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Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services

Meeting on 27 March 2017

**Updated background brief on measures for handling sexual offence cases
and provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases
during court proceedings**

Purpose

This paper provides background information on measures for handling sexual offence cases and provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings. It also gives an account of the past discussions of the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services ("the Panel") on these measures, proposed legislative amendments and related issues.

Background

Protective measures for complainants in sexual offence adopted by the Administration and the latest development of the proposed enhanced measures

2. In its paper for discussion at the Panel meeting on 27 June 2016, the Administration had set out the information regarding the issues relating to measures for handling sexual offence cases and the latest considerations by Department of Justice ("DoJ") regarding possible legislative amendments to enhance the protection for victims in sexual offence cases. The key aspects of the measures are set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

The handling of sexual offence cases by DoJ

3. According to the Administration, as the department responsible for criminal prosecutions in Hong Kong, DoJ has been mindful of its duty to

safeguard the fairness and equity of the criminal justice system. In prosecuting sexual offence, the prosecutors respect the rights of crime victims and witnesses at all times. On the one hand, the fundamental right of defendants to a fair trial are protected. On the other hand, victims and witnesses are treated with respect, compassion and understanding, and are encouraged and facilitated to testify in court. To this end, the current *Prosecution Code*¹ specifically includes a chapter on crime victims and vulnerable witnesses to remind prosecutors that they should have regard to the "*The Victims of Crime Charter*" and the Prosecutions Division ("PD")'s "*The Statement on the Treatment of Victims and the Witnesses*" while attending to and addressing the special needs of the parties concerned. The *Prosecution Code* also sets out the possible protection for victims and witnesses in details.

4. Under the existing practice of PD, where a victim or witness has expressed the need for special arrangements for testifying in court, the prosecution will apply to the court, as appropriate, immediately after the defendant pleads not guilty. If this is not possible, the application will be made at the pre-trial review².

5. At the meeting of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services ("the Panel") held on 22 December 2014, members agreed to discuss the following measures proposed by Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT for handling sexual offence cases:

- (a) extending the definition of the term "witness in fear" under the Criminal Procedure Ordinance (Cap. 221) to allow a witness falling within the expanded definition to give evidence in court under the provision of a screen or by live television link, and enter/leave the court building through special passageways;
- (b) revising section 154(1) of the Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 200) to stipulate the criteria for granting of leave by the judge; and
- (c) enhancing training for the legal sector and the Police on the handling of sexual offence cases.

¹ According to the Administration, the current *Prosecution Code* which was released on 7 September 2013 has replaced *The Statement of Prosecution Policy and Practice –Code for Prosecutors* published in 2009. Press Release relating to the *Prosecution Code* is available at: <http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201309/07/P201309070372.htm>.

² Pre-trial reviews are meeting ordered by the judge and attended by counsel for the prosecution and the defence to provide the judge with an opportunity to consider issues such as admissions, additional evidence, alibi and challenges to the admissibility of evidence at an early stage before the trial. The Judge will give directions, as necessary, at such meeting to secure the proper and efficient trial of the case.

6. At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT urged the Panel to actively follow up with the Administration on changing the law to provide for automatic provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings upon the prosecution's applications.

7. At the LegCo meeting of 2 December 2015, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT raised a question regarding the protection for victims in sexual offence cases. The Administration prepared its reply with inputs from the Judiciary's Administration. A summary of the responses given in respect of three above mentioned issues in the reply, with additional supplementary information, is set out below :

Overview on the provision of screens / special passageway / live television link

8. According to the Administration, the provision of screens in the court room or special passageways for entering / leaving the court building / court room for victims of sexual violence in criminal proceedings is currently governed by common law and is a matter left to a judge's discretion.

9. In the past, such screen was generally provided by the prosecution. Nonetheless, in view of the recurrence of such requests and the need for consistency, arrangements have been made for the procurement of screens to be centrally co-ordinated and provided by the Judiciary since June 2013.

10. As for the arrangement for victims to give evidence by live television link, it is governed by section 79B of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance (Cap. 221). The court will consider such an application by the prosecution, and the views of the defendant, with due regard to the facts of the case and the needs of the complainant, before deciding on whether to adopt any special measure(s). Based on the need, the victims concerned can apply to the judge through the prosecution for the adoption of the above-mentioned special measures.

