

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

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From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

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**Council meeting of 28 November 2012**

**Amendments to motion on  
“Caring about the education, employment, housing, home acquisition and  
business start-up problems faced by young people”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 147/12-13 issued on 15 November 2012, eight Members (Hon KWOK Wai-keung, Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che, Hon CHAN Yuen-han, Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN, Dr Hon Helena WONG, Hon Jeffrey LAM, Hon Charles Peter MOK and Hon IP Kin-yuen) have respectively given notices of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon CHAN Hak-kan’s motion on “Caring about the education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up problems faced by young people” scheduled for the Council meeting of 28 November 2012. As directed by the President, the respective amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and amendments. To assist Members in debating the motion and amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) the President calls upon Hon CHAN Hak-kan to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon CHAN Hak-kan’s motion;

- (c) the President calls upon the eight Members who intend to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
  - (i) Hon KWOK Wai-keung;
  - (ii) Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che;
  - (iii) Hon CHAN Yuen-han;
  - (iv) Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN;
  - (v) Dr Hon Helena WONG;
  - (vi) Hon Jeffrey LAM;
  - (vii) Hon Charles Peter MOK; and
  - (viii) Hon IP Kin-yuen;
- (d) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
- (f) the President gives leave to Hon CHAN Hak-kan to speak for the second time on the amendments;
- (g) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak again;
- (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the eight Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon KWOK Wai-keung to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon KWOK Wai-keung's amendment;
- (i) after Hon KWOK Wai-keung's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other seven amendments; and
- (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon CHAN Hak-kan to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon CHAN Hak-kan's motion, or his motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' ease of reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Odelia LEUNG)  
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on  
“Caring about the education, employment, housing, home acquisition and  
business start-up problems faced by young people”  
to be held at the Council meeting of 28 November 2012**

**1. Hon CHAN Hak-kan’s original motion**

That young people are the future pillars of society, but in the face of globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people’s needs; the specific measures should include:

Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor’s degree programmes and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people’s pathways of further studies;
- (b) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, and replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans;
- (c) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to \$20,000, and extend the period of four years within which applicants

must submit all claims as required by the Scheme, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuing education;

#### Employment -

- (d) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market;
- (e) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('Y.E.S.') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;
- (f) to promote the commencement of 'career planning' at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- (g) to motivate employers to provide employees with 'training leave', including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- (h) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people's chances of securing employment;

#### Housing and home acquisition -

- (i) to build more public rental housing ('PRH') flats, and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;
- (j) to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;

- (k) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;

Business start-up -

- (l) to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; and
- (m) to offer ‘business start-up training programmes’ for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans.

## **2. Motion as amended by Hon KWOK Wai-keung**

That, *it is well known that* young people are the future pillars of society, but in the face of globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; *in 2016, students under the new and old academic structures will graduate at the same time, and a large number of graduates will then join the employment market, causing an impact*; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people’s needs; the specific measures should include:

Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor’s degree programmes and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people’s pathways of further studies;
- (b) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, ~~abolish~~ *including abolishing* the risk rate, ~~set~~; *setting* an

interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, and ~~replace~~ *waiving the interest accrued during students' study periods; replacing the means-tested loans with interest-free loans; allowing tax deduction on repayment amounts of university education loans; studying the feasibility of allowing local students to apply for student loans for further education overseas; and increasing the amount of grant for tertiary students;*

- (c) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to ~~\$20,000,~~ and **\$40,000**, extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme *to 10 years, and abolish the restriction on applicants to make a maximum of four reimbursement claims*, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education;
- (d) *to strengthen vocational education for students of post-secondary and tertiary institutions, so that young people can identify as early as possible their objectives concerning career prospects, and lay a good foundation for upward mobility;*
- (e) *to increase the number of internship places in Hong Kong and overseas for students of the various tertiary institutions;*
- (f) *to increase the number of student hostels in various tertiary institutions for cultivating students' skills of interpersonal communication and companionship as well as co-operative abilities;*
- (g) *to strengthen the manning ratio of student guidance personnel in secondary schools and tertiary institutions, so as to assist young people in facing problems on education, family, making friends and career prospects, etc.;*

Employment -

- ~~(d)~~(h) to review the ~~employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the relevant subsidies~~ *and consolidate the various existing training programmes for youngsters, such as the Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme ('YPTP & YWETS'), the Yi Jin Diploma programme and the Teen's Programme, etc.; and before completing the review, to raise the level of the subsidies under YPTP & YWETS to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more*

employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market;

