

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB (2)262/13-14

Ref: CB2/T/16

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

Proposed extension of period of work of subcommittees on policy issues

Purpose

This paper invites Members to consider the proposed extension of period of work of the eight subcommittees on policy issues currently in operation.

Background

2. Rule 26(c) of the House Rules ("HR") specifies that a subcommittee on policy issues should complete work within 12 months of its commencement and report to the House Committee ("HC") or relevant Panel(s) as appropriate. Should such a subcommittee consider it necessary to work beyond 12 months, it should, after obtaining the endorsement of the relevant Panel(s) if it is appointed by a Panel(s), report to HC and give justifications for an extension of the period.
3. Under HR 26(a) and (b), the maximum number of subcommittees on policy issues under HC and Panels that may be in operation at any one time is eight. When the quota of eight is reached, any new subcommittees formed will be put on a waiting list, and HC will act as the clearing house for the activation of subcommittee(s) on the list.

Proposed extension of period of work of subcommittees

4. In the 2012-2013 session, a total of 12 subcommittees on policy issues were appointed under HC and Panels. Eight of these subcommittees are currently in operation while four are on the waiting list.
5. The eight subcommittees on policy issues currently in operation (one appointed under HC and seven under Panels) commenced their work during November 2012 to January 2013. These subcommittees have recently

reviewed their work progress and consider it necessary to work beyond 12 months since their commencement. The proposed extension of period of work of the eight subcommittees is summarized as follows:

Subcommittees on policy issues	Date of first meeting	End date of 12-month period	Proposed time frame for extension of period of work	Proposed duration of extension of period of work
1. Subcommittee on Poverty under the House Committee	5 November 2012	4 November 2013	Until 30 November 2014	12.5 months
2. Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways under the Panel on Transport	30 November 2012	29 November 2013	2013-2014 session (i.e. 30 September 2014)	10 months
3. Subcommittee on Health Protection Scheme under the Panel on Health Services	12 December 2012	11 December 2013	Until 30 September 2014	9.5 months
4. Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Air, Noise and Light Pollution under the Panel on Environmental Affairs	12 December 2012	11 December 2013	Until 31 March 2014	3.5 months
5. Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy under the Panel on Welfare Services and the Panel on Health Services	14 December 2012	13 December 2013	Until 31 July 2014	7.5 months
6. Subcommittee on the Long Term Housing Strategy under the Panel on Housing	18 December 2012	17 December 2013	2013-2014 session (i.e. 30 September 2014)	9.5 months
7. Subcommittee on Integrated Education under the Panel on Education	8 January 2013	7 January 2014	Until 30 September 2014	8.5 months

Subcommittees on policy issues	Date of first meeting	End date of 12-month period	Proposed time frame for extension of period of work	Proposed duration of extension of period of work
8. Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project under the Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Development	29 January 2013	28 January 2014	2013-2014 session (i.e. 30 September 2014)	8 months

6. Details of the progress of work of the above subcommittees and their proposals for extension of period of work are given in **Appendices I to VIII**.

Considerations for proposed extension of period of work of subcommittees on policy issues

Existing arrangements for appointment and operation of subcommittees

7. The current arrangements for the appointment, operation and servicing of subcommittees on policy issues were agreed by HC on 2 March 2007 after considering the recommendations of the Committee on Rules of Procedure. Under HR 20(k)(ii) and 22(u)(ii), a proposal to appoint such subcommittees should contain sufficient information on the proposed terms of reference (which should be issue-specific or project specific), time frame, work plan and extent of work involved.

8. The rationale behind the current requirements that the terms of reference of subcommittees on policy issues should be issue-specific or project-specific and that they should complete work within 12 months (counting from the date of the first meeting) is to enable their completion of tasks within an assessable and reasonable time frame, so as to optimize the use of resources and to vacate the slots within a reasonable time for the activation of other subcommittees on the waiting list.

9. At present, apart from the eight subcommittees on policy issues currently in operation mentioned above, four subcommittees appointed under Panels are on the waiting list, details of which are in **Appendix IX**. The subcommittees on the waiting list will only be able to commence work when vacant slots arise upon the completion of work of the subcommittees currently in operation. Based on the proposed extension of period of work of the eight subcommittees

currently in operation as listed in paragraph 5 above, it is expected that the first subcommittee on the waiting list, i.e. Subcommittee on Retirement Protection under the Panel on Welfare Services, will be activated in around April 2014. The other three subcommittees may not be able to commence work within the current legislative session.

Broad principles for activation, operation and extension of period of work of subcommittees

10. To ensure the completion of work of subcommittees on policy issues within a specified time frame so that slots can be vacated within a reasonable time for the activation of other subcommittees, as well as effective and flexible use of resources, Members may wish to adopt the following broad principles for the activation, operation and extension of period of work of such subcommittees:

- (a) the normal time frame for completion of work of a subcommittee on policy issues should be 12 months. If a subcommittee finds it necessary to operate beyond that 12 months, it may seek the approval of HC, after obtaining the endorsement of the relevant Panel(s) as appropriate, to extend the duration of its work for a period of not more than 12 months. Any further extension will be allowed by HC only under special circumstances, taking into account the nature of the issue or project studied by the subcommittee, whether there is any subcommittee on the waiting list, and any other relevant factors;
- (b) where a subcommittee considers it necessary to extend the period of its work but there are subcommittees on the waiting list awaiting activation, HC may, if considered appropriate, give permission for the subcommittee to continue to operate for three more months after the expiry of the 12-month period to allow time for it to wrap up its current stage of work, after which, subject to the endorsement of the relevant Panel(s) (if the subcommittee is appointed under a Panel(s)), the subcommittee will be placed on the waiting list for re-activation of work with the same membership (*the subcommittee should re-open its membership if it reactivates in the next session*) when a vacant slot arises to accommodate its re-activation. Upon re-activation, the subcommittee should complete its work within the remainder of the extended period originally sought^{Note 1} (counting from the date of its first meeting after re-activation), unless decided otherwise by HC. The order

Note 1 By way of illustration, if a subcommittee has originally sought the approval of HC for extending the period of its work for 12 months and is given permission by HC to continue to operate for three more months in the first instance, the subcommittee, upon its subsequent re-activation of work when a vacant slot arises, should complete its work within nine months (i.e. 12 months less three months).

of subcommittees on the waiting list is in the order of their appointment (for newly formed subcommittees) or the expiry of their extended period of work (for subcommittees awaiting re-activation); and

- (c) the number of subcommittees under a Panel operating at the same time should not exceed two if there is any subcommittee on the waiting list. For this purpose, a joint subcommittee will be counted as one subcommittee for each of the Panels concerned. In the event that a Panel has appointed two subcommittees which are already in operation and another subcommittee which is on the waiting list, priority for activation will be given to other subcommittees on the waiting list when a vacant slot arises upon the completion of work of a subcommittee appointed under other Panel or HC.