11. In her LegCo question on 2 December 2015, Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT requested that the statute be amended so that the arrangement for the use of shield, live television link in giving evidence and the provision of special passageways be provided to victims of sexual crime automatically. The Administration stated that under section 79B of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance, where a witness in fear is to give evidence in proceedings in respect of any offence, the court may, on application or on its own motion, permit the person to give evidence by way of a live television link, subject to such conditions as the court considers appropriate in the circumstances.

12. The Administration considered that the proposals put forward by Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT (in particular those that would prevent the defendant and his counsel from seeing the witness's response) not only touch on the fundamental right of a defendant to have a fair trial, but also bear upon the fundamental principle of open justice. They have the effects of fettering the trial judge's discretion, and depriving the complainants of their choice. They should be handled with great care. According to the Administration, any legislative measures to be introduced in this regard, even introduced with the well-intended aim of protecting complainants in sexual offence cases, must be rational and proportionate to the aims sought to be addressed thereby, or otherwise their validity may be susceptible to constitutional challenge.

Proposed revision to section 154(1) of Cap. 200 to stipulate the criteria for granting of leave by the judge

13. According to section 154(1) of Cap. 200, if at a trial before the Court of First Instance any person is for the time being charged with an offence of rape or indecent assault to which he pleads not guilty, then, except with the leave of the judge, no evidence and no question in cross-examination shall be adduced or asked at the trial, by or on behalf of any defendant at the trial, about any sexual experience of a complainant with a person other than that defendant. Section 154(2) continues to specify that the judge shall give leave only on an application made by or on behalf of a defendant, and only if he is satisfied that it would be unfair to that defendant to refuse to allow the evidence to be adduced or the question to be asked. According to the Administrations, since such decisions are judicial decisions based on the actual evidence and defence in individual cases, the Judiciary considers it inappropriate to formulate detailed instructions lest they restrict judicial discretion or give rise to unfairness.

Enhancing Training for the Hong Kong Police Force ("the Police") and the legal sector

14. The Police have put in place various measures to protect the victim when they investigate sexual violence cases. In its letter to the Panel dated 22 February 2013 (LC Paper No. CB(4)439/12-13(02)), the Security Bureau had set out the measures on the handling of sexual offence cases (for instance, the "one-stop" service model) and related training by the Police. According to the Administration, relevant training to enhance professional sensitivity in handling victims of sexual violence have been provided to frontline police officers in 2015-16. In terms of procedure arrangements, among other measures, the Police will arrange for a same sex police officers with relevant training to interview the victim of sexual violence and will try their best to avoid requiring the victims to recount their traumatic experience during the

investigation process.

15. In respect of DoJ, PD has also organized seminars and talks on issues relating to sex crime victims. Members of the Judiciary, legal practitioners, and representatives of relevant government departments and non-governmental organizations have also been invited to attend.

The proposal to provide screens automatically for complainants in sexual offence upon the application of the prosecution

16. Following the visit to the Judiciary on 3 December 2013, the Panel proposed to the Judiciary that complainants in sexual offence cases should be shielded behind during court proceedings upon applications from the prosecution. The Judiciary, in consultation with DoJ, had examined the proposal of whether a screen should be automatically provided for complainants in sexual offence cases upon the application of the prosecution.

17. At the Panel meeting on 26 January 2015, the Judiciary briefed members on the following three proposed options:

- (a) whether the law should be changed to provide for automatic provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases upon application;
- (b) whether, within the existing framework, the current procedures could be improved for considering applications for use of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases; and
- (c) whether, within the existing framework, certain guidelines should be developed to set out in greater details the factors that should be taken into account when the court considered applications for use of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases.³

18. The Judiciary considers that option (a) mentioned above should be referred to the Administration for further consideration. Having regard to issues regarding fundamental right of a defendant to a fair trial, the principle of open justice as well as the undesirability of undue fettering of judicial discretion, DoJ is of the view that there is room to consider appropriate alternative legislative measures (including, the giving evidence by way of a live television link which it had considered) that can achieve the same aim of

³ The Judiciary considered that the circumstances for each case are different and this it would not be possible to list all factors exhaustively. To do so in a non-comprehensive manner would only affect adversely the unfettered exercise of judicial discretion. In light of this, the Judiciary considered that this option should be rejected.

protecting complainants in sexual offence cases and at the same time pass the tests of rationality and proportionality.

