

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

LC Paper No. CB(2)2005/15-16 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 12 April 2016, at 4:30 pm in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present	:	Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP (Chairman) Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS (Deputy Chairman) Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP Hon Claudia MO Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS Hon WU Chi-wai, MH Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Chi-chuen Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung Hon IP Kin-yuen Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP
Member attending	:	Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Members absent	:	Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Public Officers : Item III attending

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP Secretary for Home Affairs

Miss Janice TSE Siu-wa, JP **Director of Home Affairs**

Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP Deputy Director of Home Affairs (2)

Mrs Candy YEUNG CHAN Wai-man, JP Assistant Director of Home Affairs (3)

Item IV

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Patrick LI Pak-chuen, JP Deputy Director of Home Affairs (1)

Ms Maureen SIU Mo-lin, JP District Officer (Sai Kung) Home Affairs Department

Ms Dawn LEONG Shok-fun Project Manager (Architect)/Sai Kung Home Affairs Department

Mr Francis LEE Man-chow Chief Engineer/Port Works **Civil Engineering and Development Department**

Mr Raymond CHENG Kin-man Senior Engineer/Projects 1 **Civil Engineering and Development Department**

Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming, BBS, MH Chairman of the Signature Project Scheme Committee Sai Kung District Council

Clerk in : Ms Alice LEUNG attendance Chief Council Secretary (2) 6

Staff in attendance	:	Miss Karen LAI Senior Council Secretary (2) 6
		Mrs Fonny TSANG Legislative Assistant (2) 3

I. Information papers issued since the last meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1201/15-16(01), CB(2)1223/15-16(01), CB(2)1235/15-16(01) and (02)]

<u>Members</u> noted that the following papers had been issued after the last meeting:

- (a) information paper entitled "Progress Report on the Expansion and Improvement Project of the Wanchai Campus of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts" provided by the Administration;
- (b) letter dated 1 April 2016 from Mr WONG Kwok-hing; and
- (c) letter dated 29 March 2016 from Dr Kenneth CHAN and the Administration's response.

The Chairman said that as agreed at the last meeting, the 2. Administration should revert to the Panel on the incident involving the omission of the word "national" from the name of a Taiwanese university in the publicity pamphlets produced by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") ("the incident"). She further said that in that morning, the Administration had proposed to her that the Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") could speak on the incident under the item "Any other business" ("AOB"). She sought members' views on the Administration's proposal. Ms Cyd HO considered it unfair to members given the short notice of the Administration's proposal. She requested that if members agreed to the proposed arrangement, time should also be reserved at the next regular meeting for members to discuss the subject. The Chairman sought members' views on the arrangements proposed by Members raised no objection to the proposed arrangements. Ms HO.

(*Post-meeting note:* As instructed by the Chairman, the Secretariat informed members via email at this juncture that SHA would speak on the incident under "AOB" of this meeting.)

3

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1228/15-16(01) and (02)]

3. <u>Members</u> agreed to reschedule the next regular meeting from 13 May 2016 to 17 May 2016 at 4:30 pm. <u>The Panel</u> agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next meeting:

- (a) outcome of the public consultation on the Review of the Building Management Ordinance; and
- (b) free admission to permanent exhibitions of designated museums of LCSD.

Clerk 4. <u>The Chairman</u> directed that the incident referred to in paragraph 2 above would be added to the agenda of the next meeting under "Matters arising".

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: At the request of the Administration and with the concurrence of the Chairman, the regular meeting in May was further rescheduled to 17 May 2016 at 8:30 am.)

III. Enhancement of district administration

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1228/15-16(03) and (04)]

5. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>SHA</u> and <u>the Director of Home</u> <u>Affairs</u> briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper. <u>The Assistant Director of Home Affairs (3)</u> gave a video presentation on the implementation of the Pilot Scheme on Enhancement of District Administration through District Management Committees ("Pilot Scheme") in Yuen Long ("YL") and Sham Shui Po ("SSP").

Discussion

District-led Actions Scheme ("DAS") and role of District Councils ("DCs")

6. <u>Members</u> in general expressed support for DAS. Some members, however, considered that the Administration could still further enhance the role and functions of DCs. <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> said that speaking from her experience as a member of the Wong Tai Sin DC, the implementation of

some district projects had not been smooth as the power of the District Officer ("DO") was limited. She considered that DCs should be delegated more power previously exercised by the two former Municipal Councils, and to this end, the Chairmen of the 18 DCs, the respective DOs and the Administration should conduct meetings to work out the timetable and details. <u>The Deputy Chairman and Mr LEUNG Chi-cheung</u> also considered that there was room for enhancing the role of DCs in district administration and their decision-making power.

