

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)225/17-18

(These minutes have been  
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB2/PL/HS

**Panel on Health Services**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Thursday, 12 October 2017, at 2:30 pm**  
**in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

- Members present** : Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP (Chairman)  
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH  
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon SHIU Ka-fai  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun  
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH  
Hon KWONG Chun-yu
- Member attending** : Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

<b>Members absent</b>	:	Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP
<b>Clerk in attendance</b>	:	Ms Maisie LAM Chief Council Secretary (2) 5
<b>Staff in attendance</b>	:	Miss Flora TAI Assistant Secretary General 2  Miss Kay CHU Senior Council Secretary (2) 5  Miss Michelle TANG Council Secretary (2) 2  Ms Priscilla LAU Council Secretary (2) 5  Miss Maggie CHIU Legislative Assistant (2) 5  Ms Louisa YU Clerical Assistant (2) 5

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**I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman for the 2017-2018 session**  
[Appendices III and IV to LC Paper No. CB(2)4/17-18]

Election of Chairman

Prof Joseph LEE, Chairman of the Panel in office, called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session. Prof Joseph LEE was nominated by Mr SHIU Ka-fai and the nomination was seconded by Dr Pierre CHAN. Prof Joseph LEE accepted the nomination.

2. As Prof Joseph LEE was nominated for the office, Dr Pierre CHAN, the Deputy Chairman in office, took over from Prof Joseph LEE to preside over the election of the Chairman. As there was no other nomination, Dr Pierre CHAN declared Prof Joseph LEE elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session. Prof Joseph LEE then took the chair.

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Election of Deputy Chairman

3. The Chairman called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session. Dr Pierre CHAN was nominated by Dr KWOK Ka-ki and the nomination was seconded by Mr Charles MOK. Dr Pierre CHAN accepted the nomination.

4. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Dr Pierre CHAN elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session.

**II. Schedule of meetings for the 2017-2018 session**

5. Members agreed that the Panel would continue to hold its regular meetings on the third Monday of each month at 4:30 pm, except the third Mondays of February and June 2018 which fell on public holidays, and the third Monday of April 2018 on which special meetings of the Finance Committee would be held. Members agreed to adopt the proposed meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 session which was tabled at the meeting.

*(Post-meeting note: The schedule of regular meetings of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)32/17-18 on 13 October 2017.)*

**III. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

[Appendices V and VI to LC Paper No. CB(2)4/17-18]

Meetings in October and November 2017

6. The Chairman advised that the Panel would hold its next regular meeting on 16 October 2017 at 4:30 pm to receive a briefing from the Secretary for Food and Health ("SFH") on the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address in respect of the portfolio of health services. The Chairman suggested and members agreed that pursuant to the discussion on the proposal for conducting an overseas duty visit to study rare disease policies at the meeting of the Panel on 17 July 2017, the Panel would further discuss the proposal at the above meeting.

7. The Chairman informed members that the Panel had agreed at its meeting on 17 July 2017 that a special meeting should be held to receive views from members of the public and the Chinese medicine profession on the mode of operation of the Chinese medicine hospital. The meeting for

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the above purpose was now scheduled for 6 November 2017 at 2:30 pm. Mrs Regina IP remarked that to her understanding, many stakeholders had a number of concerns about the mode of operation of the Chinese medicine hospital.

Items proposed for discussion in the 2017-2018 session

8. Dr KWOK Ka-ki considered that in view of the new initiatives announced in the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address relating to support for uncommon diseases, the Panel should follow up discussion with the Administration on the provision of ultra-expensive drugs (including drugs for treatment of rare diseases) for needy patients. Dr Elizabeth QUAT, Mr SHIU Ka-chun and Dr Fernando CHEUNG suggested that discussion relating to issues of rare diseases, cancer strategy and subsidy programmes for ultra-expensive drugs could be combined into one agenda item for an early discussion.

9. Dr Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should discuss the regulation of Chinese medicines and regulation of health food products. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan held the view that discussion of these two subjects could be combined into one agenda item, under which she was particularly concerned about the progress of the establishment of the permanent Government Chinese Medicines Testing Institute.

