

立法會
Legislative Council

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LC Paper No. CB(2)1810/15-16

(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

**Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 24 March 2016, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room 2A 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
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS
Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu
- Members absent** : Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
- Public Officers attending** : Item IV
Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP
Commissioner for Sports

Mr Joe NG Ka-shing
Principal Education Officer (Curriculum
Development) 1
Education Bureau

Mr Richard WONG Tat-ming
Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 2
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Item V

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Laurie LO Chi-hong, JP
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1)

Mr Vincent FUNG Hao-yin
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Civic
Affairs) 1

Ms Amy FUNG
Deputy Executive Director
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Ms Phoenix NGAI
Supervisor
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Mr C H NG
Managing Director
Handi Architects Limited

Item VI

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Angela LEE
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)

Mr LAM Wing-hong
Assistant Director (Operations) 2
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr FUNG Man-chung
Assistant Director (Family & Child Welfare)
Social Welfare Department

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

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

Mrs Clara LEUNG SO Yu-bik
Assistant Director (Administration)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Michael CHIU Yat-on
Chief Executive Officer (Planning) 1
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. Confirmation of minutes of meeting
[LC Paper No. CB(2)1134/15-16]

The minutes of the meeting on 18 January 2016 were confirmed.

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II. Information papers issued since the last meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1156/15-16(01) and (02)]

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

(a) letter dated 22 March 2016 from Dr Kenneth CHAN; and

(b) letter dated 22 March 2016 from Mr IP Kin-yuen.

3. With reference to his letter, Dr Kenneth CHAN expressed grave concern about the recent incident involving a local artiste being requested by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") staff to remove the word "national" from the full name of her alma mater (i.e. Taipei National University of the Arts) in her biography for a drama programme leaflet published by LCSD. Dr CHAN said that the incident had aroused public concern, and the Hong Kong Federation of Taiwan Universities Alumni Association had issued a statement criticizing LCSD for political censorship. He urged the Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") to explain and apologize. He also requested the Panel to discuss the matter preferably at this meeting or if not feasible, at the next meeting.

4. Mr IP Kin-yuen and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen both considered that the Administration owed the public an explanation regarding the incident. They queried whether the Administration had issued any internal guidelines prohibiting the use of the word "national" in the presentation of names of Taiwanese universities/institutions in official publications. They further suggested inviting SHA to speak on the matter under the agenda item "Any other business" at this meeting.

5. While agreeing that the Administration should provide more information to allay concern, Mr IP Kwok-him said that he did not consider that there was evidence of political censorship in art creation in Hong Kong. He added that the Panel could consider whether it should discuss the matter in the light of any further development of the incident. Mr MA Fung-kwok said that he had written to SHA and would raise an oral question on the subject at a Council meeting. He agreed that the incident had aroused public concern and would not be conducive to cultural exchange between Hong Kong and Taiwan. Mr Christopher CHUNG considered that the Administration should explain what had to be complied with regarding cultural exchange activities between Hong Kong and Taiwan under "One Country, Two Systems".

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6. Dr LAM Tai-fai and the Deputy Chairman both agreed that the Administration should give an account of the incident to address public concerns. The Deputy Chairman, however, considered that due to time constraint, it would not be appropriate to discuss the matter at this meeting. He requested the Chairman to liaise with the Administration on the follow-up arrangements.

Chairman/
Deputy
Chairman

Clerk

7. Summing up, the Chairman said that she and the Deputy Chairman would follow up with SHA on the timing for discussion of the matter. Meanwhile, the Clerk should write to the Administration to request it to provide information. In view of members' concern about the incident, the Chairman agreed to invite SHA to speak under the item "Any other business" later.

III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1128/15-16(01) and (02)]

8. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 12 April 2016 at 4:30 pm:

- (a) enhancement of district administration; and
- (b) signature projects of Sai Kung District Council.

9. The Chairman said that she would liaise with the Administration to see if the issue under item II (i.e. the omission of the word "national" in publicity pamphlets produced by LCSD) could be included for discussion at the next meeting.

