

Legislative Council

Agenda

Wednesday 26 June 2019 at 11:00 am

I. Papers to be laid on the Table of the Council

4 papers to be laid on the Table of the Council are set out in **Appendix 1**

II. Questions

Members to ask 22 questions (6 for oral replies and 16 for written replies)
(6 oral questions stand over from the meetings of 12 and 19 June 2019)

Questions for oral replies to be asked by

Public officers to reply

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Hon HO Kai-ming
(<u>Remittance of money to the Mainland</u>) | Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury |
| 2. Hon Michael TIEN
(<u>German authorities granting asylum to two Hong Kong persons</u>) | Secretary for Security |
| 3. Hon Kenneth LAU
(<u>Flood prevention in the New Territories</u>) | Secretary for Development |
| 4. Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan
(<u>Treatment of cancers</u>) | Secretary for Food and Health |
| 5. Hon KWONG Chun-yu
(<u>Caring and Sharing Scheme</u>) | Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury |
| 6. Hon Mrs Regina IP
(<u>The environmental, social and governance performance of listed companies</u>) | Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury |

Contents of the 22 questions, the Members to ask such questions and the public officers to reply are set out in **Appendix 2**

IIIA. Adjournment motion

Adjournment motion under Rule 16(2) of the Rules of Procedure

Hon Christopher CHEUNG to move the motion in **Appendix 3A**

Public officer to attend : Chief Secretary for Administration

III. Government Bill

Second Reading (debate to resume), consideration by committee of the whole Council and Third Reading

Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Tax Concessions) Bill 2019 : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

IV. Members' Motions on Subsidiary Legislation/Instruments

Proposed resolutions to repeal/amend subsidiary legislation

Protected Places (Amendment) Order 2019 (L.N. 66/2019)

Protected Places (Safety) (Authorized Guards) (Amendment) Order 2019 (L.N. 67/2019)

Military Installations Closed Areas (Amendment) Order 2019 (L.N. 68/2019)

Shipping and Port Control (Amendment) Regulation 2019 (L.N. 69/2019)

Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2019 (L.N. 70/2019)

Hon AU Nok-hin to move a group of 5 proposed resolutions as set out in **Appendix 3** to repeal the above 5 items of subsidiary legislation

Hon CHU Hoi-dick to move 3 groups of proposed resolutions (15 in total) as set out in the following Appendices to amend the above 5 items of subsidiary legislation:

Appendix 4 (5 proposed resolutions in total)

Appendix 5 (5 proposed resolutions in total)

Appendix 6 (5 proposed resolutions in total)

Public officers to attend : Secretary for Security
Under Secretary for Security

(Debate and voting arrangements for the above 4 groups of proposed resolutions are set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 737/18-19 issued on 25 June 2019)

V. Members' Motions

(The following items all stand over from the meetings of 12 and 19 June 2019)

1. Motion under Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law to summon persons concerned to produce papers and testify

Hon Dennis KWOK to move the motion in **Appendix 7**

Public officer to attend : Chief Secretary for Administration

2. Motion on “No confidence in the Fifth Term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region”

Hon Dennis KWOK to move the motion in **Appendix 8**

Hon Claudia MO to move an amendment as set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 667/18-19 issued on 5 June 2019

Public officer to attend : Chief Secretary for Administration

3. Motion on “Ensuring children’s right to play for them to grow up happily”

Hon HO Kai-ming to move the motion in **Appendix 9**

5 Members (Hon IP Kin-yuen, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki, Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG, Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan and Hon HUI Chi-fung) to move amendments as set out in LC Paper No. CB(3) 669/18-19 issued on 6 June 2019

Public officers to attend : Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Under Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Clerk to the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 26 June 2019

Papers to be laid on the Table of the Council

Papers

1. Report of changes made to the approved Estimates of Expenditure during the fourth quarter of 2018-19
Public Finance Ordinance : Section 8
(to be presented by Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury)
2. Sir David Trench Fund for Recreation
Annual Report 2018-2019 (including Financial Statements and Report of the Director of Audit)
(to be presented by Secretary for Home Affairs)
3. Report No. 21/18-19 of the House Committee on Consideration of Subsidiary Legislation and Other Instruments
(to be presented by Hon Starry LEE, Chairman of the House Committee)
4. Report of the Bills Committee on Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Tax Concessions) Bill 2019
(to be presented by Hon Kenneth LEUNG, Chairman of the Bills Committee)

