

Panel on Education
List of outstanding items for discussion

(Position as at 8 November 2013)

Proposed timing
for discussion

(A) Items proposed by members

1. Review on the policy of Direct Subsidy Scheme schools

At the Panel meeting held on 9 July 2013, some members suggested that the Panel should discuss the policy of Direct Subsidy Scheme ("DSS") schools and how to improve the regulation on DSS schools. Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN wrote to the Chairman on 24 July 2013 proposing the same, and attached the wording of a motion he intended to move. The subject of DSS schools was last discussed on 11 July 2011.

To be
confirmed

The Administration has indicated that it would report on the implementation progress of the Working Group on Direct Subsidy Scheme recommendations in the first or second quarter of 2014.

2. 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.

Proposed timing
for discussion

3. 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

4. Review on the implementation of Territory-wide System Assessment

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG.

To be
confirmed

5. Non-Joint University Programmes Admission System

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen.

To be
confirmed

6. Issues related to the admission of non-local students to University Grants Committee-funded postgraduate programmes

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG who was concerned about the intake of a large number of non-local students to publicly-funded postgraduate programmes, and ways to ensure that local students would not be disadvantaged.

To be
confirmed

7. Issues related to the governance and regulation of the self-financing post-secondary sector

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG who was also concerned about the establishment of an oversight body for the self-financing post-secondary sector. The subject of self-financing post-secondary education was last discussed at the meetings on 11 and 14 January 2013.

To be
confirmed

Proposed timing
for discussion

8. Measures to address issues arising from the drop in secondary student population

Item proposed by Hon IP Kin-yuen. Issues related to the subject had been discussed at several meetings including those held on 2 and 3 November 2012, 17 April and 9 July 2013.

To be
confirmed

9. 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.

To be
confirmed

10. 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.

To be
confirmed

11. 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.

Proposed timing
for discussion

12. 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

13. 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

14. 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.

To be
confirmed

15. 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

Proposed timing
for discussion

16. 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

17. Native-speaking English Teacher Scheme

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

To be
confirmed

18 Progress of work of the Committee on Free Kindergarten Education

Last discussed on 9 July 2013. The Administration was asked to report regularly to the Panel the progress of work of the Committee on Free Kindergarten Education, including any interim measures for the benefit of the kindergarten sector and parents.

To be
confirmed

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

19. 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

Proposed timing
for discussion

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.

20. 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

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
8 November 2013