Advice sought

11. Members are invited to consider:

- (a) whether the broad principles for activation, operation and extension of period of work of subcommittees on policy issues outlined in paragraph 10 should be adopted ; and
- (b) the proposed extension of period of work of the eight subcommittees on policy issues as set out in paragraph 5.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
13 November 2013

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)271/13-14

Ref : CB2/HS/1/12

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

Proposed continuation of work of the Subcommittee on Poverty

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Subcommittee on Poverty ("the Subcommittee") and seeks Members' endorsement of the Subcommittee's proposal to continue its work up to 30 November 2014.

Background

2. The Subcommittee was appointed by the House Committee ("HC") in October 2012 to study relevant policies and measures for easing the disparity between the rich and the poor as well as alleviating poverty, follow up the work of the Government's Commission on Poverty ("CoP") and make timely recommendations. The terms of reference and membership of the Subcommittee are set out in **Annexes I and II** respectively.

Progress of Subcommittee's work

3. Since 5 November 2012, the Subcommittee has held 12 meetings with the Administration and received views from deputations at three of these meetings. The Subcommittee has identified a total of 16 issues for discussion in its study and completed its discussions on the following nine issues –

- (a) poverty line;
- (b) elderly poverty;

- (c) relationship between housing and poverty;
- (d) support for disadvantaged groups¹;
- (e) proposed additional injection of \$15 billion into CoP's Community Care Fund ("CCF");
- (f) progress of work of CoP and its Task Forces;
- (g) support for low-income working households which are not on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance;
- (h) student financial assistance schemes for needy students of various education levels; and
- (i) qualifications framework.

4. After reporting its deliberations on the setting of poverty line to HC on 31 May 2013, the Subcommittee has forwarded the relevant report with recommendations to CoP for consideration and response. The Subcommittee also conducted a duty visit to Taiwan and Japan from 20 to 29 August 2013 to study their experience in alleviating poverty.

Need for continuation of work in the 2013-2014 session

5. The Subcommittee has yet to study the following seven issues which have been identified for discussion in its study –

- (a) ways to alleviate the poverty situation through assisting the public to start up business in an innovative manner;
- (b) ways to alleviate poverty through information technology;
- (c) relationship between public health condition and poverty;
- (d) social security system;
- (e) intergenerational poverty;
- (f) women in poverty; and

¹ These groups include persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, new-arrivals and single-parent families.

(g) social enterprises.

6. The Subcommittee is tasked to follow up the work of CoP, the current term of which will expire on 30 November 2014. Apart from the above issues, the Subcommittee will need to study some other issues which have been discussed by CoP or its Task Forces. In addition, the Subcommittee will be consulted prior to the Administration's launching of brand-new CCF programmes which are pilot in nature and the funding provision of which is expected to exceed \$100 million. The Subcommittee will also be briefed regularly on the funding position of CCF and the implementation progress of its programmes every six months.

7. To follow up its duty visit to Taiwan and Japan, the Subcommittee will draw up recommendations on the basis of the information/findings obtained in three areas (viz. working poverty, pension and developing local economy for poverty alleviation). Relevant recommendations will be presented to the Administration for consideration. A report on the visit will be prepared in due course for submission to HC.

8. Rule 26(c) of the House Rules ("HR") provides that if a subcommittee on a policy issue appointed by HC considers it necessary to work beyond 12 months of its commencement, it should report to HC and give justifications for an extension of the 12-month period. The Subcommittee agreed, at its meeting on 29 October 2013, that it should continue its work for doing the tasks mentioned above. For doing so, the Subcommittee proposed to continue its work for about 13 months until 30 November 2014.

Advice sought

9. Pursuant to HR 26(c), Members are invited to note the progress of work of the Subcommittee and endorse the Subcommittee's proposal to continue its work up to 30 November 2014.

Subcommittee on Poverty

Terms of reference

To study relevant policies and measures to ease the disparity between the rich and the poor and alleviate poverty, follow up the work of the Government's Commission on Poverty and make timely recommendations.

Subcommittee on Poverty

Membership list

Chairman Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP

Deputy Chairman Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Members

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (since 11 December 2012)
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP (up to 23 January 2013)
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon WONG Yuk-man
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming
Hon Charles Peter MOK (since 11 December 2012)
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (since 11 December 2012)
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Hon TANG Ka-piu

(Total : 22 Members)

Clerk Mr Colin CHUI

Legal adviser Mr YICK Wing-kin

Date 2 July 2013

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)127/13-14

Ref : CB1/PS/1/12

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

**Continuation of work of the
Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways**

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways ("the Subcommittee") formed under the Panel on Transport ("the Panel") and the need for the Subcommittee to continue its work in the 2013-2014 legislative session.

Background

2. The Railway Development Strategy 2000 ("RDS-2000") was announced in May 2000 when only six railway lines and the Light Rail were operating in Hong Kong. To implement the policy of using railways as the backbone of the passenger transport system, eight railway projects were completed between 2002 and 2009¹. Five new railway projects are now under construction for completion between 2014 and 2020².

3. To follow up various issues relating to the planning and implementation of new railway projects, and the operation of existing railways, the Panel appointed the Subcommittee at its meeting on 16 November 2012³. The terms of reference and membership of the Subcommittee are set out in **Annexes I** and **II** respectively.

¹ The eight railway projects include: MTR Tseung Kwan O Line, West Rail, KCR Extension from Hung Hom to Tsim Sha Tsui, Ma On Shan to Tai Wai Rail Link, Disneyland Resort Line, Sheung Shui to Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, MTR Tseung Kwan O Extension (Phase II) and Kowloon Southern Link.

² The five railway projects are the West Island Line, Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, South Island Line (East), Kwun Tong Line Extension and Shatin to Central Link.

³ A similar subcommittee was formed by the Panel on Transport from the year 2000 to 2012.

