

立法會
Legislative Council

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

LC Paper No. CB(2)2046/17-18

(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Thursday, 21 December 2017, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex

- Members present** : Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-fai
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LUK Chung-hung
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon KWONG Chun-yu
- Members attending** : Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
- Members absent** : Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon Tanya CHAN

Public Officers : Item III
attending

Mr LAU Kong Wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Miss Charmaine WONG Hoi-wan, JP
Deputy Director of Home Affairs (1)
Home Affairs Department

Mrs Dorothy MA CHOW Pui-fun, JP
District Officer (Southern)
Home Affairs Department

Mr CHU Ching-hong, JP
Chairman
Southern District Council

Prof Jimmy LAI Shiu-ming
Clinical Chair Professor
Department of Ophthalmology
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine
The University of Hong Kong

Dr Ian WONG Yat-hin
Clinical Associate Professor
Department of Ophthalmology
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine
The University of Hong Kong

Mr LUK Chi-keung
Director (Accessible Transport and Travel)
The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation

Mr Stephen TAO Hing-yip
Manager
Easy-Access Transport Services Limited (Subsidiary of
The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation)

Mr Rick CHAN Tin-chu, JP
District Officer (Wan Chai)
Home Affairs Department

Mr Stephen NG Kam-chun, BBS, MH, JP
Chairman
Wan Chai District Council

Mr Edward TSE Cheong-wo
Project Director 3
Architectural Services Department

Mrs Alice CHING WOO Wai-ling
Senior Project Manager 330
Architectural Services Department

Mr LUK Chi-kwong
Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong East)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Steve TSE Ling-chun, JP
District Officer (Kwun Tong)
Home Affairs Department

Dr Bunny CHAN Chung-bun, GBS, JP
Chairman
Kwun Tong District Council

Ms LAI Mei-ling
Chief Leisure Manager (Kowloon)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Item IV

Mr LAU Kong-wah
Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Michelle LI Mei-sheung, JP
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Mr CHAN Shing-wai
Assistant Director (Heritage and Museums)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Clerk in attendance : Ms Joanne MAK
Chief Council Secretary (2) 3

Staff in attendance : Mr Richard WONG
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)460/17-18(01), CB(2)489/17-18(01) and CB(2)560/17-18(01)]

Members noted that the following papers had been issued after the last meeting:

- (a) referral from the Public Complaints Office on designating 13 December as the Nanjing Massacre Commemorative Day [*circulated to Members only*];
- (b) letter dated 7 December 2017 from Hon Tanya CHAN; and
- (c) information note provided by the Administration on the updated position of issues raised by members at the meeting on 12 October 2017.

2. Members also noted that the Administration's reply letter to the above letter from Hon Tanya CHAN was tabled at the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: the Administration's reply letter was issued to members on 22 December 2017 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)580/17-18(01).)

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)553/17-18(01) and (02)]

3. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 22 January 2018 at 8:30 am:

- (a) Community Care Fund; and
- (b) Youth Hostel Scheme project by Po Leung Kuk.

III. Signature Project Scheme projects (Southern District Council, Wan Chai District Council and Kwun Tong District Council)

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)540/17-18(01) and (02)]

4. The Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper. The Chairman of the Kwun

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Tong District Council ("Chairman/KTDC"), the Chairman of the Wan Chai District Council ("Chairman/WCDC") and the Chairman of the Southern District Council ("Chairman/SDC") briefed members on the following Signature Project Scheme ("SPS") projects respectively:

- (a) construction of Music Fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade ("the Promenade Project") in Kwun Tong District;
- (b) construction of Moreton Terrace Activities Centre ("the MTAC Project") in Wan Chai District; and
- (c) provision of ophthalmic examination services ("the Eye Examination Project") and provision of shuttle bus/rehabilitation bus services ("the Bus Project") in Southern District.

Discussion

Implementation of SPS

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5. In response to Mr Christopher CHEUNG's enquiry, SHA said that so far, 23 SPS projects had obtained funding approval, of which three were already in service, namely, Kwai Tsing District's "Enhancement of Community Healthcare", Tuen Mun District's "Promotion of Youth Development in Tuen Mun" and Wong Tai Sin District's "Expansion and Improvement of Wong Tai Sin Square". The construction works of the remaining 20 projects were underway. At the request of Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, SHA agreed to provide supplementary information on the updated progress of the SPS projects in 18 districts.

6. Mr LAU Kwok-fan declared that he was a member of North DC. Noting that the four SPS projects under discussion were the last batch which had yet to obtain funding approval, Mr LAU said he hoped that all the SPS projects proposed by DCs could be put to implementation as soon as possible, and the Administration would then review SPS. He suggested that the Administration should earmark funding for the 18 DCs to implement another batch of SPS projects. Mr LUK Chung-hung agreed with Mr LAU and suggested that the funding amount for the next round of SPS, if launched, should be increased.

