

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

Ref : CB2/SS/8/15

LC Paper No. CB(2)1918/15-16  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

**Subcommittee on Public Health and Municipal Services  
(Fees and Charges) (Museums) (Amendment) Regulation 2016**

**Minutes of the second meeting  
held on Monday, 13 June 2016, at 2:45 pm  
in Conference Room 2A of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP (Chairman)  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok  
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP  
Hon IP Kin-yuen  
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP  
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
- Member absent** : Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
- Public Officers attending** : Ms Sandy CHEUNG  
Principal Assistant Secretary (Culture) 2  
Home Affairs Bureau
- Dr Louis NG  
Deputy Director (Culture)  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
- Ms Esa LEUNG  
Head (Heritage & Museum Services)  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
- Ms Karen SIT  
Museum Director (Science Museum)  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Alex LAI  
Government Counsel/Law Drafting Division  
Department of Justice

**Clerk in attendance** : Ms Joanne MAK  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 3

**Staff in attendance** : Miss Winnie LO  
Assistant Legal Adviser 7

Miss Connie AU  
Council Secretary (2) 3

Mrs Fonny TSANG  
Legislative Assistant (2) 3

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Action

**I. Meeting with the Administration**

[LC Paper Nos. LS55/15-16, CB(2)1700/15-16(01), CB(2)1701/15-16(01) and SF(4)HAB/CR 6/5/313(C2)III]

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

Follow-up actions required of the Administration

- Admin** 2. The Administration was requested to provide the "Corporate Business Plan of LCSD Museums for 2015-2020 and Annual Plans of Individual Museums for 2015-2016" for members' reference.

*(Post-meeting note: The hyperlink of the document provided by the Administration was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1762/15-16 on 15 June 2016.)*

Legislative timetable

3. The Subcommittee completed examination of the provisions of the Public Health and Municipal Services (Fees and Charges) (Museums) (Amendment) Regulation 2016 ("Amendment Regulation").

4. Members noted that that the Subcommittee Chairman would move a motion to extend the scrutiny period of the Amendment Regulation to the Council meeting of 13 July 2016. If the motion could not be dealt with at the

Council meeting of 15 June or 22 June 2016, the scrutiny period would expire at the Council meeting of 22 June 2016. The Subcommittee would report its deliberations to the House Committee on 24 June 2016.

*(Post-meeting note: The motion to extend the scrutiny period of the Amendment Regulation was passed at the Council meeting of 22 June 2016.)*

## **II. Any other business**

5. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:26 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
18 July 2016

**Proceedings of the second meeting of the  
Subcommittee on Public Health and Municipal Services  
(Fees and Charges) (Museums) (Amendment) Regulation 2016  
on Monday, 13 June 2016, at 2:45 pm  
in Conference Room 2A of the Legislative Council Complex**

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
000334 - 000449	Chairman Administration	Opening remarks  Members noted the four written submissions tabled at the meeting.	
000450 - 000857	Chairman Administration	Briefing by the Administration	
000858 - 001459	Chairman Mr TANG Ka-piu Administration	<p>Mr TANG Ka-piu welcomed the free admission initiative. He enquired whether the Administration would consider introducing a museum pass for admission to all public museums in Guangdong, Macau, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The Administration agreed to relay Mr TANG's suggestion to the relevant authorities for consideration.</p> <p>Mr TANG further suggested that the Administration should consider collaborating with social corporations to employ persons with disabilities to fill certain museum posts which could be handled by low-skilled workers instead of outsourcing the provision of service to bidders with the lowest offer. The Administration advised that the cafes in two of the museums under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") were currently run by social enterprises. The Administration explained that most jobs in museums involved the handling of exhibits for which professional skills were required. Nevertheless, the Administration agreed to give thoughts to the suggestion.</p>	
001500 - 002045	Chairman Mr Christopher CHUNG Administration	Mr Christopher CHUNG considered that all visitors should be allowed free admission to permanent exhibitions of all existing seven fee-charging museums instead of only five	

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>designated ones. The Administration explained that during the free admission period under the "Appreciate Hong Kong" Campaign, the number of visitors recorded by the Hong Kong Science Museum ("HKScM") had increased from some 54 000 in January 2015 to some 126 000 in January 2016, representing an increase of over 130%. The damage rate of interactive exhibits had also increased from about 3% in January 2015 to 7% in January 2016. Having considered the capacity constraints of HKScM and the Hong Kong Space Museum ("HKSpM"), the Administration considered it prudent to offer free admission to the two museums to full-time students only.</p> <p>Mr CHUNG suggested that more volunteers or retirees should be engaged to provide docent service or other museum services. The Administration responded that it had planned to recruit some 700 volunteers to work in different museums. It would report the progress to the Panel on Home Affairs in due course.</p>	
002046 - 002734	Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han Administration	<p>Miss CHAN Yuen-han queried why only full-time students were offered free admission to permanent exhibitions of HKScM and HKSpM. She commented that the arrangement was not in line with the objective of encouraging more visits to museums for building a wider audience base and promoting the appreciation of art, culture, history and science. The Administration reiterated that the decision was made having regard to the capacity constraints and the damage rate of interactive exhibits of the two museums. The Administration explained that it also aimed to encourage more visits to HKScM and HKSpM but intended to do so progressively.</p> <p>Miss CHAN considered that the capacity problem could be addressed through appropriate crowd management measures.</p>	
002735 - 003213	Chairman Mr MA Fung-kwok Administration	<p>Mr MA Fung-kwok welcomed the free admission initiative. In recognition of the teaching needs of teachers, he suggested that the Administration might consider allowing teachers free admission to HKScM and HKSpM.</p>	