IV. Sports development programme for young people

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1125/15-16(01) and CB(2)1128/15-16(03)]

10. At the invitation of the Chairman, SHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper.

Discussion

Sports in schools

11. Mr MA Fung-kwok and Mr IP Kwok-him expressed support for the School Sports Programme Coordinator Pilot Scheme ("SSPC Scheme")

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under which retired athletes were trained and posted to participating secondary schools to implement training activities of the School Sports Programme ("SSP"). Noting the quota of participating schools for the SSPC Scheme had been increased to 23 from the 2015-2016 school year, Mr MA urged the Administration to encourage more schools to participate in the SSPC Scheme for the benefit of more students and retired athletes. Commissioner for Sports ("C for S") responded that as announced in the 2016 Policy Address, the SSPC Scheme would be extended to more schools/national sports associations ("NSAs") to provide more career development opportunities for retired athletes and to enhance the level of sports in schools. Apart from the SSPC Scheme, the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong had launched the Sports Legacy Programme to invite retired athletes to promote sports culture in schools and to enhance the skill levels of students in their specialized sports.

12. Mr IP Kwok-him noted that some students from low-income families required financial support for the purchase of sports equipment and paying necessary training fees, etc. He requested the Administration to enhance support for these junior athletes. C for S said that the Administration would continue to implement the Pilot Scheme for Student Athlete Support to provide support for students in need so that they could fully realize their sporting potential.

13. Mr MA Fung-kwok asked whether the Education Bureau ("EDB") would collaborate with other bureaux/departments to review the physical education ("PE") curriculum for primary and secondary schools and allocate more time for PE lessons. Principal Education Officer (Curriculum Development)¹ ("PEO(CD)1") said that schools were required to allocate 5% to 8% of the total lesson time to PE for primary and junior secondary levels, and at least 5% for senior secondary level. Schools were also encouraged to organize different sports-related activities after class for students, which could motivate students to engage more in sports and enhance their interest. In this connection, EDB had been working closely with the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") and LCSD to strengthen the collaboration between schools and sports organizations in organizing sports activities.

14. Dr LAM Tai-fai and Mr Tony TSE called on the Administration to allocate more resources to schools to enhance their sports facilities for students, particularly those primary schools operating in matchbox-style sub-standard premises with inadequate sports facilities. Mr IP Kin-yuen

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also expressed concern that many primary and secondary schools lacked venues for holding sports events.

15. C for S said that schools were encouraged to make use of a range of easily accessible sports facilities outside school for sports events. In addition to PE lessons in schools, students were encouraged to take part in a wide variety of sports activities through SSP organized by NSAs.

Admin 16. Mr Tony TSE asked why about 10% of schools did not take part in SSP in the 2015-2016 school year. Due to time constraint, C for S agreed to provide further information on the implementation of SSP in writing later.

Support for junior elite athletes

17. Referring to the pilot Partnership School Programme set out in paragraph 20 of the Administration's paper, Dr LAM Tai-fai said he noted that two student athletes studying in the Lam Tai Fai College had withdrawn from the Programme due to failure of the Programme to meet the needs of junior athletes in coping with sports training and academic studies at the same time. C for S agreed to further exchange views with Dr LAM on the Programme after the meeting.

18. The Deputy Chairman enquired whether the Administration would provide more funding for NSAs under the Sport Subvention Scheme ("SSS") to encourage NSAs to nurture more outstanding junior athletes for squad training. He also asked whether schools participating in the "Hong Kong Sports Institute ("HKSI") Elite Athletes-friendly School Network" would be given subsidies to recruit experienced coaches to develop training programmes for potential junior athletes to enhance their standards.

19. C for S explained that in determining the amount of subvention to NSAs under SSS, LCSD would consider the training needs and the number of participants of the sports concerned. Besides, HKSI provided elite athletes with a high quality training environment and support services.

Promoting sports for different age groups in the community

20. Mr NG Leung-sing said that the Administration should promote sports for all age groups. He asked whether the Administration had conducted any study on the demographic profile of different districts, which he considered would be useful for drawing up programmes to promote

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community sports for various age groups. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen suggested that the Administration should provide swimming courses for all primary school students so that children could learn swimming as early as possible. Mr IP Kwok-him requested C for S to allocate more resources for the promotion of sport in districts.