- (e)(i) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('Y.E.S.') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;
- (j) *to enhance the practicability and effectiveness of the training and employment support structure for young people, and assist young people in joining industries which need new blood, such as the construction industry, transport industry and shipping industry;*
- (f)(k) to promote the commencement of 'career planning' at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- (g)(l) to ~~motivate employers to provide employees with 'training leave'~~ *conduct a study on enacting legislation to require an annual three-day paid training leave for all working persons in Hong Kong*, including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- (h)(m) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people's chances of securing employment;
- (n) *to proactively approach long-term unemployed young people and hidden youths, and provide career counselling and support to them;*
- (o) *to extend and consolidate the various similar apprenticeship schemes, such as the Technician Apprenticeship (Traineeship) Training Scheme, Modern Apprenticeship Scheme as well as Beauty Care and Hairdressing Traineeship Scheme;*
- (p) *to subsidize young people from low-income families, particularly grass-root South Asian young people, to attend self-enrichment courses, so as to enhance their competitiveness in choosing career;*
- (q) *to adopt diversified methods and various concessionary measures to attract non-local enterprises to come to Hong Kong for making investment, and establishing new and emerging enterprises or industrial/commercial businesses, so as to create more jobs for Hong*



***Kong and increase the employment and promotion opportunities for young people;***

Housing and home acquisition -

- (i)(r) to ~~build more public rental housing ('PRH') flats~~ ***increase the annual production of public rental housing ('PRH') to 30 000 units or more,*** and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, ***including studying the reasons for young people to apply for PRH as well as the required waiting time and allocation situation,*** so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people; ***and at the same time to put forward measures, such as raising the household income ceiling and abolishing the well-off tenants policy, so as to encourage young people to live with their parents;***
- (j)(s) to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;
- (k)(t) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;

Business start-up -

- (l)(u) to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; and
- (m)(v) to offer 'business start-up training programmes' for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans.

Note: Hon KWOK Wai-keung's amendment is marked in ***bold and italic type*** or with deletion line.

**3. Motion as amended by Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che**

That, ***given that*** young people are the future pillars of society, but in the face of globalization, ***the overly monotonous mode of the local economy*** and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of

education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people *and set up a coordinating department responsible for youth affairs* to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, *and fails to increase their social participation*, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people's needs; the specific measures should include:

Education -

- (a) *to study the implementation of 19-year free education, including pre-primary education, so as to remove the obstacles to further education encountered by young people due to the lack of pre-primary education;*
- (a)(b) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor's degree programmes ~~and~~, *top-up degree programmes*, various types of diploma *and sub-degree* programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people's pathways of further studies;
- (b)(c) ~~to comprehensively review~~ *to review every three years* the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, ~~and~~, *change the time to commence calculating interests under the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme to after borrowers' graduation*, replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans, *and shelve the study on adopting a credit information database;*
- (e)(d) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to \$20,000, and extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education;
- (e) *to immediately alter the Social Welfare Department's requirement under which tertiary students with financial difficulties may only apply to the Student Financial Assistance Agency for the living*

*expenses loan, and allow them to choose to apply for either the living expenses loan or Comprehensive Social Security Assistance to cope with the financial problems arising from their studies;*

Employment -

- (d)(f) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market;
- (e)(g) to set up more ‘Youth Employment Start’ (‘Y.E.S.’) resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;
- (f)(h) to promote the commencement of ‘career planning’ at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- (g)(i) to motivate employers to provide employees with ‘training leave’, including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- (h)(j) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people’s chances of securing employment;
- (k) *to amend the applicability of the Minimum Wage Ordinance to cover university student interns who work less than 59 days;*
- (l) *to make permanent the existing 3 000 Programme Worker posts created for young people;*

Housing and home acquisition -

- (i)(m) to build more *small* public rental housing (‘PRH’) flats, and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, *such as raising the income ceiling and asset limits for PRH application, increasing the quota for singletons, improving the Quota and Points System and relaxing the definition of families eligible for PRH*, so as to formulate

a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;

- ~~(j)~~(n) to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;
- ~~(k)~~(o) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;

Business start-up -

- ~~(l)~~(p) to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; ~~and~~
- ~~(m)~~(q) to offer ‘business start-up training programmes’ for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans;

*Social participation -*

- (r) *when formulating policies pertaining to young people, to step up online collection of young people’s opinions and increase the channels of participation for them;*
- (s) *to conduct a study on arranging automatic registration for Hong Kong permanent residents aged 18 or above as electors, so as to encourage young people to participate in society and express their voices through the casting of votes.*

