

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)1275/17-18  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/SE

**Panel on Security**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Tuesday, 6 March 2018, at 2:30 pm**  
**in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon James TO Kun-sun (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP  
Hon Kenneth LEUNG  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP  
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang  
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP  
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH  
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan  
Hon Alvin YEUNG  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP  
Hon LAM Cheuk-ting  
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding  
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan  
Hon CHAN Chun-ying  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Hon HUI Chi-fung  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH  
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

**Member attending** : Hon Tanya CHAN

**Members absent** : Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP  
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun

**Public Officers attending** : Item IV

Mr Sonny AU Chi-kwong, PDSM, PMSM, JP  
Under Secretary for Security

Mr Andrew TSANG Yue-tung  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Security E

Ms Irene HO Yuen-ha  
Assistant Commissioner of Police (Crime)

Mr Francis CHAN Wing-on  
Chief Superintendent of Police (Cyber Security and  
Technology Crime Bureau)

Mr Dick WONG Chung-chun  
Senior Superintendent of Police (Crime Wing Headquarters)

Item V

Mr Sonny AU Chi-kwong, PDSM, PMSM, JP  
Under Secretary for Security

Mr Alex CHAN Yuen-tak  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Security B

Mr Andy YEUNG Yan-kin  
Assistant Director (Headquarters)  
Fire Services Department

Mr Ronald WONG  
Senior Divisional Officer (Technical Rescue) (Acting)  
Fire Services Department

Mr James SZE Wan-lung  
Senior Pilot (Operations) 2  
Government Flying Service

Mr Edward LI Kin-cheung  
Air Crewman Officer I (Operations 1) (Acting)  
Government Flying Service

Mr Francis FONG Yiu-tong  
Staff Officer (Acting)  
Civil Aid Service

Item VI

Mr Sonny AU Chi-kwong, PDSM, PMSM, JP  
Under Secretary for Security

Mr Parson LAM Chun-wah  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Security D

Mr Raymond LOK Wai-man  
Assistant Director (Information Systems)  
Immigration Department

Miss Caroline FAN Mei-hing  
Chief Systems Manager (Technology Services)  
Immigration Department

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Betty MA  
Chief Council Secretary (2) 1

**Staff in attendance** : Mr Timothy TSO  
Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Mr Raymond LAM  
Senior Council Secretary (2) 7

Ms Kiwi NG  
Legislative Assistant (2) 1

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**I. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**  
(LC Paper No. CB(2)947/17-18)

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2018 were confirmed.

**II. Information papers issued since the last meeting**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)886/17-18(01) to (02) and CB(2)914/17-18(01))

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

- (a) letter dated 12 February 2018 from Mr Alvin YEUNG;
- (b) letter dated 12 February 2018 from Dr CHENG Chung-tai to the Chairman of the Panel on Transport, which was copied to the Panel Chairman; and
- (c) letter dated 15 February 2018 from Mr LAM Cheuk-ting.

3. Members noted that the Administration had been requested to provide a written response to the issues raised in the letters from Mr Alvin YEUNG, Mr LAM Cheuk-ting and Dr CHENG Chung-tai referred to in paragraph 2 above.

**III. Date of next meeting and items for discussion**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)949/17-18(01) and (02))

Regular meeting in April 2018

4. Members agreed that the next regular meeting would be held on 13 April 2018 at 10:30 am to discuss the following items:

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- (a) Combatting bogus marriage;
- (b) Drug Situation in Hong Kong in 2017; and
- (c) Construction of departmental quarters for Customs and Excise Department at Tseung Kwan O Area 123 (Po Lam Road) and No. 57 Sheung Fung Street, Tsz Wan Shan.

5. The Deputy Chairman, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Alvin YEUNG and Mr LAM Cheuk-ting suggested that issues relating to the use of civilian cars to act as road blocks by police officers when taking enforcement actions in Fanling on 11 February 2018 should be discussed at a special meeting or the next regular meeting on 13 April 2018, whichever was the earlier. Mr WONG Kwok-kin and Mr YIU Si-wing considered that it was more appropriate to consider how the issue should be followed up after the Administration's response referred to in paragraph 3 above had been received. The Chairman said that he would consider how the issue would be followed up.

