

Panel on Economic Development

List of issues suggested to be considered
(position as at 16 October 2012)

**Proposed
timing for
discussion**

**Policy issues under Commerce and Economic Development
Bureau**

1. Proposed controls over the amount of phthalates in certain toys and children's products

The Administration will consult the Panel regarding plans to amend the law to impose controls over the amount of phthalates in certain toys and children's products. The Administration tentatively plans to present the relevant Bill to the Legislative Council in April 2013.

November 2012

2. Draft guidelines and other enforcement matters in respect of the fair trading provisions in the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362)

The Commissioner of Customs and Excise and the Communications Authority may issue enforcement guidelines in respect of the new fair trading provisions in the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362). The Administration will consult the Panel on the guidelines in draft form and report the latest progress of related enforcement matters.

November 2012

3. Proposed creation of a permanent post of Judge of Court of First Instance (JSPS Point 16), and a permanent post of Deputy Registrar, High Court (JSPS Point 13)

The Administration will seek the Panel's support for the proposed creation of two judicial posts in the Judiciary for the establishment of the Competition Tribunal. The Administration plans to submit the funding proposal to the Establishment Subcommittee and the Finance Committee in the first quarter of 2013.

December 2012
or January 2013

4. Ocean Park's Tai Shue Wan Development Project

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on Ocean Park's proposal to develop Tai Shue Wan as a new integrated theme zone and the relevant financing arrangement. The main focus of the development is to build an indoor/outdoor waterpark. The Administration plans to submit the funding proposal to the Finance Committee in the fourth quarter of 2012 or first quarter of 2013.

late 2012 or
early 2013

5. Briefing by the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development on relevant policy initiatives in the Chief Executive's 2012-13 Policy Address

The Administration will brief the Panel on relevant policy initiatives in the Chief Executive's 2012-13 Policy Address.

January 2013

6. Hong Kong Tourism Board Work Plan for 2013-14

In line with past practice, the Hong Kong Tourism Board will present its work-plan for 2013-14 and brief the Panel on the overview of Hong Kong tourism industry in 2012 and the outlook of 2013.

February 2013

7. Update on Hong Kong Disneyland

In line with past practice, the Hong Kong Disneyland will brief the Panel on its operation in 2011-2012.

February 2013

8. Report on the progress of development of the new cruise terminal project at Kai Tak

The Administration will update the Panel on the latest progress of the new cruise terminal project in Kai Tak before its commissioning in mid-2013, the commissioning arrangements and the initiatives to promote cruise tourism

2nd quarter 2013

9. Lei Yue Mun Waterfront Enhancement Project

The Administration proposes to enhance the attractiveness of Lei Yue Mun (LYM) as a popular tourism spot through further improving the facilities along the LYM waterfront area. The Administration plans to consult the Panel on the proposed project

To be confirmed

within 2013, and to submit the funding proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee in the first or second quarter of 2013.

10. Overall planning of tourism infrastructures and relevant support measures

At the meeting of the Panel on Development on 14 October 2010, Mr Paul TSE cited the effort of the government of Singapore in the development of Sentosa into a tourist attraction and commented that the Administration should take the lead instead of relying on the initiatives of the commercial sector in the overall planning of tourism infrastructure in Hong Kong.

To be confirmed

Mr Jeffrey LAM, Chairman of the Panel on Economic Development in the 2011-2012 session, agreed to include the item in this list as planning of tourism infrastructure is led by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau and should be discussed at the Panel on Economic Development.

The Administration has been requested to report on the progress in developing new tourist attractions and, where appropriate, on measures being taken to address concerns about taxi scams, the operation of the SkyPier and the Security Bureau's Outbound Travel Alert System.

11. Policies and measures for tackling anti-competitive activities to ensure a level playing field

Proposed by Mr Ronny TONG at the meeting on 28 November 2011. Mr TONG was concerned about the widely reported incident in which large supermarket chains allegedly forced suppliers of beverage products to withhold their supplies to small retailers which sold these products to consumers at low prices. Panel members opined that there should be policies and measures for dealing with similar incidents and for ensuring a level playing field for large and small firms to conduct their business in Hong Kong. Members considered it necessary to invite the Administration as well as deputations from suppliers, retailers and the Consumer Council to a Panel meeting to give views in this regard.

To be confirmed

12. Annual Report 2009-2010 of the Competition Policy Advisory Group

On 17 December 2010, the Competition Policy Advisory Group published its 12th annual report which reviewed the complaints received in 2009-2010 and outlined the progress of investigation and follow-up actions taken. Ms Emily LAU suggested to include the item on the list for discussion.

To be confirmed

Policy issues under Transport and Housing Bureau

13. Pilotage (Amendment) Bill

The Administration will consult the Panel on a number of legislative proposals to improve the operation of the Pilotage Ordinance (Cap. 84) regulating the provision of pilotage services in Hong Kong in the light of experience gained. The Administration plans to present the relevant Bill to the Legislative Council in the first half of 2013.

November 2012

14. Implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 in Hong Kong

The International Labour Organization (ILO) adopted the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC 2006) to consolidate and update over 60 ILO instruments relating to the working conditions and welfare of seafarers.