Progress of work of the Subcommittee

4. In the 2012-2013 legislative session, the Subcommittee held a series of meetings to review with the Administration and MTR Corporation Limited the development and implementation of new railway projects in Hong Kong. The Subcommittee also attached great importance to the maintenance, safety and reliability of existing railway services, and regularly reviewed the performance of railway services with parties concerned. The Subcommittee's report on its work in 2012-2013 session provided to the Panel was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(1)1438/12-13 in July 2013.

Need for continuation of work in the 2013-2014 session

5. On completion of the five new railway projects between 2014 and 2020, the total length of railways in Hong Kong will increase to more than 270 kilometres. There will be 99 railway stations and 68 light rail stations, serving areas inhabited by more than 70% of the local population. The Subcommittee will continue to monitor the progress of the implementation of the 5 railway projects under construction to ensure their timely delivery within the budgetary constraint, the restructuring of the public transport services arising from commissioning of new railway lines, impact of the works on the environment, local residents and so on.

6. On the operation side, the Subcommittee will continue to monitor the operation and performance of existing railway lines, to review railway incidents as necessary, and to follow up the retrofitting of automatic platform gates along the East Rail Line as well as the review on the operation and development of the Light Rail network.

7. In March 2011, the Government commenced the consultancy study for the Review and Update of the RDS-2000. During the Stage 1 public engagement exercise between April and July 2012, the Administration put forward three major regional railway corridors – the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Express Line, Northern Link and Coastal Railway between Tuen Mun and Tsuen Wan (Tuen Mun to Tsuen Wan Link) for public consultation. To collect more comprehensive public opinions on various railway projects, the Administration conducted the Stage 2 public engagement exercise to discuss the 7 local enhancement schemes⁴, with a view to integrating the railway network and increasing the overall capacity of the railway by adding new stations and extension/spur lines.

8. Noting that the Stage 2 Public Engagement Exercise would last until

⁴ Please refer to **Annex III** for the details of the 7 local enhancement schemes

20 May 2013, the Subcommittee discussed details of the 7 local enhancement schemes and met with deputations in May 2013 to receive their views. The consultant would collate the public views collected at both Stages 1 and 2 and then present their final recommendations to the Administration. After that, the Administration would explore the way forward for different railway projects with a view to reporting the results to the public in 2014. The Subcommittee will continue to offer opinions and reflect public's views on the development of the new railway lines and request for update of the progress of the review of the RDS-2000 in the 2013-2014 session.

9. Given the number of new railway projects in the pipeline or under planning and the issues arising from railway operations, the Panel agreed at its meeting on 10 October 2013 that the Subcommittee should continue its work in the 2013-2014 session to facilitate more focused discussion on matters relating to railways.

Advice sought

10. Pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the House Rules, members are invited to note the progress of work of the Subcommittee and endorse the proposal for the Subcommittee to continue its work in the 2013-2014 session.

Council Business Division 1

Legislative Council Secretariat

13 November 2013

Panel on Transport

Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways

Terms of Reference

To follow up various issues relating to the planning and implementation of new railway projects, and the operation of existing railways as follows:

Planning and implementation of new railway projects

- (a) planning and financing of new railway projects;
- (b) environmental impact assessment of new railway projects;
- (c) resumption of land arising from the implementation of new railway projects under the Railways Ordinance (Cap. 519);
- (d) progress update on the implementation of new railway projects;
- (e) provision of supporting public infrastructure for new railway projects; and
- (f) co-ordination of public transport services arising from the commissioning of new railway lines.

Railway operation

- (a) performance of existing railway lines including train service performance and safety management;
- (b) maintenance programme; and
- (c) train service disruptions and breakdowns, and arrangements for handling emergency situations.

Matters relating to corporate governance of the post-merger corporation and fares, including review of the fare adjustment mechanism, should be dealt with by the Panel on Transport.

Panel on Transport

Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways

Membership list for 2012-2013 session

Chairman	Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Deputy Chairman	Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, BBS, MH, JP
Members	<div>Hon LEE Cheuk-yan Hon James TO Kun-sun Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming Hon WU Chi-wai, MH Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai Hon CHAN Han-pan Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP Hon TANG Ka-piu Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen (Total: 18 members)</div>
Clerk	Ms Sophie LAU
Legal Adviser	Miss Evelyn LEE
Date	9 July 2013

Railway Projects under construction or planning

A. <u>Railway projects (under construction)</u>	<u>To be commissioned in</u>
(a) West Island Line (WIL)	2014
(b) Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL)	2015
(c) South Island Line (East) (SIL(E))	2015
(d) Kwun Tong Line Extension (KTE)	2015
(e) Shatin to Central Link (SCL)	
i) Tai Wai to Hung Hom	2018
ii) Hung Hom to Admiralty	2020
B. <u>Railway projects under planning or review</u>	
<i>3 major regional railway corridors:</i>	
(a) Northern Link	
(b) Hong Kong-Shenzhen Western Express Line	
(c) Coastal Railway between Tuen Mun and Tsuen Wan	
<i>7 local enhancement schemes:</i>	
(a) North Island Line	
(b) Siu Sai Wan Line	
(c) South Island Line (West)	

- (d) Tuen Mun South Extension
- (e) Hung Shui Kiu Station
- (f) Tung Chung West Extension
- (g) Kwu Tung Station

立法會
Legislative Council

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Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

**Continuation of work of the
Subcommittee on Health Protection Scheme**

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Subcommittee on Health Protection Scheme ("the Subcommittee"), and the need for continuation of its work until 30 September 2014.

Background

2. The Subcommittee was appointed by the Panel on Health Services ("the Panel") on 19 November 2012 to study issues relating to the introduction of the Health Protection Scheme ("HPS") as proposed by the Government for the Second Stage Public Consultation on Healthcare Reform and make recommendations where necessary. The terms of reference and membership list of the Subcommittee are in **Annexes I and II** respectively. According to its work plan, the Subcommittee has focused its work on the following areas -

- (a) roles of public and private healthcare systems;
- (b) roles of public funding and health insurance in financing healthcare services including the utilization of government subsidy;
- (c) objectives, concept and design of HPS; and
- (d) supporting infrastructure for HPS including healthcare manpower planning and supply, healthcare service provision and regulatory framework for HPS and private health insurance.