*(Post-meeting note: On the instruction of the Chairman, the item "Law enforcement against moving traffic offences" was included in the agenda for the meeting on 13 April 2018 and the item "Combatting bogus marriage" was deferred to a future meeting.)*

6. Mr CHU Hoi-dick said that he had issued an email to the Chairman suggesting that issues relating to the training of frontline police officers in their communication with persons suspected to be suffering from autism should be discussed by the Panel. His suggestion was supported by Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Ms Claudia MO. The Chairman said that he would consider how the issue would be followed up.

*(Post-meeting note: On the instruction of the Chairman, the email from Mr CHU Hoi-dick was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)996/17-18(01) on 7 March 2018 and the Administration was requested to provide a response to the issues raised in the email.)*

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**IV. Initiatives for preventing and combatting deception cases of concern**

(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)949/17-18(03) and (04))

7. Under Secretary for Security ("US for S") briefed Members on the Administration's initiatives for preventing and combatting deception. With the aid of powerpoint presentation and video footages, Assistant Commissioner of Police (Crime) ("ACP(C)") briefed Members on the prevalent types of deception and measures adopted by the Police to combat such crime.

8. Members noted a background brief entitled "Measures adopted by the Police to prevent and combat deception activities" prepared by the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Secretariat.

Telephone deception cases

9. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting asked why the average amount of monetary loss for telephone deception cases had increased although the number of cases had dropped.

10. US for S responded that the average amount of monetary loss for telephone deception cases was higher in 2017 because one of the cases incurred a loss of \$30 million. He called for members of the public to remain vigilant against fraudulent calls and contact the Anti-Deception Coordination Centre ("ADCC"), which operated round-the-clock, when necessary.

11. Noting that "Pretend Officials" cases accounted for about 70% of all telephone deception cases in 2017, Ms Claudia MO expressed concern about whether it was related to the political culture on the Mainland. She asked whether efforts were made by the Administration to combat the problem with law enforcement agencies ("LEAs") of the Mainland.

12. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting expressed concern that there were many "Pretend Officials" cases and asked whether the fraudsters were mainly Mainlanders. He also asked whether the Administration was cooperating with Mainland LEAs to combat such a type of telephone deception.

13. Mr YIU Si-wing asked whether fraudsters of telephone deception cases were mainly based in other places and whether actions were taken with relevant overseas LEAs to combat such crime.

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14. US for S said that while the identity of fraudsters would not be known until the cases concerned were detected, it could be noted that most of the fraudsters were based in other places. In recent crackdown operations on fraudulent call centers in Spain and Latvia, the majority of the persons arrested were Taiwan residents. The Police had also cooperated with LEAs of Malaysia and Nigeria respectively to crack down on syndicates involved in "online romance" scams. ACP(C) added that the Police maintained close liaison with Mainland and overseas LEAs in the exchange of intelligence and investigation of cross-boundary telephone deception.

15. US for S added that according to the findings of a research conducted by the Police's clinical psychologists, fraudsters would first make victims apprehensive for their safety or security and then manipulate their behaviours by providing them with a leeway and instructing them to settle their problems by making repeated payments.

16. Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether the sentence imposed by the court on persons convicted of street deception had a sufficient deterrent effect. US for S responded that the average sentence for conviction of such crime was an imprisonment term of two years. In serious deception cases, the Police would apply to the court for increasing the sentence by about 20% to 30%.

"Online romance" scams

17. Ms Claudia MO sought information on the sex of victims of "online romance" scams. US for S responded that over 90% of the victims of "online romance" scams were female.

18. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan expressed concern about the increase in the number of "online romance" scams in recent years and asked about the measures adopted by the Police to prevent the problem.

19. The Deputy Chairman said that the Police should broadcast an Announcement of Public Interest on "online romance" scams to remind members of the public of the modus operandi of such deception.

20. ACP(C) responded that the age group, sex and occupation of victims were analyzed by the Police to facilitate targeted publicity and education. A video production on "online romance" scams had recently been broadcasted in the programme Police Magazine. The Police, the

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Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre and the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer had recently organized a campaign to promote public awareness of cyber security, including cautious use of social media platform.