22 questions to be asked at the Council meeting of 26 June 2019

	Subject matters	Public officers to reply	
Questions for oral replies			
1	Hon HO Kai-ming	<u>Remittance of money to the Mainland</u>	Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
2	Hon Michael TIEN	<u>German authorities granting asylum to two Hong Kong persons</u>	Secretary for Security
3	Hon Kenneth LAU	<u>Flood prevention in the New Territories</u>	Secretary for Development
4	Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan	<u>Treatment of cancers</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
5	Hon KWONG Chun-yu	<u>Caring and Sharing Scheme</u>	Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
6	Hon Mrs Regina IP	<u>The environmental, social and governance performance of listed companies</u>	Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
Questions for written replies			
7	Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok	<u>Road safety involving crane lorries</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
8	Hon LAU Kwok-fan	<u>Supply of water to Hong Kong</u>	Secretary for Development
9	Hon CHAN Kin-por	<u>Air quality in train compartments and railway stations</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
10	Hon Alice MAK	<u>Minimum income requirement for applicants of subsidized sale housing</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
11	Hon SHIU Ka-fai	<u>Regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls</u>	Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development
12	Hon Frankie YICK	<u>Traffic control at a certain road junction</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
13	Hon IP Kin-yuen	<u>New measure to support students with special educational needs</u>	Secretary for Education
14	Hon Michael TIEN	<u>Former Tsuen King Circuit Market</u>	Secretary for Development
15	Hon HO Kai-ming	<u>Evening secondary courses</u>	Secretary for Education
16	Hon WU Chi-wai	<u>Workmanship of subsidized housing units</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
17	Hon CHAN Hak-kan	<u>Welfare of animals</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
18	Hon Paul TSE	<u>Management of streets</u>	Secretary for Transport and Housing
19	Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT	<u>Public dental services</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
20	Hon LEUNG Che-cheung	<u>Default on maintenance payments</u>	Secretary for Home Affairs
21	Hon Andrew WAN	<u>Provision and management of public markets</u>	Secretary for Food and Health
22	Hon James TO	<u>Early withdrawal of Mandatory Provident Fund accrued benefits</u>	Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Note: The above six oral questions were originally scheduled to be asked at the Council meeting of 19 June 2019 but the meeting was adjourned due to the lack of a quorum. The six oral questions stood over to this Council meeting.

Question 1
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Remittance of money to the Mainland

Hon HO Kai-ming to ask:

It is learnt that in order to save time and cost, quite a number of Hong Kong people choose to use money changers instead of banks to remit Renminbi for them from Hong Kong to the Mainland. However, such money changers are regarded as “underground banks” as they have not been granted approval by the Mainland authorities for operating cross-border remittance business. Upon detection of illegal remittances, the law enforcement agencies on the Mainland may freeze the accounts of money changers and the Mainland beneficiaries concerned. As a result, the remitters fall into a “remittance trap” inadvertently. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the number of complaints involving money changers received by the Government in each of the past three years, with a breakdown by type of complaints and the level to which the amount of money involved belonged;
- (2) of the measures to enhance the regulation of the service of remitting money for customers to the Mainland provided by money changers, so as to avoid Hong Kong people suffering losses; and
- (3) whether it will improve the current procedure and arrangements for banks to remit money for their customers to the Mainland, including discussing with the Mainland authorities the raising of the daily remittance limit per person and simplifying the vetting and approval procedure; if so, of the details?

Question 2
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

German authorities granting asylum to two Hong Kong persons

Hon Michael TIEN to ask:

In December 2017, two men who had been charged with rioting offences and admitted to bail pending trial failed to attend the trial, and the court therefore issued warrants of arrest against them. It was reported last month that they had been granted asylum by the German authorities in May last year. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether, before the two persons were granted asylum by the German authorities, the Government had received requests from the German authorities for information about the offences in which they were involved for the purpose of assessing their asylum requests; whether a mechanism is in place for the Government to seek a review by the German authorities of their decision to grant asylum;
- (2) when the Government came to know that the two persons had been granted asylum; apart from the Chief Executive conveying to Germany's Acting Consul General in Hong Kong strong objection to the granting of asylum, of the specific follow-up actions that have been and will be taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (3) whether, according to the surrender of fugitive offenders agreement signed between the governments of Hong Kong and Germany, the offences allegedly committed by the two persons are offences for which surrender may be granted?

Question 3
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Flood prevention in the New Territories

Hon Kenneth LAU to ask:

Last month, a series of severe rainstorms caused serious flooding at a number of villages in Tin Shui Wai, with floodwater reaching the waist level and quite a number of villagers being trapped. Some villagers have relayed that during the onslaught of super typhoons in Hong Kong in the past two years, they suffered huge losses and their lives were under threat. As extreme weather conditions have become increasingly frequent and this year's typhoon season is drawing near, the villagers are very worried. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the number of flooding reports received by the Drainage Services Department in each of the past five years, the number of the flooding locations which were flooding black spots, as well as the causes for the flooding;
- (2) of the measures taken by the Government, since the onslaught of super typhoon Mangkhut in September last year, to improve the flood discharge capacity at the flooding black spots and the villages at low-lying locations vulnerable to seawater inundation in the New Territories, as well as the details of such measures; and
- (3) whether it reviewed afresh and updated, in the past six months, the list of flooding black spots and the list of low-lying locations vulnerable to seawater inundation in the New Territories, and carried out corresponding flood prevention works; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 4
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Treatment of cancers

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan to ask:

As projected by the Hong Kong Cancer Registry (“HKCaR”) under the Hospital Authority (“HA”), with a continuously growing and ageing population, the number of new cancer cases in Hong Kong in 2030 will be 40% higher than that in 2016 and exceed 44 000. Some patients have relayed that at present, quite a number of cancer patients at public hospitals can only take drugs with more side effects and lower efficacy as they cannot afford the expensive self-financed drugs, thus suffering immensely in their illnesses. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether the Government will propose to HA to discuss with the Mainland authorities purchasing cancer drugs jointly, with a view to reducing expenses on drugs, and whether it will expedite the vetting and approval of clinical trial schemes to be carried out in Hong Kong for new cancer drugs and new treatment protocols so that cancer patients participating in the schemes can try them out for free; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (2) given that the Government has earmarked \$5 billion in the current financial year for the upgrading or acquisition of medical equipment by HA, whether it knows if HA will spend the money on acquiring state-of-the-art medical equipment for treating cancers, including that for proton therapy and electric field therapy; if HA will, of the details; if not, whether HA will discuss with the private hospitals which have acquired the relevant equipment the implementation of public-private partnership programmes so as to make use of such kind of equipment for treating public hospital patients; and
- (3) given that the provision of cancer data to HKCaR by hospitals is currently voluntary in nature, whether the Government will adopt measures to facilitate HKCaR in collecting data as well as using artificial intelligence and big data technologies to speed up the analysis of cancer data; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 5
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

Caring and Sharing Scheme

Hon KWONG Chun-yu to ask:

Applications for the Caring and Sharing Scheme, under which each eligible member of the public will be granted up to \$4,000, closed on 30 April. Last month, the Government indicated that the Working Family Allowance Office (“WFAO”), which is responsible for implementing the Scheme, had received about 3.44 million applications and issued to all applicants acknowledgements of their applications. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) as some members of the public have indicated that they have not yet received any acknowledgement, of the to-date number of members of the public who have indicated that they submitted an application but had yet to receive any acknowledgement;
- (2) whether WFAO has uncovered any case of missing application forms; if so, of the number of forms involved and the causes for that, as well as the remedial measures put in place; if not, why some applicants have not received any acknowledgement; and
- (3) of the current average number of applications that WFAO completes processing each day, and the expected date for completion of the processing of all the applications?

Question 6
(For oral reply)

(Translation)

The environmental, social and governance performance of listed companies

Hon Mrs Regina IP to ask:

In recent years, investors have attached an increasing importance to the performance of enterprises in the “environmental, social and governance” (“ESG”) aspects. It has been reported that MSCI and S&P Global Ratings have respectively introduced ESG Rating and ESG Evaluation, and have included ESG criteria in assessing enterprises’ credit worthiness. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it will urge the relevant institutions to expeditiously introduce ESG indices or ESG evaluations of listed companies, so as to keep up with the global trend; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (2) of the specific measures in place to encourage listed companies to enhance their ESG performance, and to verify how credible the ESG information disclosed by listed companies is; and
- (3) whether it will request the regulatory bodies to reprimand those listed companies with persistently poor ESG performance and take actions against them; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 7
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Road safety involving crane lorries

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok to ask:

It has been reported that on the 16th of last month, the crane of a crane lorry running on the road in the Western District hooked and damaged an overhead cable of the tramway system, allegedly because the crane had not been folded properly. As a result, the tram service at the road section concerned was suspended for works personnel to repair the cable. Regarding road safety involving crane lorries, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the number of traffic accidents caused by cranes of crane lorries not folded properly and the resultant casualties, in each of the past five years;
- (2) whether it reviewed and improved, in the past three years, the measures regulating the operation of crane lorries, such as raising the penalties for contravening the work safety requirements; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (3) whether it will discuss with members of the relevant trades ways to improve the design of crane lorries and the operational guidelines as well as enhance the training for the operators in relation to safe work practices, so as to avoid the occurrence of similar kind of accidents; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 8
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Supply of water to Hong Kong

Hon LAU Kwok-fan to ask:

The new agreement on the supply of Dongjiang (“DJ”) water to Hong Kong from 2018 to 2020, signed by the Government and the Guangdong provincial authorities in December 2017, continues to adopt the “package deal lump sum” approach in calculating water prices. However, both parties have agreed to conduct a review of the future payment approach for water supply. In addition, it has been reported that the Pearl River Delta Water Resources Allocation Project (commonly known as the “West to East Water Diversion Project”) commenced last month and is expected to be completed in 2024. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has started discussing with the Mainland authorities the arrangements for making Xijiang water a backup supply for Hong Kong; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (2) given that the quality standard of DJ water supplied to Hong Kong is in compliance with Type II waters in the Environmental Quality Standards for Surface Water (GB3838-2002), which is the highest national standard for surface water quality applicable for the abstraction for human consumption, and the quality standard of Xijiang water supplied to Macao from 2014 to 2016 was in compliance with the national standard at a grade lower (i.e. Type III waters), whether the Government has conducted studies and made preparation in this regard to ensure that the quality of Xijiang water to be supplied to Hong Kong meets the highest standard; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (3) of the details, specific timetable and progress in respect of the review of the payment approach for DJ water; as the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong has suggested switching to the adoption of a combined payment approach for the purpose of securing stable water supply and reasonable charges, whether the Government has assessed if Xijiang water as a backup supply may provide a better assurance for water supply, so that the feasibility of adopting a combined payment approach is enhanced; if it has conducted such an assessment and the outcome is in the affirmative, whether the Government will discuss with the Guangdong provincial authorities the adoption of a combined payment approach?

