立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. PWSC56/15-16 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

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Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 4th meeting held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Wednesday, 25 November 2015, at 8:30 am

Members present:

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP (Chairman)

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

Hon LEE Cheuk-van

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH

Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP

Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP

Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS

Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon Claudia MO

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

Hon KWOK Wai-keung

Hon Dennis KWOK

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP

Hon IP Kin-yuen

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP

Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Members absent:

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP

Public officers attending:

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and

the Treasury (Treasury)3

Mr HON Chi-keung, JP Permanent Secretary for Development

(Works)

Mr Michael WONG Wai-lun, JP Permanent Secretary for Development

(Planning and Lands)

Ms Anissa WONG, JP Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Ms Jasmine CHOI Suet-yung Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial

Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)

Mr José YAM Ho-san Commissioner for Heritage

Development Bureau

Mr Ricky WONG Chi-pan Chief Assistant Secretary (Works)2

Development Bureau

Mr CHAN Ho-yin Chief Property Services Manager (1)

Architectural Services Department

Mr Kenneth TAM Si-wai Chief Heritage Manager (Antiquities and

Monuments)

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Attendance by invitation:

Mr Max WONG Supervisor (Leadership)

The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Ms Iki CHAN Development Officer

The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Ms Irene NG Wai-ling Coordinator (Financial Control)

The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Mr C M LEE Director

LWK and Partners (Hong Kong) Limited

Mr Gordon K C SIU Council Member

Haw Par Music Foundation Limited

Mr Roger WU Chief Executive

Haw Par Music Foundation Limited

Mr Raphael YING Yee-lun Associate

Design 2 (HK) Ltd

Ms May CHAN Suk-mei Vice-Chairman

Hong Kong News-Expo Limited

Mr Ronald CHIU Committee Member

Hong Kong News-Expo Limited

Ms CHAN Siu-ping Chief Executive Officer

Hong Kong News-Expo Limited

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Sharon CHUNG Chief Council Secretary (1)2

Staff in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT

Mr Raymond CHOW

Ms Christina SHIU

Ms Christy YAU

Ms Clara LO

Assistant Secretary General 1

Senior Council Secretary (1)6

Legislative Assistant (1)2

Legislative Assistant (1)7

Legislative Assistant (1)8

Action

The Chairman advised that there were three funding proposals on the agenda for the meeting. These proposals were the agenda items carried over from the previous meeting of the Subcommittee on 11 November 2015. He reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of the Legislative Council, they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the funding proposals under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the item. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

Head 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment
PWSC(2015-16)45 19QW Revitalization Scheme – Revitalization of
the Former Fanling Magistracy into the
Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
(HKFYG) Institute for Leadership
Development

2. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)45, was to upgrade 19QW to Category A at an estimated cost of \$111.6 million in money-of-the-day ("MOD") prices for The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups ("HKFYG"), the selected non-profit-making organization ("NPO"),

to carry out the works to convert the Former Fanling Magistracy ("FFM"), a Grade 3 historic building, into the HKFYG Institute for Leadership Development ("the Institute"). The Subcommittee had commenced deliberation on the proposal at the meeting on 28 October 2015. The supplementary information provided by the Administration on the item had been issued to members vide LC Paper Nos. PWSC19/15-16(01) and PWSC28/15-16(01) on 6 and 23 November 2015 respectively.

Motion on adjournment of discussion on PWSC(2015-16)45

- 3. <u>The Chairman</u> said that at the meeting on 11 November 2015, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung had moved a motion to adjourn the discussion on PWSC(2015-16)45 pursuant to Paragraph 33 of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") Procedure. He advised that the Subcommittee would continue to deal with Mr LEUNG's motion.
- 4. No member requested to speak on the motion. In response to the Chairman's enquiry, the Administration said that it had no response to make on the motion.
- 5. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung reiterated that he found it unacceptable for the Administration to have selected HKFYG to run the proposed revitalization project as the organization had accumulated huge surplus by charging the clients of its training programmes with high fees.
- 6. <u>The Chairman</u> put to vote the question that the discussion on PWSC(2015-16)45 be then adjourned. As requested by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. <u>The Chairman</u> said that two members voted for, 15 members voted against the motion and no one abstained. The votes of individual members were as follows –

For:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Mr CHAN Chi-chuen

(2 members)

Against:

Mr CHAN Kam-lam Mr TAM Yiu-chung
Mr Abraham SHEK Mr WONG Kwok-hing
Mr Andrew LEUNG Mr WONG Ting-kwong

Ms Cyd HO
Ms Starry LEE
Mr WONG Kwok-kin
Mr IP Kwok-him
Mr Charles MOK
Dr Kenneth CHAN

Mr TANG Ka-piu Mr Christopher CHUNG

Mr Tony TSE (15 members)

Abstain: (0 member)

- 7. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the motion was negatived. The Subcommittee resumed the discussion on PWSC(2015-16)45.
- 8. The Chairman said that the Subcommittee had been deliberating over the proposal at the meetings on 28 October and 11 November 2015. Members had asked many questions on the proposal and some of those questions were repeated ones. He called upon members to avoid repeating the questions that had been asked.

Monitoring of the implementation of the revitalization project

- 9. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> enquired whether there were any terms and conditions set out in the tenancy agreement between the Administration and the Institute to facilitate the monitoring of the implementation of the revitalization project. She also asked whether the revitalization project would be under the purview of the Audit Commission.
- 10. <u>Commissioner for Heritage, Development Bureau</u> ("C for H/DEVB") replied that the Administration would sign a tenancy agreement with the special-purpose company set up by HKFYG (i.e. the HKFYG Institute for Leadership Development Limited, or the ILD Limited) for the implementation of the revitalization project. In the tenancy agreement, the terms and conditions for the operation of the Institute would be specified. Performance indicators for the business and services to be provided by the Institute would also be set out. <u>C for H/DEVB</u> confirmed that the revitalization project would be under the purview of the Audit Commission.
- 11. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> pointed out that the Y-Loft of the Youth Square in Chai Wan was in effect operating as a hotel and serviced apartments instead of a hostel for youth services. She asked whether the hostel block of the Institute would only be used in association with the courses and programmes of the Institute. She also enquired about the projected occupancy rate of the hostel.
- 12. In response, <u>C for H/DEVB</u> advised that the revitalization project was different from the mode of operation of the Youth Square in Chai Wan. The operator of the Youth Square had been awarded through an open tender the management and operation services contract in relation to the rental of

venues and facilities in the Youth Square, whereas the Institute carried social responsibilities to provide leadership training opportunities for young people. Mr Max WONG, Supervisor (Leadership), HKFYG supplemented that the hostel block to be provided as part of the revitalization project was an ancillary facility to support the training services of the Institute. It would provide 90 bed spaces for those attending the training courses and programmes run by the Institute. The projected occupancy headcounts would be 19 000, 20 000 and 22 000 in the first three years respectively.

Opening hours of the revitalized Former Fanling Magistracy

13. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Ms Cyd HO and Mr SIN Chung-kai strongly requested that the revitalized FFM should be open to the public on Saturday and Sunday. C for H/DEVB replied that taking into account members' views expressed at the previous meeting on 11 November 2015, the ILD Limited had revised the opening hours for the training centre (i.e. the revitalized FFM) as 10 am to 6 pm, Monday to Sunday. The open space landscaped garden area and the restaurant on campus would also be open to the public from 8 am to 9 pm, Monday to Sunday.

Financial position of The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

14. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed dissatisfaction over HKFYG's provision of only an English version of its financial highlights for the year ended 31 March 2015 (the Annex to LC Paper No. PWSC28/15-16(01)). At the request of the Chairman, HKFYG undertook to provide a Chinese version of the said financial highlights.

(*Post-meeting note:* A bilingual version of the financial highlights of HKFYG for the year ended 31 March 2015 was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC28/15-16(01)</u> on 14 December 2015.)