Note: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

#### **4. Motion as amended by Hon CHAN Yuen-han**

That, *given that* young people are the future pillars of society, but in the face of globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people to assist them

in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people's needs; the specific measures should include:

#### Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor's degree programmes and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people's pathways of further studies;
- (b) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, and replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans;
- (c) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to ~~\$20,000~~, **and \$40,000**, extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme **to 10 years, and abolish the restriction on applicants to make a maximum of four reimbursement claims**, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education;

#### Employment -

- (d) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market;
- (e) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('Y.E.S.') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;

- (f) to promote the commencement of ‘career planning’ at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- (g) to ~~motivate employers to provide employees with ‘training leave’~~ ***conduct a study on enacting legislation to require an annual three-day paid training leave for all working persons in Hong Kong***, including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- (h) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people’s chances of securing employment;

Housing and home acquisition -

- (i) to build more public rental housing (‘PRH’) flats, and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;
- (j) to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;
- (k) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;

Business start-up -

- (l) ***as it is noticed that quite a number of industrial building revitalization projects have been transformed into real estate and hotel projects, forcing many art workers stationed in such buildings to leave, the authorities must, while balancing housing and tourism needs, also have regard to preserving room for young people’s work in cultural and creative industries by, for example, requiring property owners, when applying for industrial building revitalization, to reserve 20% of their premises as lower-rent areas for renting to young people who strive for development in the fields of creativity, culture and arts, etc.;***

- (m) *to set up creative industry parks in various districts for the provision of studios with stable rents and long-term tenancy agreements to young people who aspire to a career in creativity, culture and arts;*
- (n) *to set up a handicraft apprenticeship training scheme, and having regard to the local cultural features of various districts, to reserve land or certain buildings under conservation and relax the land use restrictions on vacant sites, so as to train young people for engaging in work on creativity or with traditional characteristics, such as arts fairs, music performances, dragon boat training and fireworks production, etc.;*
- ~~(o)~~ to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; ~~and~~
- (p) *to increase the budget for arts, and raise the annual estimates for Hong Kong Arts Development Council, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and major performing arts groups for creating additional placements, so as to provide young art workers with more placement opportunities; and*
- ~~(m)~~(q) to offer ‘business start-up training programmes’ for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans, *and to set up a dedicated fund under the Film Development Fund to provide subsidies to young directors.*

Note: Hon CHAN Yuen-han’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## **5. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN**

That, *in recent years, youth issues have aroused increasing concern in society, and many people in the community are worried about the development of the next generation;* young people are the future pillars of society, but in the face of globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack ~~upward-mobility~~ opportunities *for upward mobility and participation in social affairs*, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of

manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people's needs; the specific measures should include:

Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor's degree programmes (*including top-up degree programmes for sub-degree programmes*) and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people's pathways of further studies;
- (b) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, ~~and~~ replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans, *and allow the commencement of calculation of interest only after borrowers' graduation*;
- (c) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to \$20,000, and extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education; *and at the same time, to enhance the regulation of programmes eligible for subsidies*;

Employment -

- (d) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme ('*YPTP & YWETS*'), and raise the level of the relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market; *at the same time, to implement the recommendations for improvement on YPTP & YWETS in Chapter 10 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 59*;
- (e) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('*Y.E.S.*') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, *and at the same time to implement the relevant recommendations for improvement in Chapter 10 of the*



**Director of Audit's Report No. 59 to** strengthen the training targeted at young people; **and** enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;

- (f) to promote the commencement of 'career planning' at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- (g) to motivate employers to provide employees with 'training leave', including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- (h) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people's chances of securing employment;

#### Housing and home acquisition -

- (i) to build more public rental housing ('PRH') flats, ~~and~~ review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, **and raise the existing income limits for PRH applicants**, so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;
- (j) to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, ~~re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and~~ ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, ~~so as to~~ **including a certain quantity of 'flats with limited floor areas' to provide young people with home acquisition opportunities, and** build an integrated housing ladder for people;
- (k) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;
- (l) **to raise the requirements of the ad valorem stamp duty for the consideration of a transaction, so as to reduce the financial burden on young people who are first-time home buyers;**

#### Business start-up -

- (~~l~~)**(m)** to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; and

~~(m)~~(n) to offer ‘business start-up training programmes’ for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans

*Social participation -*

- (o) *to convene youth summits annually for conducting comprehensive discussions on the education, employment, housing and other problems faced by young people;*
- (p) *to set indicators for the ratio of youth participation in statutory and advisory bodies, so as to enable young people to participate more in the process of formulating policies in various respects; and*
- (q) *to comprehensively review the functions and composition of the Commission on Youth, so as to enable the Commission to better promote policies pertaining to young people in various respects.*

Note: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## **6. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Helena WONG**

That, *given that* young people are the future pillars of society, but ~~in the face of~~ globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, *deep-rooted conflicts have long existed in Hong Kong, including the absence of a democratic system, inability of people to effectively monitor the government returned by small-circle election, lopsided policies towards the establishment as well as industrial and commercial interests, failure to reasonably distribute social resources through a democratic system and fair mechanism, and usual lack of genuine consultation and public engagement in the process of formulating public policies, leading to the expansion of developer hegemony and polarization between the rich and the poor, which make* Hong Kong young people ~~not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack~~ upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong

Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people's needs; the specific measures should include:

Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor's degree programmes and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people's pathways of further studies;
- (b) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, and replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans;
- (c) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to \$20,000, and extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education;
- (d) *to reserve a sufficient number of Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy programme places in graduate schools for local university graduates, so as to provide them with opportunities for further study and nurture local academic research talents;*

Employment -

- ~~(d)~~(e) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market;
- ~~(e)~~(f) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('Y.E.S.') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;

- ~~(f)~~**(g)** to promote the commencement of ‘career planning’ at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- ~~(g)~~**(h)** to motivate employers to provide employees with ‘training leave’, including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- ~~(h)~~**(i)** to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people’s chances of securing employment;

#### Housing and home acquisition -

- ~~(i)~~**(j)** to build more public rental housing (‘PRH’) flats, and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;
- ~~(j)~~**(k)** to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;
- ~~(k)~~**(l)** on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;

#### Business start-up -

- ~~(l)~~**(m)** to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; and
- ~~(m)~~**(n)** to offer ‘business start-up training programmes’ for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans.

Note: Dr Hon Helena WONG’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## 7. Motion as amended by Hon Jeffrey LAM

That young people are the future pillars of *Hong Kong* society, but in the face of globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; however, the ~~Government currently does not formulate any~~ *Government's current* comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people *are still inadequate* to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate, *decline in young people's competitiveness* and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people's needs; the specific measures should include:

### Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor's degree programmes and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people's pathways of further studies;
- (b) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, ~~abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, and replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans;~~
- (c) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to \$20,000, and extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education;

### Employment -

- (d) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the

relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market;

- (e) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('Y.E.S.') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;
- (f) to promote the commencement of 'career planning' at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- (g) to motivate employers to provide employees with 'training leave', including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- (h) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people's chances of securing employment;

#### Housing and home acquisition -

- (i) to build more public rental housing ('PRH') flats, and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;
- (j) to ~~construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats~~ ***relax the income ceiling for Home Ownership Scheme ('HOS') applications and speed up the turnover in the HOS secondary market***, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;
- ~~(k) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;~~

#### Business start-up -

- ~~(k)~~ **(k)** to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; ~~and~~

- (m)(l) to offer ‘business start-up training programmes’ for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans; *and*
- (m) *to establish a seed fund with government capital injection, set up ‘young entrepreneur parks’, and provide comprehensive and professional support networks for young people intending to start up their businesses, so as to assist them in upgrading their business start-up capability.*

Note: Hon Jeffrey LAM’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## **8. Motion as amended by Hon Charles Peter MOK**

That young people are the future pillars of society, but in the face of globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start up; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are *which is* not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people’s needs; the specific measures should include *introduce specific measures to enhance young people’s competitiveness, including:*

Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly-funded bachelor’s degree programmes and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people’s pathways of further studies;
- (b) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the

Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, and replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans;

- (c) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to \$20,000, and extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education;

#### Employment -

- (d) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more employers to provide more ~~employment and~~ training opportunities ~~suitable~~ for young people ~~in the market~~;
- (e) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('Y.E.S.') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;
- (f) to promote the commencement of 'career planning' at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- (g) to motivate employers to provide employees with 'training leave', including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- ~~(h) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people's chances of securing employment;~~

#### ~~Housing and home acquisition~~

- ~~(i) to build more public rental housing ('PRH') flats, and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;~~



- ~~(j) to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;~~
- ~~(k) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;~~

Business start-up -

- ~~(h)~~ **(h)** to establish a start-up fund for young people, *implement projects conducive to nurturing young people's creativity and* provide loans to young people who have *creative* business start-up plans *and the ability* but lack the capital; and
- ~~(i)~~ **(i)** to offer 'business start-up training programmes' for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans.