Progress of work of the Subcommittee

3. Under the chairmanship of Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau, the Subcommittee has, since 12 December 2012, held six meetings to study the following major issues -

- (a) role of public and private healthcare sectors and the Administration's latest efforts in facilitating the development of healthcare services for meeting future demands;
- (b) design of private health insurance ("PHI") policies regulated under HPS;
- (c) institutional framework for the governance and operation of HPS, including the supervisory structure and the claims dispute resolution mechanism ("CDRM");
- (d) funding support for the implementation of HPS;
- (e) the commissioned study on healthcare manpower planning and projection by the University of Hong Kong ("HKU"); and
- (f) the commissioned study on regulatory framework for healthcare professionals by the Chinese University of Hong Kong ("CUHK").

Need for continuation of work

Manpower needs and professional development of the 13 healthcare professions subject to statutory regulation

4. As a step to take forward HPS, the Administration set up the Steering Committee on Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development ("the Steering Committee") in January 2012. It is tasked to formulate recommendations on the means and measures to ensure an adequate manpower supply of 13 healthcare disciplines which are subject to statutory regulation¹ and an overall plan for strengthening the professional standards and qualities of these healthcare professions. For those healthcare professions not statutorily regulated at the moment, the review will also look into issues relating to their future development, including whether or not they should be subject

¹ The 13 healthcare disciplines were medical practitioners, dentists, dental hygienists, nurses, midwives, Chinese medicine practitioners, pharmacists, chiropractors, medical laboratory technologists, occupational therapists, optometrists, radiographers and physiotherapists.

to regulatory control of some form. The Administration has commissioned HKU and CUHK to provide professional input and technical support to the review.

5. The Subcommittee notes that HKU has completed a literature review and a survey of the healthcare manpower planning models adopted in overseas jurisdictions. A generic forecasting model that suits the local circumstances and is adaptable to changing parameters as far as possible has been developed in order to forecast the manpower demand and supply situation of the 13 healthcare disciplines under study in the coming years. HKU is in the course of adapting the generic model for individual professions and collating profession-specific service utilization data for the purpose of making projections. It is expected that forecasts for doctors, dentists and nurses (including midwives) will be available in early 2014. As regards the other professions under study, HKU anticipates that it will complete all the projections towards the latter half of 2014. In respect of CUHK's study on regulatory frameworks and professional development of the healthcare professionals, it has completed a review of the international literature and a survey of the overseas practices. CUHK is in the course of suggesting possible changes to healthcare regulation in Hong Kong having regard to international practices and views of local stakeholders.

6. According to the Administration, subject to deliberation of the Steering Committee and progress of the two commissioned studies, it aims to conclude the strategic review in 2014. The recommendations of the Steering Committee, together with the findings from the two studies, will be published for public information upon completion of the review. The Subcommittee considers that the success of HPS hinges on having an adequate supply of healthcare manpower to meet the rising private healthcare service demand, including those arising from the implementation of HPS, and a regulatory framework that is conducive to quality improvement and professional development. It will need to continue to follow up on the commissioned studies and the recommendations to be put forward by the Steering Committee for ensuring adequate healthcare manpower supply and promoting professional development.

Detailed product design of and funding support for HPS

7. Having taken into account the objectives of HPS, the experience of both local market and overseas jurisdictions, sustainability and viability of HPS, as well as discussions with various stakeholders, the PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services Limited ("the Consultant"), which is commissioned by the Administration to provide professional and technical advice on key issues relating to the implementation of HPS, has

proposed that a set of minimum requirements encompassing the key features and requirements prescribed by HPS should be applied to all indemnity hospital insurance products to provide enhanced quality and certainty of insurance protection to consumers. It has also proposed two arrangements for enhancing the transparency and certainty of upfront payment by consumers undergoing procedures at private hospitals, namely, "informed financial consent" and "no-gap/known-gap".

8. In the 2008-2009 Budget, the Financial Secretary agreed to set aside \$50 billion from the fiscal reserves to assist the implementation of healthcare reform. At the meeting on 8 July 2013, the Subcommittee deliberated the Administration's preliminary proposal on areas where funding from the \$50 billion might be considered necessary for ensuring the viability and sustainability of HPS. These included injection into the proposed HRP, provision of financial incentives to encourage take-out of HPS plans and introduction of care management programmes for HPS subscribers in high-risk pool. It is the intention of the Administration to brief the Subcommittee on the detailed product design of and funding support for HPS in December 2013.

Detailed designs on the supervisory structure and CDRM for HPS

9. The Subcommittee notes that the preliminary proposal of the Consultant is to set up a dedicated agency for HPS to ensure that the operation of HPS can achieve the desired policy objectives, and that indemnity hospital insurance plans being offered in the market will comply with the minimum requirements prescribed by the HPS Standard Plan. While in the long run the dedicated agency should be a statutory body, the Administration considers that it can be set up as an administrative unit under the Food and Health Bureau in the interim. In addition, a CDRM for HPS is proposed to be established to resolve financial disputes involved in claims settlement of HPS products as an alternative to litigation. Given that CDRM will share some similarities with the existing Insurance Claims Complaints Bureau in terms of functionality, the Consultant has proposed three options for setting up CDRM. The Subcommittee was advised at the meeting on 8 July 2013 that the above preliminary proposal would be further refined taking into account comments by members and other stakeholders.

10. The institutional setup for the regulation and supervision of HPS, as well as the options for setting up CDRM, are being considered by the Working Group on HPS under the Health and Medical Development Advisory Committee. The Subcommittee will be consulted on the detailed designs on the supervisory structure and CDRM for HPS in early 2014.

11. According to the Administration, the Consultant will tender later a full report containing the detailed proposal for implementing HPS, including the design on PHI policies regulated under HPS and funding support for the implementation of HPS and designs on the supervisory structure and CDRM for HPS. The Administration will launch a public consultation on the proposed design for implementing HPS tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2014.

12. Rule 26(c) of the House Rules provides that a subcommittee should complete its work within 12 months of its commencement and report to the relevant Panel(s). If it is necessary for a subcommittee to work beyond that 12 months, the subcommittee should, after obtaining the endorsement of the relevant Panel(s), report to the House Committee and give justifications for an extension of the 12-month period. The Subcommittee will have worked for 12 months by early December 2013. The work of the Subcommittee ties in with the progress of the Administration's work on taking forward HPS. Having regard to the major outstanding matters which need to be followed up by the Subcommittee and the Administration's intended timeframe for its work as set out in paragraphs 4 to 11 above, the Panel agrees that there was a need for the Subcommittee to continue its work until 30 September 2014.

