

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(3) 80/16-17

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Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 31 October 2016

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

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**Council meeting of 16 November 2016**

**Amendments to motion on  
“Strengthening the role and functions of District Councils”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 63/16-17 issued on 24 October 2016, four Members (Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG, Hon WU Chi-wai, Hon HUI Chi-fung and Hon Michael TIEN) have respectively given notice of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon LAU Kwok-fan’s motion on “Strengthening the role and functions of District Councils”. Members have been informed vide LC Paper No. CB(3) 77/16-17 issued on 28 October 2016 that the above motion, originally scheduled for the Council meeting of 2 November 2016, will be rescheduled to the Council meeting of 16 November 2016. As directed by the President, the respective amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and the four amendments. To assist Members in debating the motion and the amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) the President calls upon Hon LAU Kwok-fan to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon LAU Kwok-fan’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the four Members who wish to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:

- (i) Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG;
  - (ii) Hon WU Chi-wai;
  - (iii) Hon HUI Chi-fung; and
  - (iv) Hon Michael TIEN;
- (d) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
- (f) the President gives leave to Hon LAU Kwok-fan to speak for the second time on the amendments;
- (g) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak again;
- (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the four Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG's amendment;
- (i) after Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other three amendments; and
- (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon LAU Kwok-fan to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon LAU Kwok-fan's motion, or his motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Dora WAI)  
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on  
“Strengthening the role and functions of District Councils”  
to be held at the Council meeting of 16 November 2016**

**1. Hon LAU Kwok-fan’s original motion**

That as District Council members have the advantage of grasping first-hand public sentiments, this Council urges the Government to strengthen the role and functions of District Councils, so as to enable District Councils to better serve the public and promote community development; the relevant measures include:

- (1) allowing District Council members to have more opportunities to participate in district development and at the stage of formulating various policies;
- (2) strengthening the supervision of District Councils over policy implementation and district affairs;
- (3) enhancing the support to District Councils and District Council members;
- (4) establishing a ‘community building fund’ to expedite the implementation of community facility works endorsed by District Councils; and
- (5) strengthening the role of District Officers in district coordination, so as to enhance the communication of District Councils with various bureaux and departments of the Government.

**2. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG**

~~That as District Council members have the advantage of grasping first hand public sentiments~~ *in recent years, the projects under the Signature Project Scheme implemented by District Councils have come under criticism, such as the construction of music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade, improving the tourist facilities at Lam Tsuen Wishing Square, the development of seafood dining facilities near the Aberdeen Wholesale Fish Market, etc., giving rise to controversy in the community; and various district minor works projects endorsed by District Councils for implementation were ineffective; the*

*abovementioned situation reflects that District Councils are out of tune with public sentiments and their decision-making process lacks transparency; in this connection*, this Council urges the Government to strengthen the role and functions of District Councils, so as to enable District Councils to better serve the public and promote community development; the relevant measures include:

- (1) allowing District Council members to have more opportunities to participate in district development and at the stage of formulating various policies;
- (2) strengthening the supervision of District Councils over policy implementation and district affairs;
- (3) enhancing the support to District Councils and District Council members;
- (4) ~~establishing a ‘community building fund’ to expedite the implementation of community facility works endorsed by District Councils; and~~
- (5) strengthening the role of District Officers in district coordination, so as to enhance the communication of District Councils with various bureaux and departments of the Government;
- (5) *amending the model District Council Standing Orders to enhance the system for declaration of interests by District Council members, including requiring District Council members who have direct personal interests in the public or private companies/organizations (including non-profit-making welfare organizations) related to the funding proposals concerned, or who are unremunerated (i.e. without any honorarium, allowances or other material benefits) directors of those companies/organizations, to disclose such connections and/or withdraw from the meeting when a funding proposal related to such companies/organizations is being discussed by the District Council or its committees and to refrain from voting on the funding proposal;*
- (6) *enhancing the transparency of District Councils, including requiring that the names of speakers be set out in the minutes of all meetings of District Councils to facilitate monitoring by the public; setting up real-time audio or video broadcasting for all meetings, and making public the detailed information and auditors’ reports of all those activities subsidized with funding as well as district minor works projects, and uploading them onto the websites of District Councils for the public’s reference; and*