7. In response, SHA said that a one-off provision of \$100 million had been earmarked since 2013 for each district to implement SPS projects.

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The Administration would conduct a review on the implementation of SPS after more of the SPS projects had been in operation for a period of time.

The Eye Examination Project and the Bus Project in Southern District

8. Members in general expressed support for the Eye Examination Project and the Bus Project. Mr Steven HO said that while he supported the two projects, he actually favoured the "Fisherman Cultural Centre" project more. He took the view that it would create greater effectiveness and benefits. The Chairman enquired about the justifications of SDC's decision to shelve the "Fisherman Cultural Centre" project. In response, Chairman/SDC said that by the closing date of an open invitation for proposals to operate, manage and maintain the "Fisherman Cultural Centre" project, only two proposals were received and only one of them fulfilled all the requirements. However, the shortlisted partner organization had requested an annual management fee of \$800,000 which SDC members considered too large an amount. SDC did not accept the proposal and decided to shelve the project.

The MTAC Project in Wan Chai District and the Promenade Project in Kwun Tong District

9. Members noted Mr KWONG Chun-yu's letter and a WCDC member's submission on the MTAC project, which were tabled at the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: Mr KWONG's letter and the submission were issued to members on 22 December 2017 vide LC Paper No. CB(2)581/17-18(01) and (02) respectively.)

10. Mr KWONG Chun-yu, Mr HUI Chi-fung and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed reservations about the MTAC project. Mr KWONG considered that after the commencement of the current DC term, WCDC had not discussed the MTAC project. He suggested that the project should be discussed by the current-term WCDC, or the Panel should consider conducting a public hearing so that Wan Chai residents could express their concerns on the project. He added that there were also great concerns in the sports sector as two popular outdoor volleyball courts were located at the project site concerned. Mr HUI referred to the submission provided by Ms Clarisse YEUNG Suet-ying, who was WCDC member returned by the constituency area where the proposed MTAC would be located. Mr HUI said that Ms YEUNG was opposed to the MTAC project.

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11. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed doubt as to whether there was really a shortage of community halls/community centres in the Wan Chai District, as he noted that in 2014, the usage rates of the conference room and the multi-purpose hall of the Leighton Hill Community Hall ("LHCH") were only 32% and 75.9% respectively. He requested the Administration to provide updated usage rates of the community halls/community centres in the Wan Chai District under the Home Affairs Department ("HAD").

12. SHA advised that the MTAC project was taken forward upon extensive consultation conducted by the last-term WCDC. In the last term of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"), after consulting the Panel on the project, the Administration had already obtained the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC")'s endorsement for the funding proposal in respect of the project. However, deliberation of the project in the Finance Committee ("FC") could not be completed before the prorogation of LegCo in mid-July 2016. He further said that as the local community of Wan Chai District continued to be keen to have an additional performance and activity venue in the district. With LHCH being the only performance venue under the management of HAD in Wan Chai District, the proposed MTAC would fill the service gap. Chairman/WCDC added that in this DC term, he had contacted all members of WCDC individually to gauge their views on whether the MTAC project should continue to be taken forward, and 12 out of 13 WCDC members had indicated their support for continuous implementation of the project. Chairman/WCDC also pointed out that the public consultation exercises conducted for the MTAC project were comprehensive with bilingual publicity materials displayed in Wan Chai District.

13. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen queried the cost-effectiveness of the MTAC project as its multi-purpose hall could house only around 250 persons. Mr HUI Chi-fung raised concerns about the high construction cost of the MTAC project and questioned why the construction unit cost was even higher than that of Grade A offices and hotels. Project Director (3), Architectural Services Department explained that the narrow and small site of the MTAC project, which covered an area of only 750 square metres, and with height restriction, would pose difficulties to the construction works, and a basement had to be built to house related electrical and mechanical installations. He added that the construction unit cost of a project with small site area would normally be higher. In view of the tight site area, part of the adjacent soccer pitch would be taken up for works area, which

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Admin required extra works including alteration of existing fencing and reinstatement of the fencing upon completion of works. In addition, receiver-specific measures must be implemented for the MTAC project during the construction period and suspension of works might occasionally be required due to its proximity to the Hong Kong Central Library. This, coupled with other additional requirements to be fulfilled by the contractor, would push up the construction cost of the project. Mr HUI requested the Administration to provide more detailed information about costing of the MTAC Project.

14. SHA said that there had been a strong demand for additional performance and activity venues in the Wan Chai District. Furthermore, the MTAC project would have synergy effect given its proximity to the Hong Kong Central Library. He considered that MTAC would have a high usage rate in the future.

15. Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Ms Claudia MO considered that both the MTAC project and the Promenade Project were controversial. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen also said that he had reservations about both projects. They supported Mr KWONG Chun-yu's proposal that the Panel should first hold a public hearing on the MTAC project. Dr CHEUNG further said that the Promenade Project was quite costly. He considered that hardware construction (e.g. community halls as well as leisure and recreational facilities) should be implemented by the Government instead of by DCs through SPS projects. Moreover, hardware construction might turn out to be "white elephant" projects. Mr CHU Hoi-dick echoed Dr CHEUNG's views and considered that as the Energizing Kowloon East Office was tasked to develop the area including the Kwun Tong Promenade, KTDC should have put the funding earmarked for SPS to other use.

16. The Chairman said that as DCs were responsible for proposing SPS projects, how to gauge public views on a particular project should be a matter for the relevant DC to decide. He considered it inappropriate for the Panel to invite public views on the MTAC project.

17. Mr Paul TSE declared that he was a member of WCDC. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, Mr Paul TSE, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr SHIU Ka-fai, Mr Steven HO, Mr Wilson OR, Mr YIU Si-wing and Mr LUK Chung-hung took the view that members should respect the decision made by WCDC, which had already conducted two rounds of public consultations on the MTAC project and had collected views through

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different channels as detailed in Enclosure 2 of the Administration's paper. They considered that the implementation of the MTAC project should not be delayed any more. They also noted that the volleyball courts in question had been reprovisioned. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan further said that the usage rates mentioned by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen did not reflect the true picture as one should look at the usage rates during the peak hours to judge whether there was a shortage of the relevant facilities.

18. Mr Kenneth LAU, Mr Christopher CHEUNG, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung and Mr YIU Si-wing took the view that the Promenade Project would further enhance the vibrancy of the Kwun Tong Promenade and promote the water-friendly culture. Mr YIU Si-wing suggested that KTDC might further enhance the vibrancy of the Kwun Tong Promenade, for example, by setting up a bazaar there. Mr Kenneth LAU and Mr LEUNG Che-cheung enquired about the publicity activities and maintenance arrangement for the music fountains upon their operation.

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19. Chairman/KTDC said that an estimated cost of \$1 million was earmarked for implementing community involvement and publicity activities, and KTDC would promote the music fountains and the Kwun Tong Promenade in collaboration with the Administration. PD3/ArSD said that the Government would be responsible for the management and maintenance of the music fountains upon their operation, and the estimated additional annual recurrent expenditure would be about \$1.8 million. At the request of Mr Wilson OR, SHA agreed to provide supplementary information on the workflow and timetable for taking forward the Promenade Project as well as a breakdown of the recurrent maintenance cost of the project.

20. Mr HO Kai-ming and Mr Wilson OR said that they were members of KTDC. Mr HO pointed out that KTDC members had selected the Promenade Project very carefully from a total of 16 proposals. Mr OR added that KTDC had collected public views through various channels, and a questionnaire survey conducted in June to July 2015 by a district organization found that the Promenade Project was ranked the fifth among the top 10 favourite district facilities in Kwun Tong.

(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration on this agenda item has been issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1049/17-18(01)).

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Submission of the four SPS proposals to PWSC/FC

21. The Chairman sought members' views as to whether they supported the submission of the Eye Examination Project and the Bus Project to FC for consideration. Members did not raise objection.

22. The Chairman then sought members' views as to whether they supported the submission of the MTAC Project and the Promenade Project to PWSC for consideration. At the request of Mr KWONG Chun-yu and Ms Claudia MO, the Chairman put the question to vote and ordered a division.

The following members voted for the question:

Mr MA Fung-kwok (Chairman), Mr Steven HO, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Mr Holden CHOW, Mr SHIU Ka-fai, Mr LUK Chung-hung, Mr LAU Kwok-fan and Mr Kenneth LAU.

The following members voted against the question:

Ms Claudia MO, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Mr SHIU Ka-chun, Mr HUI Chi-fung and Mr KWONG Chun-yu.

23. The Chairman declared that nine members voted for and six members voted against the question. The Chairman said that the Panel supported the submission of the MTAC Project and the Promenade Project to PWSC for consideration.

IV. Progress report on enhancement of programming, audience building and renewal of permanent exhibitions of public museums [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)553/17-18(03) and (04)]

24. At the invitation of the Chairman, SHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper.

Discussion

25. Mr Kenneth LAU said that the traditional customs of the New Territories ("NT") constituted an important part of the culture and history of Hong Kong. He suggested that "The Hong Kong Story" permanent

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exhibition in the Hong Kong Museum of History ("HKMH"), which was due for opening in 2022 after renewal, should put more emphasis on the traditional customs of NT. SHA said that "The Hong Kong Story" permanent exhibition would showcase such contents. He added that the Administration would continue to explore ways to display and promote NT traditional customs, such as through the preservation and promotion of intangible cultural heritage of Hong Kong.