Advice sought

13. Members are invited to note the progress of work of the Subcommittee and endorse the proposal for the Subcommittee to continue its work until 30 September 2014.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
13 November 2013

Panel on Health Services

Subcommittee on Health Protection Scheme

Terms of reference

To study issues relating to the introduction of the Health Protection Scheme as proposed by the Government for the second stage public consultation on healthcare reform and make recommendations where necessary.

Panel on Health Services

Subcommittee on Health Protection Scheme

Membership list

Chairman Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau

Members Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP (since 11 November 2013)
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK (since 11 November 2013)
Hon CHAN Han-pan
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

(Total : 11 members)

Clerk Ms Maisie LAM

Legal adviser Ms Wendy KAN

Date 11 November 2013

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)82/13-14

Ref : CB1/PS/2/12/1

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

**Continuation of work of the
Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Air, Noise and Light Pollution
under the Panel on Environmental Affairs**

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Air, Noise and Light Pollution ("the Subcommittee") during the 2012-2013 session, and the need for continuation of its work until the end of March 2014.

Background

2. Problems of air pollution and noise pollution have all along been of wide public concern in Hong Kong. In recent years, there has also been increased public awareness about the impact of external lighting, as reflected by the increasing number of complaints against light nuisance from advertisement signboards, decorative lightings, and spot lights on the external wall of buildings. Given the public concern and the significant impact of air, noise and light pollution on public health, the Panel on Environmental Affairs ("the Panel") appointed the Subcommittee to facilitate more focused discussion and exchange of views on the Government's efforts to tackle environmental problems in these areas.

3. The Panel agreed that the Subcommittee would focus its work on the following major areas –

- (a) examining and reviewing the Government's initiatives to address the air pollution problem, including measures to control emissions from motor vehicles, power plants, and local industrial and commercial processes, progress of the joint efforts with the

Guangdong Provincial Authorities to tackle the regional air pollution problem, and implementation of the new Air Quality Objectives;

- (b) examining and reviewing the Government's initiatives to address the noise pollution problem, with particular focus on traffic noise from existing roads and railway and the related traffic noise abatement measures;
- (c) examining and reviewing the Government's initiatives to address public concern on light pollution, including the progress made in developing the technical standards and related parameters to tackle nuisance caused by and energy wastage of external lighting installations;
- (d) examining the possible impacts of air, noise and light pollution on public health; and
- (e) making recommendations on improvement measures for consideration of the Administration as and when necessary.

4. The terms of reference and membership of the Subcommittee are set out in **Annexes I and II** respectively.

Progress of work of the Subcommittee

5. Under the chairmanship of Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, the Subcommittee held nine meetings in the 2012-2013 session and studied the following major issues –

- (a) impacts of air, noise and light pollution on public health and the associated medical costs;
- (b) current legislation and administrative measures on the control of air pollution and the associated public expenditure;
- (c) the interface between the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) and the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311);
- (d) the cost-benefit analysis of the measures to improve air quality;
- (e) current legislation and administrative measures on the control of noise pollution and the associated public expenditure;

- (f) cases of noise pollution and mitigation measures;
- (g) air quality modelling in Hong Kong; and
- (h) current legislation and administrative measures on the control of light pollution and the associated public expenditure.

Need for continuation of work in the 2013-2014 session

6. The Subcommittee has largely completed deliberation on the issues which it was tasked to examine. However, the Subcommittee has yet to conclude its study, finalize its recommendations and produce its report to the Panel, and it may be necessary to revisit some of the issues examined during the process. The Subcommittee aims to complete its work by the end of March 2014.

7. The Panel has endorsed the Subcommittee's proposal for it to continue to work until the end of March 2014.

Advice sought

8. Pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the House Rules, Members are invited to note the progress of work of the Subcommittee and endorse the proposal for the Subcommittee to continue its work until the end of March 2014.

Panel on Environmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Air, Noise and Light Pollution

Terms of Reference

To monitor and review government policies on and initiatives to address problems of air, noise and light pollution for better protection of public health.

Panel on Environmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Air, Noise and Light Pollution

Membership list for 2013-2014 session

Chairman Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Members Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon Charles Peter MOK
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen

(Total : 13 Members)

Clerk Ms Miranda HON

Legal Adviser Miss Evelyn LEE

Date 21 October 2013

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)272/13-14

Ref : CB2/PS/1/12

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

**Proposed continuation of work of
the Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy**

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy ("the Joint Subcommittee"), and seeks Members' endorsement of the Joint Subcommittee's proposal to continue its work up to 31 July 2014.

Background

2. The Joint Subcommittee was jointly appointed by the Panel on Welfare Services ("WS Panel") and Panel on Health Services ("HS Panel") in November 2012 to study the long-term care policy and services (including home-based, community based and residential care services for the elderly, people with disabilities and the chronically ill), discuss the policy concerned with the Administration and make timely recommendations. The terms of reference and membership of the Joint Subcommittee are set out in **Annexes I and II** respectively.

Progress of work of Joint Subcommittee

3. The Joint Subcommittee has identified the following 12 subjects for discussion –

- (a) planning for provision of residential care, home care and community care services and quality of such services;
- (b) Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the

Elderly;

- (c) support and allowance for carers;
- (d) respite service for the elderly and persons with disabilities;
- (e) ageing problem of persons with intellectual disabilities;
- (f) care services for people with dementia;
- (g) review of the discharge support programme for the elderly;
- (h) mental health case management;
- (i) financial assistance on medications and medical/rehabilitation appliances;
- (j) guardianship system for mentally incapacitated persons;
- (k) Integrated Home Care Services for the elderly; and
- (l) quality and monitoring of private residential care homes for the elderly and person with disabilities.

4. The Joint Subcommittee has, since 14 December 2012, held nine meetings with the Administration and received views from deputations at five of these meetings. The Joint Subcommittee has studied the first four subjects listed in paragraph 3 above.

Need for continuation of work

5. The Joint Subcommittee has yet to study the eight subjects listed in items (e) to (l) of paragraph 3 above which are important issues to be addressed by the long-term care policy. In its study of these subjects, the Joint Subcommittee will, apart from meeting with the Administration, receive views from relevant non-governmental organizations, concern groups and the general public on each of the eight subjects. It is envisaged that for completing its study on the remaining subjects, the Joint Subcommittee will need to hold at least nine meetings, eight for the study of the eight subjects and another one for wrapping up the Joint Subcommittee's study and deliberation of its observations and recommendations.