Question 9
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Air quality in train compartments and railway stations

Hon CHAN Kin-por to ask:

Railway is a major mode of public transport used by members of the public on a long-term basis. The findings of a research conducted by a university, which were published last year, showed that (i) when train doors opened, the concentrations of fine suspended particulates at the door-side surged, and (ii) those particulates contained metals which, after being breathed into the lungs, might cause respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, and even lung cancer. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it knows the timetable for and other details of the regular tests currently carried out by the MTR Corporation Limited (“MTRCL”) on the air quality of train compartments and railway stations, and the latest concentration levels of air pollutants obtained from such tests;
- (2) whether it knows if MTRCL conducted any study in the past three years on ways to reduce the concentration levels of air pollutants in train compartments and railway stations; if MTRCL did, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (3) given that MTRCL currently monitors the air quality in railway facilities according to the Practice Note for Managing Air Quality in Air-conditioned Public Transport Facilities: Railways published in 2003 by the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”), whether EPD has updated the Practice Note since 2003; if not, when EPD will update the Practice Note?

Question 10
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Minimum income requirement for applicants of
subsidized sale housing

Hon Alice MAK to ask:

The subsidized sale flats (“SSFs”) put up for sale in recent years have met with overwhelming responses, with oversubscriptions easily reaching dozens of times. As no minimum income requirement has been set in the relevant eligibility criteria, some members of the public have applied for purchasing SSFs in the names of their family members who have no income (e.g. children who have just reached the age of 18 and are students) in order to increase their chances of success in the ballots. However, such “buyers” simply are unable to make the down payments nor repay the mortgage loans by themselves. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the median monthly household income of the applicants in each sale exercise for the Home Ownership Scheme (“HOS”) flats in the past three years;
- (2) of the number of HOS flats sold in each of the past three years, and set out (i) a breakdown by the group to which the monthly household income of the buyers belonged (as set out in the table below) and (ii) the corresponding percentages;

Monthly household income (\$)	2016		2017		2018	
	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)
5,000 or below						
5,001 to 10,000						
10,001 to 20,000						
20,001 to 30,000						
30,001 to 40,000						
40,001 to 50,000						
50,001 or above						
Total:		100%		100%		100%

- (3) whether it knows, among the buyers in each sale exercise since 2014 for flats under HOS, the Green Form Subsidized Home Ownership Scheme and the White Form Secondary Market Scheme, the respective numbers of those whose mortgage loan agreements contained mortgage guarantors;
- (4) as the Hong Kong Housing Authority (“HA”) provides mortgage default guarantee to financial institutions with whom HA has entered into a Deed of Guarantee so that they can offer more favourable mortgage terms to SSF buyers (e.g. a mortgage loan-to-value ratio of 90% or above), whether the Government has assessed

the financial risks posed to HA by the situation that some buyers are unable to repay mortgage loans by themselves; if so, of the outcome; if not, whether it will conduct such an assessment; and

- (5) whether it will tighten the eligibility criteria for SSFs by setting a minimum income requirement, so as to ensure that the buyers are able to repay mortgage loans by themselves?

Question 11
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Regulation of person-to-person telemarketing calls

Hon SHIU Ka-fai to ask:

The Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance (Cap. 593) implemented since December 2007 regulates the sending of commercial electronic messages, but it is not applicable to person-to-person (“P2P”) telemarketing calls. Last year, the Government proposed to bring such calls within the ambit of the Ordinance and establish a do-not-call register (“the Register”) for such calls. Under the proposed regulatory arrangement, no person shall make telemarketing calls to those telephone numbers on the Register, unless the caller has obtained prior consent from the recipient. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) given that during the time when the relevant bill was scrutinized by this Council in 2007, Hon WONG Ting-kwong had proposed Committee Stage amendments (“CSAs”) to bring P2P telemarketing calls under regulation, with an exemption for those telemarketing calls to persons made pursuant to a previous or current business or client relationship (but the CSAs concerned were not incorporated into Cap. 593), and recently the Government has indicated, in reply to my enquiries, that the proposed regulatory arrangement will be similar to the concept of the CSAs proposed by that Member back then, whether the Government can confirm if the proposed regulatory arrangement will include this exemption;
- (2) as Cap. 593 provides that “consent” means (a) express consent or (b) consent that can reasonably be inferred from the conduct of the individual or organization concerned, and the Government has indicated that it will, by making reference to such meaning, define the “consent” under the proposed regulatory arrangement, whether the Government has studied if it can be inferred from a person’s conduct of giving out business cards on social occasions that the person has given consent to the recipients of the business cards to make telephone calls to that person in future to introduce products or services;
- (3) given that the listing of telephone numbers on the Register will take effect 10 working days after registration, and that companies will have to arrange manpower to check regularly (say, weekly) the telephone numbers of existing and potential clients against those in the Register, so as to avoid breaching the law by mistakenly calling

a telephone number on the Register, whether the Government has assessed: (i) the obstacles to economic activities that will be caused by such checking work, and (ii) the manpower and time to be spent on performing such work weekly by companies which have hundreds or thousands of telephone numbers of existing and potential clients; if it has assessed, of the outcome; if not, whether it will conduct such an assessment expeditiously;