21. C for S said that promoting community sport was one of the three major objectives of the Government's policy for development of sport. The Administration in this year would conduct a study on the overall provision of sports venues and facilities in Hong Kong. C for S added that he would welcome further discussion with members on the detailed plans for promotion of sport in the community after the meeting.

22. Mr Christopher CHUNG pointed out that the major sports venues under the management of LCSD were usually fully booked by major NSAs and called on the Administration to make arrangements to facilitate amateur sports organizations to book sports venues for hosting of sports events and activities. He suggested that the Administration should review its sports policy with a view to fostering the development of a territory-wide sporting culture. Given the difficulties in booking sports venues as pointed out by Mr CHUNG, Mr WONG Ting-kwong enquired whether EDB would encourage schools to open up their venues and sports facilities for community use.

23. SHA responded that the Government was committed to promoting sports in schools and in the community. PEO(CD)1 said that EDB encouraged schools to open up their venues and facilities for community use. According to the findings of a survey conducted by EDB, about 80% of the primary schools surveyed indicated that they had opened up their facilities for community use in the 2014-2015 school year. He added that EDB would continue to encourage schools to open up their facilities for community use.

Admin 24. At the request of Mr Tony TSE, C for S agreed to provide supplementary information on the provision of sports facilities at LCSD venues in the community.

Participation in local and overseas competitions

25. Dr Kenneth CHAN and Mr IP Kin-yuen asked how the names of Taiwanese sports institutions which contained the word "national" would be handled by HAB and LCSD in the production of programme booklet for

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sports events involving the participation of athletes from such institutions. SHA said that HAB maintained close communication with sports organizations outside Hong Kong and all along adhered to the international practices in organizing international or regional sports events and exchange activities.

Support for retired athletes

26. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen considered that the career path of medallists in major international games would be important reference for young people who were interested in pursuing a career in sport. He asked whether the Administration would conduct a study on the career development opportunities of medallists and retired athletes in Hong Kong.

27. C for S said that eligible full-time athletes would be granted a one-off award under the Elite Athletes Performance Recognition Scheme run by HKSI to pursue new careers either in sports or in other fields after retirement. Retired athletes were also invited to participate in the SSPC Scheme to co-ordinate and promote sports activities for students. He added that consideration could be given to conducting the study suggested by Mr CHAN.

28. In concluding, the Chairman also expressed support for promoting sport for different age groups and encouraging people to engage more in sports in their daily life. As for sports programme for young people, she pointed out that students with good potential in sport often faced the dilemma between pursuing their academic studies and sports training. She suggested that the Administration should take measures to address the specific concerns of parents/students and allow flexible class schedules for students concerned. The Chairman also requested C for S to consider the views and suggestions raised by members on promoting sports development. C for S said that he would be pleased to further discuss the issues with members after the meeting.

V. Youth Hostel Scheme – Construction works by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1125/15-16(02) and CB(2)1128/15-16(04)]

29. As the item involved funding proposals, the Chairman drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure. SHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper. With the aid of Powerpoint,

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Deputy Executive Director of The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups ("DED/HKFG") briefed members on the HKFG youth hostel project in Tai Po.

(Post-meeting note: Presentation materials were issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1172/15-16(01).)

Discussion

Eligibility criteria and rental level

30. Expressing support for the youth hostel project of HKFG, Mr IP Kwok-him asked how the income limits for a one-person household applicant under the Youth Hostel Scheme ("YHS") were set. Noting that the rental level for a single unit of the youth hostel development by Po Leung Kuk in Yuen Long would be approximately \$1,700 per month, he enquired about the rental level for the youth hostel under discussion.

31. Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1) ("DSHA(1)") said that under YHS, the income level of a one-person household applicant should not exceed the 75th percentile of the monthly earnings of employed persons aged 18-30 (\$17,000 in 2014). To enable the young tenants to accumulate savings to pursue their medium term aspirations in personal development, the operating non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") should set the rental at a level which did not exceed 60% of the market rent of flats of similar size in the nearby areas. DED/HKFG said that based on the rental level for flats of similar sizes in the nearby area in 2015, the rental level for a single unit under this project should be about \$2,300 per month.