7. SHA said that in the light of the success of the Pilot Scheme, the Administration decided that the Pilot Scheme would be extended to all 18 districts in this DC term and be renamed as DAS. Projects to be implemented under DAS would seek to address certain long-standing district issues through the joint efforts of DC members, relevant government departments and community organizations, to be steered and coordinated by district management committees ("DMCs"). SHA further said that DAS sought to progressively take forward the concept of "addressing district issues at local level and capitalising on local opportunities" as advocated by the Chief Executive. Relevant projects for implementation under DAS were to be initiated by DCs. DCs would be fully engaged in the planning and implementation of their DAS projects, e.g. DCs would advise on the Inter-disciplinary efforts would be made to assist in the work priorities. implementation of the projects. SHA advised that the Administration had reserved an annual recurrent funding provision of \$63 million for the 18 districts, and would create additional civil service posts and employ contract staff to support the implementation of DAS.

8. <u>Mr TANG Ka-piu</u> declared that he was a member of the Islands DC. He enquired how DAS could help resolve livelihood issues such as high transportation costs and price inflation. <u>SHA</u> said that starting from this DC term, a series of briefings by the relevant Principal Officials ("POs") was organized for all DC members. DC members were welcome to raise their concerns on district and livelihood issues to the relevant officials at the briefings.

9. <u>Mr WU Chi-wai</u> considered that to better take forward the concept of "addressing district issues at local level", DCs should also be allowed to implement projects including those which would incur recurrent expenditures to the Government, instead of being allowed to implement projects involving hardware construction only, such as rain shelters. Referring to the Pilot Scheme in SSP to help street sleepers and that in YL to

5 -

clear illegally-parked bicycles, Mr WU considered that the effectiveness of these schemes could not be sustained without additional initiatives to be implemented by the two DCs on a long-term basis for tackling the same problems. He suggested that DCs could take up responsibilities like street management as well. Ms Cyd HO also considered that DCs should be delegated with powers in decision-making and funding deployment as the former Municipal Councils had been. Mr Alvin YEUNG and Dr Kenneth CHAN considered that the role of DCs was limited as they only served as advisory bodies in district administration. They enquired whether the Administration had any further plan to delegate more power to DCs and enhance their role in decision-making. Dr CHAN suggested that the Administration should conduct a comprehensive review of the role and functions of DCs as well as the system for declaration of interests by DC members.

SHA said that the Administration all along attached great importance 10. to the important role played by DCs and recognized that DC members had a good understanding of their district needs. The Administration had sought to maintain regular exchange and close cooperation with the 18 DCs. He further said that DMC, which was chaired by DO and comprised DC Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Chairmen of committees under DC, and district representatives of relevant departments, provided a regular platform resolve district problems. follow up on to discuss and the advice/recommendations of DC and co-ordinate the work of various departments at the district level. The Pilot Scheme introduced in SSP and YL sought to empower their DMCs to tackle some specific district management and environmental hygiene problems. The Scheme was proven highly successful and well-received by the local communities. SHA added that the Signature Project Scheme ("SPS") was another important initiative to strengthen the role of DCs. With the launch of SPS, a provision of \$100 million had been earmarked for each DC to spearhead one to two projects, and DCs would decide on the project proposals.

11. <u>Mr MA Fung-kwok</u> expressed support for the measures to enhance district administration. He suggested that DCs could be tasked to be responsible for managing certain district recreational and cultural facilities (e.g. libraries) and organizing related activities. In this connection, he suggested that consideration might be given to creating dedicated posts in each DC to take forward and strengthen the work in this area. <u>SHA</u> said that at present, DC members were actively involved in the management of the public libraries in their districts. <u>SHA</u> said that over the years, the

Government had allocated additional resources to promote cultural and arts activities at district level. Moreover, LCSD representatives had maintained close liaison with DC members and took into full account their views in taking forward the work in this area.

12. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> was of the view that DOs should play a more proactive role in co-ordinating matters straddling across various policy areas, such as in promoting bazaars. He said that district organizations which were interested in promoting bazaars often encountered difficulties as they had to liaise with various bureaux/departments. As a result, the application process was often unduly long. He suggested that DOs should liaise with different departments on food safety, environmental hygiene and public safety issues to facilitate the setting up of bazaars in different districts. <u>SHA</u> said that he would convey Dr CHEUNG's suggestion to the DOs of the 18 districts. He noted that the Secretary for Food and Health was active in following up issues relating to the development of bazaars at the district level.

13. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> took the opportunity to express concern about the cleansing operations conducted at certain places in SSP where street sleepers gathered. She said that the approach of these operations was not in line with the humanitarian approach as advocated by the Social Welfare Department ("SWD"). She asked whether the DC concerned had liaised with SWD in conducting the cleansing operations. <u>SHA</u> said that he would relay Ms HO's views and comments to the departments concerned.

(*Post-meeting note*: The Administration subsequently advised that members' views and comments had been relayed accordingly.)

14. <u>Mr IP Kwok-him</u> suggested that additional funding should be allocated to DCs to implement more projects under the District Minor Works Programme and DAS to improve district facilities and living environment. Furthermore, government departments, particularly SWD, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Planning Department, should have due regard to the views of DCs in the planning process of district projects or services. <u>SHA</u> stressed that DCs played an important role in district administration. It was an established policy that bureaux and departments would consult DCs to gauge public views to ensure better delivery of public services and provision of district facilities to meet district needs. Citing the example of a recent funding proposal for the development of a Sports Centre in Area 1, Tai Po, <u>SHA</u> said that having

considered the views expressed by the Tai Po DC, the project plan had been revised to include provision of parking facilities for the Sports Centre.

15. <u>Dr LAM Tai-fai</u> considered that Government officials should conduct more district visits to understand the community needs and issues, such as concerns over "matchbox-style school premises". Noting from the Administration's paper that a total of 162 district visits had been conducted by the 16 POs during the fourth DC term, <u>Dr LAM</u> asked whether all the 16 POs had conducted district visit(s) during the said period and who had conducted the most/the least.

16. <u>SHA</u> said that the Administration had sought to maintain regular exchange and close cooperation with the 18 DCs, including the conduct of district visits by POs to communicate with DC members, the visits to the 18 DCs by Heads of Departments, and DC consultations on various issues. In addition, a new arrangement implemented in the new DC term was the organization of a series of briefings by the relevant POs for all DC members. In response to Dr LAM's enquiry, <u>SHA</u> said that 15 POs had conducted more than one district visits during the fourth DC term. Even the new PO, the Secretary for Innovation and Technology, who was appointed on 20 November 2015, had made an effort to visit DCs in the past few months in 2016.

SPS projects

TANG Ka-piu, Mr Christopher CHEUNG 17. Mr and Mr LEUNG Chi-cheung expressed grave concern about the progress of SPS and the implications if funding approval could not be obtained from the Finance Committee ("FC") for the project proposals within the current SHA said that a total of 27 SPS projects had been legislative term. proposed by the 18 DCs. Apart from the two projects to be discussed under item IV at this meeting, support had been obtained from this Panel for 24 out of the 27 project proposals. Of the 24 proposals, 11 had obtained funding approval from FC. The other 13 proposals were awaiting the deliberation at the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") and/or FC. Proposals that were straightforward and thus would be easier to obtain support were placed earlier in the agendas of the coming PWSC meetings for obtaining funding approval in the current legislative session. The Administration would continue its lobbying efforts to secure Legislative Council ("LegCo") Members' support for the other proposals that some Members might have more concerns. He appealed to members to support the SPS proposals

submitted for discussion at the remaining PWSC/FC meetings in the current legislative term. Failing that, the proposals would have to go through the process again in seeking LegCo's support in the new LegCo term, thereby increasing the risk of escalating construction cost.

18. Dr Kenneth CHAN suggested that the Administration should enhance the provision of professional support, such as in the area of planning and management of public spaces, for DCs so as to facilitate their work. He also expressed concern about the SPS project previously proposed by the Southern DC ("SDC") and enquired how the Administration would support SDC in the implementation of an alternative project under SPS. SHA said that in the case of SDC, it presented a good opportunity for DC members to experience the difficulties encountered by the Government and thus the need to identify other viable options/solutions in project implementation. The Government would continue to support SDC in taking forward its SPS He added that he welcomed exchanges with members on any project. concrete proposals on district planning.

