

立法會
Legislative Council

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LC Paper No. CB(2)1060/16-17

(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

**Minutes of policy briefing cum meeting
held on Friday, 20 January 2017, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Hon Alvin YEUNG
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-fai
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan
Hon Tanya CHAN
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
Hon HUI Chi-fung

Hon LUK Chung-hung
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, MH, JP
Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung
Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

Members attending : Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Hon CHAN Chun-ying
Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim

Members absent : Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon KWONG Chun-yu

Public Officers attending : Item IV

Mr LAU Kong Wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

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

Mr Laurie LO Chi-hong, JP
Acting Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Angela LEE Chung-yan, JP
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP
Commissioner for Sports

Miss Janice TSE Siu-wa, JP
Director of Home Affairs

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

Item V

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

Ms Sandy CHEUNG Pui-shan
Principal Assistant Secretary (Culture) 2
Home Affairs Bureau

Mr CHAN Shing-wai
Assistant Director (Heritage & Museums)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Staff in attendance : Mr Richard WONG
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)637/16-17]

The minutes of the meeting on 11 November 2016 were confirmed.

II. Information papers issued since the last meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)615/16-17(01) and CB(2)636/16-17(01)]

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

- (a) the Administration's response to Hon Charles Peter MOK's letter dated 15 December 2016; and
- (b) the Administration's information paper entitled "Race Routes for the Hong Kong Marathon 2017".

III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)649/16-17(01) and (02)]

3. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 27 February 2017 at 8:30 am:

- (a) Kai Tak Sports Park; and

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- (b) proposed Intangible Cultural Heritage Representative List for Hong Kong.

IV. Briefing by the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)649/16-17(03) and CB(2)677/16-17(01)]

4. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)649/16-17(03)]. SHA informed members that the Administration and the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") Authority ("WKCDA") planned to brief the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project ("Joint Subcommittee") on the enhanced financial arrangement for WKCD at its meeting scheduled for 21 February 2017, and welcomed members to raise relevant issues at that meeting for detailed discussion.

5. Members noted the Administration's booklet entitled "Youth Development Work of the Current-term Government 2012-2017" [LC Paper No. CB(2)677/16-17(01)] tabled at the meeting.

Proposal to use the Wan Chai Sports Ground for comprehensive development ("the Proposal")

6. Some members including Ms Tanya CHAN, Mr IP Kin-yuen, Mr Nathan LAW and Mr HUI Chi-fung expressed opposition to the proposed demolition of the Wan Chai Sports Ground. Ms Tanya CHAN said that if the Wan Chai Sports Ground was used for comprehensive development in 2019 at the earliest as mentioned in the 2017 Policy Address, only two public sports grounds (i.e. the Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground and the Aberdeen Sports Ground) would then be available on the Hong Kong Island. Assuming that the redevelopment of the Hong Kong Stadium was completed in 2025 at the earliest, it could replace the demolished Wan Chai Sports Ground only from 2025. In view of the time gap, she considered it unacceptable for the Administration to demolish the Wan Chai Sports Ground in 2019. She added that the Administration had earlier commissioned a consultancy study to address the shortfall of convention and exhibition venues in Hong Kong. Amongst the 15 recommendations put forward by the consultant, there was not one proposing to use the Wan Chai Sports Ground for comprehensive development.

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7. Mr Nathan LAW and Mr IP Kin-yuen pointed out that the Wan Chai Sports Ground was important to the sports and the education sectors as it met the venue requirements for holding track and field events of international standards, and it was a major venue for holding sports meets, training and competitions by schools and sports associations. They expressed grave concern about the implications of the Proposal on the sports and the education sectors. Mr LAW said that if the Wan Chai Sports Ground was demolished, local residents would lack facilities for jogging. He added that by the planning standards, Hong Kong Island was currently short of one sports ground and two sports stadiums. Mr HUI Chi-fung said that the Proposal was unfair to residents of Hong Kong Island, who already suffered from the loss of many public facilities due to the infrastructural development on the north side of Hong Kong Island. He also queried whether the new recreation and sports facilities to be provided under the comprehensive development project would be available for public use at affordable fee levels. He stressed that the Administration should also address the shortfall of recreation and sports facilities on Hong Kong Island and not just the shortfall of convention and exhibition venues.