- (4) of the measures to be put in place for alleviating the compliance costs for micro, small and medium enterprises to be brought about by the implementation of the proposed regulatory arrangement; and
- (5) as there are views that the proposed regulatory arrangement cannot eradicate telemarketing calls from overseas and those pretended to have come from legitimate financial institutions, whether the Government has assessed if adopting non-legislative approaches, such as promoting the use of call-filtering applications and educating the public on how to handle telemarketing calls, will be more effective than enacting legislation; if it has not assessed, of the reasons for that?

Question 12
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Traffic control at a certain road junction

Hon Frankie YICK to ask:

The southern end of the two-way Beacon Hill Road (“the minor road”) in Kowloon Tong is connected to the Cornwall Street (“the major road”). Although the latter is a two-way east-west road with heavy traffic and vehicles travel on it at a rather high speed, no traffic light has been installed at that road junction. Some members of the public have relayed that due to the sharp bend at the entrance/exit of the minor road and drivers’ views being blocked by a building or mound on the roadsides, there is a certain degree of danger for eastbound vehicles on the major road to make a left turn into the minor road and vehicles on the minor road to make a left turn into the major road. In addition, westbound vehicles on the major road intending to make a right turn into the minor road, as well as vehicles intending to make a right turn into the major road (westbound) after leaving the minor road, have to cut across several lanes on the major road, which frequently causes dangerous situations. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the number of traffic accidents which occurred at the aforesaid road junction in each of the past five years, and the details of each accident (including the causes of the accident, classes of vehicles involved and the resultant casualties); and
- (2) whether it will install traffic lights at the road junction to control traffic; if so, of the details; if not, the measures to be put in place by the Government to enhance the road safety there?

Question 13
(For written reply)

(Translation)

New measure to support students with special educational needs

Hon IP Kin-yuen to ask:

Starting from the next school year, the Education Bureau (“EDB”) will implement a new enhancement measure for the Learning Support Grant (“LSG”) (“the new measure”) in public sector ordinary primary and secondary schools to support students with various types of special educational needs (“SEN”) and academic low achievers. The new measure will replace the Intensive Remedial Teaching Programme (“IRTP”) and Integrated Education (“IE”) Programme, which have been implemented for many years. Some members of the education sector have relayed that as all classes and regular teaching posts under IRTP will be cancelled in September this year, quite a number of schools need to reduce their staffing establishment and, as a result, the contracts of some existing contract teachers may not be renewed, dealing a severe blow to the morale and stability of the teaching force and running counter to the Government’s undertaking made in the 2018 Policy Address that “[u]nder the enhanced measure, schools will have a more stable teaching force and additional resources for flexible deployment”. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of (i) the number of classes, (ii) the rate of the class grant, (iii) the number of additional regular teaching posts and (iv) the total recurrent expenditure, under IRTP for the current school year;
- (2) of the number of schools in which the number of approved classes will be reduced due to the cancellation of IRTP and/or a decline in the intake of Primary One students, with a breakdown by reason for reduction in classes and by number of classes in schools, i.e.:
 - (i) those in which the number of classes will drop from 24 or more to 23 or less, and
 - (ii) those in which the number of classes will drop from 12 or more to 11 or less;
- (3) among the schools mentioned in (2), of the respective numbers of schools in which the following personnel arrangements will have to be made in the next school year:
 - (i) lowering the rank of the principal; the total expenditure on the remuneration and benefits involved in the arrangement, calculated on the basis of the median salary of the post,