19. <u>The Chairman</u> said that with the commencement of the new DC term, she hoped that SHA would take the opportunity to enhance the communication and consultation with DC members so that their concerns could be better addressed in the course of tackling district issues. She urged the Administration to render greater support to the work of DC members. <u>SHA</u> expressed concurrence with the Chairman's view and stressed that Government officials at all levels would continue to work closely with DCs in this term to gauge community sentiments.

IV. Signature projects of Sai Kung District Council ("SKDC") [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1228/15-16(05) and (06)]

20. As the item involved funding proposals, <u>the Chairman</u> drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedures.

21. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>SHA</u> and <u>the Chairman of the</u> <u>Signature Project Scheme Committee of SKDC</u> ("The Chairman/SPS Committee") briefed members on the following two proposed signature projects:

(a) reconstruction of the Sharp Island Pier ("the Pier Project"); and

(b) construction of the Tseung Kwan O Heritage Hiking Trail and the Heritage Information Centre ("the Heritage Project").

22. <u>The Chairman</u> said that Po Yin Temple ("the Temple"), the tenant of the former short-term tenancy of the ex-Tiu Keng Leng Police Station ("ex-TKLPS"), had sent a letter to all members, a copy of which was tabled at the meeting.

The Pier Project

23. <u>Mr Tony TSE</u> expressed support for the two proposed signature projects. Regarding the Pier Project, <u>Mr TSE</u> and <u>Mr Gary FAN</u> both considered that the reconstruction of the existing pier should be completed as soon as possible to cope with the increase in the number of visitors to the Sharp Island from 64 000 in 2011 to 145 000 in 2015. <u>The District Officer (Sai Kung)</u> ("DO(SK)") said that subject to the funding approval by FC, the Administration planned to commence the reconstruction works in the second half of 2016 for completion in 2018. Responding to Mr TSE's further enquiry, <u>DO(SK)</u> said that as a transitional arrangement, a temporary pier would be built to meet the needs for marine transport to the Sharp Island. The temporary pier would be ready for use before commencement of the reconstruction works.

24. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> enquired about the possibility of increasing the capacity of the pier to meet anticipated needs arising from future development. <u>The Chairman/SPS Committee</u> said that the berthing depth and length of the existing pier would be increased so that it could accommodate larger vessels. Depending on future service needs, the capacity of the pier could be further enhanced.

The Heritage Project

25. Referring to the letter from the Temple tabled at the meeting, <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> expressed concern about the reprovisioning of the Temple. He considered that the Administration/SKDC should have consulted the Temple before deciding to terminate the short-term tenancy and to relocate the Temple. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> expressed concern about the conservation of valuable artefacts at ex-TKLPS, including the items kept by the Temple, as well as the land control action taken by the Administration. She suggested that one possible option was to establish the proposed Heritage Information Centre ("HIC") and the hostel at the two ex-staff

quarters near to ex-TKLPS. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> requested the Administration and SKDC to provide the details of the tenancy agreement signed with the Temple and the arrangements for its relocation.

26. <u>Mr Gary FAN</u> declared that he was a member of SKDC and a resident of Tseung Kwan O. He said that SKDC had set up a liaison group to discuss the relocation plan, compensation and related matters with the Temple. He further said that assistance had been provided to the Temple in finding a site for its relocation. SKDC had also consulted local residents on the preservation of ex-TKLPS. He requested representatives of SKDC to brief members on the work DC had done.

27. <u>The Chairman/SPS Committee</u> and <u>DO(SK)</u> provided response as follows:

- (a) the concerns raised by the Temple had been discussed at a case conference attended by LegCo Members, the Administration and representatives of SKDC. Pursuant to the decision reached at the relevant meeting, the Administration and SKDC would proceed to seek funding approval from LegCo for the Heritage Project, while relevant departments would address the issues raised by the Temple at the same time;
- (b) the Temple had received ex-gratia allowances of over \$970,000 as compensation for giving up their structures when the Government demolished the Tiu Keng Leng cottage area. The Temple was granted a short-term tenancy at \$1 per annum for renting part of the area of the ex-TKLPS for the specified purpose of holding religious activities only. It was agreed that the tenancy would last for two years after which it would be renewed on a quarterly basis;
- (c) after the Heritage Project was endorsed as a signature project of SKDC, the Temple was immediately notified that the short-term tenancy had to be terminated. In August 2014, a liaison group was set up by SKDC to provide assistance to the Temple in finding a site for relocation. At least 11 pieces of vacant government land had been provided for its consideration and the tenancy had been extended to allow more time for the Temple to find a site for relocation; and

meanwhile, a focus group on HIC had been formed to give (d) advice on and provide support to the identification, collection and selection of relevant artefacts for display in HIC. The focus group was led by the Sai Kung District Office ("SKDO") and comprised historians, former residents in the area, community leaders, as well as representatives from LCSD, SKDC, and Haven of Hope Christian Services ("HOHCS") (i.e. the partner organization of the Heritage Project).