8. SHA said that the Administration would conduct a feasibility study on the Proposal and would consider further when the outcome of the feasibility study was available. Meanwhile, the Administration would consult the Wan Chai District Council and stakeholders including the sports sector, the education sector and the public on the Proposal. SHA advised that under the Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreation Facilities ("the Five-Year Plan"), additional recreation and sports facilities would be provided on Hong Kong Island and other districts to meet residents' needs as detailed in the Administration's paper.

9. The Commissioner for Sports ("C for S") informed members that the proposed Kai Tak Sports Park would provide a 50 000-seat multi-purpose main stadium, and a 5 000-seat public sports ground which would provide athletics facilities meeting international standards. The main stadium at the proposed Kai Tak Sports Park would be suitable for holding major sports events including international football and rugby matches, while the 5 000-seat public sports ground would be suitable for school athletics meets, sports training, and local football matches. In addition, there would be a new sports ground to be built in Tuen Mun which would also provide athletics facilities meeting international standards. SHA explained that given the overall development plan for sports facilities in Hong Kong, the Government considered that the feasibility of the Proposal could be examined.

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10. Mr YIU Si-wing considered that the Proposal should be explored as an earlier consultancy study commissioned by the Government had projected that by 2028, there would be a shortfall of about 130 000 square metres of convention and exhibition venues in Hong Kong at peak periods. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan considered that given the low usage rate of the Hong Kong Stadium, residents on HK Island would welcome the proposal to redevelop the Hong Kong Stadium into a sports ground for community use. He was also pleased to note that the Proposal would comprise recreation and sports facilities as well as other necessary community facilities for the district, as he noted that Wan Chai residents had long awaited the provision of a community hall. He requested that in taking forward the Proposal, the Administration should take into full consideration its impacts on the transport in the vicinity and the education sector. He also requested the Administration to conduct consultation with local residents on the community facilities to be provided under the Proposal to ensure that residents' needs would be met.

11. The Deputy Chairman suggested that the Administration might explore the feasibility of retaining the Wan Chai Sports Ground and constructing additional convention/exhibition venues above the sports ground. The Chairman considered that in taking forward the Proposal, the Administration should ensure a seamless transition to minimize the impacts on all stakeholders concerned. He also suggested that the Administration should take the opportunity of redeveloping the Hong Kong Stadium to provide additional recreation and sports facilities there.

12. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung suggested that the Administration might need to further explain to the public how the redevelopment of the Hong Kong Stadium would benefit the local community. Regarding the Proposal, Mr LUK Chung-hung considered that the Administration might explore whether there were any alternative sites for provision of convention and exhibition venues and whether the Proposal and the proposed redevelopment of the Hong Kong Stadium were the most cost-effective options.

13. Mr IP Kin-yuen expressed concern whether there was a conflict of role for the Trade Development Council ("TDC") to conduct the feasibility study on the comprehensive development project at the Wan Chai Sports Ground. Mr YIU Si-wing enquired whether the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") or the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau would be the lead bureau in taking forward the Proposal. SHA said that HAB was

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fully aware of the concern of the sports sector about the Proposal and would continue to listen to their views. Meanwhile, the Administration would carry out consultation with all stakeholders and TDC would conduct the feasibility study in parallel. The Government would take into account the findings and the views collected in considering the way forward.

Five-year plan for sports and recreation facilities

14. Members in general welcomed the Administration's plan to spend \$20 billion in the coming five years to launch 26 projects to develop new or improve existing sports and recreation facilities. Mr LAU Kwok-fun said that there were still some outstanding leisure and cultural services projects of the former municipal councils which were not included in the list of projects for implementation under the Five-year Plan. He suggested that the Administration should consider setting up a community construction fund to finance the District Councils ("DCs") concerned to take forward those projects. The Deputy Chairman noted that under the Five-Year Plan, only one project was to be carried out on Hong Kong Island (i.e. heated pool at the Pao Yue Kong Swimming Pool Complex in the Southern District). He enquired whether the Administration could further increase the provision of sports facilities on Hong Kong Island.

