

Panel on Education
List of outstanding items for discussion

(Position as at 14 March 2014)

Proposed timing
for discussion

(A) Items proposed by members

1. Long term planning and policy on education

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG proposed to discuss the subject in the light of the Administration's population policy. Hon IP Kin-yuen proposed to discuss the planning for the provision of secondary school places. Hon Michael TIEN proposed that the Panel should discuss the establishment of publicly-funded schools in Shenzhen offering the Hong Kong curriculum.

To be
confirmed

The Panel had discussed issues related to the shortfall in primary school places in the North District on 7 February 2013 and the current arrangements under the Secondary School Places Allocation System on 9 July 2013.

2. Employment opportunities for young teachers

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen. Issues related to employment opportunities for young teachers had been discussed on 10 and 22 June 2013 when the Panel discussed teachers employed on fixed-term contracts and the class-to-teacher ratio in secondary schools.

To be
confirmed

3. Existing policy and programme on redevelopment of primary and secondary schools and special schools

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen and Hon Cyd HO. Issues related to the review of School Building Programme were last discussed at the meetings on 30 May and 24 October 2005. The most recent information note concerning a proposed project of a special school was circulated to the Panel in December 2009. The Administration has proposed to brief the Panel at its meeting in April 2014 on a project to construct two 12-classroom special school premises for reprovisioning.

To be
confirmed

Proposed timing
for discussion

4. Provision of financial assistance to post-secondary students

Item proposed by Hon WU Chi-wai. The subject of improvement measures to student loans for post-secondary students was last discussed on 14 May 2012. The Administration has proposed to brief the Panel at its meeting in April 2014 on various 2014 Policy Address initiatives related to increasing subsidized higher education opportunities.

To be
confirmed

5. Textbooks and the use information technology in education

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG was concerned about the rising prices of textbooks. Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT proposed to hold a joint meeting with Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting to discuss the use of information technology in education.

To be
confirmed

The subject of progress of implementing the E-textbook Market development Scheme and the use of E-platforms to facilitate teaching and learning was last discussed on 7 February 2013.

At the meeting held on 9 December 2013, the Panel discussed proposed measures to support schools to adopt e-textbooks to facilitate learning and teaching when the Administration consulted the Panel on the related financial proposal.

6. Review of the New Senior Secondary curriculum and assessment

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen. Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG suggested that the Panel should discuss the review of the curriculum and assessment of the Liberal Studies subject. The progress of the review of the New Senior Secondary curriculum and assessment, notably the short-term recommendations, was last discussed on 30 May 2013.

June/July
2014

Proposed timing
for discussion

7. Class-to-teacher ratio in primary and secondary schools and small class teaching in secondary schools

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen and Hon Abraham SHEK. Issues related to the class-to-teacher ratio and teacher-to-student ratio had been discussed on 10 and 22 June 2013, while issues related to small class teaching had been discussed at several meetings including those held on 2 and 3 November 2012 and 17 April 2013.

To be
confirmed

8. Education for non-Chinese speaking/ethnic minorities students

Item proposed by Hon Abraham SHEK. The progress on enhancing the education support for non-Chinese speaking students was last discussed on 9 July 2013. The Administration has proposed to update the Panel at its meeting in April 2014 on the implementation details of the enhanced Chinese learning and teaching for non-Chinese speaking students pertaining to the 2014 Policy Address to help non-Chinese speaking students learn Chinese as a second language with a view to bridging to mainstream Chinese language classes.

April 2014

9. Review on the subvention arrangements for the English Schools Foundation

After the Administration had reported the progress of the review to the Panel on 9 July 2013, Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN wrote to the Chairman on 12 July 2013 proposing that the Panel should arrange a meeting to receive views from stakeholders.

To be
confirmed

10. Review of the implementation of vocational education in meeting Hong Kong's demand for trained personnel

Item proposed by Hon WONG Kwok-hing.

To be
confirmed

Proposed timing
for discussion

11. Native-speaking English Teacher Scheme

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen. The subject was last discussed on 9 July 2013.

To be
confirmed

(B) Items carried forward from the "List of outstanding items for discussion" of the 2012-2013 session

12. 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.

13. 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