32. Mr IP Kin-yuen and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired whether the rental would include management fees and other expenses such as water charges. DED/HKFG said that the rental already included management fees but tenants would be required to pay for water charges for their individual hostel units.

33. Responding to Mr Alvin YEUNG's enquiry, Supervisor of HKFG clarified that an applicant could not own solely or jointly any residential property in Hong Kong, or hold any residential property in Hong Kong through a company.

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Project scope and programme organized for tenants

34. Noting that the proposed youth hostel tower would provide 78 hostel units and that the total construction floor area for the youth hostel portion would be around 3 460 m², Mr WU Chi-wai asked why the area of a single-person hostel unit was only about 15 m². He also asked why the average construction cost for each unit of this youth hostel tower seemed to be much higher than that for each public housing unit. Managing Director of Handi Architects Limited explained that as far as the youth hostel was concerned, the usable area of each floor was about 65% due to the need to provide circulation areas, corridors, stairs, lifts, etc. As a requirement under YHS, the area of a single-person hostel unit should be about 10 to 15 m². Due to time constraint, the Chairman asked Mr WU to follow up with HKFYG separately after the meeting.

35. Mr WU Chi-wai considered that the Administration should provide more detailed information on the policy objectives of YHS and details of operation. He queried the need for HKFYG to provide activities and programme to strengthen the group life of youth hostel tenants given that they were mostly working adults. Mr Alvin YEUNG asked whether the young tenants were required to participate in such activities on a compulsory basis, and whether their participation rate would be one of the main considerations in approving renewal of tenancy. DED/HKFYG said that HKFYG respected the lifestyle of tenants and they would invite tenants to participate in hostel activities on a voluntary basis. DED/HKFYG further said that the main considerations for approving renewal of tenancy were the tenant's wish and his/her age (below 30). Mr IP Kwok-him considered that it would benefit the hostel tenants if HKFYG would provide programme and facilities to enhance their social life.

Disposal of surplus from hostel operation

36. The Deputy Chairman suggested that HKFYG should be required to allocate a certain percentage of the surplus from the hostel operation to cover the maintenance cost for the hostel. He further asked whether there would be monitoring by the Government of the salaries of hostel management staff, income and expenses of the hostel in future.

37. SHA responded that under YHS, all participating NGOs would be required to meet the maintenance costs for the hostels concerned. He also assured members that a mechanism would be put in place to monitor the income and expenses of the hostels. DSHA(1) supplemented that under

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YHS, to ensure that each youth hostel was developed and operated in accordance with the policy objectives, NGOs would be governed by a Grant and Operation Agreement ("GOA") and land leases. GOA would set out the parameters under which NGOs would manage and maintain the youth hostels. For example, NGOs would be required to establish a mandatory reserve at a level sufficient to cover the maintenance cost for the hostels during the lease term. NGOs would have to seek prior approval from SHA if they wished to transfer some of the extra operating surplus, after fulfilling the mandatory reserve requirement, to support other non-profitable services.

Progress of YHS

38. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked about the anticipated completion date of the project under discussion and requested that floor plans should be provided to show the sizes and the interior layout of the hostel units. He expressed concern about the slow progress of YHS and when the Administration could meet the target of providing 3 000 rental hostel places through YHS as announced in the 2011-2012 Policy Address.

39. DED/HKFG said that subject to the funding approval of the Finance Committee, the construction works were planned to commence in the third quarter of 2016 for completion in the third quarter of 2018. SHA said that the YHS initiative was a new policy, and the Home Affairs Bureau had been working closely with and providing necessary assistance to the interested NGOs to help them take forward their proposed YHS projects. He said that he was confident that the target number of places could be met.

40. The Chairman was concerned that the provision of merely 3 000 hostel places under YHS would fall far short of the demand of eligible young people in Hong Kong. She was worried that this might cause great disappointment to the young people who were interested in applying for the hostel places, and suggested that the Administration should manage young people's expectations in this regard. SHA acknowledged that the number of places provided under YHS was modest. He explained that the number of hostel places offered was subject to the development plans and land lease requirements of the sites owned by individual NGOs. Noting that the aggregate tenancy period for each young tenant could not exceed five years, the Chairman expressed concern whether this could be rigidly implemented if some of the tenants became financially worsened after moving in. SHA said that the tenancy period was to be specified in the tenancy agreement between the NGO and the tenant concerned, which should be honoured by the signatories.