15. SHA said that the new or enhanced sports and recreation facilities to be provided under the Five-Year Plan included two sports grounds, nine football pitches, one sports centre, four swimming pool complexes, two lawn bowling greens, one cycling ground, four tennis courts, 11 outdoor basketball courts and 20 open spaces. In addition, the Administration would conduct technical feasibility studies ("TFS") for another 15 sports and recreation facility projects to prepare for their implementation in the future. These projects were long-awaited by the districts and could significantly increase the provision of and improve existing sports and recreation facilities as well as open spaces. He further said that on Hong Kong Island, apart from the redevelopment of the Hong Kong Stadium and the provision of heated pool in the Southern District, the Administration would conduct TFS on the redevelopment of Aberdeen Sports Ground, the Sports Centre and Open Space at Aldrich Bay, and the Open Space at Eastern Street North in the Central and Western District. Furthermore, if the Proposal was implemented, it would comprise additional recreation and sports facilities.

16. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung expressed reservations about the proposed redevelopment of Tung Tau Industrial Area Playground in Yuen Long, as

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local residents had diverse views on redeveloping a free outdoor football pitch into an artificial-turf football pitch. He was worried that the booking of the new football pitch would be more difficult and more costly, and as the Playground was used for holding the Lunar New Year Fair, it might not be easy to find an alternative venue in the vicinity. C for S advised that the proposal was put forward having regard to the large demand for 11-a-side artificial turf football pitches, and the Administration would consult the DC concerned before implementing the proposal. Besides, free outdoor hard surfaced football pitches were also available at various locations in Yuen Long (such as the On Hing Playground, the Yuen Long Park and the Ping Pak Lane Park).

17. Mr LUK Chung-hung requested the Administration to step up its work to renovate some existing sports venues, e.g. the Sham Shui Po Sports Ground which in his view was a substandard venue for holding football matches of the Hong Kong Premier League.

Sports development

18. Whilst welcoming the proposed injection of \$1 billion to the Elite Athletes Development Fund, the Chairman said that as one of the board members of the Hong Kong Sports Institute ("HKSI"), he noted that the amount might not be sufficient to meet the needs of HKSI in elite training and requested the Administration to consider increasing the amount to \$3 billion. SHA said that the Administration would make sustained efforts in supporting elite sports and might consider further injection in the future. The Chairman added that he welcomed the announcement in the Policy Address that the Education Bureau and HAB would encourage public sector schools to further open up their facilities.

19. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan and Dr Fernando CHEUNG urged the Administration to expeditiously take measures to promote sports participation by persons with disabilities ("PWDs"). Ms YUNG suggested that the Administration should draw reference to the experience of Singapore and the Mainland in this regard, such as installing barrier-free fitness equipment (including that for the visually-impaired). Director of Leisure & Cultural Services ("DLCS") advised that the Administration was formulating a comprehensive plan to implement the measures put forward in the Report of the Consultancy Study on Sport for People with Disabilities in Hong Kong, particularly those to enhance the participation of PWDs in sports. In response to Dr CHEUNG's enquiry, DLCS said that the Administration

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planned to launch within 2017 the one-stop website on information about ancillary facilities for PWDs available at various sports venues as well as relevant sports activities and training programmes. C for S advised that HAB would come to a view in mid-2017 on the recommendation of establishing a full-time athlete system for athletes with disabilities.

20. Mr Holden CHOW enquired about the details of the Government's support for retired athletes and the major sports events to be held in Hong Kong in the coming year. C for S said that there were currently various schemes providing support for retired athletes, including those implemented by HKSI and the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China ("SF&OC"). The financial support for these schemes were in general adequate, and an injection of \$9 million would be made to the Hong Kong Athletes Career and Education Programme under SF&OC to support its continuous development. As regards major sports events, Hong Kong would host the first ever UCI Track Cycling World Championships in April 2017 and a major international sailing event (i.e. the Volvo Ocean Race) for the first time in early 2018.