- 15. Mr Albert CHAN said that HKFYG had accumulated a surplus of over \$100 million in recent years. He considered that the surplus level was too high for an NPO, and that HKFYG's financial transparency lagged behind that of some other NPOs. He was worried that the Institute would become another money-making vehicle of HKFYG.
- 16. <u>C for H/DEVB</u> replied that a successful applicant under the Revitalizing Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme was required to set up a special-purpose company which possessed charitable status under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112), for the sole purpose of the project. Such requirement was to facilitate the Administration's

monitoring of the financial performance of the successful applicants in implementing the projects. Financial viability of the project was one of the criteria for assessing the applications received under the Scheme. In addition, the proposed project would be operated in the form of social enterprise and any surplus generated would be ploughed back to the same project to support its operation.

- Ms Irene NG, Coordinator (Financial Control), HKFYG said that in view of the dynamic economic situation and ever changing society faced by young people in Hong Kong, it was necessary for HKFYG to retain experienced staff and maintain an adequate financial reserve with a view to delivering quality services. As at 31 March 2015, HKFYG's financial reserve was roughly equivalent to 10 months of its operating expenditure. The financial reserve would provide a reliable source of funding for up-keeping the services as well as exploring new initiatives and services targeted on the youths. Such level of reserve was considered prudent and appropriate, and compatible with other major non-profit-making social services organizations in Hong Kong.
- 18. <u>The Chairman</u> said that although he considered that the financial position of HKFYG was not directly related to the agenda item, he had allowed members to fully express their views on the matter.

<u>Motions proposed under Paragraph 32A of the Public Works Subcommittee</u> Procedure

- 19. At 9:05 am, the Chairman advised that he had received at the last meeting three motions from Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, proposed under Paragraph 32A of the PWSC Procedure, i.e. proposed motions numbered 0001 to 0003. He considered that the proposed motions were directly related to the agenda item, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)45. He asked if any member would propose other motions under Paragraph 32A. No member indicated such an intention.
- 20. <u>The Chairman</u> put to vote the question that proposed motion numbered 0001 be proceeded forthwith. As requested by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, <u>the Chairman</u> ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. The question was voted down by a majority of members.
- 21. <u>Mr IP Kwok-him</u> moved that in the event of further divisions being claimed in respect of any motions or questions under the same agenda item, the Subcommittee would proceed to each of such divisions immediately after the division bell had been rung for one minute.

- The Chairman said that the Subcommittee would proceed to deal with 22. Mr IP's motion. Each member could speak once on the motion, and the speaking time should not be more than three minutes.
- Mr IP Kwok-him and Mr Abraham SHEK spoke in support of the 23. They expressed concern on the filibustering tactics employed by some members to prolong the discussions on the funding proposals submitted to the Subcommittee.
- 24. Mr Albert CHAN, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen spoke against the motion. They said that they were not prolonging the discussion on the item without good reasons, and stressed that the Subcommittee had the responsibility to examine funding proposals with due diligence.
- 25. The Chairman put the motion to vote. As requested by members, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. The Chairman said that 14 members voted for, no member voted against the motion, and no one abstained. The votes of individual members were as follows --

For:

Mr CHAN Kam-lam Mr Abraham SHEK Mr WONG Ting-kwong Mr IP Kwok-him Mr Albert CHAN Mr CHAN Chi-chuen Mr Christopher CHUNG

(14 members)

Against: (0 member)

Abstain: (0 member) Mr TAM Yiu-chung Mr Andrew LEUNG Ms Starry LEE Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Mr Steven HO Mr KWOK Wai-keung Mr Tony TSE

- 26. The Chairman declared that the motion proposed by Mr IP Kwok-him was carried.
- The Chairman put to vote the questions that proposed motions 27. numbered 0002 to 0003 be proceeded forthwith. As requested by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, the Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for one minute before members' voting on individual questions.

Both questions were voted down by a majority of members.

Voting on PWSC(2015-16)45

28. There being no further questions from members on the proposal, <u>the Chairman</u> put the proposal on PWSC(2015-16)45 to vote. As requested by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, <u>the Chairman</u> ordered a division and the division bell was rung for one minute. <u>The Chairman</u> said that 12 members voted for and three members voted against the proposal. One member abstained from voting. The votes of individual members were as follows –

For:

Mr CHAN Kam-lamMr TAM Yiu-chungMr Abraham SHEKMr WONG Kwok-hingMr Andrew LEUNGMr WONG Ting-kwong

Ms Starry LEE Mr IP Kwok-him

Mr Steven HO Mr KWOK Wai-keung

Mr Christopher CHUNG Mr Tony TSE

(12 members)

Against:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Mr CHAN Chi-chuen

(3 members)

Mr Albert CHAN

Abstain:

Dr KWOK Ka-ki

(1 member)

- 29. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the proposal was endorsed by the Subcommittee.
- 30. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> requested that this item, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)45, be voted on separately at the relevant Finance Committee ("FC") meeting.