6. Rule 26(c) of the House Rules ("HR") provides that if a subcommittee appointed by Panel(s) considers it necessary to work beyond 12 months of its commencement, it should, after obtaining the endorsement of the relevant Panel(s), report to the House Committee ("HC") and give justifications for an extension of the 12-month period. The Joint Subcommittee agreed, at its meeting on 25 October 2013, that it should complete its study of all the 12 subjects listed above before drawing up recommendations on the long-term care policy and services. For doing so, the Joint Subcommittee has proposed to continue its work beyond the 12-month period for another seven and a half months until 31 July 2014. The endorsement of the proposal by the WS Panel and HS Panel has been sought by circulation of papers. The proposal is supported by a majority¹ of the members of the two Panels.

Advice sought

7. Pursuant to HR 26(c), Members are invited to note the progress of the work of the Joint Subcommittee and endorse the Joint Subcommittee's proposal to continue its work up to 31 July 2014.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
13 November 2013

¹ Among the 32 members of the WS Panel and HS Panel, 22 are in favour of the proposal while three are against it.

Panel on Welfare Services and Panel on Health Services

Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy

Terms of reference

To study the long-term care policy and services, including home-based, community-based and residential care services for the elderly, people with disabilities and the chronically ill as well as discuss the policy concerned with the Administration and make timely recommendations.

**Panel on Welfare Services
and Panel on Health Services**

Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy

Membership list

Chairman Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Deputy Chairman Hon TANG Ka-piu

Members Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon WONG Yuk-man
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

(Total : 11 Members)

Clerk Mr Colin CHUI

Legal adviser Ms Wendy KAN

Date 25 October 2013

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)67/13-14

Ref : CB1/PS/3/12/1

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

**Continuation of work of the
Subcommittee on the Long Term Housing Strategy
under the Panel on Housing**

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Subcommittee on the Long Term Housing Strategy ("the Subcommittee") during the 2012-2013 session, and the need for continuation of its work in the 2013-2014 session.

Background

2. In September 2012, the Government launched the Long Term Housing Strategy ("LTHS") review as part of its efforts to take forward its housing vision. The review aims to ensure optimal use of the existing land and housing resources to meet housing needs of the community in the short, medium and long term. The Long Term Housing Strategy Steering Committee ("the LTHS Steering Committee")¹ was formed by the Government to take forward the review and make recommendations on Hong Kong's LTHS for the next 10 years.

3. In view of the importance of LTHS, the Panel on Housing appointed the Subcommittee at its meeting on 3 December 2012 to enable members to take an active part in the review and to make timely recommendations on the formulation of LTHS as appropriate. It was decided that the Subcommittee would study the following issues –

- (a) the changing housing needs and aspirations of specific groups in the community, including young people, the elderly, poorly-housed

¹ The Steering Committee is chaired by the Secretary for Transport and Housing and comprises 15 non-official and three official members, namely the Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing), the Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands), and the Government Economist.

households and the first-time home buyers, and the measures to address their housing needs;

- (b) the forecast of housing demands for both public and private sectors and their implications on housing supply;
- (c) ways to maximize and rationalize the existing public housing resources;
- (d) setting of priorities for different groups in the community; and
- (e) current planning and land use, as well as public and private housing policies and practices.

4. The terms of reference and membership of the Subcommittee are set out in **Annexes I and II** respectively.

Progress of work of the Subcommittee

5. Under the chairmanship of Hon WONG Kwok-hing, the Subcommittee held nine meetings in the 2012-2013 session and studied the following major issues –

- (a) the housing needs of specific groups in the community;
- (b) the measures to maximize the rational use of public rental housing resources;
- (c) projection of housing demand;
- (d) the Hong Kong Housing Authority's Quota and Points System for non-elderly one person applicants for public rental housing;
- (e) the Hong Kong Housing Authority's "Well-off Tenants Policies";
- (f) the Government's initiatives to increase housing land supply;
- (g) subdivision of flat units;
- (h) housing demand for both public and private sectors;
- (i) revitalization of industrial buildings; and

- (j) the LTHS Consultation Document entitled "Building Consensus, Building Homes" ("the Consultation Document"), which was issued by the LTHS Steering Committee on 3 September 2013.

Need for continuation of work in the 2013-2014 session

6. In the Consultation Document (referred to in paragraph 5(j) above), the LTHS Steering Committee sets out the key issues and proposes a range of options to address Hong Kong's housing issues over the long term for public deliberation. The public consultation exercise started on 3 September 2013 and will end on 2 December 2013. The LTHS Steering Committee has stated that it will submit a report on the public consultation to the Government after the conclusion of the consultation exercise. The Government will take into account the views expressed in the Consultation Document as well as those received from the public in formulating the LTHS and relevant policy measures.

7. Given that the public consultation exercise on the Consultation Document is still ongoing and the Government has yet to decide on the LTHS and relevant policy measures, the Subcommittee considers that it is incumbent upon it to actively participate in the public consultation and continue to monitor the work of the LTHS Steering Committee and the Government in concluding the consultation exercise and finalizing the LTHS and relevant policy measures. The Subcommittee has held a meeting on 11 November 2013 to receive public views on the Consultation Document, in particular the possible options proposed by the LTHS Steering Committee to deal with the different housing problems that Hong Kong is facing. Thereafter, it will follow up the report on the public consultation to be published, and the LTHS and relevant policy measures to be formulated by the Government for addressing the housing problems.

8. At its meeting on 10 October 2013, the Panel on Housing agreed that the Subcommittee should continue its work in the 2013-2014 session.

Advice sought

9. Pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the House Rules, Members are invited to note the progress of work of the Subcommittee and endorse the proposal for the Subcommittee to continue its work in the 2013-2014 session.

Panel on Housing

Subcommittee on the Long Term Housing Strategy

Terms of Reference

To study all relevant housing-related information and ways to increase housing supply to meet the needs of various groups in the community, and make recommendations on the Long Term Housing Strategy.

**Legislative Council
Panel on Housing**

Subcommittee on the Long Term Housing Strategy

Membership list for 2013-2014 session

Chairman Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH

Deputy Chairman Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen

Members

Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

(Total : 22 Members)

Clerk Ms Miranda HON

Legal Adviser Miss Kitty CHENG

Date 11 November 2013

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)137/13-14

Ref : CB4/PS/1/12

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

**Continuation of work of the Subcommittee on Integrated Education
under the Panel on Education**

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Subcommittee on Integrated Education ("the Subcommittee") and the need for continuation of its work in the 2013-2014 session.

