

立法會
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Paper for the meeting of the Panel on Health Services on 19 June 2018

**Priority setting for activation of the
subcommittees on policy issues under the Panel on Health Services**

Purpose

This paper invites members to give views on a proposal that the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Support for Cancer Patients appointed under the Panel on Health Services ("the HS Panel") should be accorded the highest priority for activation when a vacant slot arises.

Background

2. Under rules 26(a) and (b) of the House Rules, the maximum number of subcommittees on policy issues ("policy subcommittees") appointed by the House Committee ("HC") and Panels that may be in operation at any one time is 10 ("the quota").¹ Where the number of policy subcommittees has reached the quota, a queuing system will automatically be activated with a waiting list formed. The order of subcommittees on the waiting list, unless decided otherwise by HC as provided for under rule 26(e) of the House Rules, is in the order of their appointment. HC will act as the clearing house for the activation of policy subcommittees on the waiting list.

3. At present, there are four policy subcommittees appointed under the HS Panel (including two joint policy subcommittees formed respectively with the Panel on Commerce and Industry ("the CI Panel") and the Panel on Welfare Services ("the WS Panel")) on the waiting list to be activated. These four

¹ According to the broad principles for the activation, operation and extension of period of work of policy subcommittees agreed at the HC meeting on 15 November 2013, the number of subcommittees under each Panel operating at the same time should not exceed two. For this purpose, a joint subcommittee will be counted as one subcommittee for each of the Panels concerned.

policy subcommittees are the Joint Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Regulations of Devices and Development of the Beauty Industry under the HS Panel and the CI Panel, the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Development of Chinese Medicine under the HS Panel, the Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy under the HS Panel and the WS Panel and the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Support for Cancer Patients under the HS Panel. Details of these four policy subcommittees and their respective order on the waiting list are in **Appendix I**.

4. At the meeting of the HS Panel on 21 May 2018, in the context of considering the appointment of the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Support for Cancer Patients, some members proposed that among the four policy subcommittees referred to in paragraph 3 above, the newly appointed Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Support for Cancer Patients should be accorded the highest priority for activation when a vacant slot arises ("the proposal"). Members agreed at the meeting that views from all members of the HS Panel on the proposal should be sought by way of circulation of paper.

5. Pursuant to the above decision, members have been invited to indicate their views on the proposal by circulation of paper on 11 June 2018. As a related matter, members' attention has been drawn to the timeline for the activation of policy subcommittees on the waiting list adopted by HC at its meeting on 1 June 2018.² According to the adopted timeline, it is expected that the Joint Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Regulations of Devices and Development of the Beauty Industry and the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Development of Chinese Medicine would be activated in around early March 2019. A total of 19 members respond to the invitation of views, with 10 of them support the proposal, three do not support the proposal and six have no comment. A summary of the response is given in **Appendix II**.

6. According to paragraph 3.29 of the Handbook for Chairmen of Panels, a matter considered by circulation of papers to members will be deemed to be approved by the Panel, if a majority of the members of the Panel have signified

² According to the adopted timeline, should the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways and the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project be permitted by HC to continue to work in the 2018-2019 session if these two subcommittees so proposed, the first policy subcommittee on the waiting list (i.e. the Subcommittee to Follow Up Issues Related to Inadequate Housing and Relevant Housing Policies) would be activated in early January 2019; and the second to fourth policy subcommittees on the waiting list (i.e. the Joint Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Regulation of Devices and Development of the Beauty Industry, the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Development of Chinese Medicine, and the Subcommittee on Hillside Escalator Links and Elevator Systems) would be activated when there were three vacant slots available in around early March 2019.

approval, and no member has signified disapproval or has requested that the matter should be discussed at a meeting. Since a consensus on the proposal has not been reached by circulation of paper, the Chairman has instructed that the matter should be considered at a meeting of the HS Panel.

Advice sought

7. Members are invited to give views on the proposal in the light of the outcome of the invitation of views as set out in paragraph 5 above. Subject to members' views and, where appropriate, views of the CI Panel, the WS Panel and HC would be sought on any proposed changes to the order of activation for the Subcommittees concerned.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
15 June 2018

Subcommittees on policy issues on the waiting list

Name of Subcommittee	Date of appointment of the Subcommittee	Terms of reference of the Subcommittee	Order on the waiting list
Joint Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Regulations of Devices and Development of the Beauty Industry under the Panel on Health Services ("the HS Panel") and the Panel on Commerce and Industry	28 February 2017	To study issues relating to the regulation of devices and development of the beauty industry and make timely recommendations.	2nd
Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Development of Chinese Medicine under the HS Panel	25 April 2017	To study and review the Government's policies and initiatives to promote the short, medium and long-term development of Chinese medicine, and follow up on the issue of registration of Chinese medicines and other related matters.	3rd
Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy under the HS Panel and the Panel on Welfare Services	14 November 2016 ¹	To study the long-term care policy and services, including home-based, community-based and residential care services for the elderly, people with disabilities and the chronically ill as well as discuss the policy concerned with the Administration and make timely recommendations.	7th
Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Support for Cancer Patients under the HS Panel	21 May 2018	To study and review the Government's policies on promoting the short, medium and long-term development and support for prevention and treatment of cancer as well as relevant issues, and make timely recommendations.	9th