Cultural, leisure and recreational facilities

21. The Chairman requested the Administration to enhance the provision of arts space by launching more projects similar to the one of retrofitting of a vacated school premise in Tai Po for the establishment of an arts centre. SHA said that the Administration was committed to enhancing the provision of arts space subject to availability of suitable venues. The Tai Po DC was very supportive of the project and this was helpful to the implementation. In addition to the Tai Po project, the Panel was consulted in the last legislative session on another proposed project to provide arts space and arts facilities as well as office space for the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in the future development at ex-Aberdeen Fire Station site.

22. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung considered that the Administration's plan to launch a self-service library unit each on the Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories was inadequate. He suggested that at least two such units should be provided in the New Territories given the large size of population there. DLCS advised that the plan was only on a trial basis with a view to examining the feasibility of and the level of users' acceptance for the service. If the trial scheme was proven to be effective, the Administration would explore the feasibility of extending the service to other locations.

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District administration

23. Mr LAU Kwok-fan said that given the generally high office rental and the heavy workload of DCs, the Administration should consider reviewing the accountable Operating Expenses Reimbursement ("OER") for DC members with a view to enhancing support for DC members' work. Mr LUK Chung-hung considered that the Administration should continue to implement the Signature Project Scheme in the 18 DCs. The Director of Home Affairs ("DHA") said that the accountable OER for DC members had been increased by 15% and 34% in 2011 and 2014 respectively, and DC members' monthly honorarium had been increased by 15% in 2016. Moreover, these items would be adjusted annually in accordance with the year-on-year rate of change in the Consumer Price Index (A). The Administration would keep in constant review of the adequacy of resources allocated for DC members/DCs.

Building management

24. Dr YIU Chung-yim queried the effectiveness of the Building Management Professional Advisory Service ("BMPAS") Scheme, and enquired how Phase 3 of the BMPAS Scheme would be improved. He also urged the Administration to set a timetable for incorporating the Handbook on Tree Management published by the Development Bureau into the Code of Practice issued under the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344) ("BMO"). In reply, DHA said that Phases 1 and 2 of the BMPAS Scheme received positive feedbacks from owners of "three-nil" buildings. Phase 3 of the Scheme would be rolled out in April 2017, which would engage professional property management companies to provide owners of about 1 400 buildings aged 30 years or above with professional support, and to assist owners of "three-nil" buildings in forming owners' corporations ("OC") and discharging their responsibilities in building management. DHA added that the incorporation of the Handbook on Tree Management into the Code of Practice issued under BMO was also underway.

25. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung considered that the Administration should step up its work in assisting property owners to monitor the operation of OCs, particularly in the prevention of bid-rigging, use of proxy instruments at OC meetings, and timely release of annual financial reports by OCs. He considered that the Administration should play a more proactive role in ensuring that OCs were in compliance of BMOs, and should not leave it to property owners to take legal actions against OCs which contravened

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provisions of BMOs. Mr Wilson OR also urged the Administration to address the main concerns on building management raised by the public in recent years by suitably amending BMO to ensure that BMO kept pace with changing circumstances. SHA and DHA responded that the Administration had come up with proposals to address concerns, including disputes arising from large-scale maintenance projects and use of proxy instruments at OC meetings. Following the public consultation exercise which ended in February 2015, the Administration had briefed the Panel on the outcome of the public consultation and the proposed way forward in May 2016. The Administration would propose to further discuss the subject shortly. Furthermore, the Urban Renewal Authority had launched the "Smart Tender" building rehabilitation facilitating services to enable building owners to acquire more information about the building rehabilitation market, and to proceed with the tendering process for maintenance projects.

Youth development

26. Mr SHIU Ka-chun and Ms Claudia MO were of the view that there was room for improvement in the Administration's work on youth development. Whilst welcoming the Administration to take initiative to study the future direction of the youth development policy in Hong Kong, Mr SHIU considered that the Administration should set a concrete plan and timetable for formulating the youth development policy, and queried whether and how the above study would collect views of those young people who were politically active. Ms MO opined that the decision of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to ban two youth political groups from operating their stalls at the Victoria Park Lunar New Year Fair was in conflict with the Government's vision of youth development.

