

立法會
Legislative Council

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LC Paper No. CB(2)2175/16-17
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Monday, 26 June 2017, at 8:30 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
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 Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-fai
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan
Hon Tanya CHAN
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Hon KWONG Chun-yu
Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung
Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim
Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

Members absent : Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Alvin YEUNG
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon LUK Chung-hung
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, MH, JP

[According to the Judgment of the Court of First Instance of the High Court on 14 July 2017, LEUNG Kwok-hung, Nathan LAW Kwun-chung, YIU Chung-yim and LAU Siu-lai have been disqualified from assuming the office of a member of the Legislative Council, and have vacated the same since 12 October 2016, and are not entitled to act as a member of the Legislative Council.]

Public Officers : Item III
attending

Mr Laurie LO, JP
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1)
Home Affairs Bureau

Mr Nick AU YEUNG
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs
(Community Care Fund)
Home Affairs Bureau

Mrs Angelina CHEUNG, JP
Deputy Secretary for Education (6)
Education Bureau

Ms Annisa MA
Acting Assistant Director (Family and Child Welfare)
Social Welfare Department

Community Care Fund Task Force under the
Commission on Poverty

Dr LAW Chi-kwong, GBS, JP
Chairperson

Item IV

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP
Commissioner for Sports
Home Affairs Bureau

Mrs Doris FOK LEE Sheung-ling
Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 1
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Michael CHIU Yat-on
Chief Executive Officer (Planning) 1
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Edward TSE Cheong-wo
Project Director 3
Architectural Services Department

Mr CHU Bo-kwun
Chief Project Manager 303
Architectural 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. Information papers issued since the last meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1595/16-17(01), CB(2)1690/16-17(01), CB(2)1716/16-17(01), CB(2)1717/16-17(01), CB(2)1718/16-17(01) and CB(2)1725/16-17(01)]

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

- (a) letter dated 8 June 2017 from Hon CHAN Chi-chuen and the Administration's response to Hon CHAN Chi-chuen's letter;
- (b) Administration's response to the letter dated 15 May 2017 from Hon LAU Kwok-fan;

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- (c) letter dated 22 May 2017 from Hon KWONG Chun-yu;
- (d) referral from Legislative Council Members' meeting with Heung Yee Kuk Councillors on 12 May 2017 regarding development of home-stay lodgings in villages in the New Territories; and
- (e) Administration's response to the submission from the Confucian Academy.

2. Noting from the aforesaid Administration's response [LC Paper No. CB(2)1690/16-17(01)] that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") was taking steps to investigate and follow up on the incident regarding the death of egret chicks due to nest destruction during pruning work in Tai Po in May 2017, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked whether this Panel would follow up. The Chairman said that as tree management was under the purview of the Department Bureau, it would be more appropriate for Mr CHAN to follow up on the incident and relevant policy issues through the Panel on Development.

3. Ms Tanya CHAN said that the incident also involved the work of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, as the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170) stipulated that "no person shall, except in accordance with a special permit, take, remove, injure, destroy or wilfully disturb a nest or egg of any protected wild animal". As the Chairman of the Panel on Environmental Affairs ("EA Panel"), Ms CHAN said that the EA Panel would also consider following up on the subject.

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1703/16-17(01) and (02)]

4. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting:

- (a) review of Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Ordinance; and
- (b) latest progress of youth development work.

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5. Given that seven members including the Chairman would join the overseas duty visit by the Panel on Commerce and Industry from 22 to 28 July 2017, the Chairman invited members to consider the need to reschedule the next regular meeting on 24 July 2017 at 8:30 am. Ms Tanya CHAN said that she preferred holding the meeting as scheduled, adding that the Deputy Chairman could chair that meeting. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said that there was a risk that the quorum for the July meeting could not be formed as seven members would be out of town. Dr Helena WONG suggested that additional timeslot(s) be provided for members' consideration. The Chairman concluded that in view of members' different views, he would instruct the Clerk to follow up.

Clerk

(Post-meeting note: On the instruction of the Chairman, members were invited to indicate their availability for three proposed timeslots for the regular meeting in July 2017 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1754/16-17 dated 28 June 2017. Having considered members' availability, the Chairman directed that the regular meeting in July be rescheduled for 17 July 2017 at 4:30 pm.)