Background

2. In 1997, a two-year pilot project on integrated education ("IE") was launched under which participating schools were required to adopt a whole-school approach to provide an accommodating learning environment for students with special educational needs ("SENs"). The IE programme was subsequently extended to other mainstream schools from the 1999-2000 school year onwards. The programme initially covered five types of SEN, namely, mild intellectual disability, Autism, visual impairment, hearing impairment and physical disability. Over the years, it has been extended to include Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder, speech and language impairment and Specific Learning Difficulties. The number of SEN students in mainstream schools has also risen from 17 600 in the 2008-2009 school year to about 31 390 in the 2012-2013 school year. According to the Education Bureau ("EDB"), it promotes IE in accordance with five basic principles : (a) early identification; (b) early intervention; (c) whole-school approach; (d) home-school cooperation; and (e) cross-sector collaboration.

3. While there is support in principle for IE, considerable concerns have been raised by SEN students, parents, the school sector, the teaching profession and other stakeholders about the implementation of IE, in particular the provision of reasonable resources and support to ensure the effective implementation of IE in mainstream schools. Against this

background, the Panel on Education ("the Panel") appointed the Subcommittee to facilitate more focused examination and exchange of views on IE-related issues.

4. The terms of reference and membership of the Subcommittee are set out in **Annexes I** and **II** respectively.

Work of the Subcommittee

Stage I

5. The Subcommittee commenced work in January 2013. In view of the wide range and complexity of the issues under study, the Subcommittee has taken forward its work in stages. It has concluded Stage I of its work in the 2012-2013 legislative session. Under Stage I, the Subcommittee has held a total of seven meetings, including five thematic meetings attended by 155 deputations and individuals to give views on the difficulties in implementing IE with respect to students with the following types of SEN and students with mental derangement :

- (a) Specific Learning Difficulties;
- (b) Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorders;
- (c) Autistic Spectrum Disorders;
- (d) Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties;
- (e) Communication Difficulties;
- (f) Hearing Impairment;
- (g) Visual Impairment;
- (h) Physical Disabilities; and
- (i) Intellectual Disability.

6. To facilitate further consideration by the Subcommittee, the Chairman has asked the Secretariat to prepare consolidated summaries of views/concerns raised at these meetings [LC Papers No. CB(4) 824/12-13(01), CB(4)945/12-13(01) and CB(4)111/13-14(01)]. The written responses received from the Administration have also been issued to members [LC Papers No. CB(4) 952/12-13(01) and CB(4) 1007/12-13(01)]. The Subcommittee has also visited two schools and met with school personnel to acquire better understanding on the implementation of IE at the school level.

Stage II

7. As it has become clear from Stage I that a number of key issues have emerged in the implementation of IE, the Subcommittee has decided to follow up the following issues in Stage II of its work :

- (a) the operation of the existing mechanism for early and timely identification of SEN students and early intervention;
- (b) current mechanism for placing SEN students into mainstream primary and secondary schools, including parental choice and home-school cooperation;
- (c) New Funding Model for IE in primary and secondary schools and the adequacy or otherwise of the funding;
- (d) capacity of and professional development and training for teachers to support SEN students;
- (e) measures/plans to improve facilities of schools to better meet the needs of their SEN students;
- (f) issues related to the articulation of SEN students from special schools to mainstream schools and vice versa;
- (g) the role of former skills opportunity schools;
- (h) opportunities of university/higher education for SEN students, the admission of these students to higher education institutions and the availability of support to them in pursuit of further education;
- (i) provision of Individual Education Plans;
- (j) the Administration's stance on policy issues, namely :
 - i. introduction of legislation on IE;
 - ii. whether to amend existing copyright legislation to give effect to the "Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or otherwise Print Disabled";

- iii. the establishment of a cross-departmental and cross-sectoral working group for effective implementation of IE;
 - iv. subsidized provision of external speech processors (as part of the cochlear implant) on par with the provision of hearing aids;
 - v. whether mental derangement would be specified as a type of SEN in the implementation of IE; and
- (k) policy responsibility for IE, including the existing organizational set-up and the resources allocated for implementing the IE policy.

Need for continuation of work in the 2013-2014 session

8. In order to complete consideration of the aforesaid issues, draw conclusions and put forward recommendations, the Subcommittee considers it necessary to continue its work until 30 September 2014. The Panel has agreed that the Subcommittee should seek the endorsement of the House Committee accordingly.

Advice sought

9. Pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the House Rules, Members are invited to note the progress of work of the Subcommittee and endorse the proposal for the Subcommittee to continue its work until 30 September 2014.

Panel on Education

Subcommittee on Integrated Education

Terms of Reference

To study and review the existing policy on integrated education, including the support measures for students with special educational needs and the strengthening of teaching, administrative and financial support for special schools and schools implementing integrated education, and make timely recommendations.

Panel on Education

Subcommittee on Integrated Education

Membership list

Chairman	Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Deputy Chairman	Hon IP Kin-yuen
Members	Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che Hon Claudia MO (up to 23 October 2013) Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
	Total : 10 Members
Clerk	Miss Polly YEUNG
Legal Adviser	Miss Carrie WONG
Date	29 October 2013

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)278/13-14

Ref : CB2/PS/3/12

Paper for the House Committee meeting on 15 November 2013

**Continuation of work of
the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation
of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project
under the Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Development**

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of work of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project ("the Joint Subcommittee"), and the need for continuation of its work in the 2013-2014 session.

Background

2. The Joint Subcommittee was appointed by the Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Development in January 2013 to monitor issues relating to the implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District ("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. According to its work plan, the Joint Subcommittee will follow up on the recommendations of the former Joint Subcommittee formed in the Fourth Legislative Council ("LegCo") and focus its work on the following areas –

- (a) the taking forward of the Development Plan ("DP") for WKCD;
- (b) planning and development of the core arts and cultural facilities and other associated facilities;
- (c) strategy for the development of cultural software;

- (d) financial management and procurement procedures; and
 - (e) governance and work of WKCDA.
3. The terms of reference and membership of the Joint Subcommittee are set out in **Annexes I and II** respectively.

Progress of work of the Joint Subcommittee

4. The Joint Subcommittee has, since 29 January 2013, held seven meetings and received views of deputations on the subject of communication and co-operation with the arts community at one of these meetings. Major issues studied by the Joint Subcommittee include -

- (a) the approved DP of WKCD;
- (b) progress in the planning and development of Xiqu Centre, M+ and the Park;
- (c) development of cultural software;
- (d) communication and co-operation with the arts community;
- (e) management and utilization of the WKCD site prior to the commencement of the construction works for the WKCD project;
- (f) integration and connectivity of WKCD with its neighbouring districts; and
- (g) financial situation of and arrangements for the WKCD project.