27. SHA advised that the Government's youth development initiatives spanned across a wide spectrum and involved a variety of policy areas, and as the community evolved, youth development work would need to adapt to changes. The Administration therefore considered it timely and appropriate to invite members of the Commission on Youth, the relevant policy bureaux, young people and other stakeholders involved in youth development work to jointly contemplate the future direction for youth development policy in Hong Kong.

Enhanced financial arrangement for the West Kowloon Cultural District

28. The Chairman said that he supported in principle the enhanced financial arrangement for WKCD and agreed that the issue could be

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discussed in detail at the meeting of the Joint Subcommittee on 21 February 2017.

29. With reference to paragraph 8(c) of the Legislative Council Brief on the West Kowloon Cultural District issued in 2008 (Ref: SF(17) to HAB CS CR 7/1/27), Ms Tanya CHAN said that the statutory functions of WKCDA did not include the development of the hotel/office/residential ("HOR") portion of WKCD. She queried the legal basis for the enhanced financial arrangement for WKCD, under which the government-owned development right of the HOR portion of WKCD would be granted to WKCDA. SHA said that the development of the HOR portion within WKCD was within the scope of the function of WKCDA.

30. Given that WKCD had been provided with an endowment fund of \$21.6 billion in 2008 and the Hong Kong Palace Museum would be funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, Dr YIU Chung-yim asked whether the Administration would consider requiring WKCDA to return excessive fund to the Government following the implementation of the enhanced financial arrangement. In his estimation, the amount of fund which should be returned to the Government would be in the range between \$6 billion and \$7 billion.

31. SHA said that since 2013, WKCDA had reported to the Joint Subcommittee on various occasions that WKCDA was facing financial challenges. It was also reported that the endowment fund and the apportioned investment income would only be sufficient to build the Batch 1 and most of Batch 2 facilities, and the implementation programme of the Batch 3 facilities should be reviewed. Members were also informed at various meetings of the Joint Subcommittee that the only realistic option available to WKCDA was to consider how to advance the commercial developments on the site to leverage financing and funding alternatives; and if WKCDA was given all or part of the development rights of the commercial developments, there would be potential for WKCDA to develop the planned facilities, fund the operation of the arts and cultural facilities and support the wider development of arts and culture in Hong Kong. SHA said that the introduction of the enhanced financial arrangement was intended to provide sufficient but not excessive resources to WKCDA to meet its financial difficulties so that it could deliver and sustainably operate WKCD in particular its arts and cultural facilities

32. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired that with implementation of the enhanced financial arrangement, whether there was still a need for further

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funding injection for the delivery of Batch 3 facilities such as the Music Centre. SHA advised that it had all along been the plan to vest the retail/dining/entertainment part of the commercial sites in WKCD in WKCD to provide it with a steady source of recurrent income through rental proceeds to meet the operating deficits of the core arts and cultural facilities and related facilities. The enhanced financial arrangement was therefore an extension of the original approach. Under the enhanced financial arrangement, WKCD might develop the HOR facilities jointly with private sector through open and competitive tender and Build-Operate-Transfer ("BOT") arrangement while retaining the ownership of the HOR facilities. As such, WKCD would share rental revenue from such facilities and receive additional income upon expiry of the BOT arrangement. Therefore, WKCD should have the financial capability to operate sustainably the various facilities in WKCD and continue to develop the remaining planned facilities, particularly a world-class Music Centre.

33. Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed worry that the enhanced financial arrangement would switch the role of WKCD from cultural development to property development, and turn the WKCD project into a property development project. Ms Claudia MO queried whether the WKCD project had been turned into a privatized project. In reply, SHA stressed that WKCD, as a statutory body, would continue to focus on the delivery of the arts and cultural facilities and the enhanced financial arrangement was intended to provide WKCD with the capacity to fulfil this mission.

Staffing proposal for the Recreation and Sport Branch at HAB

34. Members noted the staffing proposal as set out in paragraphs 21 to 25 of the Administration's paper, and raised no particular view on it. The Chairman said he noted that members did not raise objection to submission of the staffing proposal to the Establishment Subcommittee for further consideration.