Noting that about 6 000 to 7 000 visitors were expected for the hostel 28. every year, Mr Tony TSE asked about the marketing and promotion plans for DO(SK) said that the hostel would be positioned as an the hostel. economical guesthouse with local character to attract a wide range of customers including local residents, hikers and former residents of Tseung Kwan O. HOHCS would seek advice from experienced hostel operators on pricing, operation, marketing and promotion. Ms Cyd HO expressed concern as to whether HOHCS would set a high price for the hostel rooms in order to generate more income to sustain its operation. She opined that the pricing should be set at an affordable level to enable the general public to enjoy the facilities of HIC and the hostel.

The Chairman/SPS Committee said that HIC would serve as an 29. education and social centre to enable the younger generations to learn about the rich history of the district and the older generations to gather and reminisce about the past. No entry fee would be levied on visitors. The hostel with 14 guestrooms would generate income to support the operation and development of HIC and the hostel. SKDC would relay to HOHCS the suggestion that the hostel should be open to the public for sight-seeing.

30. DO(SK) said that given the positioning of the hostel as an economical guesthouse, the room price would not be high. At the request of Ms Cyd HO, SKDC would provide information on the estimated price range SKDC of the hostel rooms for members' reference.

31. Whilst expressing support for the Heritage Project, the Deputy Chairman expressed concern about the experience of HOHCS in hostel operation and whether it would be able to ensure the sustainable development of HIC and the hostel on a self-financing basis. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said that the Administration or SKDC should monitor the planning and operation of HIC and the hostel to ensure the service quality and the long-term sustainability of the same.

Admin/

32. The Chairman/SPS Committee said that HOHCS was selected to be the partner organization of HIC and the hostel for an initial period of five The detailed budget had been submitted for SKDC for vetting and a vears. service agreement would be signed. SKDC, with the support of SKDO, would ensure effective monitoring of the performance of HOHCS and evaluate the service quality of HIC and the hostel. He further said that as committed by HOHCS, training and employment opportunities would be provided for persons with disabilities at HIC and the hostel. HOHCS had a good track record in this respect and had committed a funding of \$1 million for the operation of HIC and the hostel. DO(SK) added that HOHCS would explore additional sources of funding to support the provision of At the request of training opportunities for persons with disabilities. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, the Administration/SKDC would provide the estimates on the revenue and expenditure of the operation of HIC and the hostel for members' reference.

Admin/ SKDC

33. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u>, <u>Mr Gary FAN</u> and <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> requested the Administration not to bundle these two SPS projects with any controversial SPS project when submitting them to PWSC.

34. Summing up, <u>the Chairman</u> said that no members raised objection to submission of these two proposals to PWSC for consideration. She asked the Administration to provide the information requested by members before submitting the proposals to PWSC.

(<u>*Post-meeting note*</u>: Supplementary information on the estimates on the revenue and expenditure of the operation of HIC and the hostel, with the expected pricing of hostel rooms, was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1503/15-16(01) on 13 May 2016.)

V. Any other business

35. Further to the brief discussion among members under item I, <u>the Chairman</u> requested SHA to speak on the incident involving the omission of the word "national" from the name of a Taiwanese university in the publicity pamphlets produced by LCSD. <u>The Chairman</u> said that due to shortage of time, members also wished to have a follow-up discussion on the subject at the next regular meeting in May.

Admin

36. <u>SHA</u> considered it preferable to discuss the subject at one meeting only so as to obviate the need for him to speak on it twice. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> and <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> requested that, should the Administration prefer to discuss the subject at one single meeting, a paper on the subject should be provided before the next meeting to facilitate members' discussion. <u>SHA</u> said that the Administration might need some time to prepare the paper and would further discuss the appropriate arrangements with the Chairman before the next meeting.

37. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6:28 pm.

Council Business Division 2 Legislative Council Secretariat 30 August 2016