¹ Under rule 26(c) of the House Rules, a subcommittee on policy issues should complete its work within 12 months of its commencement and report to the House Committee or the relevant Panel(s). Should such a subcommittee consider it necessary for it to work beyond that 12 months, the subcommittee should, after obtaining the endorsement of the relevant Panel(s) if it is appointed by a Panel(s), report to the House Committee and give justifications for an extension of the 12-month period. It is the established practice to determine duration of 12-month period on the basis of the date of the first meeting of the subcommittee. The Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy held its first meeting on 16 December 2016. The Joint Subcommittee's proposal to extend its period of work for another 12 months upon expiry of the 12-month work period, which was respectively endorsed by the Panel on Welfare Services and the HS Panel on 13 and 20 November 2017, was endorsed by the House Committee on 1 December 2017. Since its 12-month work period completed on 15 December 2017, the Subcommittee has been put on the waiting list for re-activation of work for another 12 months when a vacant slot arises.

Appendix II

Summary of response on the proposal that the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Support for Cancer Patients should be accorded the highest priority for activation when a vacant slot arises

The following 10 members support the proposal:

Mr YIU Si-wing
Mr Charles Peter MOK
Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Mr CHAN Han-pan
Ms Alice MAK
Dr Fernando CHEUNG
Dr Helena WONG
Dr CHIANG Lai-wan
Mr CHU Hoi-dick
Mr SHIU Ka-chun

The following three members do not support the proposal:

Mr Tommy CHEUNG
Mrs Regina IP
Mr SHIU Ka-fai (*please see the letter attached*) (*Chinese version only*)

The following six members have no comments on the proposal:

Prof Joseph LEE
Ms Starry LEE
Mr CHAN Kin-por
Dr KWOK Ka-ki
Mr POON Siu-ping
Dr Pierre CHAN



立法會衛生事務委員會主席
李國麟議員

李主席：

衛生事務委員會秘書近日發出文件，請委員表明是否支持待研究政策事宜小組委員會有空額騰出時，新近成立的「支援癌症病患者事宜小組委員會」（下稱「支援癌患者小組委員會」）應獲給予最優先次序展開工作，本人特此來函表示不支持。

現時在輪候名單上第二位的「美容業儀器規管和發展事宜聯合小組委員會」（下稱「美容業小組委員會」），是本人早於去年2017年2月21日及28日，分別向工商事務委員會和衛生事務委員會提議並獲同意設立，之後便一直依照《內務守則》輪候展開工作。根據內務委員會最近的商議，美容業小組委員會還須等候至大約2019年3月才可望展開工作，換言之，由成立到開始工作，足足等候超過兩年。

另一方面，衛生事務委員會剛於上次會議（本年5月21日），通過成立支援癌患者小組委員會，蔣麗芸議員隨即要求主席諮詢委員是否支持將該委員會排於優先的次序。蔣議員對癌症病患者的關切，本人十分理解和尊重，而事實上本人同樣關注病患者的需要，一直敦促當局從速擴大藥物名冊，從多方面減輕他們的經濟負擔。

惟社會問題千頭萬緒，亟待立法會跟進的政策範疇眾多，而政策研究事宜小組委員會亦並非推動當局改善工作的唯一途徑。單以衛生事務委員會為例，在本年度內就有多次涉及癌症事宜的討論，亦曾於3月2日特別舉行公聽會，而下次會議（6月19日）議程之一：撒瑪利亞基金及關愛基金醫療援助項目的最新情況，相信也會涵蓋支援癌症病人的方面。由此可見，立法會在推動當局改善對癌症病人支援的工作上從未停斷，本人看不到有充分理由要偏離既定的輪候規則，讓有關小組委員會「插隊」獲最優先次序。

多年來立法會和社會上一直有意見認為，本港美容業應朝向專業化和產業化發展，但事實卻是政府不但未有加以支援發展，反而無視多項政策對美容業的衝擊，例如在立法設立強制冷靜期、私營醫療機構處所立法、中成藥定義修訂、立法規管人對人促銷電話、美容儀器立法規管、取消強職金對沖、擬取消美容業過往「資歷認可三級以下」免試（過度期）安排等問題上，都未有充分考慮業界的憂慮和建議，令美容業前景堪虞。

本人謹請主席和各同事考慮上述意見，讓美容業小組委員會早日展開工作。

邵家輝謹啟

2018年6月15日