Head 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment
PWSC(2015-16)46 20QW Revitalisation Scheme – Revitalisation of
the Haw Par Mansion into Haw Par Music
Farm

31. The Chairman said that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)46, was to upgrade 20QW to Category A at an estimated cost of \$167.3 million in MOD

prices for the selected non-profit-making organization, Aw Boon Haw Foundation with the co-applicant, Haw Par Music Foundation Limited ("HPMF"), to carry out the works to convert the Haw Par Mansion ("the Mansion") into the Haw Par Music Farm ("the Music Farm") for providing Chinese and Western music education and other music related community services. The Panel on Development had been consulted on the proposal on 3 December 2014. Panel members supported the Administration's submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

Public access to the revitalized Haw Par Mansion

- 32. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> enquired about the opening hours of the Music Farm, and stressed the importance for the Administration to make the revitalized historic building conveniently accessible for public enjoyment, but not to allow it to be accessible only by the privileged for pleasure purposes. He asked about how the history and distinctive architectural style of the Mansion could be showcased to the visitors.
- 33. <u>C for H/DEVB</u> replied that the Music Farm would be open to the public from 9 am to 7 pm, Monday to Sunday. The main entrance hall would be adapted as an interpretation area to showcase the historic and architectural background of the Mansion and the Aw family, as well as the history of the Tiger Balm Garden and the process for conserving and revitalizing the Mansion into the Music Farm. The Garden and the interpretation area would be open to the public free of charge during office hours. Guided tours would also be arranged through advance booking.
- 34. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> asked if the facilities in the Music Farm would be available for hire for film shooting. He urged that the hire charges should be kept at a low level to support the young talents of the local film industry. <u>Mr Roger WU, Chief Executive, HPMF</u> ("Chief Executive/HPMF") responded that all individuals or groups would be welcome to hire the facilities in the Music Farm for film shooting, provided that the shooting would not affect the conducting of the music classes.
- 35. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed concern that it might be inevitable that visitors' activities in the Music Farm would cause some disturbance to the music classes. Mr Gordon SIU, Council Member, HPMF ("Council Member/HPMF") responded that apart from the restoration works, installing noise insulation facilities was a major part of the works of the revitalization of the Mansion. HPMF would engage specialists to design and carry out the installation of such facilities.

Services of the Haw Par Music Farm for the public

- 36. Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed support for the proposal. He sought elaboration on how the Music Farm would collaborate with the community in promoting its social outreach programmes for the elderly and the students. Chief Executive/HPMF replied that HPMF had been organizing summer music courses in collaboration with local schools. The Music Farm would collaborate with the District Councils in future to provide community services and outreach programmes for the elderly, such as music appreciation classes.
- 37. Mr Albert CHAN considered that the music training programmes to be provided by HPMF should be open for application to all members of the public, in particular the underprivileged. Dr KWOK Ka-ki opined that priority should be given to students from needy families. Mr Albert CHAN also expressed concern about the transportation to the Music Farm for the participants of the training programmes who had to carry bulky musical instruments.
- 38. <u>Council Member/HPMF</u> replied that all were welcome to the training programmes of the Music Farm. Additional classes would be arranged to accommodate as many participants as possible if the number of applications received exceeded the original quota of the training programmes. It was proposed that one in four participants of the training programmes would be offered scholarships or bursaries, so as to bring benefits to the underprivileged. He further advised that to save the participants' needs to travel with large musical instruments, these instruments would be provided in the Music Farm for the trainees.
- 39. Mr IP Kin-yuen declared that he was a director of a secondary school for which Mr Gordon SIU had helped set up a Chinese orchestra. He expressed support for the revitalization of the Mansion into the Music Farm, and hoped that HPMF would be able to promote music in the community. Council Member/HPMF took note of Mr IP Kin-yuen's views.
- 40. Ms Cyd HO supported the HPMF's plan to provide music education to students and youths. She enquired whether there would be any collaboration between the Music Farm and The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts ("HKAPA") to facilitate the participants' further training in music. She also asked whether the Music Farm would liaise with the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA") in future on allowing the trainees of the Music Farm to perform in the venues at the West Kowloon Cultural District.