Time Marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>The Administration advised that schools visiting museums in groups of 20 people or more could apply for waiver of admission charges. Teachers who needed to make frequent visits to museums could buy an annual pass for only \$50 under the proposed initiative in the Amendment Regulation.</p>	
003214 - 003729	<p>Chairman Mr IP Kin-yuen Administration</p>	<p>Mr IP Kin-yuen considered it desirable for museums to provide teachers with detailed information or guided tours to facilitate their preparation work for their museum visits with students. In response to Mr IP's enquiry on the reasons for charging admission to special exhibitions, the Administration explained that charging fees for admission to some special exhibitions would help recover part of the costs and serve as a measure for crowd control. Besides, fee-waiver measures would remain applicable to schools, charitable and non-profit-making organizations.</p>	
003730 - 004525	<p>Chairman Dr Kenneth CHAN Administration</p>	<p>Dr Kenneth CHAN enquired about the measures to regulate the number of visitors. The Administration explained the past experience of implementing certain crowd control measures in LCSD's museums.</p> <p>Dr CHAN suggested that the Administration should organize more activities (e.g. seminars, workshops, etc.) to enrich the experience of museum visitors. Besides, the Administration should conduct detailed studies to collect more useful data for its service enhancement and service planning.</p>	
004526 - 005701	<p>Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han Mr Christopher CHUNG Administration</p>	<p>In response to members' views, the Administration advised that it was also exploring the feasibility of expanding HKScM to accommodate more visitors.</p>	
005702 - 010129	<p>Chairman Mr CHAN Chi-chuen Administration</p>	<p>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen considered that fees should not be charged as far as possible for visits to special exhibitions as well. The Administration explained the current charging policy in this regard.</p>	

010130 - 010707	Chairman Dr Kenneth CHAN Administration	Dr Kenneth CHAN enquired about the Administration's development plan for enhancing museum services. The Administration agreed to provide the "Corporate Business Plan of LCSD Museums for 2015-2020 and Annual Plans of Individual Museums for 2015-2016" for members' reference.	Admin (paragraph 2 of minutes)
010708 - 011053	Chairman Mr IP Kin-yuen	Mr IP Kin-yuen enquired about the legislative timetable.	
011054 - 011944	Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han Administration	<p>Miss CHAN Yuen-han stressed that all local people should be granted free admission to permanent exhibitions of HKScM and HKSpM in line with international practice.</p> <p>The Chairman shared the concern that if all members of the public were allowed free admission to permanent exhibitions of HKScM and HKSpM, many people would be attracted to visit the museums. As a result, visitors would have to queue up for a longer time and the quality of learning experience might deteriorate.</p>	
011945 - 012405	Chairman Mr YIU Si-wing Administration	<p>Mr YIU Si-wing expressed support for the free admission initiative. He also agreed that free admission to permanent exhibitions of HKScM and HKSpM should be restricted to full-time students at the initial stage as both the exhibits and the ancillary facilities of the two museums might not be able to cope with a substantial increase of visitors.</p> <p>He suggested that consideration should be given to revising the existing requirement on group discounts (30% off the standard tickets) by reducing the minimum group size from 20 persons to 10 persons. The Administration advised that it would consider the suggestion in the next admission fee review for museums.</p>	
012406 - 012823	Chairman Administration Miss CHAN Yuen-han Dr Kenneth CHAN	<p><u>Examination of the provisions of the Amendment Regulation</u></p> <p>In response to Dr CHAN's enquiry, the Administration explained that section 4 of the Amendment Regulation provided that free admission to a designated museum would continue to be offered on Wednesdays and on the International Museum Day, Hong Kong,</p>	

		which was to be designated by the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services or an authorized officer.	
012824 - 013919	Chairman Administration Clerk	Legislative timetable	
013920 - 014104	Chairman Miss CHAN Yuen-han Mr IP Kin-yuen	<p>The Administration undertook to conduct a review one year after the Amendment Regulation came into operation and to report the outcome of the review to the Panel on Home Affairs.</p> <p>Mr IP Kin-yuen considered it fair for the Administration to first assess the impact of the new arrangements on museum operation before making a decision.</p>	
014105 - 014211	Chairman	Closing remarks	

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