Anti-Deception Coordination Centre

21. The Deputy Chairman said that the Police was more proactive in comparison with the past in taking prompt actions against deception, especially in the interception of payment by victims to fraudsters.

22. Mr LAU Kwok-fun asked whether cases of investment fraud such as those involving "London Gold" were dealt with by ADCC.

23. US for S responded that ADCC had been established in response to the increase in the number of deception cases in recent years. Enquiries handled by ADCC covered all types of deception. Where necessary, ADCC would assist victims in reporting his case to a nearby police station.

24. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan asked whether there was a breakdown of the 14 000 telephone enquiries received by ADCC in the past seven months. She said that the Police should remind the public to be vigilant against deception through the Hong Kong Police Facebook Page. US for S responded that among the 14 000 telephone enquiries received by ADCC since its establishment in July 2017, over half were general enquiries, more than 3 000 were related to suspected bogus telephone calls or emails, about 460 were deception-related, among which 341 were related to telephone deception. He added that there were over 2 000 telephone calls which could not be followed up because the caller had not provided any contact information.

25. Mr CHAN Chun-ying expressed concern about whether there was sufficient publicity on the ADCC enquiry hotline. He asked whether prompt assistance was provided by banks in the interception of payment to fraudsters. US for S responded that banks were very cooperative with the Police in the interception of payments.

26. Mr CHAN Chun-ying asked whether publicity and education were tailored for different target groups, such as the youth, seniors, females and new arrivals from the Mainland, for different types of deception. US for S replied in the affirmative.



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27. Mr YIU Si-wing asked whether the ADCC enquiry hotline was answered by operators within a short time and whether such operators had received relevant training. US for S responded that ADCC had an establishment of more than 10 staff members and there were on average about three to four operators on duty at any given time, with 13 posts to be created in 2018-2019. Adequate training was provided to operators. ACP(C) added that there was an average of about 60 calls per day and most of the calls were answered promptly.

28. Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether a victim was allowed to report a deception case via the ADCC hotline or had to do so in person at a police station. US for S responded that immediate actions would be taken by ADCC staff in relation to requests for interception of payment, if sufficient information was provided by the victim. Regarding the reporting of crime, it was necessary for a victim to formally report his case at a police station for identity verification and preparation of a formal notification to the bank concerned.

29. Mr POON Siu-ping said that students and new arrivals from the Mainland should be provided with anti-deception information and the ADCC hotline immediately upon their arrival in Hong Kong. US for S responded that relevant anti-deception information was provided on relevant websites and relevant posters were displayed at the immigration halls at boundary control points. Relevant information booklets were also made available for their collection upon arrival at the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Online business fraud

30. Mr Alvin YEUNG expressed concern that he had received complaints from more than 20 members of the public about failure to receive goods after completing payment through online platforms. US for S responded that larger online shopping platforms usually operated a mechanism under which payment to the supplier would be withheld by the shopping platform until the goods or services concerned had been successfully delivered to the buyer.

31. Referring to paragraph 7 of the Administration's paper, Mr Holden CHOW asked about the number of cases in which prosecution was instituted and the number of convicted cases among cases of online

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business fraud in 2017. He also asked whether there were difficulties in the prosecution of online business frauds, especially in the area of evidence gathering. US for S responded that there were 1 996 cases of online business fraud in 2017 and the detection rate was 21.5%. He said that fraudsters of customer-to-customer online trading fraud, such as those involving the sale of goods, concert tickets or theme park tickets, were mainly based in Hong Kong. The detection rate of cases involving technology crime was low, especially those in which the fraudsters were based outside Hong Kong. The Police was mainly addressing the problem through stepping up prevention and education.

Interception of payment from victims

32. Referring to paragraph 5 of the Administration's paper, Mr Alvin YEUNG sought information on the circumstances under which payment to fraudsters would be intercepted by banks. ACP(C) responded that the Police had established point-to-point contact with banks to intercept such payments upon request as soon as possible.

33. Referring to paragraph 5 of the Administration's paper, Mr CHAN Chun-ying sought information on the type of deception cases in which payment to fraudsters had a higher chance of being intercepted. US for S responded that payment in deception cases that were reported to the Police within 24 hours had a higher chance of being intercepted.