- (ii) reducing the number of vice principals; the total expenditure on the remuneration and benefits involved in the arrangement, calculated on the basis of the median salary of the post,
 - (iii) reducing the number of senior teachers; the total expenditure on the remuneration and benefits involved in the arrangement, calculated on the basis of the median salary of the post,
 - (iv) reducing the number of assistant clerical officers; the total expenditure on the remuneration and benefits involved in the arrangement, calculated on the basis of the median salary of the post,
 - (v) reducing the number of clerical assistants; the total expenditure on the remuneration and benefits involved in the arrangement, calculated on the basis of the median salary of the post, and
 - (vi) reducing the number of Workmen II; the total expenditure on the remuneration and benefits involved in the arrangement, calculated on the basis of the median salary of the post;
- (4) given that grant thresholds of \$600,000, \$1.6 million and \$2.2 million have been prescribed for the new LSG, of the criteria based on which EDB set such thresholds;
 - (5) of the number of schools in which the number of teaching posts converted/provided under the new measure will not be able to absorb all redundant/surplus teachers arising from the cancellation of IRTP and/or the IE Programme, with a breakdown by number of redundant/surplus teachers (i.e., one such teacher, two and three such teachers);
 - (6) as the Government has indicated that all IRTP teachers can be retained in the staffing establishment of schools and there will be no redundant teachers, of the methods by which schools can retain IRTP teachers, and set out by method the number and names of the schools involved, the number of teaching posts retained, and the total expenditure on the remuneration and benefits involved, calculated on the basis of the median salaries of the posts concerned;
 - (7) whether it has assessed if the new measure will result in the contracts of the existing contract teaching staff not being renewed; if it has assessed and the outcome is in the affirmative, of the number of the schools and the number of the contract teaching staff involved, and the measures in place to assist them; if the assessment outcome is in the negative, the reasons for that;

- (8) given that a school may contravene the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487) if it caps the number of students with SEN to be admitted, of EDB's justifications for capping LSG under the new measure; the criteria based on which EDB set the calculation ceiling and cash grant ceiling at the levels of \$2.2 million and \$1.24 million;
- (9) whether it has estimated the number of schools for which the grant calculated under the new measure exceeds the ceiling of \$2.2 million; if so, of the details, and the measures in place to assist those schools not provided with the amount of grant exceeding the said ceiling in catering for the learner diversity among students;
- (10) of the to-date number of complaints or requests for assistance received by EDB from schools about the impact of the new measure on them and the contents of such complaints or requests, as well as the assistance offered by EDB to those schools; and
- (11) whether it will implement transitional arrangements for enabling a "soft landing" of the new measure, and ensure that the current staffing establishment and the rank of the principals of the schools concerned will not be affected by the new measure; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 14
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Former Tsuen King Circuit Market

Hon Michael TIEN to ask:

The Government closed down the under-utilized Tsuen King Circuit Market in early 2018, but so far it has not given an account of the way forward for that building and the site concerned. In March this year, I called on the Government to expeditiously give an account of the matter and suggested implementing a revitalization scheme for the building, including (i) providing a kindergarten on the ground floor and giving move-in priority to a neighbouring kindergarten currently saddled with a heavy rent burden, (ii) providing a day care centre for the elderly on the ground floor, and (iii) providing a youth centre and a study room on the first floor. The Government indicated in reply that it either had the intention to do so or was examining the feasibility of the suggestions. On the other hand, I have recently learnt that the Government is considering demolishing the building to make way for planning and developing afresh the site concerned. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council whether it has made a decision on the way forward for the building; if so and the decision is to demolish the building, of the details; if the decision is to retain and revitalize the building, the progress of the relevant studies and the implementation timetable, as well as the measures to expedite its work in this regard?

Question 15
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Evening secondary courses

Hon HO Kai-ming to ask:

The Government currently provides, through the Financial Assistance Scheme for Designated Evening Adult Education Courses (“FAEAEC”), financial assistance for adult students taking evening secondary courses offered by approved course providers. Eligible students may receive 30%, 50% or 100% reimbursement of the tuition fees paid. Students who are unable to pay tuition fees in advance due to financial difficulties may apply for loans under the Extended Non-means-tested Loan Scheme (“ENLS”) to settle tuition fees. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the respective numbers of students at various grades taking evening secondary courses under FAEAEC, in each of the past five years;
- (2) of the number of evening secondary students taking the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination and, among them, the number of those whose examination results met the general entrance requirements for subsidized undergraduate programmes, in each of the past five years;
- (3) of the respective numbers of students whose applications made under FAEAEC were received and approved in each of the past five years; in respect of the number of students whose applications were approved, (i) a breakdown by the percentage of tuition fees reimbursed and (ii) its percentage in the total number of evening secondary students;
- (4) of the number of eligible students applying for loans under ENLS, in each of the past five years;
- (5) of the current average annual tuition fee of the evening secondary courses offered under FAEAEC; as the Government has implemented for years free day secondary education, whether the Government will implement free evening secondary education;
- (6) given that evening secondary students have to compete with day secondary students for admission to subsidized undergraduate programmes, but support in the areas of finance and learning, etc. provided by the Government for the former is less than that for the latter, whether the Government will relax the eligibility criteria of the various subsidy schemes set up for the latter so as to cover the

former, and launch scholarship and bursary schemes for the former to encourage them to study; and

- (7) whether it will comprehensively review and strengthen the support provided for evening secondary students, with a view to encouraging people with low educational attainment to complete secondary education programme while working at the same time?