December 2012
or January/
February 2013

The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposed amendments to the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) Ordinance (Cap. 478) (the Ordinance) and its subsidiary legislations, and enactment of a new regulation under the Ordinance for implementing the requirements of MLC 2006. MLC 2006 will commence operation internationally in August 2013. The Administration plans to present the relevant Bill to the Legislative Council in the first half of 2013.

**15. PWP Item No. 5114AP –
Providing Sufficient Water Depth for Kwai Tsing Container Basin and its Approach Channel**

The Administration will consult the Panel on the proposed project to provide sufficient water depth for Kwai Tsing Container Basin

February, March
or April 2013

and its approach channel so that the new generation of ultra large container ships having a maximum draft of 15.5 metres can access the port facilities at the Kwai Tsing Container Terminals unrestricted by the depth of water. The proposed scope of the project comprises (a) dredging of the seabed to a level of approximately 17.5 metres below Chart Datum; and (b) modification/demolition of existing submarine sewage outfalls and associated works. Construction is tentatively scheduled to commence in the fourth quarter of 2013 for completion in phases from the fourth quarter of 2015 to the second quarter of 2016. The Administration plans to submit the funding proposal to the Public Works Subcommittee in March 2013 or May 2013, and to the Finance Committee in May 2013 or June 2013.

16. Proposed provision of customs, immigration and quarantine (CIQ) facilities for SkyPier of the Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA)

The Administration originally planned to brief the Panel on the proposal before seeking funding approval from the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee. According to the Administration's reply to a LegCo question from Mr Abraham SHEK on 9 March 2011, the Airport Authority had decided not to pursue the proposal as it considered that the provision of the CIQ facilities would not increase the usage of the SkyPier services by transit passengers.

To be confirmed

According to Mr Jeffrey LAM, there were views in the public that the CIQ facilities should be provided to relieve congestion at the Hong Kong – Shenzhen Western Corridor. The Administration agreed to revisit this item with the Panel when there were new developments in this regard.

17. Implementing the National Twelfth Five-year Plan: Logistics Development

At the meeting on 28 March 2011, Ms Miriam LAU requested the Administration to brief the Panel on the implementation of the National Twelfth Five-year (12-5) Plan, in particular further development of Hong Kong as a shipping centre and logistics hub.

To be confirmed

18. Development of a logistics cluster in Kwai Tsing area

Proposed at the meeting on 13 October 2011 by Ms Miriam LAU, who expressed concern about the slow progress in developing the cluster as reported in the 2011-2012 Policy Address.

To be confirmed

19. Proposed amendments to the Scheme of Airport Charges

Proposed by Mr LEE Wing-tat who opined that consideration should be given to improving the Scheme of Airport Charges (the Scheme) with a view to minimizing the noise impact of aircraft on the neighbourhoods of the HKIA. In response, the Administration advised that there was a need to exercise care in introducing amendments to the Scheme lest they would affect Hong Kong's competitiveness as an aviation hub. Moreover, the construction of the third runway, if taken forward, would also help mitigate aircraft noise impact.

To be confirmed

20. Development of seaplane service and mooring areas for pleasure vessels

At the meeting on 15 October 2009, Mr Albert CHAN requested the Administration to explore and discuss with the Panel the development of seaplane service between Hong Kong and other cities in the region, as well as the provision of more mooring areas for pleasure vessels, having regard to the demand for the facilities and in the light of overseas experiences.

To be confirmed

21. Pilot scheme on cross-boundary sailing for pleasure vessels

Proposed by Miss Tanya CHAN and Ms Emily LAU at the meeting on 26 March 2012. The Administration agreed to keep members posted of the progress of the scheme, and consult the public and the Panel on the finalized scheme details before its implementation.

To be confirmed

Policy issues under the Environment Bureau

22. Annual Tariff Reviews with the two power companies

Pursuant to the Scheme of Control Agreements with the two power companies, a Tariff Review will be conducted by the Government and the respective power company towards the end of each year. The two power companies will announce their tariff for 2013 after the review and explain their cases to the Panel if there is any adjustment.

December 2012

23. Power supply and impact of fuel cost on electricity tariffs

Proposed by Mr Fred LI and Ms Emily LAU who referred to the statement made by CLP Holdings Limited at its annual general meeting on 8 May 2012 on the impact of fuel cost on electricity tariff. Mr LI and Ms LAU proposed to examine the following matters: transparency of the mechanism of including the cost of natural gas in the adjustment of electricity tariffs, the planned increase in the ratio of natural gas for power generation, adequacy of the natural gas supply, changes in the carbon emissions standards which the two power companies had to meet and hence, changes in their investment and development plans, the Government's role in this regard, etc.

To be confirmed

At the Panel meeting on 11 July 2012, Ms Emily LAU further proposed that the wider issue of power supply should be jointly examined by all relevant Panels instead of being separately discussed by different Panels each focusing on their respective concerns. According to her, the approach would have the benefit of ensuring all associated factors, including the health impact of air pollution associated with power generation, would be examined holistically.

24. Operation of the local fuel market in a "fast price hike but slow price slash" manner

Proposed by Ms Starry LEE and Mr WONG Ting-kwong at the meeting on 13 October 2011. Mr WONG, in particular, opined that the Administration should examine and explain whether the Competition Bill then under scrutiny could address concerns in this regard.

To be confirmed

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
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