19. Having taken into account relevant factors into consideration and noting members' view that option (b) should be adopted, the Judiciary considered that the procedure with regard to provision of screen in court proceedings could be improved by amending or introducing the relevant Practice Directions⁴ to require as a matter of standing procedure, the counsel concerned to submit any request for using a screen and the other relevant information to the presiding judge for every sexual offence case.

20. The Judiciary consulted the stakeholders, including the Hong Kong Bar Association ("the Bar Association"), the Law Society of Hong Kong ("the Law Society"), the relevant Government Bureaux and Departments as well as the Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights, the Against Child Abuse, the Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women, RainLily and OIWA Limited, on the proposed new and amended new Practice Directions in late 2015.

21. The responding stakeholders have indicated general support for the Practice Directions. Some of them have comments. After taking into account their comments carefully, the Judiciary issued the Practice Directions requiring the Secretary for Justice to generally furnish the defendant with the following information not later than 10 days before the pre-trial review (if a pre-trial review has been ordered) or 21 days before the commencement of the trial (if no pre-trial review has been ordered):

- (a) whether a witness has requested the use of a screen in giving evidence and, if so, the type of the screen requested (e.g. whether hiding from the accused, the public or both); and
- (b) irrespective of whether the witness has made a request for the use of a screen, whether the prosecution consider it appropriate to make such an application and the grounds for such consideration. If an application is made, the prosecution should also indicate the type of the screen requested (e.g. whether hiding from the accused, the public or both)

22. At the Panel meeting on 27 June 2016, the Judiciary briefed members

⁴ For the Court of First Instance and the District Court, this is achieved by amending the existing Practice Directions. They are Practice Direction 9.3 "Criminal Proceedings in the Court of First Instance" and Practice Direction 9.4 "Criminal Proceedings in the District Court". For the Magistrates' Courts, this is achieved by issuing a new Practice Direction.

on the matters relating to the issuance of the amended and new Practice Directions. The Practice Directions would take effect on 1 August 2016, to allow time for the relevant parties to make preparation for the changes.

23. Members were advised that some responding organizations had also suggested that besides screens, a special passageway should also be included at the same time for the witness to enter or leave the courtroom. Whilst the courts had been trying to cater for the witness with regard to a special passageway, the physical constraints of individual buildings made it impractical for turning this into a standing arrangement. In light of this, the Judiciary would tackle this separately.

24. To complement the new standing procedure as required by the Practice Directions, the Police have also looked into possible measures to improve the timeliness in providing information to victims of sex offences. The draft leaflet entitled "Information to Adult Sexual Violence Victims"⁵ has been prepared. Among others, the complainants of sexual offence will be informed of the witness protection facilities.

Legislative amendments to permit victims of sexual offence to give evidence by way of live television

25. DoJ considers that there is room for the current legislation to be amended by empowering the court to permit victims of sexual offence to give evidence by way of a live television link. Currently, under section 79B of Cap. 221, the court may (on its own motion or upon application) permit, among others, a "witness in fear" in giving evidence by way of a live television link. While it is possible that a victim of sexual offence can be a "witness in fear"⁶, and hence be covered by the existing section 79B, it is not necessarily so.

26. In this regard, DoJ was given to understand that Mr Eric CHEUNG, Principal Lecturer of the Department of Law of The University of Hong Kong, had prepared a draft bill⁷ to add a new provision to section 79B of Cap. 221, so that where a complainant within the meaning of section 156(8) of Cap. 200⁸ is

⁵ The draft leaflet was attached to the Administration's paper for discussion on 27 June 2016 (Annex of LC Paper No. CB(4)1144/15-16(01)).

⁶ A "witness in fear" is defined in section 79B(1) to mean a witness whom the court hearing the evidence is satisfied, on reasonable grounds, is apprehensive as to the safety of himself or any member of his family if he gives evidence.