Other issues

34. Mr LAU Kwok-fun expressed concern that some members of the public had complained of unauthorized access by other persons to their social media accounts to damage their image and reputation. US for S responded that such cases might not fall within the definition of deception.

35. Mr Charles MOK said that some members of the public had previously complained that police officers were reluctant to handle reports about cases of online fraud. He asked whether there were other channels of reporting crime besides reporting in person.

36. US for S responded that there were many channels of reporting crime, including reporting in person, by fax or online reporting through the Police's website. On the receipt of a crime report, the Police would interview the reporting person to gather relevant information.

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**V. Mountain rescue strategy and high angle rescue operations**  
(LC Paper Nos. CB(2)949/17-18(05) and (06))

37. US for S briefed Members on the Administration's mountain rescue strategy and high angle rescue operations for mountain accidents in Hong Kong. With the aid of powerpoint presentation and video footages, Assistant Director (Headquarters), Fire Services Department ("AD(HQ)/FSD") briefed Members on the strategy and coordination of relevant government departments in mountain rescue operations.

38. Members noted an information note entitled "Mountain rescue strategy and high angle rescue operations" prepared by the LegCo Secretariat.

Mountain Search and Rescue Team

39. Noting from paragraph 5 of the Administration's paper that the Mountain Search and Rescue Team ("MSRT") currently comprised 139 members, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen sought information on the total number of MSRT members after April 2018 when four additional teams would come into operation. US for S responded that from April 2018 onwards, MSRT would comprise six teams with a total of 162 members.

40. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked whether there was a breakdown of injuries in mountain accidents between local residents and visitors. US for S responded that most of the persons injured in mountain accidents were local residents.

Mountain search and rescue dogs and equipment

41. Noting that the Fire Services Department had acquired three mountain search and rescue dogs from the United Kingdom, Mr POON Siu-ping asked how the three dogs would be allocated among the territories of Hong Kong. US for S responded that the three mountain search and rescue dogs would be stationed at the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy in Tseung Kwan O and despatched for rescue operations in different parts of Hong Kong when necessary.

42. Mr POON Siu-ping expressed concern about whether the equipment of MSRT had met international standards on mountain rescue operations.

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43. Ms Tanya CHAN commended the Administration for its efforts in mountain safety and rescue operations. She expressed concern about the adequacy of personal protective equipment for MSRT members. She asked whether there were exchanges on mountain rescue strategy and techniques between MSRT and the rescue teams of cities with similar weather conditions and geographical characteristics.

44. US for S responded that MSRT members were equipped with adequate personal protective equipment. AD(HQ)/FSD supplemented that each mountain search and rescue unit had been equipped with professional rescue tools and emergency survival equipment to assist MSRT members in carrying out mountain rescue operations. MSRT was also provided with special equipment, including GPS tracking device, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Night Vision Systems and infrared telescope to enhance their rescue capability.

Publicity and education

45. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed concern that some hikers were posing danger to themselves by veering off existing trails for shortcuts or insisting hiking under adverse weather conditions. He considered that more should be done to educate the public on the dangers involved in mountain activities.

46. Mr Holden CHOW commended the Administration for its work in mountain safety and rescue. He said that the Administration should disseminate information about mountain accident black spots.

47. US for S responded that information on high risk locations with records of fatal and serious accidents in country parks had been uploaded onto the website of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD"). Information boards on hiking safety were erected by AFCD at suitable locations in country parks. Warning signs had also been erected in dangerous areas to alert hikers. AFCD reviewed its measures from time to time.

48. Referring to paragraph 22 of the Administration's paper, Mr POON Siu-ping asked whether the location record of a person who used the Hiker Tracking Service would be deleted after a certain period of time. US for S responded that the record of a user would be automatically deleted after seven days.

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49. Mr Charles MOK suggested that the Administration should, in addition to developing dedicated mobile applications on hiking safety, consider providing information on hiking safety and incorporating the Hiker Tracking Service in existing mobile applications that were widely used by hikers. US for S agreed to consider the suggestion. He said that leaflets on hiking safety were distributed to hikers by members of the Civil Aid Service ("CAS"). Hiking safety information was disseminated through a hiking activities organization called "香港行山遠足之友(吹水山谷)" in addition to government webpages.