- 41. <u>Council Member, HPMF</u> replied that the training programmes to be offered by the Music Farm would mainly be elementary courses. HPMF would enlist the help of HKAPA and the Music Departments of local universities in supporting the teaching work of the Music Farm. He believed that the trainees would have the opportunities to receive further training in these institutes. HPMF would also approach the WKCDA on the use of the performance venues at the West Kowloon Cultural District.
- 42. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> supported the revitalization of the Mansion, which was a Grade 1 historic building and, in his view, a collective memory of Hong Kong people. He suggested that the project should also aim to enhance public understanding about the history of the Mansion and appreciation of its architectural and design features. In response, <u>Council Member/HPMF</u> said that in addition to guided tours, information leaflets would be provided to visitors to enhance their understanding of the history of the Mansion. Participants of the training programmes would also be educated on the history, as well as the intangible value of the historic building.
- 43. Taking in view that the original Tiger Balm Garden in the Mansion featured sculptures symbolizing Chinese mythology as well as Buddhist and Daoist philosophies, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Mr James TO opined that the ambience of the Mansion was not compatible with the operation of a music training centre and enjoyment of music. In response, C for H/DEVB advised that the Revitalizing Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme aimed to achieve the dual objectives of preserving historic buildings and making these buildings available for public use. HPMF had been selected for the revitalization project for the Mansion following a vigorous and competitive process carried out upon the advice of the Advisory Committee on Revitalization of Historic Buildings which comprised experts from various fields.

Future maintenance of the revitalized Haw Par Mansion

44. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked about the future maintenance responsibilities of the revitalized project. C for H/DEVB replied that the maintenance of the structural elements of the historic building and the existing retaining wall structure would be borne by the Administration. HPMF would be responsible for the future maintenance of the historic building and all the facilities within the site including the Main Site, the Ancillary Site and the footbridge over the existing public footpath at its own cost during the tenancy period. The estimated average annual maintenance cost to be borne by HPMF was around \$345,000. Council Member/HPMF supplemented that HPMF would engage a craftsman who had participated in

the repair works of the Mansion in the past to advise on and monitor the restoration works, as well as the maintenance of the historic building.

45. Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed concern about the financial viability of the Music Farm. Chief Executive/HPMF replied that HPMF would fund the operating cost of the Music Farm with the revenue generated from its services. The project was expected to become self-sustainable after the first two years of operation.

Design of the New Services Block

46. While expressing support for the revitalization of the Mansion, Mr CHAN Kam-lam and Miss CHAN Yuen-han considered that the design of the proposed New Services Block at the Ancillary Site did not match with the architectural style and ambience of the Mansion. They urged HPMF to revise the design as appropriate. Mr Raphael YING, Associate, Design 2 (HK) Ltd. explained that the Ancillary Site was on adjoining government land outside the Main Site of the original Haw Par Mansion. The design of the New Services Block would be distinct from the style of the existing historic building to bring out a contrast between old and new construction. Council Member/HPMF took note of members' views and said that HPMF and the architect of the project would carefully consider the views.