III. Community Care Fund

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1680/16-17(01) and CB(2)1703/16-17(03)]

6. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1) ("DSHA") and the Chairperson of the Community Care Fund ("CCF") Task Force ("C of CCF Task Force") under the Commission on Poverty briefed members on the work progress of CCF as set out in the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)1680/16-17(01)].

Discussion

7. Dr Helena WONG expressed support for the "Pilot scheme on subsidized cervical cancer screening and preventive education for eligible low-income women" to be launched by CCF. She considered that in order for the pilot scheme to benefit the target groups, the Administration should design a publicity campaign targeted at low-income women, e.g. the ethnic minority ("EM") women and new arrivals living in sub-divided units.

8. C of CCF Task Force advised that non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") responsible for implementing the above pilot scheme would make use of their networks to reach out to the target beneficiary groups. The Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (CCF) said that the

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Department of Health had contacted various women's groups and NGOs servicing EMs. Furthermore, promotional materials would be made available in six major EM languages. The prevention of cervical cancer would also be promoted through various channels including websites and television announcements. At the request of Dr Helena WONG regarding the "Pilot scheme on relaxing the household income limit of the Fee-waiving Subsidy Scheme under the After School Care Programme for low-income families and increasing fee-waiving subsidy places", the Administration would provide supplementary information on whether the subsidy places provided by the existing After School Care Programme of the Social Welfare Department were inadequate and whether the eligibility criteria for such places were too harsh.

9. Noting that the balance of CCF stood at around \$19.7 billion as at the end of May 2017, Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung considered that there should be sufficient fund for CCF to further enhance the assistance level and/or the coverage of its existing programmes. He suggested that CCF should increase its financial assistance for patients who needed to purchase ultra-expensive drugs. Dr Fernando CHEUNG considered that the prevailing financial assessment requirements under the Samaritan Fund were too harsh, and suggested that CCF should set up its own financial assessment mechanism.

10. Mr CHAN Han-pan suggested that the "Subsidy for eligible patients to purchase ultra-expensive drugs" programme ("the Ultra-expensive Drugs Programme") to be launched in August 2017 for a period of 20 months should later be incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programmes. Noting that the programme was expected to benefit 10 to 16 patients in the first 12 months, the Chairman considered that the number of beneficiaries was rather small. He suggested that the Administration/CCF should estimate the actual number of eligible patients requiring assistance under this programme and study how to deal with the demand as early as possible without waiting for 20 months later.

11. C of CCF Task Force said that as an ultra-expensive drug might cost a patient several million dollars a year and he/she might need to consume the drug in his/her whole life, it would be a large financial burden to the patient concerned. CCF had requested the Hospital Authority ("HA") to review the prevailing financial assessment requirements and co-payment arrangement applicable to the Ultra-expensive Drugs Programme. The Government would take into account the review outcome in considering the way forward.

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C of CCF Task Force further said that the HA's review was expected to be completed within 12 months.

12. While expressing support for CCF's plan to further expand the coverage of the "Elderly dental assistance programme" to elders who were Old Age Living Allowance recipients aged 70 or above starting from July 2017, Mr CHAN Han-pan and Dr Helena WONG requested CCF to further expand the programme to cover elders aged 65 or above. C of CCF Task Force explained that the programme coverage was constrained by the number of participating dentists and dental clinics, and the coverage therefore had to be expanded gradually. Otherwise, the target beneficiaries would have to wait for a very long time, say, six to nine months, for the service. Dr WONG urged CCF to request the relevant policy bureau to tackle the dental manpower shortage.

13. Dr LAU Siu-lai expressed support for the "Pilot scheme on home care and support for elderly persons with mild impairment", which was expected to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2017 at the earliest and to provide about 4 000 places with a total funding of \$383.34 million. Dr LAU enquired about details of the Administration's plan to provide the necessary manpower for the implementation of the programme and the number of cases to be handled by each case manager. She also asked whether the programme would be incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programmes after implementing for three years.

14. The Acting Assistant Director (Family and Child Welfare) advised that with the allocation of funding provision under this programme, the necessary manpower would be recruited for providing home care and support for elderly persons with mild impairment. The Administration would evaluate the programme and decide whether to incorporate it into the Government's regular assistance programmes. C of CCF Task Force advised that there was not a specific staffing arrangement for case management under this programme.

15. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Mr CHAN Han-pan, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr KWONG Chun-yu took the view that CCF should consider re-launching the "One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA")" ("One-off Living Subsidy Programme"). Dr CHEUNG also considered it unreasonable that CCF had not yet increased the age limit for the "Subsidy for the severely disabled

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persons aged below 60 who are non-CSSA recipients requiring constant attendance and living in the community".

16. C of CCF Task Force said that he had explained the rationale for not re-launching the One-off Living Subsidy Programme on various occasions and had no more to supplement. He added that CCF would continue to explore ways to provide appropriate assistance to the "N have-nots", and welcomed any suggestions in this regard.

17. The Chairman enquired how suggestions on new assistance programmes could be submitted by the public and stakeholders to CCF, and whether there was an upper limit on the number of assistance programmes launched by CCF each year. C of CCF Task Force said that CCF regularly held consultation sessions to collect views on the formulation of new assistance programmes from the community and stakeholders. In addition, members of the public or stakeholders might send letters/emails to provide suggestions to CCF or call its telephone hotlines. The suggestions received would be provided to the CCF Task Force for reference, and those that were worth examination and deemed feasible would be followed-up. He added that there was not an upper limit on the number of programmes launched each year.

18. Mr Christopher CHEUNG noted from the Administration's paper submitted to the Establishment Subcommittee (i.e. LC Paper No. ESC122/16-17(01)) that the amount of donation received by CCF in the 2016-2017 financial year was only \$71,851. He enquired whether CCF had any plan to increase the amount of donations. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired whether the number of assistance programmes launched by CCF would be affected by its balance, and urged CCF to step up its efforts in appealing for new donations from the business sector. Mr KWONG Chun-yu asked whether CCF had set a target in terms of the amount of donations and whether this target was met. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung expressed disappointment at CCF's failure to attract more donations from the business sector.

19. DSHA advised that there was not a direct relationship between the balance of CCF and the number of new programmes launched each year, adding that with its current balance of around \$20 billion, CCF had focused on identifying new worthy programmes to provide assistance to needy people. He explained that as some of the large amount of pledged donations were made by yearly instalments in the first few years after the

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establishment of CCF, the amount of donations was considerably larger in those few years. DSHA further advised that CCF was not set up on a matching basis, and the Administration did not have a plan to launch a large-scale campaign to appeal for new donations for CCF from the business sector, though it always welcomed community donations. At the request of Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, DSHA said that the CCF would seek the views of the members of the CCF Task Force on the necessity to step up its publicity work in this respect.

20. Mr YIU Si-wing considered that CCF should refrain from accumulating an excessive amount of balance as this might discourage donations. He suggested that the Administration/CCF should consider setting a certain amount of funds to be used for launching assistance programmes each year. DSHA said that CCF would continue to launch any assistance programme provided that it was worth implementing, and there was not a target amount of funding to be used each year.

21. Dr Junius HO acknowledged the effectiveness of CCF's work and suggested that CCF might present its work progress (such as beneficiary statistics) in the form of charts to make it easier for members of the public to understand. As regards the assistance programmes in paragraph 6 of the Administration's paper, Dr HO referred to the "Subsidy for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance recipients living in rented private housing" and commented that the Administration/CCF should try to identify solutions to resolve the long-term financial needs of some specific groups instead of re-launching assistance programmes for them. DSHA noted Dr HO's view and said that CCF would continue to look for better ways to present the work progress of CCF.

IV. Avenue Park at Kai Tak

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1680/16-17(02) and CB(2)1703/16-17(04)]

22. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") briefed members on the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)1680/16-17(02)] on its proposal to develop the Avenue Park at Kai Tak ("the Park").

Discussion

23. Dr Helena WONG said that Members belonging to the Democratic Party supported the proposal as the Park had been long awaited by residents

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of the two public housing estates in its vicinity, namely Kai Ching and Tak Long. She urged the Administration to expedite the implementation of the project. Mr LAU Kwok-fan expressed a similar view and requested the Administration to strive for the early implementation of the project. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung considered that in order to expedite the implementation of the project, the Administration should ensure that its design was simple and practical.

24. SHA and Project Director 3 of the Architectural Services Department ("PD3/ArchSD") advised that the proposed scope of the project comprised thematic gardens, a children's play area and a fitness area, a basketball court, covered walkways to connect the proposed Station Square where the future Kai Tak Station was located, and ancillary facilities such as a park management office, toilets and a baby care room. The estimated project cost was \$412.3 million in money-of-the-day prices. Subject to the funding approval by the Finance Committee, the Administration planned to start construction in 2018-2019 for completion in 2020-2021.

