

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)1541/16-17
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by the Administration)

Ref : CB4/HS/1/16

Subcommittee on Children's Rights

**Minutes of the fifth meeting
on Monday, 20 March 2017, at 5:30 pm
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex**

Members present : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)
Hon SHIU Ka-chun (Deputy Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Hon Alvin YEUNG
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung
Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

Member attending : Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP

[According to the Judgment of the Court of First Instance of the High Court on 14 July 2017, LEUNG Kwok-hung, Nathan LAW Kwun-chung, YIU Chung-yim and LAU Siu-lai have been disqualified from assuming the office of a member of the Legislative Council, and have vacated the same since 12 October 2016, and are not entitled to act as a member of the Legislative Council.]

Public Officers attending : **Agenda item I**

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Mr Kenneth CHENG
Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour Welfare
(Welfare)1

Education Bureau

Mr Joe NG
Principal Education Officer
(Curriculum Development)1

Ms Eunice CHAN
Assistant Secretary (Assessment Support)

Food and Health Bureau

Mr Charvis LI
Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Health)5

Home Affairs Bureau

Miss Iris MA
Chief Executive Officer (Family Council)

Attendance by invitation : **Agenda item I**

徐浚禧

歐陽結瑩女士

廖霆皓

HUI Chak-lam

王樂行

葉嘉琦

鍾可欣女士

李悅

李曉武女士

古睿謙

周美美女士

鄭彧文

Kids' Dream

LAM Chung-yat
Member

Kids' Dream - Study and Development Working Group

CHEUNG Ka-long
Member

Kids' Dream - Advocacy and Education Working Group

TSANG Tsz-man
Member

特殊學習需要權益聯會

賀卓軒先生
組織幹事

平等學習權利平台

何守堅
成員

升中學呈分試關注組

伍嘉聰
成員

兒童權利優先小組

Miss LO Ka-lai
成員

多元活動發展組

梁梓琪
成員

世看

何俊賢
成員

關學聯青年關注組

陳美靜
成員

民間青年政策倡議平台.

黎韻瑤小姐
組織幹事

何家銘

關注學童發展權利聯席

Miss HO Yu-ying
家長組織幹事

我要爭取電腦組

陳喻彬先生
成員

Children Rights Association

WONG Chi-kit
Chairman

鄒玉婷小姐

譚嘉豪

潘若詩小姐

譚啟聰

龔偉森先生

伍偉華

陳浩賢

Mr MCLAUGHLIN Connor-takezo

Mr Azan MARWAH

LAW Tsui-man

Noel-Vanessa KWOK

LAI Wai-him

Hector HO Cheuk-fung

TAI Cheuk-on

Clerk in attendance : Ms Angel WONG
Chief Council Secretary (4)4

Staff in attendance : Mr KWONG Kam-fai
Senior Council Secretary (4)4

Miss Mandy NG
Council Secretary (4)4

Ms Sandy HAU
Legislative Assistant (4)4

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I. Children's expectation on the Government

Written submission from deputations/individuals not attending the meeting/not presenting their views at the meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(4)712/16-17(03) -- Submission from NG Ka-yee
(*Chinese version only*)

LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(02) -- Submission from 李曉武
(*Chinese version only*)

LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(11) -- Submission from Nation de la
Sierra Lionne

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LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(12) -- Submission from Mother's Choice (*English version only*)
(*Restricted to members only*)

Meeting with deputations/individuals and the Administration for agenda item I

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. The Subcommittee received views from 41 deputations/individuals attending the meeting and four written submissions from organizations/individuals which/who had not attended/presented at the meeting. Their major views and concerns were summarized as below:

Constitutional issues

- (a) the next Chief Executive should unite Hong Kong people on all fronts, strive to improve their livelihood, uphold the rule of law, ensure the continuance of "one-country, two systems" and "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong", implement genuine universal suffrage and improve the relationship between the executive authorities and the legislature;
- (b) the Government of the next term should genuinely give heed to the voices of young people when drawing up policies on education, employment, housing, etc;
- (c) the Government should set up an independent commission on children responsible for policies and initiatives affecting children's rights and welfare;

Education

- (d) children complained of lacking time for rest and leisure because of heavy homework, drilling exercises, tests and examinations. It was high time to conduct a comprehensive review on the existing education system and abolish the Territory-wide System Assessment ("TSA") to alleviate the study pressure of children;
- (e) to alleviate students' pressure arising from public examinations, the Administration should increase the places for higher education programmes, especially the publicly-funded degree programmes;

