LC Paper No. CB(2)2494/10-11(01)). At the meeting on 13 October 2011, members agreed that the Panel should continue to follow up the matter.

**6. Issues relating to the relocation of the centres of the Christian Zheng Sheng Association and development of rehabilitation centre-cum-schools**

The Administration provided an information paper on the matter which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2322/09-10(01) on 30 September 2010.

To be  
confirmed

At the meeting on 12 July 2010, members agreed that the Panel should discuss the matter depending on the progress of the Administration's discussion with Christian Zheng Sheng Association ("CZSA").

At the meeting on 14 February 2011, the Panel passed a motion requesting the Administration to solve in the near future the problem concerning the relocation of the drug treatment and rehabilitation centres of CZSA. In its written response to the motion which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1413/10-11(01) on 31 March 2011, the Administration advised that the Security Bureau is taking the lead in coordinating matters relating to the relocation of the drug treatment and rehabilitation centers of CZSA. The Administration also provided in its response a brief update on the Christian Zheng Sheng College's application for operating New Senior Secondary courses at its existing school premises in Ha Keng. In late April 2011, the Administration provided further information on the latest development of the matter (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1636/10-11(01) and (02)).

**7. Grievance procedures of the UGC-funded institutions**

At the meeting on 12 July 2010, the UGC briefed members on the guidelines of best practices in redress mechanisms developed by the UGC having regard to the findings of the research on grievance procedures of 10 reputable overseas institutions and the responses of local institutions to these

To be  
confirmed

best practices. Members requested the UGC to provide updated complaint/grievance handling flow charts of individual institutions and the institutions' responses to the UGC's recommendations for the Panel to follow up.

The research report entitled "Complaint handling mechanism in higher education sector in selected places" prepared by the Research and Library Services Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat was circulated to members on 13 October 2010 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)32/10-11.

UGC provided an update of the UGC-funded institutions' response to the UGC's recommendations on the grievance/complaint handling procedures and the updated grievances/complaint handling flow charts of individual institutions which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2407/10-11(01) on 18 July 2011.

**8. Matters relating to sex education in schools and sex crime committed by teachers**

The subject on sex education in schools was proposed in the 2009-2010 session. It was proposed that schools should include sex education in the curriculum so as to provide correct information on sex to students.

To be  
confirmed

At the meeting on 8 November 2010, members raised concern about sex crime committed by teachers and suggested that the Panel should discuss the matter.

**9. Integrated education**

At the meeting on 14 October 2010, members agreed to follow up the provision of support and resources for the implementation of integrated education in mainstream schools.

To be  
confirmed

At the meeting on 13 October 2011, members reiterated the need for the Panel to discuss the matter. It was also proposed that the support for non-Chinese speaking students with special educational needs be discussed in the

context of integrated education.

**10. Review of eligibility of the mean-tested financial assistance schemes administered by the Student Financial Assistance Agency ("SFAA")**

At the meeting on 9 May 2011, members raised concern about the impact of the implementation of the statutory minimum wage on the eligibility of the means-test financial assistance schemes administered by the SFAA. The Administration was requested to conduct a review on the income ceiling of these schemes following the implementation of statutory minimum wage and report to the Panel.

To be  
confirmed

**11. Review on the subvention arrangements for the English Schools Foundation ("ESF")**

At the meeting on 11 July 2011, members noted the Administration's plan to put into effect the new subvention arrangements for ESF from the 2012-2013 school year. The Administration informed the Panel that it intended to report to the Panel on its proposal on the subvention arrangements for ESF by the end of 2011.

To be  
confirmed

**12. Issues relating to the declining secondary student population**

At the meeting on 12 December 2011, members raised concern about whether there would be significant reduction in the number of classes and closure of secondary schools in the 2012-2013 academic year given the declining secondary student population. Members suggested that the Panel should discuss the relevant issues.

To be  
confirmed