⁷ The draft bill is included in Mr Eric CHEUNG's submission dated 17 June 2016 (LC paper No. CB(4)1144/15-16(04)).

⁸ Under section 156(8) of Cap. 200, complainant, in relation to an allegation of a specified sexual offence, means the person against whom the offence is alleged to have been committed.

to give evidence in proceedings in respect of a specified sexual offence within the meaning of section 117(1) of Cap. 200⁹, the court may, on application or on its own motion, permit the complainant (i.e. the victim) to give evidence by way of a live television link, subject to such conditions as the court considers appropriate in the circumstances.

27. According to the Administration¹⁰, DoJ would give further consideration to the above legislative proposal and, if considered to be viable and desirable, would consult stakeholders thereon with a view to taking forward necessary legislative amendments.

Discussions of the Panel

28. At its meeting held on 28 May 2013, the Panel discussed the handling of sexual offence cases. At the Panel meeting held on 26 January 2015, the provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings was discussed. Whereas at the Panel meeting held on 27 June 2016, the measures for handling of sexual offence cases and provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings were discussed again. Submissions had been received from Mr Eric CHEUNG, the Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women, RainLily, and the Law Society. The above said deputations and the Bar Association had also attended the meeting to give views on the subject. Major deliberations are set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

The new and amended Practice Directions promulgated in 2016

29. At the Panel meeting held on 27 June 2016, the Bar Association expressed that it had long supported measures to make sure that screens would be available for all appropriate cases of sexual offence during court proceedings. The Bar Association also welcomed the new and amended Practice Directions which took effect on 1 August 2016. The Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women, RainLily, and the Law Society also welcomed the new and amended Practice Directions.

30. Whilst welcoming the new and amended Practice Directions, a member

⁹ Under section 117(1) of Cap. 200, specified sexual offence means any of the following, namely, rape, non-consensual buggery, indecent assault, an attempt to commit any of those offences, aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the commission or attempted commission of any of those offences, and incitement to commit any of those offences.

¹⁰ The Administration's stance on the legislative amendments proposed by Mr Eric CHEUNG was set out at paragraph 20-21 of the paper (LC Paper No. CB(4)1144/15-16(01)).

considered that the amended procedure introduced under the Practice Directions could not solve all the problems. Another member also questioned whether the new and amended Practice Direction could offer enough protection to the complainants of sexual offence.

Proposed legislative amendments

31. Regarding the Bill drafted by Mr Eric CHEUNG, The Bar Association saw no fundamental difficulty in permitting the giving of evidence by live television link by sexual violence victims in appropriate cases. The Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women and RainLily also expressed support for the proposed amendments.

32. A member considered that the proposed amendments should be put forward and discussed in the LegCo as soon as practicable. A few members were also concerned about the legislative timetable. Mr Eric CHEUNG hoped that the Bill could be passed within the current term Government.

33. DoJ responded that currently there was no timetable with regard to the legislative amendment. In response to the member's query, DoJ advised that the main considerations on the proposed legislative amendment included the requirements with regard to the right to a fair trial as set out in the Basic Law and passing the tests of rationality and proportionality; whether the applicability of the additional protection should only be confined to the specified types of sexual offence under section 117(1) of Cap. 200, namely, rape, non-consensual buggery and indecent assault; and the correlation between additional protection proposed under the legislative amendment and other related measures/ arrangements. Regarding the steps in taking forward the legislative amendment, DoJ responded that after internal research and study, the stakeholders (including relevant non-government organizations, the legal profession and relevant law enforcement agencies/government departments) would be consulted thereon.

34. A member considered that the proposed legislative amendment would not impose restriction on the right of the accused to a fair trial. The member then asked whether the protection to prevent the identification of the complainant of sexual offence cases should also be set out in the Bill.

35. Mr Eric CHEUNG responded that the main attraction of the proposed stopgap measure which he proposed was that it could be done by simple legislative amendment and was built upon well-established mechanism with judicial control. As to a comprehensive review on whether the coverage should be expanded, it would still be required at a later stage, after passing of the Bill.

Issues relating to taking of witness' statement

36. Members raised their concern that repetitive taking of witness' statement from victims of sexual offence case had long been a problem. In response to the member's query of whether the situation had been improved, RainLily advised that repetitive statements were still be taken from victims of sexual offence. RainLily then urged the Administration to enhance the "one-stop" service to avoid the above said problem.