26. The Chairman suggested that HKMH should showcase significant events during the Imperial Japanese occupation of Hong Kong, particularly the anti-Japanese campaigns waged by the Dongjiang Column and the Massacre in Nanshitou, Guangzhou. He asked whether the permanent exhibition in HKMH after renewal could provide comprehensive coverage of the above historical events. He further asked whether the Administration would consider establishing a dedicated museum on Hong Kong Reunification.

27. SHA said that the permanent exhibitions in HKMH and the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence ("HKMCD") would strengthen contents including those suggested by the Chairman. As for the suggestion of establishing a dedicated museum on Hong Kong Reunification, SHA said that at present, the Administration did not have such a plan. He explained that the Reunification was part of the history of Hong Kong which was being presented in HKMH and some other museums under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD"). The Chairman said that he was HKSAR Deputy to the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China ("NPC") and he had made this proposal to NPC. He was pleased to note that there was positive feedback. SHA said that he would convey the suggestion to the Government for further consideration.

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28. Mr LAU Kwok-fan considered that public museums could further enhance their work in complementing Chinese History education in schools. Noting that the temporary exhibition "Eternal Life – Exploring Ancient Egypt" held at the Hong Kong Science Museum ("HKScM") had proven to be very popular, Mr LAU asked whether LCSD had identified other kinds of exhibitions that might also appeal to Hong Kong people. Noting that the total attendance of relevant museums had increased by more than 70% following the implementation of free admission to the permanent exhibitions of selected museums on 1 August 2016, Mr LAU suggested that additional concessionary measures should be provided by the Administration.

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Dr Fernando CHEUNG also expressed appreciation of the free admission arrangement.

29. The Director of Leisure and Cultural Services ("DLCS") said that the LCSD museums were committed to staging a wide array of high quality temporary exhibitions that created enriching and inspiring museum visitation experience through unique curatorial approaches, use of modern technology and organization of interactive activities. In devising strategies and directions for museum development, LCSD had been working closely with the Museum Advisory Committee and its subcommittees as well as its Museum Expert Advisors. She further said that various elements of Chinese history and culture were often covered in the exhibitions of public museums including HKMH, HKMCD and the Hong Kong Heritage Museum. To promote appreciation of Chinese culture, specific guided tours were also arranged for teachers and students.

30. DLCS further said that LCSD would maintain the implementation of free admission to the permanent exhibitions of the five major museums. Under the new initiative, the permanent exhibitions of HKScM and the Hong Kong Space Museum were also open to full-time students free of charge. To complement the free admission arrangement, the charges for standard, concessionary and family annual museum passes had been reduced by 50% since 1 August 2016.

31. Dr Fernando CHEUNG considered that LCSD should strengthen collaboration with non-governmental organizations ("NGOs"), the Education Bureau and the Labour and Welfare Bureau in encouraging and facilitating the disadvantaged groups to visit LCSD museums. DLCS said that the guided tours arranged for schools and NGOs also aimed to attract persons who belonged to the disadvantaged groups. In response to Dr CHEUNG's enquiry, DLCS said that LCSD currently did not keep attendance statistics specifically on visitors who belonged to the disadvantaged groups. Nevertheless, she agreed to look at the suggestion. Regarding the governance of public museums, Dr CHEUNG said he hoped that the transparency and public participation in the selection process of themes of exhibitions could be enhanced, such as by conducting public consultations. He also expressed concern as to whether the recruitment of temporary staff in staging large-scale exhibitions would affect experience retention.

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32. DLCS said that apart from consulting experts, LCSD held customer liaison meetings on a regular basis to provide opportunities for the public to give views on the services and facilities of various museums. Besides, the Museum Volunteer Scheme launched by LCSD had recruited about 800 volunteers, who would be given opportunities to learn about museum operation and to participate in cultural education work. The teams of volunteers would help a lot in sustaining the operation of LCSD museums.

33. The Chairman considered that with two major museums to be established in the Western Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD"), namely, the M+ Museum and the Hong Kong Palace Museum, and given that HKMH was also being revamped, the Administration might need to adjust its strategy for the existing public museums so that there would be a clear division of roles among them. In response, SHA said that the renewal of permanent exhibitions of public museums had already taken into consideration the two museums in WKCD, with M+ being the new museum for visual culture in Hong Kong focusing on the 20th and 21st century art, design and architecture and moving image, and the Hong Kong Palace Museum focusing on displaying artefacts of Chinese art and culture from the imperial collection of the Palace Museum. These two new museums, together with the enhancement of programming and renewal of permanent exhibitions of existing public museums, would further strengthen Hong Kong's position as a cultural hub.

V. Any other business

34. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:51 pm.