

立法會
Legislative Council

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LC Paper No. CB(2)1554/15-16

(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

**Minutes of policy briefing cum meeting
held on Wednesday, 17 February 2016, at 8:45 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP (Chairman)
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS (Deputy Chairman)
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS
- Member attending** : Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH
- Members absent** : Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Public Officers : Item III
attending

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Florence HUI Hiu-fai, SBS, JP
Under Secretary for Home Affairs

Mrs Betty FUNG CHING Suk-yee, JP
Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP
Commissioner for Sports

Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP
Director of Home Affairs (Acting)

Ms Michelle LI Mei-sheung, JP
Director of Leisure & Cultural Services

Item IV

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP
Commissioner for Sports

Ms Linda LAW Lai-tan
Principal Assistant Secretary (Recreation and Sport) 2
Home Affairs Bureau

Mrs Alice YU NG Ka-chun
Project Director 3
Architectural Services Department

Mr Tony LEE Cheuk-ming
Chief Project Manager 301
Architectural Services Department

Miss Charmaine WONG Hoi-wan, JP
Assistant Director of Home Affairs (2)
Home Affairs Department

Mr Bassanio SO Chek-leung, JP
District Officer (Tai Po)
Home Affairs Department

Mr Donald CHOY Chi-mun
Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 3
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms Shirley CHUNG Yuk-fong
Chief Executive Officer (Planning) 2
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Staff in attendance : Miss Karen LAI
Senior Council Secretary (2) 6

Mrs Fonny TSANG
Legislative Assistant (2) 3

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I. Information papers issued since the last meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)735/15-16(01), CB(2)736/15-16(01), CB(2)737/15-16(01) and CB(2)795/15-16(01)]

Members noted that the following papers had been issued after the last meeting:

- (a) Referral from the Public Complaints Office on policies relating to street sleepers [circulated to members only];
- (b) Referral from Legislative Council Members' meeting with Eastern District Council members on 28 May 2015 relating to difficulties encountered by old buildings' owners in complying with requirements of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572) [circulated to members only];
- (c) Referral from Legislative Council Members' meeting with North District Council members on 14 May 2015 regarding the lack of community halls and related facilities in the North District and the Administration's response [circulated to members only]; and
- (d) Information paper entitled "Reprovisioning of Shanghai Street refuse collection point and street sleepers' services units to the

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site at Hau Cheung Street, Yau Ma Tei for the phase II development of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre project" provided by the Administration.

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)873/15-16(01) and (02)]

2. The Chairman said that as the Council meeting of 16 March 2016 was expected to continue on 18 March 2016 morning, the Clerk was liaising with the Administration on rescheduling the next meeting from 18 March to 24 March 2016 at 8:30 am. Members would be informed of the meeting arrangements in due course. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next meeting:

- (a) Sports development programme for young people;
- (b) Youth Hostel Scheme – Construction works by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups; and
- (c) Reprovisioning of Shanghai Street refuse collection point and street sleepers' services units to the site at Hau Cheung Street, Yau Ma Tei for the phase II development of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre project.

III. Briefing by the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2016 Policy Address

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)658/15-16(01) and CB(2)902/15-16(01)]

3. At the invitation of the Chairman, Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") briefed Members on the salient points of the Administration's paper.

(Post-meeting note: A copy of SHA's speaking note was tabled at the meeting and issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)902/15-16(01) on 17 February 2016.)

(Due to other urgent commitments, the Chairman left the meeting around 30 minutes after the start of this Item. The Deputy Chairman took over to chair the meeting.)

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Free admission to museums

4. Mr WONG Kwok-hing asked whether the Administration would extend the month-long free admission to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") museums during the "Appreciate Hong Kong" Campaign for a longer period, in order to further promote culture and the arts and attract tourists. He also asked for the number of admissions to those museums before and during the Campaign, and whether the Administration would consider making such free admission a standing practice.

5. SHA replied that in view of the good response to the month-long free admission to the LCSD museums under the "Appreciate Hong Kong" Campaign in January 2016, the Administration would make free admission to permanent exhibitions of designated LCSD museums a standing practice. Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs ("PSHA") said that in order to implement the above arrangements, the Administration would amend the subsidiary legislation to the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) for negative vetting by the Legislative Council. Director of Leisure & Cultural Services ("DLCS") added that during the "Appreciate Hong Kong" Campaign, the admission number to LCSD's fee-charging museums increased significantly. For instance, the Hong Kong Science Museum ("HKScM") saw an increase of 132% (126 000 visitors) compared with the same period in the previous year. Taking into consideration the capacity of the HKScM and Hong Kong Space Museum and the policy objective of enhancing the promotion of science and astronomical knowledge among students, free admission to the permanent exhibitions of both museums would be offered to full-time students. At the request of Admin Mr WONG Kwok-hing, SHA agreed to provide a comparison between the number of admissions to each of the LCSD museums before and during the "Appreciate Hong Kong" Campaign.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1427/15-16(01) on 5 May 2016.)

