

# **立法會**

## ***Legislative Council***

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### **Panel on Education**

**Meeting on 13 March 2017**

### **Background brief on issues related to the implementation of life planning education**

#### **Purpose**

This paper summarizes the major views and concerns of the Panel on Education ("the Panel") on issues related to the implementation of life planning education ("LPE").

#### **Background**

2. The implementation of LPE aims to enable students to understand their own career and academic aspirations and make informed decisions on their study and employment.

3. To expand the capacity of schools in providing LPE for their students, the Education Bureau ("EDB") has provided public sector schools and Direct Subsidy Scheme ("DSS") schools operating classes at senior secondary levels with a recurrent Career and Life Planning Grant ("CLPG") at about \$500,000 per annum from the 2014-2015 school year, pursuant to Chief Executive's Policy Address 2014.

4. The Chief Executive announced in his Policy Address 2016 and 2017 to further strengthen LPE and related guidance services, schools might turn CLPG into regular teaching posts from the 2016-2017 school year onwards. The Administration will review this measure in the 2017-2018 school year.

#### **Major views and concerns**

5. The Panel deliberated on issues related to the implementation of LPE at its meetings on 9 February 2015 and 11 January 2016. The major views and concerns expressed by members are summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

### Career exploration activities

6. Certain members considered that, instead of implementing LPE as a separate initiative, the education system should provide secondary students with diversified and flexible articulation. There was also a view that the Administration should make reference to the practices in Germany and Switzerland, and arrange placement programmes of two to four weeks for local secondary students so as to enable them to gain exposure to authentic workplace environment.

7. In reply, the Administration advised that diversified work experience activities of different duration had been arranged for local secondary schools under the Business-School Partnership Programme ("BSPP"). Students could gain exposure to a wide range of industries, such as the retail, kindergarten, tourism and legal sectors. To address the diverse needs of students in respect of LPE, EDB had commissioned two non-governmental organizations, on a pilot basis, to organize work experience programmes for Non-Chinese speaking students and students with specific learning difficulties over a three-year period as from the 2015-2016 school year.

8. A member urged the Administration to take steps to encourage the participation of non-government organizations and government departments in BSPP with a view to enhancing students' understanding of different trades and preparing them for employment in the future. The Administration advised that some government departments had taken part in BSPP activities and it would enlist the support from professional bodies and chambers of commerce so as to expand the variety and scale of BSPP activities. The target was to progressively increase the number of business partners from more than 120 in the 2014-2015 school year to 165 or above in the 2017-2018 school year.

### Professional training for teachers

9. Although starting from 2014-2015, the number of structured training places on LPE had been increased from 80 to 240 per year, concern was raised about the adequacy of structured training places to achieve the Administration's target of equipping the career guidance team of each school with at least two trained teachers by the 2016-2017 school year. The Administration explained that structured training in career guidance or LPE had been offered to teachers of the career teams of secondary schools since the 1990s. About 80% of all public sector and DSS schools operating classes at senior secondary levels already had at least two teachers trained and about 15% with one teacher trained. The current increase in training places would further enhance the professional capabilities of teachers in delivering LPE.

### Deployment of CLPG by schools

10. Questions were raised about the cost-effective deployment of CLPG by schools to promote LPE. According to EDB, with the provision of the recurrent Grant, life planning education was expected to form part of a school's strategic planning under which work plans with clear objectives and strategies as well as evaluation mechanism would be put in place. As at March 2016, EDB had visited about 75% of schools in the territory. The majority of these schools had appropriately deployed CLPG in such areas as employing additional teachers to take up the teaching duties of career teachers so as to enhance their capacity in LPE, procuring LPE-related teaching materials or assessment services for students as well as financing students to participate in career exploration services.

### Evaluation of LPE

11. There was a view that longitudinal study should be conducted to track the effectiveness and development of LPE across the territory. EDB advised that the overall effectiveness of LPE would be assessed after more experience had been generated by schools, with a view to further enhancing the quality of LPE.

### **Relevant Council questions**

12. Members raised questions related to the deployment of CLPG by schools and training on LPE for teachers at the Council meetings of 21 January 2015 and 18 May 2016.

### **Latest position**

13. At the meeting on 13 March 2017, the Administration will brief the Panel on the latest progress in the implementation of LPE and the strategy for further promotion of LPE; and issues related to the multiple pathways of secondary school leavers.

### **Relevant papers**

14. A list of relevant papers on the Legislative Council website is in **Appendix**.

**List of relevant papers**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Paper</b>
Legislative Council	21.1.2015	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 17-27 (Question 2)</a>
Panel on Education	9.2.2015	<a href="#">Agenda Minutes</a>
Panel on Education	25.7.2015*	<a href="#">CB(4)1368/14-15(02)</a>
Panel on Education	11.1.2016	<a href="#">Agenda Minutes</a>
Legislative Council	18.5.2016	<a href="#">Official Record of Proceedings Pages 101-105 (Question 13)</a>

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