

**Panel on Education**  
**List of outstanding items for discussion**

(Position as at 6 February 2013)

Proposed timing  
for discussion

**(A) Items scheduled for discussion at Panel meetings**

**1. Academic freedom and public policy research funding**

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN wrote to the Panel Chairman on 7 December 2012 [LC Paper No. CB(4)240/12-13(01)] suggesting that the Panel should discuss the possible impacts on academic freedom arising from the change of approving authority for public policy research funding from the Research Grant Council to the Central Policy Unit. At the meeting on 14 January 2013, the Panel agreed to arrange a special meeting to receive deputations on issues arising from the Public Policy Research Funding Scheme.

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**(B) Items proposed but not yet scheduled for discussion at Panel meetings**

**2. "Free" Kindergarten Education and 15-year free education**

In connection with the discussion on the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme at the Panel meetings on 17 December 2010 and 13 June 2011, some members reiterated their call on the Administration to consider the implementation of 15-year free education (i.e. extending the free education from primary and secondary education to kindergarten education). At the meeting on 16 October 2012, the Panel agreed that the subject of 15-year free education should be discussed. At the meeting on 14 January 2013, the Panel agreed that a special meeting should be arranged to receive deputations.

To be  
confirmed

The Administration will brief the Panel on its plan for the implementation of the initiative of "free" kindergarten education.

Proposed timing  
for discussion

**3. Provision of international school places**

The subject was last discussed on 13 February 2012. Members are concerned about the supply of international school places and the availability of sites for building school premises. The Administration will report to the Panel the progress of the provision of International School places.

To be  
confirmed

**4. Review on the subvention arrangements for the English Schools Foundation ("ESF")**

In June 2012, the Administration provided information on the progress of the review on the subvention arrangements for ESF [LC Paper No. CB(2)2332/11-12(01)]. According to the Administration, discussion with ESF was on-going and the Administration will report the progress of the review to the Panel.

To be  
confirmed

**5. Native-speaking English Teacher Scheme**

Hon Mrs Regina IP wrote to the Panel Chairman on 20 February 2012 [LC Paper No. CB(2)1170/11-12(01)] proposing that the Panel should discuss the Native-speaking English Teacher Scheme for primary schools. At the meeting on 12 March 2012, members agreed that the subject matter be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

To be  
confirmed

**6. Issues related to English proficiency of students and the policies on the teaching and learning of English**

At the meeting on 16 October 2012, it was agreed that the Panel would discuss matters related to English proficiency of students and the policies on the teaching and learning of English.

To be  
confirmed

Proposed timing  
for discussion

**7. Grievance procedures of the University Grants Committee ("UGC")-funded institutions**

At the meeting on 12 July 2010, UGC briefed members on the guidelines of best practices in redress mechanisms developed by UGC having regard to the findings of the research on grievance procedures of 10 reputable overseas institutions and the responses of local institutions to these best practices. Members requested UGC to provide updated complaint/grievance handling flow charts of individual institutions and the institutions' responses to the UGC's recommendations for the Panel to follow up.

To be  
confirmed

The research report entitled "Complaint handling mechanism in higher education sector in selected places" prepared by the Research Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat was circulated to members on 13 October 2010 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)32/10-11.

UGC provided an update of the UGC-funded institutions' response to the UGC's recommendations on the grievance/complaint handling procedures and the updated grievances/complaint handling flow charts of individual institutions, which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2407/10-11(01) on 18 July 2011.

**8. Implementation of education support measures for non-Chinese speaking students**

At the meeting on 16 October 2012, members suggested that the Administration should be requested to update the Panel on the progress of the implementation of education support measures for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students. At the meeting on 12 November 2012, members had requested the Administration to report to the Panel by mid 2013 on its comprehensive review on the implementation of education support measures for NCS students.

To be  
confirmed

Proposed timing  
for discussion

**9. Moral and national education**

Members agreed that the Panel should discuss the matter notwithstanding the Administration's announcement of the change of policy in early October 2012. The Administration will brief the Panel about on the latest developments subsequent to the announcement of the revised Moral and National Education policy in early October 2012.

To be  
confirmed

**10. The subject of Liberal Studies in New Senior Secondary curriculum**

At the meeting on 14 January 2013, Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG suggested that the Panel should discuss matters related to Liberal Studies in New Senior Secondary ("NSS") curriculum. Issues of concern include whether the subject should be a mandatory subject in NSS curriculum and for fulfillment of the general entrance requirement for local undergraduate programmes, the curriculum design and course contents, the impact on teachers etc.

To be  
confirmed

**(C) Items that members may wish to re-visit if there are new developments**

**11. Issues relating to the relocation of the centres of the Christian Zheng Sheng Association and development of rehabilitation centre-cum-schools**

The Administration provided an information paper on the matter which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)2322/09-10(01) on 30 September 2010.

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At the meeting on 12 July 2010, members agreed that the Panel should discuss the matter depending on the progress of the Administration's discussion with Christian Zheng Sheng Association ("CZSA").

Proposed timing  
for discussion

At the meeting on 14 February 2011, the Panel passed a motion requesting the Administration to solve in the near future the problem concerning the relocation of the drug treatment and rehabilitation centres of CZSA. In its written response to the motion which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1413/10-11(01) on 31 March 2011, the Administration advised that the Security Bureau was taking the lead in coordinating matters relating to the relocation of the drug treatment and rehabilitation centers of CZSA. The Administration also provided in its response a brief update on the Christian Zheng Sheng College's application for operating New Senior Secondary courses at its existing school premises in Ha Keng. In late April 2011, the Administration provided further information on the latest development of the matter (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1636/10-11(01) and (02)).

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