10. Dr Helena WONG and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen held the view that the Administration should brief the Panel on the recommended HIV/AIDS Strategy for Hong Kong (2017-2021) formulated by the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS. Dr Helena WONG was particularly concerned about the strategies relating to the prevention (including sex education) and treatment of HIV/AIDS given the increasing number of HIV infection cases. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen was concerned that since the cessation of funding support for programmes targeted at HIV prevention through heterosexual contacts in June 2017, many non-governmental organizations concerned had ceased to provide HIV testing for heterosexual males.

11. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Dr Elizabeth QUAT and Mr SHIU Ka-fai were of the view that the Panel should follow up discussion with the Administration on regulation and development of beauty services. Urging the Administration to take heed of the call of the beauty industry for the setting up of a steering committee to promote the development of the industry, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan remarked that the Panel should discuss the subject as early as practicable as the Joint Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Regulation of Devices and Development of the Beauty Industry

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appointed by the Panel and Panel on Commerce and Industry was currently placed on the waiting list for activation.

12. Expressing concern about the occurrence of a number of student suicide cases after the start of the new school year, Dr KWOK Ka-ki proposed for an urgent discussion of the mental health of adolescents to prevent students from committing suicide. Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr SHIU Ka-chun expressed similar views.

13. Dr Helena WONG and Dr Elizabeth QUAT proposed discussion on women's health at the earliest possible time. Mr SHIU Ka-chun considered that the Panel should discuss the provision of treatment for termination of pregnancy by public and private hospitals. Dr Fernando CHEUNG opined that the Panel should follow up discussion with the Administration on the provision of dental services for the elderly and persons with intellectual disability. Dr Helena WONG proposed that the Panel should follow up with the Administration on the regulation of electronic cigarettes and the public health measures for the lead in drinking water incidents.

14. Mr SHIU Ka-chun noted that as announced in the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address in October 2017, the Administration would pursue the Accredited Registers Scheme for Healthcare Professions by completing the accreditation process for speech therapists, clinical psychologists, educational psychologists, audiologists and dietitians to pave the way for setting up a statutory regime for these professions. Against the above, he suggested that the timing for the Panel to discuss the subject should be advanced from the first half of 2018 as proposed by the Administration to end of 2017 or early 2018. The Chairman advised that to his understanding, the first profession to complete the accreditation process would be speech therapists. Dr Elizabeth QUAT considered that the Panel should continue to follow up with the Administration on healthcare manpower planning and professional development.

15. Concluding the discussion, the Chairman said that he would relay members' views and suggestions to SFH at the informal meeting amongst himself, the Deputy Chairman and SFH scheduled for 30 October 2017 to discuss the work plan of the Panel for the 2017-2018 session. Pointing out that there were a number of items the Panel should discuss in the current legislative session, Dr Elizabeth QUAT suggested that more agenda items could be arranged for discussion at each regular meeting. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan proposed combining the discussion of related subjects. Regarding the regular meeting on 20 November 2017, the Chairman drew members' attention that the current proposal of the Administration was to discuss the

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subjects of "Preparation for winter surge" and "Re-organization of Health Branch of the Food and Health Bureau" at the meeting.

**IV. Any other business**

Joint subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy

16. The Chairman informed members that the Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy, which was jointly appointed by the Panel and the Panel on Welfare Services ("the WS Panel") in November 2016, had yet completed its work. Members agreed that membership of the Joint Subcommittee should be re-opened to members of the two Panels. Members noted that it would be for the Joint Subcommittee to decide if the election of its Chairman and Deputy Chairman should be conducted at its first meeting in the 2017-2018 session.

*(Post-meeting note: The WS Panel agreed at its meeting held later on the same day that membership of the Joint Subcommittee should be re-opened to members of the two Panels. The notice to members of the two Panels concerning the membership and the first meeting of the Joint Subcommittee in the 2017-2018 session was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)34/17-18 on 12 October 2017.)*

17. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:54 pm.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
2 November 2017