

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(2)2093/05-06  
(These minutes have been  
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/BC/3/05

**Bills Committee on Betting Duty (Amendment) Bill 2006**

**Minutes of meeting  
held on Thursday, 11 May 2006 at 8:30 am  
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, JP  
Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, GBS  
Hon CHOY So-yuk, JP  
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP  
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip  
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, BBS  
Hon Albert Jinghan CHENG  
Hon TAM Heung-man
- Members absent** : Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP  
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, GBS, JP  
Hon Daniel LAM Wai-keung, BBS, JP  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon CHIM Pui-chung  
Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP
- Public Officers attending** : Item II  
Mr Stephen FISHER  
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1)

Miss Jenny YIP  
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (1)

Miss Christine CHOW  
Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (1)1

Mr Lawrence PENG  
Senior Assistant Law Draftsman

Ms Mary WONG  
Senior Assessor

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Odelia LEUNG  
Chief Council Secretary (2)6

**Staff in attendance** : Mr Stephen LAM  
Assistant Legal Adviser 4

Mr Stanley MA  
Senior Council Secretary (2)6

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Action

**I. Election of Chairman**

Mrs Selina CHOW was elected Chairman of the Bills Committee.

2. The Chairman declared interest as a member of the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC). Mr Abraham SHEK and Mr Tommy CHEUNG also declared interest as voting members of HKJC.

**II. Meeting with the Administration**

3. The Bills Committee deliberated (Index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

4. The Bills Committee requested the Administration to –

- (a) explain the basis for the estimated size of the illegal market in horse race amounting to \$50 to \$60 billion;
- (b) provide update information on the total amount of cash and betting slips seized by the Police from illegal bookmakers on horse racing and an estimate on the number of illegal bookmakers;

Action

- (c) provide the respective amounts of turnover and betting duty on horse race betting, football betting and lotteries in each of the years from 2003 to 2006;
- (d) provide the respective findings of the surveys commissioned by the Administration and conducted by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the University of Hong Kong concerning the gambling population, including the increase of adolescents in the gambling population after the authorisation of football betting;
- (e) provide information on the estimated amount of betting turnover of illegal gambling on horse racing from 1996-97 onwards, and elaborate on how the change in betting duty rates in the past had affected legal and illegal betting turnover on horse racing;
- (f) explain the measures taken or contemplated to combat illegal bookmaking activities;
- (g) assess the impact of the reformed betting duty system on HKJC staff; and
- (h) explain how the Administration could monitor HKJC on the provision of rebates to high-value bettors given that this was not provided in the Bill.

**III. Date of next meeting**

5. Members agreed to hold the next meeting on Thursday, 18 May 2006 at 8:30 am in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building.

*[Post-meeting Note : The meeting was subsequently rescheduled to be held immediately after the Chief Executive's Question and Answer Session scheduled for 3:00 pm on 18 May 2006.]*

6. Members also agreed to invite views from deputations and individuals which/who had presented views to the Panel on Home Affairs concerning the proposed betting duty reforms. The meeting to receive deputations and individuals would be scheduled for Wednesday, 24 May 2006 at 8:30 am.

7. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:45 am.

Council Business Division 2  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
22 May 2006

**Proceedings of the Bills Committee on  
 Betting Duty (Amendment) Bill 2006  
 on Thursday, 11 May 2006 at 8:30 am  
 in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subjects</b>	<b>Action required</b>
000000 - 000228	Mrs Selina CHOW Mr Jeffrey LAM Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Election of the Chairman	
000229 - 000539	Chairman	Date of future meetings	
000540 - 001712	Administration	Briefing by the Administration	
001713 - 002803	Dr Fernando CHEUNG Chairman Admin	Impact of the Bill on illegal bookmakers and betting turnover in Hong Kong	<b>See para 4(a) and (b) of the minutes</b>
002804 - 003821	Mr Albert CHAN Admin Chairman	Impact of the Bill on increase of public participation in horse racing betting	
003822 - 004520	Mr WONG Ting-kwong Admin Chairman	Impact of the Bill on authorised and unauthorized off-shore betting	
004521 - 005327	Mr Tommy CHEUNG Admin Chairman	Impact of the Bill on HKJC and the long-term development of horse race betting industry	<b>See para 4(c) of the minutes</b>
005328 - 011042	Mr Andrew CHENG Admin Chairman	Gambling policy and enforcement against illegal bookmaking activities	<b>See para 4(d) of the minutes</b>
011043 - 011813	Miss CHAN Yuen-han Chairman Admin	Impact of the Bill on increase of public participation in horse race betting activities and public revenue, as well as introduction of new types of betting in future	<b>See para 4(d) in the minutes</b>
011814 - 012758	Dr Fernando CHEUNG Admin Chairman	Decline in authorized horse race betting turnover and increase in illegal betting turnover since 1996-97	<b>See para 4(e) of the minutes</b>
012759 - 013920	Mr Abraham SHEK Admin Chairman	Strengthening of enforcement measures against illegal bookmaking activities, and declaration of interest	<b>See para 4(f) of the minutes</b>
013921 - 014300	Mr Albert CHAN Admin Chairman	Impact of the reformed betting duty system on staff of HKJC	<b>See para 4(g) of the minutes</b>
014301 - 014314	Mr Tommy CHEUNG Chairman	Declaration of interest	

<b>Time marker</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subjects</b>	<b>Action required</b>
014315 - 015739	Mr Andrew CHENG Admin Chairman	Definition and monitoring of 'high-value' bets and its impact on diversion of illegal bets to authorized channel	<b>See para 4(h) of the minutes</b>
015740 – 020500	Chairman Mr Andrew CHENG Mr Albert CHAN Miss CHOY So-yuk	Date of next meeting and meeting with deputations and HKJC at future meetings	

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22 May 2006