Motion

35. After discussion, Mr Nathan LAW moved the following motion:

"本委員會反對清拆灣仔運動場的計劃，並要求政府按《香港規劃標準與準則》檢視現時的康樂及休憩用地，盡快落實有關工程，以滿足市民的需要。"

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(Translation)

"That this Panel objects to the proposal to demolish the Wan Chai Sports Ground, and requests the Administration to examine the existing provision of recreation and leisure facilities and to expeditiously increase the provision of such facilities in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines."

36. The Chairman put Mr LAW's motion to vote. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan requested a division.

37. The following members voted for the motion: Mr James TO, Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr Andrew WAN, Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Mr SHIU Ka-chun, Ms Tanya CHAN, Mr Nathan LAW and Dr LAU Siu-lai.

38. The following members voted against the motion: Ms Starry LEE, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr Paul TSE, Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr Holden CHOW, Mr SHIU Ka-fai, Mr Wilson OR, Ms YUNG Hoi-yan, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, Mr LAU Kwok-fan and Mr Kenneth LAU. Dr Junius HO and Mr HO Kai-ming abstained from voting.

39. The Chairman declared that 12 members voted for the motion, 13 members voted against the motion and two members abstained from voting. The Chairman declared that the motion was negatived.

(Post-meeting note: Mr Nathan LAW's letter to SHA making further enquiries on the Proposal was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)704/16-17(01) on 25 January 2017. The Administration's reply letter was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1057/16-17(01) on 23 March 2017.)

V. Revamping of the Permanent Exhibition of the Hong Kong Railway Museum

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)604/16-17(01) and (02)]

40. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Under Secretary for Home Affairs ("USHA") and the Assistant Director (Heritage & Museums) ("AD(H&M)") of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department briefed

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members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2) 604/16-17(01)].

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

Discussion

41. Mr LUK Chung-hung declared that he was the Director-General of the Hong Kong Railway Employees Union. He expressed support for the Administration's plan to revamp the permanent exhibition of the Hong Kong Railway Museum ("HKRM"). He suggested that the revamping plan might include presenting the latest advances in and projected development of future railway technology, as well as the development of the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link ("XRL") project. He also suggested installing railway cabin simulators and other interactive games/exhibits, and enhancing nostalgic elements to accommodate photography enthusiasts. He requested the Administration to explore the feasibility of using the site to the south of HKRM for constructing an additional exhibition hall where additional exhibits could be installed.

42. Mr YIU Si-wing echoed Mr LUK's view on how the revamping plan could be further enhanced. He also took the view that the revamping plan might include topics such as the development of the Hong Kong section of XRL, the high-speed rail network in the Mainland and in other countries, the economic benefits of high-speed railway development, and the new trends of railway technology (e.g. magnetic levitation train). Noting that the estimated cost of the current revamping plan was about \$14.95 million, Mr YIU considered that the Administration might consider further increasing the budget, if necessary, to include more innovative and high-tech exhibits to enhance the display.

43. Whilst expressing support for the revamping plan, the Chairman and Mr Holden CHOW were also of the view that further enhancement could be made to the content of display of HKRM by including an overview of the strategic significance of the Hong Kong section of XRL and how it became part of the national high-speed rail network. Considering that many young people might not have the experience of travelling on high-speed trains, the Chairman suggested that the revamping plan should include installing cabin simulators of XRL so as to enhance visitors' experience.

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44. In response to members' views and suggestions, USHA said that one of the major areas of the revamping plan of HKRM was to enhance the attractiveness of the display by installing more interactive devices and making use of technology (e.g. multimedia and virtual reality) to appeal to the visitors. Moreover, the interpretation strategies of the display objects would be updated with the use of social media and new communication technology with a view to better connecting with the younger generation. USHA explained that the addition of physical exhibits might be constrained by the space limitation and the fact that the location of HKRM (i.e. the former site of the Old Tai Po Market Railway Station) was a declared monument. Nevertheless, the Administration would take on board members' suggestions as far as possible. AD(H&M) explained that the site to the south of HKRM was not part of HKRM and it was currently used by the MTR Corporation for maintenance support.

VI. Any other business

45. The Chairman informed members that Dr YIU Chung-yim had written to him requesting to join the Panel. Due to time constrain, the Chairman instructed that Dr YIU's application would be dealt with at the next meeting.

46. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:42 am.