25. In response to enquiries by Dr Helena WONG and Mr LAU Kwok-fan about the connectivity between the aforesaid two public housing estates and the future Kai Tak Station, the Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 1 ("AD(LS)1") said that there would be covered walkways connecting the two public housing estates to the proposed Station Square. PD3/ArchSD added that there would be about 80 seats under rain shelters in the Park.

26. Mr Nathan LAW expressed support for the proposal. He, however, considered that if not many other sports facilities would be provided in the neighbouring area, it might not be enough to have only one basketball court in the Park. Dr Helena WONG also suggested that the Administration should explore the feasibility of adding more facilities in the Park, such as fitness equipment, a pet garden, a jogging track and an area for cycling by children. Dr Junius HO also suggested adding a pet garden in the Park. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired whether a mini stage could be provided in the Park for use by persons who liked singing and dancing as a group.

27. SHA advised that the Park was only one of the recreation projects to be implemented in the Kai Tak Development, where a number of sports and recreation facilities would be provided. At the request of Ms Tanya CHAN, SHA agreed to provide a site plan setting out more details of the sports facilities to be provided in the Kai Tak Development. AD(LS)1 and PD3/ArchSD advised that the Park mainly comprised landscaping area

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Admin including a thematic garden/tree avenue, with the fitness area, the basketball court and the children's play area clustered together at one end of the Park. There might not be adequate space for adding a mini stage. Nevertheless, subject to LCSD, minor adjustments could still be made to the proposed facilities of the Park. At the request of Mr Nathan LAW, PD3/ArchSD agreed to provide a list of the green features to be implemented in the Park.

28. The Chairman enquired about the connectivity between the Park and other sports facilities in the Kai Tak Development, including the Kai Tak Sports Park. The Commissioner for Sports advised that the Park was about 300 metres from the Station Square which would be connected by a covered walkway to the Kai Tak Sports Park where various sports and recreation facilities would be provided. He added that the Park would serve as a convenient pedestrian link between the surrounding developments and as a connection between these developments and the future Kai Tak Station.

29. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired whether unisex toilets would be provided in the Park, and urged the Administration to provide adequate training for its staff so that they could cater to the needs of wheelchair users, visually impaired persons and transsexual persons. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung and Dr Junius HO noted that there would be two toilets in the Park, each in one of two ends of the Park. They suggested adding one more toilet in the middle area of the Park. Ms Tanya CHAN questioned whether the two toilets could provide adequate number of urinals/water closets ("WC") compartments.

30. AD(LS)1 and PD3/ArchSD advised the two toilets had the same design, with each male toilet providing four urinals and four WC compartments, and each female toilet providing eight or nine WC compartments. Furthermore, accessible and universal toilets would be provided in the Park. PD3/ArchSD added that as the middle of the Park was a landscaped area, and the maximum permitted site coverage for the Park was 10%, there would be difficulties providing an additional toilet in the Park. Dr Helena WONG questioned whether the ratio of male-to-female toilets in the Park met the requirements of the Building (Standards of Sanitary Fittings, Plumbing, Drainage Works and Latrines) Regulations (Cap. 123I), and urged the Administration to increase the number of WC compartments in each female toilet in the Park, say, to 12. In response, PD3/ArchSD advised that although parks were not covered in the relevant Regulations, the Administration would consider the need for increasing the number of WC compartments in the female toilets.

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31. Ms Tanya CHAN and Dr Junius HO suggested that the tree avenue should be planted with trees of a single species to improve the aesthetics of the avenue. Dr HO further suggested that if feasible, a water feature be constructed along the tree avenue. In response, SHA advised that the Administration would carefully select a single species of trees to be planted in the tree avenue. However, as the thematic garden/tree avenue comprised mainly plants and trees, a water feature would not be constructed. However, consideration might be given to adopting such design in the Station Square.

32. In response to Mr LAU Kwok-fan's enquiry about the impact of the works on residents in the vicinity, PD3/ArchSD advised that the contractor would be required to adopt a series of noise mitigation measures required by the Environmental Protection Department.

33. Summing up, the Chairman said that members did not object to the submission of the proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee for consideration.

V. Any other business

34. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:26 am.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
6 October 2017