50. Mr YIU Si-wing suggested that the Hiker Tracking Service should be extended to visitors. Consideration should be given to collaborating with the Hong Kong Tourism Board to provide information on hiking safety and the Hiker Tracking Service in Mainland websites relating to hiking in Hong Kong. The Administration should also provide training for local hiking tour guides. US for S agreed to consider the suggestion. He said that training for local hiking tour guides was provided by CAS and the adequacy of such training would be reviewed from time to time.

**VI. Next Generation Application and Investigation Easy Systems of the Immigration Department**  
(LC Paper No. CB(2)949/17-18(07))

51. The Chairman drew Members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure concerning the requirement of disclosing personal pecuniary interest.

*[To allow sufficient time for discussion, the Chairman advised that the meeting would be extended to 4:40 pm.]*

52. US for S briefed Members on the proposal of the Immigration Department ("ImmD") to implement the Next Generation Application and Investigation Easy Systems ("the proposed new systems").

Functions of the proposed new systems

53. Mr Charles MOK expressed support in principle for the Administration's proposal. He asked whether the proposed new systems would enable communication with Hong Kong residents in distress outside Hong Kong through chatbot or other online communication software programmes.

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54. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked whether services to Hong Kong residents in distress outside Hong Kong would be enhanced with the incorporation of the 24-hour hotline "1868" into the proposed new systems.

55. Assistant Director (Information Systems), Immigration Department ("AD(IS)/ImmD") responded that the proposed new systems would incorporate the 24-hour hotline "1868" of the Assistance to Hong Kong Residents Unit of ImmD. He explained that under the existing system, information about a Hong Kong resident in distress outside Hong Kong had to be retrieved from different systems. The proposed new systems would enable automated retrieval of relevant information of a Hong Kong resident in distress outside Hong Kong, thus facilitating timely provision of assistance.

56. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked whether information such as the Mainland address and assets of a right of abode applicant would be collected and stored in the proposed new systems to facilitate possible future investigation. AD(IS)/ImmD responded that ImmD would only collect information relevant to an applicant's application.

Transition from old to new systems and compatibility among different systems

57. Mr YIU Si-wing expressed support for the Administration's proposal. He expressed concern about possible breakdown of the existing system before the commissioning of the proposed new systems in 2021. He also sought information on the compatibility of the proposed new systems with the Next Generation Smart Identity Card System.

58. AD(IS)/ImmD responded that there were eight projects under the third Information Systems Strategy of ImmD. The implementation of the proposed new systems would ensure interoperability and communication among these systems in order to streamline the working procedures and enhance the handling capacity. The proposed new systems would be fully tested before production rollout. US for S supplemented that the maintenance contract for the existing Application and Investigation Easy System had been extended to February 2022. The proposed new systems would be operated in parallel with the existing system for nearly one year to ensure smooth transition.

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59. Mr KWOK Wai-keung expressed concern about the possibility of data loss in data migration from old to new systems. AD(IS)/ImmD added that steps would be taken to prevent data loss.

Other issues

60. Mr KWOK Wai-keung said that the implementation of the proposed new systems should be expedited to relieve the workload of frontline immigration staff. US for S responded that the tendering exercise and system design would inevitably take time. Nevertheless, the Administration would seek to expedite the implementation of the proposed new systems.

61. Mr POON Siu-ping expressed support for the Administration's proposal. Referring to paragraph 14(c) of the Administration's paper, he requested the Administration to provide information on the number of contract staff involved under the Administration's proposal. The Chairman said that the Administration should include the information requested by Mr POON in its paper for the Finance Committee ("FC").

Admin

62. Referring to paragraph 17(b) of the Administration's paper. Mr POON Siu-ping expressed concern about how manpower saved from the proposed new systems would be dealt with. AD(IS)/ImmD responded that the manpower saved from the implementation of the proposed new systems would be redeployed for performing other duties.

63. The Chairman concluded that members had no objection to the Administration's submission of its proposal to FC.

64. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:35 pm.