Youth development policy

Youth Hostel Scheme

6. Mr WONG Kwok-hing enquired about the progress of meeting the target of providing 3 000 rented hostel places for young people through the Youth Hostel Scheme as committed by the Chief Executive.

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7. SHA and PSHA said that the Administration would seek the endorsement of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") of the funding proposal on the pre-construction works of the Po Leung Kuk's youth hostel project in Yuen Long and would seek the support of the Panel for the youth hostel in Tai Po by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups at the next meeting. For the remaining projects in Sheung Wan, Mong Kok and Jordan, the Administration would consult relevant District Councils ("DCs") and the Town Planning Board. PSHA added that the five projects together would provide about 2 700 places for young people. The construction of the first youth hostel was expected to be completed in 2018.

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8. Ms Cyd HO requested the Administration to provide further information on the terms on land use under the Youth Hostel Scheme, the monitoring mechanism for the use of surplus generated from hostel operation, and whether the Administration would further lower the rental level of youth hostels if there was surplus in excess of the "mandatory reserve". SHA said that the Administration would provide further information for members' reference.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1163/15-16(01) on 23 March 2016.)

Participation of young people in policy formulation and exchange programmes

9. The Chairman enquired about the Administration's plans to enhance communication with young people and to encourage them to participate in policy formulation, e.g. whether young people would be encouraged to make use of their creativity and the Internet to promote government policies. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung also asked how the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") would enhance its consultation mechanism to solicit the views of young people.

10. SHA said that the Administration had all along encouraged young people to give views on government policies through consultation at different levels and through different channels, including DCs, the Commission on Youth and the appointment of young people with different backgrounds as members of various advisory and statutory bodies.

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11. Noting that many ethnic minorities in Hong Kong came from the Belt and Road countries, Mr MA Fung-kwok asked if HAB would encourage ethnic minorities to take part in the youth exchange schemes under the Belt and Road Initiative. SHA responded that the Administration had all along provided support for youth organizations to organize activities promoting the appreciation of different cultures and would provide resources for them to organize exchanges and activities relating to the Belt and Road Initiative.

District administration

12. The Chairman enquired about the timetable for implementing the District-led Actions Scheme ("DAS") in all 18 districts and how the Administration would expedite the construction works of the Signature Project Scheme ("SPS"). Mr TANG Ka-piu asked whether the Administration planned to introduce another round of SPS for the new DC term and delegate the authority of vetting SPS funding proposals to DCs in order to expedite the implementation of SPS. Dr Kenneth CHAN held the view that disputes over some signature projects were related to land use and planning issues. He suggested that the Administration should strengthen support in this regard for DCs in their planning of district projects.

13. Director of Home Affairs (Atg) said that with the commencement of the new term of DCs, the Administration had taken the opportunity to liaise with the incumbent DC Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen and would work out with respective District Officers a detailed plan to take forward DAS within this year.

14. SHA said that of the 27 SPS projects proposed by the 18 DCs, funding approval from the Finance Committee ("FC") had been obtained for 11 projects. Another two projects endorsed by PWSC were awaiting funding approval from FC, and 11 projects supported by the Panel were pending endorsement of PWSC. The remaining three would be submitted to the Panel upon completion of the preparatory work by the relevant DCs. He further said that the Administration was obliged to adhere to the established procedures for taking forward public works projects and processing all funding applications in a prudent manner. The Administration would consider the launch of another round of SPS in the light of review findings.

15. Miss CHAN Yuen-han said that in the process of building close ties with the community, HAB should respond quickly to local needs and aspirations. She suggested that the Administration should utilize the vacant school premises ("VSPs") for the implementation of district projects.

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16. SHA said that one of the SPS projects of Tai Po district would involve retrofitting a VSP in Tai Po for the establishment of an arts centre. He further pointed out that the allocation of VSPs was not under the purview of HAB. At the request of the Deputy Chairman, he agreed to provide supplementary information on the application procedures regarding the use of VSPs for district projects.