37. DoJ advised that that "one-stop" service was available at all public hospitals with emergency services. However, the Police might have practical difficulties in implementing the "one-stop" service in some cases. The Police responded that their internal guideline had clearly set out that repetitive taking of statement from the same victim should be avoided as far as practicable. Nevertheless, there would be circumstances where obtaining a further statement was necessary. The Police pointed out that not all victims would choose to receive medical services provided at public hospitals. In this regard, Rainlily advised that "one-stop" services provided at the public hospitals would be applicable for most of the cases since victims of sexual offence would still need other medical services at the hospital even there was no immediate need for receiving forensic examination after reporting the sexual offence.

38. RainLily also opined that the police station was not an appropriate place for taking statement from victims of sexual offence owing to its cold atmosphere. In this connection, RainLily also urged the Administration to take care of the psychological needs of the victims.

39. Whilst noting that the prosecution might need to seek further information from the victims after a statement had been taken and thus repetitive taking of statement was sometimes unavoidable, a member urged the Administration to arrange the same officer to take the statement as far as practicable.

Taking of statement by video recording

40. In response to a member's query as to whether consideration could be given to arrange video recording when taking statement of the victims of sexual offence cases, the Police responded that the statement for victims under 17 years old or mentally incapacitated persons were video recorded for presentation in court.

The draft leaflet entitled "Information to Adult Sexual Violence Victims"

41. The Bar Association considered that substantial improvement could be made with regard to provision of information to victims of sexual offence, for instance, providing explanations on the measures available for the potential complainants of sexual offence. Among others, the Bar Association urged the Police to explain to readers the implications of using the witness protection facilities as set out in the leaflet.

42. A member suggested judges should make order to prohibit disclosure / publication of personal data of victims. Another member suggested that the Police should include information on the complainants' right to seek protection from preventing their identity from being identified in the above said leaflet.

Disclosure of victims' previous sexual experience in the cross examination of witnesses

43. The Bar Association noted that restrictions could be placed in the criminal justice process to avoid unjustifiably intrusive or aggressive questions. Nonetheless, the Bar Association pointed out that the right to a fair trial should never be impaired by these restrictions, albeit the rights of young children, the rights of liberty and security of a person were to be respected.

44. The Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women considered that the judicial system should be improved to protect victims from being questioned about their sexual experience which was unnecessary and irrelevant to the case being heard.

Other special arrangements

45. In response to a member's query, JA responded that other measures/ facilities was also available for cater for special arrangement to facilitate protection of victims of sexual offence, for instance, allowing them to use the passageways for the judge and/or staff or arranging them to enter/leave the court room earlier/later with staff accompanying them. DoJ also advised that there was a precedent case where arrangement was made for the victim to wait at a waiting room outside the court before the hearing and a 'special passageway' was made up by lining up screens between the waiting room and the courtroom. Moreover, the Police would also provide escorting arrangements where the victims/ witnesses was in fear to the court building on their own.

Latest position

46. DoJ plans to consult members at the meeting scheduled for 27 March 2017 on the Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2017 which will include, inter alia, necessary provisions for implementing the proposal to give the court a discretion to permit complainants of certain sexual offence to give evidence by way of a live television link.

Relevant papers

47. A list of relevant papers is in the **Appendix**.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
21 March 2017

Measures for handling sexual offence cases and provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings

List of relevant papers

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
28.5.2013	Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services ("AJLS")	Administration's paper on "Protection of Victims of Sexual Offence Cases during Court Proceedings"	CB(4)439/12-13(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/papers/aj0108cb4-439-1-e.pdf
		Administration's paper on "Procedures in handling of sexual offence cases and related trainings of the Hong Kong Police Force"	CB(4)439/12-13(02) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/papers/aj0108cb4-439-2-e.pdf
		Administration's paper on "Existing measures by Prosecutions Division of Department of Justice in handling victims in sexual offence cases"	CB(4)478/12-13(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/papers/aj0108cb4-478-1-e.pdf
		Judiciary Administration's paper on "Protection of Victims or Witnesses of Sexual Offence Cases During Court Proceedings"	CB(4)679/12-13(05) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-679-5-e.pdf
		Submission from the Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights (Chinese version only)	CB(4)695/12-13(02) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-695-2-c.pdf