Voting on PWSC(2015-16)46

47. There being no further questions from members on the proposal, <u>the Chairman</u> put PWSC(2015-16)46 to vote. As requested by Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, <u>the Chairman</u> ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. <u>The Chairman</u> said that 30 members voted for, one member voted against the proposal and no one abstained. The votes of individual members were as follows --

For:

Mr Albert HO Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Mr TAM Yiu-chung Mr CHAN Kam-lam Mr WONG Kwok-hing Prof Joseph LEE Mr WONG Ting-kwong Mr Andrew LEUNG Ms Cyd HO Ms Starry LEE Mr CHAN Hak-kan Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mr WONG Kwok-kin Mr Albert CHAN Ms Claudia MO Mr Michael TIEN Mr Steven HO Mr WU Chi-wai Mr Charles MOK Mr CHAN Chi-chuen Dr Kenneth CHAN Miss CHAN Yuen-han

Miss Alice MAK
Mr SIN Chung-kai
Dr Elizabeth QUAT
Mr Christopher CHUNG
(30 members)

Dr KWOK Ka-ki Mr IP Kin-yuen Mr TANG Ka-piu Mr Tony TSE

Against:

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung (1 member)

Abstain: (0 member)

- 48. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the proposal was endorsed by the Subcommittee.
- 49. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> requested that this item, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)46, be voted on separately at the relevant FC meeting.

Head 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment PWSC(2015-16)47 18QW Revitalisation Scheme – Revitalisation of the Bridges Street Market into Hong Kong News-Expo

- 50. The Chairman said that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)47, was to upgrade 18QW to Category A at an estimated cost of \$85.3 million in MOD prices for the selected non-profit-making organization, the Journalism Education Foundation Hong Kong Limited, to carry out the works to convert the Bridges Street Market in Central into an education and visitor centre to be named as "Hong Kong News-Expo" ("HKNE"). The Panel on Development had been consulted on the proposal on 3 December 2014. Panel members supported the Administration's submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.
- 51. Mr WONG Kwok-hing said he supported the revitalization of the Bridges Street Market into HKNE.

Repair and maintenance

52. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> expressed support for the revitalization project. She enquired about the future maintenance responsibilities for a slope adjacent to the revitalized building. <u>C for H/DEVB</u> replied that the maintenance of the

concerned slope would be borne by the Highways Department.

Public access to the Hong Kong News-Expo

- 53. Mr WU Chi-wai expressed support for the proposal. He asked about the opening hours of the proposed HKNE. Ms May CHAN, Vice-Chairman, Hong Kong News-Expo Limited ("Vice-Chairman/HKNE Ltd") advised that HKNE would be open to the public free of charge from 10 am to 7 pm six days a week, i.e. Tuesday to Sunday. Seven sessions of guided tour (per week) of the exhibits led by veteran journalists would be arranged on Saturday and Sunday, and guided tours on weekdays could also be arranged by appointment.
- 54. While expressing support for the proposal, <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> called for the extension of the opening hours of HKNE on Saturday and Sunday. He suggested that a café serving light refreshment be set up at HKNE so as to attract more visitors. <u>Vice-Chairman/HKNE Ltd</u> said that she would explore the extension of the opening hours of HKNE, taking into account the availability of manpower and other resources. She further said that in order to fully utilize the floor area for displays, there was no plan for setting up a café at HKNE.
- 55. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> stressed the importance of public ownership of the revitalized building, and called for the organization of more interactive activities at HKNE. <u>Vice-Chairman/HKNE Ltd</u> replied that HKNE would be a news-theme based education and visitor centre. To promote public understanding of the function and operation of the news media, guided tour of the exhibits, media education activities and interactive games at the experiential studios would be organized. Weekly lectures and workshops on the function and operation of the media would also be held by veteran journalists.

Operating cost of the Hong Kong News-Expo

56. Noting that HKNE would be open to the public free of charge, Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked whether the Administration would provide any financial support for the operation of HKNE. C for H/DEVB replied that where justified, the Administration might provide a one-off grant to meet the starting cost and/or operating deficits of HKNE in the first two years of operation at a ceiling of \$5 million. Mr Ronald CHIU, Committee Member, Hong Kong News-Expo Limited supplemented that The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust had pledged to contribute \$2.5 million per year to support the media education programmes or activities of HKNE in the first three years.

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<u>Action</u>

- 57. <u>The Chairman</u> advised that discussion on the proposal would continue at the next meeting scheduled for 1 December 2015.
- 58. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:54 am.

[At 10:26 am and 10:39 am, the Chairman proposed that the meeting be extended to 10:45 am and 10:55 am respectively. At both occasions, no member raised any objection.]

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
17 December 2015