Building management

17. The Chairman asked whether the Administration would strengthen the manpower for Liaison Officers and offer training to them with a view to combating the problem of bid-rigging in relation to building maintenance works. Mr Christopher CHUNG sought details of the technical support for property owners to enhance their knowledge of tendering exercise for engaging contractors for building maintenance works. Mr Tony TSE asked what assistance the Home Affairs Department ("HAD") would provide to owners of private buildings for building maintenance works. He opined that HAD should be more proactive in combating bid-rigging.

18. SHA said that HAD would step up efforts in providing outreach services to property owners (including owners of the "three-nil" buildings, i.e. buildings without owners' corporations or any form of owners/residents organization or property management company) and organizing training courses and assisting in mediation of disputes. In addition, the Urban Renewal Authority would launch a scheme to enhance technical support for property owners to carry out building maintenance works, including establishing an electronic tendering platform for owners to conduct the tendering exercise for engaging contractors by which the risk of manipulation and interference in the tendering process could be reduced.

Arts and culture

Arts Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme ("the Pilot Scheme")

19. Declaring that he was a member of the Council of the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, Mr Frankie YICK expressed concern about the difficulties encountered by arts groups in retaining talents due to financial constraints. He further enquired how the Administration would help the arts groups raise fund under the Pilot Scheme. Mr Christopher CHUNG declared that he was a member of the Council of the Hong Kong Chinese

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Orchestra. He held the view that the Administration should provide more incentives to encourage the private sector to donate for arts development. Miss CHAN Yuen-han said that many small arts groups needed financial support to meet the high rental for their arts studios and workshops.

20. SHA said that to widen sources of funding for local arts groups, the Administration would launch the Pilot Scheme in mid-2016. Under the Pilot Scheme, the Administration would appeal to the private sector for support for arts groups' fundraising efforts and provide matching grants for the donations and sponsorships raised. PSHA added that under the Pilot Scheme, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council would also launch programmes to enhance the capability of arts groups in raising donations and sponsorships. At the same time, the Administration would continue to strengthen its support for the nine major performing arts groups as well as other small and medium arts groups.

West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD")

21. Mr Christopher CHUNG expressed concern about the timetable for the delivery of the Batch 3 facilities of WKCD, particularly the Music Centre, which he considered a crucial component of WKCD. Sharing similar views, the Deputy Chairman stressed that WKCD should maintain its positioning as a world-class infrastructure for promoting the long-term development of arts and culture in Hong Kong.

22. PSHA explained that with the surging construction costs in recent years, the one-off upfront endowment fund of \$21.6 billion was insufficient to cover the costs of the whole WKCD project. The WKCD Authority would develop the facilities in phases and was discussing with the Government on possible alternative financial arrangements for the development of Batch 3 facilities.

Intangible cultural heritage ("ICH")

23. The Deputy Chairman enquired about the work progress and future work plan of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Office ("the Office"). SHA said that the Office would continue to promote ICH items and planned to set up a resource centre for ICH at the Sam Tung Uk Museum in Tsuen Wan. It would also explore other means to safeguard ICH.

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Public lending right

24. Ms Cyd HO said that she was opposed to the charging of copyright fees for books borrowed from public libraries, which in her view was against the free flow of information.

25. Mr MA Fung-kwok opined that given the decline of the publishing business in recent years, the Administration should consider implementing public lending right to safeguard the copyright of authors and publishers and explore sources for covering the expenses incurred by the related payments. In response, SHA said that the Administration had received different views on the issue and had yet to decide on the way forward.

Sports development

Commissioner for Sports ("C for S")

26. Dr Kenneth CHAN requested C for S to consider improving the governance of national sports associations ("NSAs"), and enhancing the provision of resources to promote sport for different age groups, athletes with disabilities, and ethnic minorities. Mr Christopher CHUNG urged the Administration to provide more venues for sports development, in particular training venues for football. Mr NG Leung-sing enquired whether the Administration would provide more sports and recreational facilities (such as heated swimming pools, lawn bowl green, and venues for photo exhibitions) to further promote physical fitness and leisure activities. SHA agreed to provide a written response.

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(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1427/15-16(01) on 5 May 2016.)