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- (f) the duration of each lesson at school should be shortened while recess and lunch break should be lengthened. The number of physical education lessons should be increased to enhance health and wellness of children;
- (g) diversified study pathways should be opened to students. Higher education institutions should offer programmes in a broad range of disciplines to nurture diverse talents for the society;
- (h) as e-learning was of growing importance, subsidies should be offered to grass-root children for acquiring suitable computers and internet access to facilitate their learning;
- (i) the Administration should step up its efforts to promote sign bilingualism in mainstream schools as well as higher education institutions to cater for the learning needs of students with hearing loss;
- (j) non-Chinese speaking ("NCS") students might have difficulties to blend into local schools. Parents of NCS students who were not well versed in both Chinese and English might have problems to communicate with schools;
- (k) subsidies should be provided for young people to participate in extra-curricular activities as well as overseas exchange programmes so as to broaden their horizons and diversify their learning experience;
- (l) the Administration should take concrete measures to prevent student suicides. Parent education should be enhanced to avoid parents from excessively boosting children's learning;
- (m) as reported by the media, the Po Leung Kuk Leadership Camps organized very harsh learning activities for their participating students. The Administration should put in place measures to monitor the quality of training camps for primary and secondary students;

Welfare

- (n) under the Low-income Working Family Allowance ("LIFA") Scheme, if the family was not eligible for Basic Allowance in individual month(s), the family would not be eligible to apply for and would not be granted Child Allowance for the month(s)

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concerned. This arrangement was not desirable for the interests of children in need;

- (o) the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme and the Child Development Fund ("CDF") should be reviewed, with a view to supporting longer-term development of children from disadvantaged backgrounds;

Recreation and sports

- (p) the international BMX racing track in the Hong Kong Jockey Club International BMX Park ("the BMX Park") was the only qualified venue for BMX racing. However, it was in poor conditions due to a lack of maintenance and was closed subsequent to an accident in October 2016. BMX players could no longer train their racing skills at the track. The Administration should follow up with the service conditions of the BMX Park;
- (q) the Leisure and Cultural Services Department should organize more recreation and sports programmes for the public; and

Environmental protection

- (r) the Administration should improve air quality in Hong Kong.

3. On the views and concerns raised by members and deputations at the meeting, the Administration made the following responses –

Education

- (a) the Education Bureau ("EDB") attached great importance to the whole-person development of students. Each publicly-funded school was disbursed with different types of subsidies such as the Operating Expenses Block Grant ("OEBG")/Expanded OEBG and other resources to provide students with different essential learning experiences. Schools could make use of relevant resources to organize life-wide learning activities for students' whole-person development as required in the curriculum;
- (b) EDB had issued a circular to schools reminding them to formulate an appropriate school-based homework and assessment policy and had encouraged sharing of good practices among schools. Parents might contact Regional Education Offices if they had any enquiries regarding the homework and assessment policy of the schools of their children;

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- (c) a number of measures had been introduced to eliminate the incentives for over-drilling induced by TSA, such as having removed TSA from the Key Performance Measures for primary schools and not disclosing attainment rates to individual primary schools. The internal guidelines of EDB had explicitly reiterated that TSA data would not be used to assess the performance of schools. EDB had also issued letters to schools reminding them to make reference to prevailing circular on considering school-based homework and assessment arrangements to avoid over-drilling. The 2016 Tryout Study (Primary 3), which received positive feedback from participating schools, parents-teacher associations and school sponsoring bodies, would be extended to invite all schools to join. The Administration would continue to seek views of various stakeholders regarding the implementation of TSA;
- (d) the Administration strived to offer diversified pathways to students through the New Senior Secondary curriculum. For example, Applied Learning ("ApL"), in combination with the core and elective subjects, helped provide theoretical and applied learning opportunities, and develop students' career aspirations for further studies and work. Institutions in general valued the learning experiences students acquired in ApL. ApL subjects were used as elective subjects, or considered for award of extra bonus or additional information, varying by programmes. The reporting of students' performance in ApL subjects would be refined to "Attained", "Attained with Distinction (I)" and "Attained with Distinction (II)", effective from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination in 2018;
- (e) under the "WiFi 900" Scheme, each school was provided with a one-off funding of \$100,000 for acquisition of mobile computing devices. Schools could make use of this funding to purchase appropriate e-learning devices for students' use;
- (f) EDB had all along been encouraging teachers to adopt the most appropriate teaching mode for students with hearing loss having regard to their abilities and needs. Relevant training programmes were provided to teachers. Meanwhile, a working group had been formed under the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee of the Labour and Welfare Bureau to promote the use of sign language in the community;

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Welfare

- (g) the Administration was mindful of alleviating inter-generation poverty. Examples of relevant initiatives were the CSSA Scheme, LIFA Scheme and CDF; and

Recreation and sports

- (h) the BMX Park was managed and operated by the Cycling Association of Hong Kong, China Limited ("CAHK"). In order to improve the conditions of the Park, CAHK had invited tender for the maintenance works of the Park. The tender was cancelled twice as either no tender had been received or prices received were above the estimated contract sum. The Administration would maintain contact with CAHK regarding the conditions of the Park and relay deputations' concerns to the Commissioner for Sports.
4. The Chairman requested the Administration to provide written response to the views and concerns raised by deputations and members at the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's written information was issued to members vide LC Paper CB(4)1151/16-17(01) on 5 June 2017.)

