立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)866/17-18 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB4/SS/17/16

Subcommittee on Proposed Resolution under Section 7(a) of the Legal Aid Ordinance (Cap. 91)

Minutes of the second meeting held on Tuesday, 7 November 2017, at 8:30 am in Conference Room 2A of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present: Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding (Chairman)

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP

Members absent: Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang

Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

Public officers attending

Home Affairs Bureau

Mr Patrick LI Pak-chuen, JP

Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1)

Ms Karyn CHAN Ching-yuen

Principal Assistant Secretary (Civic Affairs)2

Legal Aid Department

Mr Thomas Edward KWONG, JP

Director of Legal Aid

Mr Chris CHONG Yan-tung, JP

Deputy Director of Legal Aid (Policy &

Administration)

Department of Justice

Ms Angie LI Sau-lee

Senior Government Counsel

Clerk in attendance: Mr Lemuel WOO

Chief Council Secretary (4)6

Staff in attendance : Mr YICK Wing-kin

Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 2

Miss Katherine CHAN Council Secretary (4)6

Ms Emily LIU

Legislative Assistant (4)6

Action

I. Meeting with the Administration

[File Ref: HAB/CR 19/1/49, LC Paper Nos. LS87/16-17 and CB(4)46/17-18(01)]

<u>The Administration</u> briefed members on the proposed resolution under section 7(a) of the Legal Aid Ordinance (Cap. 91) ("the proposed resolution").

- 2. <u>The Chairman</u> and <u>Mr Jimmy NG</u> declared that they were practising solicitors.
- 3. <u>The Subcommittee</u> deliberated (index of proceedings in **Annex**).

II. Any other business

4. <u>The Chairman</u> concluded that the Subcommittee had completed the scrutiny of the proposed resolution. <u>The Subcommittee</u> supported the proposed resolution and would not propose any amendments. Members

noted that the Administration would advise on the proposed date for moving the proposed resolution in the Council in due course.

(*Post-meeting note*: The Chairman reported the deliberations of the Subcommittee to the House Committee on 12 January 2018. The Administration had subsequently given fresh notice for moving the proposed resolution at the Council meeting of 31 January 2018.)

5. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9:27 am.

Council Business Division 4 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 4 April 2018

Subcommittee on Proposed Resolution under Section 7(a) of the Legal Aid Ordinance (Cap. 91)

Proceedings of the second meeting held on Tuesday, 7 November 2017, at 8:30 am in Conference Room 2A of the Legislative Council Complex

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required		
Agenda item I — Meeting with the Administration					
000507 – 000908	Chairman Administration	Briefing by the Administration on the proposed resolution under section 7(a) of the Legal Aid Ordinance (Cap. 91) ("the proposed resolution")			
000909 – 001440	Chairman Mr LEUNG Yiu- chung Administration	Expression of support to the proposed resolution, and views on the criteria used to assess the financial eligibility limits ("FELs") of legal aid applications for considerations			
001441 – 001637	Chairman Mr Jimmy NG Administration	Declaration of interests by Mr NG Expression of support to the proposed resolution, and views and suggestions on the biennial review of FELs to take account of changes in litigation costs and other relevant factors ("the biennial review")			
001638 – 002210	Chairman Dr Fernando CHEUNG Administration	Suggestions on the biennial review, and concerns about the progress of the expansion of the scope of the Supplementary Legal Aid Scheme			
002211 – 002628	Chairman Administration	Declaration of interests by the Chairman Suggestions on the conduct of a comprehensive review of FELs			
002629 – 003615	Chairman Mr LEUNG Yiu- chung Administration	Concerns about the vetting and approval criteria for legal aid applications, and suggestions for conducting the biennial review			
003616 – 004327	Chairman Mr Paul TSE Administration	Concerns over possible abuse of the legal aid system, and enquiry about the details of conducting the means test			

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required		
004328 – 004956	Chairman Mr LEUNG Yiu- chung Administration	Views on the criteria used to assess FELs, as well as the vetting and approval criteria for legal aid applications			
004957 – 005503	Chairman Mr Paul TSE Administration	Concerns over possible abuse of the legal aid system, and enquiry about the additional recurrent expenditure required by the Legal Aid Department if the proposed resolution was approved			
005504 – 005906	Chairman Mr LEUNG Yiu- chung	Views on the vetting and approval criteria for legal aid applications			
005907 – 010118	Chairman Administration	Examination of the provision of the proposed resolution			
Agenda item II — Any other business					
010119 – 010146	Chairman	Concluding remarks			

Council Business Division 4 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 4 April 2018