27. C for S said that the Administration would continue to listen to the views of various stakeholders on sports development and strive to provide more sports facilities for training and competitions, including the provision of venues in restored landfills for sports that required a large playing field. The Administration would also work out measures to enhance the support for athletes with disabilities in the light of the findings of the consultancy study commissioned by HAB on support for athletes with disabilities to develop their sporting potential. As regards the governance of NSAs, C for S said that NSAs were required to sign a subvention agreement with LCSD and to provide regular reports to LCSD on their financial position and

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work progress. So far, a total of 59 NSAs had signed the subvention agreements with LCSD. To enhance corporate governance and transparency of NSAs, 56 subvented NSAs had already registered under the Companies Ordinance and the remaining three NSAs were expected to complete the registration process within 2015-2016.

28. Mr TANG Ka-piu and Miss CHAN Yuen-han called on the Administration to provide more facilities to promote a water-friendly culture. DLCS advised that in addition to the proposed angling zones in LCSD leisure venues in 2016-2017, there were five water sports centres and bathing beaches for the promotion of a water friendly culture in the community. The Administration would explore more such venues in other districts including Kai Tak.

Multi-purpose Sports Complex ("MPSC") at Kai Tak

29. Mr MA Fung-kwok opined that MPSC at Kai Tak should be used for staging a wider variety of sports events. The Deputy Chairman asked how the Administration would seek the views of different stakeholders to enhance the utilization of the facilities in MPSC. Mr Frankie YICK urged the Administration to ensure the provision of adequate parking spaces for coaches in the vicinity of MPSC to meet anticipated demands.

30. SHA said that the preparatory works for the project were expected to be completed by next year. Various bureaux/departments would collaborate to ensure the smooth implementation of the planning and construction works. PSHA stressed that MPSC was an important sports infrastructure. The operations consultant concerned had been consulting the sports and other relevant sectors for their views since August 2015 with a view to fine-tuning the design parameters of MPSC. She added that the operations consultant would continue to engage stakeholders concerned to ensure that the needs of all potential user groups would be addressed.

IV. Development of a Sports Centre, a Community Hall and Football Pitches at Area 1, Tai Po

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)788/15-16(01) and CB(2)873/15-16(03)]

31. The Deputy Chairman drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure. SHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper.

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32. Whilst expressing support to the proposal, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the detailed design of the swimming pools and the distribution of the proposed fixed and retractable seats in the multi-purpose arena. He also requested the Administration to provide design plans for the project in its paper to be submitted to PWSC. C for S agreed to provide the information. Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 3 ("AD(LS)3") of LCSD explained that since the multi-purpose arena would be the main venue for tournaments whereas the swimming pools were for training purpose, most of the seats would be provided in the multi-purpose arena. In response to Mr CHAN Chi-chuen's further enquiry on the reasons for not providing a 50 m x 50 m swimming pool, SHA said that the design had already incorporated the views of different stakeholders as far as possible, including the Tai Po District Council. He appealed to members to support early implementation of the proposal to meet district aspirations.

33. Mr NG Leung-sing welcomed the provision of more sports facilities to promote sports in the community. He enquired if the fitness equipment proposed for the Nam Wan Road Sitting-out Area were exclusively for elderly persons. He reminded the Administration to make careful choice of paving materials for the footpaths and access roads in the area for users safety. AD(LS)3 and Project Director 3 ("PD3") of the Architectural Services Department advised that the fitness equipment were mainly for the elderly. They said that the Administration would consider the safety issues raised by Mr NG in the selection of paving materials. The Administration would also keep in view the utilization rate and provide more facilities if needed.

34. Whilst expressing support for the proposal, Mr MA Fung-kwok considered that the Administration should be more proactive in planning the provision of sports and recreational facilities for proposed housing estates so that the facilities would be ready for use when residents moved into the estates.

35. SHA explained that in planning the provision of sports facilities and community halls, the Administration would have to take into account recommendations of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and the views from different stakeholders collected during consultation. This apart, it should go through the public works procedures for the commencement of the construction works.

36. Noting the proposed provision of parking facilities for private cars and bicycles, Dr Kenneth CHAN asked whether the Administration had

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conducted any evaluation on the traffic flow. He further suggested that improvement works should be carried out for the road signs and trail surface of the cycling trails nearby to ensure connectivity of the project site with the cycling trails in the vicinity.

37. PD3 explained that there were currently no cycling trails along the pavements adjacent to the project site. The parking spaces for bicycles in the proposed car park were provided to cater for the need of nearby bicycle users visiting the Sports Centre. Dr CHAN expressed concern that without provision of cycling trails in the vicinity, cyclers visiting the proposed facilities would have no choice but to cycle on the road.

38. Summing up, the Deputy Chairman said that members supported the submission of the proposal to PWSC for further consideration.

V. Any other business

39. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:43 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
23 May 2016