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41. Summing up, the Chairman said that members supported the submission of this funding proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") for further consideration.

(The Chairman directed that the meeting be extended for 15 minutes.)

VI. 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

[LC Paper No. CB(2)795/15-16(01), CB(2)1128/15-16(05) to (06), CB(2)1139/15-16(01) to (02) and CB(2)1157/15-16(01)]

42. At the invitation of the Chairman, SHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper. As the item involved a funding proposal, the Chairman drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure.

Discussion

43. Mr Frankie YICK and Mr MA Fung-kwok expressed support for the revised proposal of the reprovisioning project as they noted that it had incorporated Members' comments to improve the design and ventilation facilities in the new building on Hau Cheung Street. Mr YICK requested timely commencement of construction of the new facilities on Hau Cheung Street. Mr MA asked whether the Administration had consulted the operators of the street sleepers' services units ("SSSU") and the District Council ("DC") concerned on the revised proposal. SHA said that the Administration had consulted all relevant parties including the operators of SSSU and DC concerned and had received positive feedbacks.

44. Mr NG Leung-sing enquired whether it was possible to erect more than two additional floors to optimize the use of the relevant site on Hau Cheung Street. He also asked about the measures to be taken to mitigate the impact of odour nuisance generated by the refuse collection point ("RCP") on other users of the new building.

45. SHA said that the Administration's latest proposal to construct two additional floors had taken into account Members' suggestion to increase the

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vertical distance between RCP and SSSU. The Administration would not propose to revise the scheme again to construct more floors, in order not to further delay the reprovisioning project and incur additional costs. Project Director 3 ("PD3") said that the Administration would implement the mitigating measures as set out in paragraph 4 of the Administration's paper for the treatment of exhaust air in RCP. Air inside RCP would be ducted to high level above roof for discharge, after being treated by a water scrubber system for odour and disinfection control. The roller shutter at the entrance of RCP would be closed except for the access time of refuse collection vehicles. The overall layout, in terms of air quality, design of the exhaust system and the distance between the exhaust outlet near the north of the building and the main windows to the east and west of SSSU, would meet the requirements of the Environmental Protection Department. PD3 added that a separate ventilation system would be installed in SSSU where fresh air would be drawn from the east side instead of from the side facing Hau Cheung Street.

46. Mr IP Kwok-him expressed support for the revised proposal and agreed with SHA that the project should be implemented as soon as practicable without further delay. He expressed regret that the original proposal had been delayed notwithstanding the support expressed by the Yau Tsim Mong District Council for its early implementation.

47. Mr MA Fung-kwok requested the Administration to take forward the phase II development of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre ("YMTT") project to cater for the needs of the sector concerned. The Deputy Chairman suggested that the Administration should take the lead in liaising with the Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong on how to enhance collaboration with the tourist sector in the development of YMTT and turn it into a tourist attraction.

48. SHA said that the Administration would consult the Panel on the YMTT phase II development project in due course. He agreed that there was room for collaboration between the Chinese opera sector and the tourist sector in promoting YMTT and Chinese operas to tourists. Where appropriate, the Administration would render support to their collaboration.

49. The Deputy Chairman and the Chairman expressed support for the revised proposal. The Chairman also considered that the reprovisioning project had been unduly delayed for a prolonged period of time. In closing, the Chairman said that the Panel supported the submission of this funding proposal to PWSC for further consideration.

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VII. Any other business

Omission of the word "national" in publicity pamphlets produced by LCSD

50. At the invitation of the Chairman, SHA said that he noted members' concerns and had been studying the proper handling of and the related practices for cultural exchange activities between Hong Kong and Taiwan. He would liaise with the Chairman on the appropriate timing for the Panel to discuss the matter. The Chairman requested SHA to provide information in writing to the Panel on this matter.

Admin

51. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:35 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
27 June 2016