- (7) *stepping up the efforts of District Councils to conduct consultation with the community, and establishing a mechanism for making joint decisions with the community.*

Note: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

### **3. Motion as amended by Hon WU Chi-wai**

That *District Councils have for many years merely played the role in giving views to the Government; however*, as District Council members have the advantage of grasping first-hand public sentiments, this Council urges the Government to *review and amend the District Councils Ordinance and adopt measures to* strengthen the role and functions of District Councils, so as to enable District Councils to better serve the public and promote community development; the relevant measures include:

- (1) allowing District Council members to have more opportunities to participate in district development and at the stage of formulating various policies, *including vesting them with the powers of staff management, financial autonomy and making policy decisions;*
- (2) strengthening the supervision of District Councils over policy implementation and district affairs, *and allowing District Councils to manage district municipal facilities and services;*
- (3) ~~enhancing~~ *establishing an independent District Council secretariat to enhance* the support to District Councils and District Council members;
- (4) ~~establishing~~ *affirming the funding policy system and the system for members' declaration of interests with a high degree of transparency, considering the establishment of a 'community building fund' to expedite on the premise of putting the funding process of District Councils under public scrutiny, and expediting* the implementation of community facility works endorsed by District Councils *after fully consulting stakeholders in the districts;* and
- (5) strengthening the role of District Officers in district coordination, so as to enhance the communication of District Councils with various bureaux and departments of the Government.

Note: Hon WU Chi-wai's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

#### 4. Motion as amended by Hon HUI Chi-fung

That *District Councils have for many years merely played the role in giving views to the Government; however*, as District Council members have the advantage of grasping first-hand public sentiments, this Council urges the Government to strengthen the role and functions of District Councils, so as to enable District Councils to better serve the public and promote community development; the relevant measures include:

- (1) allowing District Council members to have more opportunities to participate in district development and at the stage of formulating various policies;
- (2) strengthening the supervision of District Councils over policy implementation and district affairs;
- (3) enhancing the support to District Councils and District Council members;
- (4) establishing a 'community building fund' to expedite the implementation of community facility works endorsed by District Councils; and
- (5) ~~strengthening the role of District Officers in district coordination~~ *reviewing and amending the District Councils Ordinance, and studying the introduction of District Commissioners to be returned by universal suffrage*, so as to enhance the communication of District Councils with various bureaux and departments of the Government, *and abolishing the ex-officio seats in District Councils.*

Note: Hon HUI Chi-fung's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

#### 5. Motion as amended by Hon Michael TIEN

That as *in view of members of the public have become increasingly demanding with district home affairs work and* District Council members have the advantage of grasping first-hand public sentiments, this Council urges the Government to strengthen the role and functions of District Councils, so as to enable District Councils to better serve the public and promote community development; the relevant measures include:

- (1) allowing District Council members to have more opportunities to participate in district development and at the stage of formulating various policies;
- (2) strengthening the supervision of District Councils over policy implementation and district affairs;
- (3) enhancing the support to District Councils and District Council members;
- (4) establishing a 'community building fund' to expedite the implementation of community facility works endorsed by District Councils; ~~and~~
- (5) strengthening the role of District Officers in district coordination, so as to enhance the communication of District Councils with various bureaux and departments of the Government;
- (6) *exploring the allocation of a fixed weighting to both the scoring mechanism and the balloting mechanism in the process of vetting and approving the funding for works projects under the District Minor Works programme, so that all District Council members can have opportunities to materialize their proposed works projects during their terms of office; and*
- (7) *requiring that in the process of vetting and approving district planning applications by the Town Planning Board, the stances and views of District Councils must be given a certain weighting.*

Note: Hon Michael TIEN's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.