Note: Hon Charles Peter MOK's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## **9. Motion as amended by Hon IP Kin-yuen**

That young people are the future pillars of society, but in the face of globalization and the rapid development of neighbouring regions, Hong Kong young people not only face many challenges during their growth, but also lack upward mobility opportunities, and their aspirations are particularly salient in respect of education, employment, housing, home acquisition and business start-up; however, the Government currently does not formulate any comprehensive support measures mainly targeted at young people to assist them in concentrating on education, establishing career, and resolving the problems of housing and business start-up, thus causing problems such as mismatch of manpower resources, high youth unemployment rate and accumulation of social grievances, which are not conducive to the long-term development of Hong Kong society; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to care about young people's needs; the specific measures should include:

Education -

- (a) to increase the places for publicly funded bachelor's degree programmes *publicly-funded first-year undergraduate places, publicly-funded senior year undergraduate articulated places as well*

*as publicly-funded sub-degree programme places* and various types of diploma programmes, and enhance the qualification recognition of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, sub-degrees and the Yi Jin Diploma in Hong Kong, the Mainland and the international community, so as to widen young people's pathways of further studies;

- (b) *to review the impact of subsidized tertiary institutions admitting mainland students on local students' opportunities of enrollment to programmes of bachelor degrees, master degrees and doctoral degrees;*
- (b)(c) to comprehensively review the assistance as well as loans and repayment arrangements under the various existing student finance schemes, abolish the risk rate, set an interest rate ceiling for the Non-means Tested Loan Scheme at 2.5%, ***waive the accrual of interest during study periods***, and replace the means-tested loans with interest-free loans;
- (e)(d) to comprehensively review the Continuing Education Fund Scheme, raise the cap on the amount of subsidy receivable by each applicant to \$20,000, and extend the period of four years within which applicants must submit all claims as required by the scheme, etc., so as to encourage young people to pursue continuous education; ***and enhance the monitoring of the Scheme to avoid wasting public money;***
- (e) *to provide resources to schools for offering non-academic students quality practical courses or skills training programmes with articulation channels as another pathway under the new academic structure;*
- (f) *to comprehensively review the policy on university hostel places, expand campus boundaries for constructing additional campus buildings and hostels, so as to cope with the needs of university students;*
- (g) *to increase the subsidies for evening schools to encourage young people to pursue lifelong learning;*

Employment -

- (d)(h) to review the employment training support services for young people, enhance the existing Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme, and raise the level of the relevant subsidies to \$3,000, so as to attract the participation of more

employers to provide more employment and training opportunities suitable for young people in the market;

- ~~(e)~~(i) to set up more 'Youth Employment Start' ('Y.E.S.') resource centres throughout Hong Kong, strengthen the training targeted at young people, enhance their employment skills, and provide one-stop employment counselling;
- ~~(f)~~(j) to promote the commencement of 'career planning' at the stage of secondary education, so as to enable secondary students to make better planning for their future career development;
- ~~(g)~~(k) to motivate employers to provide employees with 'training leave', including offering tax concessions to such employers, so as to facilitate working young people to pursue studies and acquire professional qualifications by examination;
- ~~(h)~~(l) to co-operate with public and private organizations and enterprises to encourage the employment of young people with less working experience and share with them the relevant salary payments, so as to increase young people's chances of securing employment;

Housing and home acquisition -

- ~~(i)~~(m) to build more public rental housing ('PRH') flats, and review the existing eligibility criteria for applying for PRH, so as to formulate a more reasonable and fairer method for waiting for and allocation of PRH for young people;
- ~~(j)~~(n) to construct at least 5 000 Home Ownership Scheme flats each year, re-launch the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, and ensure the annual provision of 20 000 private residential flats, so as to build an integrated housing ladder for people;
- ~~(k)~~(o) on the premise of having an adequate supply of private housing, to conduct a study on re-launching the Home Starter Loan Scheme focusing on young people with relatively stable financial income;

Business start-up -

- ~~(l)~~(p) to establish a start-up fund for young people, so as to provide loans to young people who have business start-up plans but lack the capital; and

~~(m)~~(q) to offer ‘business start-up training programmes’ for the provision of the necessary business start-up knowledge, so as to assist young people in devising and implementing their business start-up plans.

Note: Hon IP Kin-yuen’s amendment is marked in ***bold and italic type*** or with deletion line.