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		Submission from Against Child Abuse (Chinese version only)	CB(4)713/12-13(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-713-1-c.pdf
		Submission from Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women (Chinese version only)	CB(4)695/12-13(03) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-695-3-c.pdf
		Submission from RainLily (Chinese version only)	CB(4)713/12-13(02) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-713-2-c.pdf
		Submission from Dr Monit CHEUNG, Graduate College of Social Work of the University of Houston	CB(4)679/12-13(06) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-679-6-e.pdf
		Submission from Association for Concern for Legal Rights of Victims of Domestic Violence	CB(4)713/12-13(03) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-713-3-c.pdf
		Minutes of the meeting	CB(4)213/13-14 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/minutes/aj20130528.pdf

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		Response from Security Bureau dated 11 July 2013 on the handling of sexual offence cases to issues raised at the meeting on 28 May 2013	CB(4)896/12-13(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-896-1-e.pdf
		Response from DoJ dated 25 February 2014 on the handling of sexual offence cases to issues raised at the meeting of 28 May 2013	CB(4)435/13-14(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/english/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-435-1-e.pdf
		Submission from Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women (Chinese version only)	CB(4)695/12-13(03) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr12-13/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/aj0528cb4-695-3-c.pdf
28.11.2014	AJLS	Letter from Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT dated 28 November 2014 requesting to discuss the measures for handling sexual offence cases (Chinese version only)	CB(4)220/14-15(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr14-15/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20141222cb4-220-1-c.pdf
22.12.2014	AJLS	Minutes of the meeting (paragraph 2)	CB(4)556/14-15 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr14-15/english/panels/ajls/minutes/ajls20141222.pdf

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
26.1.2015	AJLS	Judiciary Administration's paper entitled "Provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings"	CB(4)367/14-15(05) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr14-15/english/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20150126cb4-367-5-e.pdf
		Minutes of the meeting	CB(4)703/14-15 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr14-15/english/panels/ajls/minutes/ajls20150126.pdf
		Submission from the Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women for agenda item IV on "Provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings" (Chinese version only)	CB(4)412/14-15(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr14-15/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20150126cb4-412-1-c.pdf
15.10.2015	AJLS	Minutes of the meeting (paragraph 20)	CB(4)113/15-16 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/panels/ajls/minutes/ajls20151015.pdf
2.12.2015	Council Meeting	Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT raised a question on protection for victims of sexual offence cases	http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/201512/02/P201512020514.htm
27.6.2016	AJLS	Department of Justice, Security Bureau and Hong Kong Police Force's paper on "Measures for handling sexual offence cases and the provision of screens for	CB(4)1144/15-16(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20160627cb4-1144-1-

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings"	e.pdf
		Judiciary Administration's paper on "Practice Directions relating to the Provision of Screens for Witnesses in Sexual Offence Cases during Court Proceedings"	CB(4)1144/15-16(02) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20160627cb4-1144-2-e.pdf
		Background brief on "Measures for handling sexual offence cases and provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings" prepared by Legislative Council Secretariat	CB(4)1144/15-16(03) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20160627cb4-1144-3-e.pdf
		Submission from Mr Eric CHEUNG Tat-ming	CB(4)1144/15-16(04) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20160627cb4-1144-4-e.pdf
		Letter dated 21 June 2016 from The Law Society of Hong Kong	CB(4)1153/15-16(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20160627cb4-1153-1-e.pdf

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
-	-	Submission on "Measures for handling sexual offence cases and provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings" from RainLily (Chinese version only)	CB(4)1187/15-16(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20160627cb4-1187-1-c.pdf
-	-	Submission on "Measures for handling sexual offence cases and provision of screens for complainants in sexual offence cases during court proceedings" from Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women (Chinese version only)	CB(4)1187/15-16(02) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/chinese/panels/ajls/papers/ajls20160627cb4-1187-2-c.pdf
		Minutes of the meeting	CB(4)1309/15-16 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr15-16/english/panels/ajls/minutes/ajls20160627.pdf