II. Any other business

5. The Chairman advised that as a large number of deputations had indicated their intention to express views on children's expectation on the Government, the Subcommittee would arrange another meeting on 25 March 2017 at 3:30 pm to continue to receive views from the public.
6. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 7:57 pm.

Subcommittee on Children's Rights

Proceedings of the fifth meeting on Monday, 20 March 2017, at 5:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda Item I - Children's expectation on the Government</i>			
000609 - 001245	Chairman	Opening remarks	
001246 - 001329	Chairman 徐浚禧	Presentation of views	
001330 - 001400	Chairman 廖霆皓	Presentation of views	
001401 - 001733	Chairman HUI Chak-lam	Presentation of views	
001734 - 002101	Chairman 王樂行	Presentation of views	
002102 - 002335	Chairman 葉嘉琦	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)712/16-17(01)]	
002336 - 002825	Chairman 李悅	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(01)]	
002826 - 002902	Chairman 古睿謙	Presentation of views	
002903 - 003117	Chairman 鄭彧文	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(03)]	
003118 - 003428	Chairman Kids' Dream	Presentation of views	
003429 - 003757	Chairman Kids' Dream - Study and Development Working Group	Presentation of views	
003758 - 004027	Chairman Kids' Dream - Advocacy and Education Working Group	Presentation of views	
004028 - 004257	Chairman 平等學習權利平台	Presentation of views	
004258 - 004439	Chairman 升中學呈分試關注組	Presentation of views	
004440 - 004646	Chairman 多元活動發展組	Presentation of views	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
004647 - 005053	Chairman 世看	Presentation of views	
005054 - 005500	Chairman 我要爭取電腦組	Presentation of views	
005501 - 005629	Chairman 關注學童發展權利聯席	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(04)]	
005630 - 010026	Chairman Children Rights Association	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)712/16-17(02)]	
010027 - 010440	Chairman 何家銘	Presentation of views	
010441 - 010807	Chairman 譚嘉豪	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(05)]	
010808 - 011231	Chairman 譚啟聰	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(06)]	
011232 - 011409	Chairman 伍偉華	Presentation of views	
011410 - 011535	Chairman 陳浩賢	Presentation of views	
011536 - 011907	Chairman 關學聯青年關注組	Presentation of views	
011908 - 012012	Chairman Mr Connor-takezo MCLAUGHLIN	Presentation of views	
012013 - 012328	Chairman LAW Tsui-man	Presentation of views	
012329 - 012549	Chairman Noel-Vanessa KWOK	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(10)]	
012550 - 012845	Chairman LAI Wai-him	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(09)]	
012846 - 013112	Chairman Hector HO Cheuk-fung	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(08)]	
013113 - 013320	Chairman TAI Cheuk-on	Presentation of views [LC Paper No. CB(4)732/16-17(07)]	
013321 - 013950	Chairman Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB") Education Bureau ("EDB")	The Chairman's remarks and the Administration's initial response to the views of the deputations	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
013951 - 014422	Chairman Mr Andrew WAN	Mr WAN's views on happy learning	
014423 - 015000	Chairman Mr Nathan LAW	Mr LAW's concerns about the spate of student suicides and study pressure on students	
015001 - 015518	Chairman Mr IP Kin-yuen	Mr IP's concerns about the existing education system and the implementation of the Territory-wide System Assessment	
015519 - 015933	Chairman Mr CHU Hoi-dick	Mr CHU's concerns about the maintenance works of the Hong Kong Jockey Club International BMX Park	
015934 - 020749	Chairman Home Affair Bureau Education Bureau	The Administration's response to members' views	
020750 - 021000	Chairman Mr Andrew WAN	Mr WAN's calling for the Administration to provide flexible and diversified pathways to students	
021001 - 021355	Chairman Mr Nathan LAW	Mr LAW's calling for the Administration to give heed to the voices of young people when drawing up policies	
021356 - 021400	Chairman Kids' Dream	Presentation of views	
021401 - 021508	Chairman 關注學童發展權利聯席	Presentation of views	
021509 - 021642	Chairman HUI Chak-lam	Presentation of views	
021643 - 022529	Chairman LWB EDB	The Chairman's remarks and the Administration's response to the views further expressed by the deputations	
<i>Agenda Item II – Any other business</i>			
022530 - 022828	Chairman	Closing remarks	