Need for continuation of work

Hardware and software development of WKCD

5. WKCD is a project to meet the long-term infrastructural and development needs of the arts and cultural sector in Hong Kong. According to WKCDA, the project will be developed in two phases, with Phase 1 Performing Arts facilities scheduled for completion from 2015 to 2020 and Phase 2 facilities to be delivered beyond 2020.

6. The WKCD project is in full swing and the first batch of facilities, which are scheduled for completion between 2015 and 2017, are now in a critical stage of development. Xiqu Centre, M+ (the iconic museum for visual culture in Hong Kong) and the Park, three major facilities in WKCD, are among the first batch of facilities to be delivered. In the 2012-2013 session, the Joint Subcommittee received briefings from WKCD on the planning of Xiqu Centre and M+. The Joint Subcommittee noted that the design competitions for Xiqu Centre and M+ were completed in December 2012 and June 2013 respectively and the winning design teams had been appointed as the design consultants for the two projects. The Joint Subcommittee will need to continue to monitor the progress of development of these as well as other core arts and cultural facilities. Major issues which require to be followed up include the detailed design and cost of M+, the design competition for the Arts Pavilion, facilities to be provided in Xiqu Centre and M+, as well as the mode of governance and business models of various facilities in WKCD, which will define the artistic and administrative accountability in respect of individual facilities.

7. At the meeting on 3 July 2013, the Joint Subcommittee was advised that following a critical review, WKCD planned to turn the fully landscaped Park envisaged in Foster+Partners' "City Park" conceptual plan into quality open space with a simple design, to facilitate early delivery of the Park and related facilities in a cost effective manner. Members noted that public views on how the Park should be developed as a quality open space would be sought through the Consultation Panel of WKCD and WKCD would revert to the Joint Subcommittee on its detailed plan for the alternative Park development once ready.

8. According to WKCD, to tie in with the target completion date of the Park in around 2015, it aims to table the proposed bylaws for the management of the Park to be made under section 37(1) of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority Ordinance (Cap. 601) in LegCo in the current legislative session. WKCD is in the course of preparing the proposed bylaws and will consult the Joint Subcommittee on the proposal in due course.

9. The Administration and WKCD has been working out strategies and measures to promote the development of cultural software to enhance Hong Kong's artistic capacity, groom local arts talents and arts-related personnel, and build audiences for WKCD and the local arts sector. The Joint Subcommittee will need to continue to follow up the development of these matters which will have direct bearing on the planning and sustainability of the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD.

Financial situation of and arrangements for the WKCD project

10. Noting the substantial increase in the estimated cost for the Xiqu Centre at HK\$2.7 billion which doubled the cost estimate in 2006, members expressed concern about the adequacy of the \$21.6 billion upfront endowment for implementing the WKCD project. While the Joint Subcommittee was advised at its meeting on 3 July 2013 that the Administration and WKCD did not plan to seek additional funding from LegCo to supplement the original upfront endowment in the next few years until at least completion of the first batch of facilities in WKCD, members considered it necessary for the Joint Subcommittee to continue to monitor the expenditure and financial situation of the WKCD project to ensure the implementation of the project in a timely and cost-effective manner. WKCD has also undertaken to report to the Joint Subcommittee on proposed alternative financing options for the WKCD project when ready.

11. The integrated basement was an integral part of the "vehicle-free" design concept of WKCD and an essential feature to meet the statutory requirement for 23 hectares of public open space in WKCD. The Joint Subcommittee noted the Administration's proposal to fully fund the capital works of the integrated basement as general enabling works to facilitate the development of the whole WKCD project, subject to funding approval by LegCo. The Joint Subcommittee will be consulted on the proposal in due course.

Accessibility and connectivity of WKCD with its neighbouring districts

12. Accessibility and connectivity are two key planning and design principles of WKCD. During the discussion on the subject at the meeting on 10 July 2013, members expressed various concerns and made suggestions for enhancing the pedestrian accessibility to and within WKCD and the connectivity of WKCD with its neighbouring districts and other parts of Hong Kong. The Joint Subcommittee will arrange a site visit to WKCD to enable members to have a better understanding of the pedestrian connections between WKCD and its surrounding areas. Members considered that the Administration and WKCD should formulate and report to the Joint Subcommittee a more comprehensive connectivity plan and public transport scheme for WKCD.

13. The Joint Subcommittee will have worked for 12 months in January 2014. The work of the Joint Subcommittee ties in with the progress of the Administration and WKCD in taking forward the implementation of the WKCD project. Having regard to the major

outstanding matters which need to be followed up by the Joint Subcommittee as set out in paragraphs 6 to 12 above, the Joint Subcommittee considers it necessary to continue its work in the 2013-2014 session. The Panel on Home Affairs and the Panel on Development have agreed that the Joint Subcommittee should seek the endorsement of the House Committee accordingly.

Advice sought

14. Pursuant to rule 26(c) of the House Rules, Members are invited to note the progress of work of the Joint Subcommittee and endorse the proposal for the Joint Subcommittee to continue its work in the 2013-2014 session.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
13 November 2013

Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development

**Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of
the West Kowloon Cultural District Project**

Terms of Reference

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

Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development

**Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation
of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project**

Membership list

Chairman	Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
Deputy Chairman	Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Members	Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP (up to 11 October 2013) Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP (up to 11 October 2013) Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che (up to 11 October 2013) Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP Hon Claudia MO Hon Steven HO Chun-yin Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming Hon YIU Si-wing Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Chi-chuen Hon CHAN Han-pan Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP (up to 11 October 2013) Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen

(Total : 22 members)

Clerk	Ms Amy YU
Legal Adviser	Mr Bonny LOO
Date	13 November 2013

**Subcommittees on policy issues on the waiting list
(position as at 13 November 2013)**

Subcommittee on policy issues	Date of appointment
1. Subcommittee on Retirement Protection under the Panel on Welfare Services	14 January 2013
2. Subcommittee on Strategy and Measures to Tackle Domestic Violence under the Panel on Welfare Services	21 January 2013
3. Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Public Markets under the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene	5 February 2013
4. Subcommittee on Hawker Policy under the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene	9 July 2013