Question 16
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Workmanship of subsidized housing units

Hon WU Chi-wai to ask:

It has been reported that in recent years, quite a number of members of the public have, after moving into newly completed units of public rental housing, and those under the Home Ownership Scheme (“HOS”) and Green Form Subsidised Home Ownership Scheme (“GSH”), found that both the materials and the workmanship of the in-flat installations are of poor quality. Some members of the construction industry have pointed out that the causes for such a situation include a shortage of experienced construction workers in recent years, and an increased use of precast concrete components (“PCCs”) in the construction of these subsidized housing. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) in respect of the three aforesaid types of subsidized housing projects completed within the past five years, of the respective numbers of complaints/reports received by the Housing Department (“HD”) from residents about quality problems of the materials and workmanship of the in-flat installations, and among such complaints/reports, the respective numbers of those which were (i) made via the Defects Report Forms and (ii) made after the expiry of the warranty periods of their HOS and GSH units;
- (2) in respect of the complaints/reports mentioned in (1)(i) and (ii) respectively, of the following information on each problem in the past five years relating to the quality of materials and workmanship: (i) the number of cases handled, (ii) the average time taken for the repair works, (iii) the longest time taken for the repair works, and (iv) the number of cases not handled, and set out the information by the name of each subsidized housing project and in tables of the same format as the table below;

Name of subsidized housing project: _____

Problem	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
Water seepage on the wall				
Water seepage on the ceiling				
Window problems				
...				
Other problems				
Total:		Not applicable	Not applicable	

- (3) of the most common in-flat problems involving substandard workmanship and installations (e.g. kitchen doors not meeting the

fire resistance standard) that were identified by HD in the past five years in the course of hand-over inspections of the three aforesaid types of subsidized housing units;

- (4) regarding the construction works in the past five years for the three types of subsidized housing projects respectively, of the (i) percentage of PCCs used on average, (ii) the number of days taken for the construction of a typical floor on average, and (iii) the number of man-days taken for the construction of a unit on average, for each of the projects; whether HD assessed, in the course of the hand-over inspections of such units, the impacts of such factors on the workmanship; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (5) whether HD issued in the past five years advices or warnings to or imposed penalties on the contractors of subsidized housing projects due to quality problems of materials and workmanship; if so, of the details;
- (6) of the measures put in place to enhance the supervision of the workmanship of subsidized housing projects (e.g. increasing the number of inspection items and the frequency of random inspections during the construction stage, as well as reviewing the construction methods and the procedure and criteria for hand-over inspections); and
- (7) whether it will consider extending the warranty period for subsidized sale units and taking other measures to better protect the rights and interests of owners who have purchased such units?

Question 17
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Welfare of animals

Hon CHAN Hak-kan to ask:

Regarding the welfare of animals, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) given that a government official said at a Panel meeting of this Council held last month that the Government was heading towards the goal of “zero euthanasia of animals”, of the Government’s specific measures to achieve that goal; whether it has set interim goals and the relevant dates for achieving the goals; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (2) given that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”) invited in November last year suggestions from animal welfare organizations (“AWOs”) on places that might be suitable for conducting the Trap-Neuter-Return trial programme for stray dogs (“the trial programme”), of the number and details of the suggestions received by AFCD to date; the resources needed for implementing the programme as estimated by the Government;
- (3) as AFCD has indicated that the trial programme conducted in the past three years did not achieve the predetermined performance targets, whether the Government will take the initiative to explore suitable places for AFCD to implement a new round of the trial programme; if not, of the reasons for that;
- (4) as the Rabies Ordinance (Cap. 421) provides that a keeper of animals who, without reasonable excuse, abandons his mammal (except a human being) commits an offence, of the conviction rates of the relevant prosecutions in the past five years; whether the Government will step up law enforcement efforts, and of the law enforcement manpower in each of the coming three years;
- (5) of the current procedure to be followed by animal owners for surrendering to the Animal Management Centres (“AMCs”) under AFCD the animals that they no longer keep; given that the Government has recently proposed to amend the legislation to introduce the concept of “duty of care” to animals on the part of the persons responsible for the animals, and proposed that the abandonment of an animal should be regarded as a contravention of the duty of care and an offence, whether the Government anticipates that the number of animals to be received by AMCs will increase

- after the implementation of the relevant legislative amendments; if so, of AFCD's counter measures;
- (6) whether it will consider, by drawing reference from the practices in other places, collecting fees from persons abandoning animals, so as to subsidize the relevant expenses of AWOs;
 - (7) given that the governments of places such as Taiwan, the United Kingdom and the United States have established online platforms for animal owners to register animals and report on loss of animals, whether the Government will develop a similar online platform; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
 - (8) given that the number of animals re-homed dropped from 966 in 2014 to 753 in 2018, of the Government's measures to encourage members of the public to adopt animals, e.g. whether it will (i) establish an online platform, (ii) establish a dedicated animal adoption fund, and (iii) provide incentives (e.g. healthcare vouchers for pets, and waivers of fees for dog licences); if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
 - (9) given that the main problems currently faced by AWOs are difficulties in finding suitable venues and paying high rents for venues, whether the Government will offer assistance in this regard, including extending the use of the subventions provided for such organizations to include payment of rents; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 18
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Management of streets

Hon Paul TSE to ask:

In early years, the Government signed, with the owners of the land adjoining a number of streets in Causeway Bay such as Great George Street, Paterson Street, East Point Road, Kingston Street and Cleveland Street, agreements under which the land owners would replace the facilities on the streets concerned at their own cost and be responsible for the future repair and maintenance of such facilities (but excluding street management). At present, some of such streets are full-time or part-time pedestrian streets. Some members of the public have complained that there are often busking and commercial promotion stalls on those streets, and that some groups occupy the road space for holding activities, which have caused serious nuisance to the residents in the vicinity and pedestrians. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the total number of complaints received by the various government departments in the past three years about the noise nuisance, road obstruction, environmental hygiene problems, etc. which were caused by hawking, busking and other activities on the aforesaid streets, and the follow-up actions taken;
- (2) if it has gained an understanding about whether the aforesaid land owners have made profits from the commercial activities conducted on the pedestrian streets; if it has, of the details;
- (3) whether, apart from the aforesaid streets in Causeway Bay, the Government signed in the past three years/will sign in the coming three years similar agreements with other land owners and, thereafter, designated/designate the streets concerned as pedestrian streets; if so, of the details; and
- (4) of the existing channels and procedure through which individuals and groups who intend to organize commercial, political or performing activities on pedestrian streets may make applications for such activities?

Question 19
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Public dental services

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT to ask:

There are views that as the population of Hong Kong is ageing, dental services are facing great challenges. There were nearly 310 000 poor elderly persons in 2015, representing a poverty rate of 30%. Quite a number of elderly persons are suffering from various dental problems and rely on public dental services heavily. However, such services are grossly inadequate, rendering elderly persons with financial difficulties unable to receive diagnoses and treatments. Regarding public dental services, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it knows the number of dentists who obtained practising qualifications in each of the past five years;
- (2) whether it knows the current number of registered dentists in Hong Kong and, among them, the respective numbers of dentists practising in public organizations and private dental clinics/organizations;
- (3) of the specific measures in place to increase dentist manpower;
- (4) of the specific measures in place to encourage non-locally trained dentists and graduates in dentistry to come to Hong Kong and practise in public organizations;
- (5) whether it has projected the manpower demand and supply situation of dentists in each of the coming 10 years; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (6) whether it has plans to increase the number of dental clinics under the Department of Health, so as to expand the free emergency dental treatment (commonly known as “general public dental sessions” (“GP dental sessions”)) provided for the public; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (7) whether it will consider increasing the consultation quota of GP dental sessions through means such as allocating resources and streamlining procedure; and
- (8) whether it will introduce a population-wide dental care scheme; if so, of the details and timetable; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 20
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Default on maintenance payments

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung to ask:

The Social Welfare Department (“SWD”), in calculating the amounts of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (“CSSA”) payments payable to CSSA recipients who are concurrently receiving maintenance payments, makes a deduction of the maintenance payments they may receive. If the CSSA recipients can prove to SWD that they have commenced legal proceedings to recover the arrears of maintenance payments, the deduction of their CSSA payments may be suspended. Some social welfare organizations have pointed out that it is very time-consuming to provide such a proof, and such recipients, who are mainly single parents, will immediately fall into financial difficulties once they are owed their maintenance payments. Besides, the work on implementing the maintenance order system falls within the remit of the Home Affairs Bureau and yet SWD, which provides support to single parents, is under the Labour and Welfare Bureau, resulting in a lack of coordination for and effectiveness of the relevant work. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it knows the number of maintenance orders granted by the court in the past five years, with a tabulated breakdown by the group to which the amount of monthly maintenance payments belonged (i.e. below \$2,000, \$2,000 to \$3,999, \$4,000 to \$5,999, and \$6,000 or more);
- (2) of the respective numbers of requests for assistance (i) received and (ii) handled by SWD and non-governmental organizations in the past three years concerning default on maintenance payments;
- (3) whether it has compiled statistics on the number of cases in the past three years in which legal proceedings were commenced to recover arrears of maintenance payments;
- (4) whether it will dispense with the requirement for CSSA recipients to submit proof of having commenced legal proceedings, and stipulate that as long as they make a statutory declaration stating that they are owed their maintenance payments, the deduction of their CSSA payments will be suspended;
- (5) whether it will put the work on implementing the maintenance order system under the purview of the Labour and Welfare Bureau so as to enhance the coordination for the work relating to default on

maintenance payments and the support for the single parents concerned; and

- (6) whether it will consider setting up a dedicated department to strengthen the support for single parents who are owed their maintenance payments?

Question 21
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Provision and management of public markets

Hon Andrew WAN to ask:

Some members of the public have pointed out that the government's efforts in providing and managing public markets have been ineffective. For instances, patronage of North Kwai Chung Market has remained low due to the prolonged delay in retrofitting air conditioning system, Tsuen King Circuit Market was closed as a result of mismanagement, and there has been a shortage of public market in new towns such as Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it has formulated plans to redevelop the public markets in New Territories West; if so, of the details (including the name of the public markets involved and the timetable for redevelopment);
- (2) whether it has formulated plans to renovate the public markets in New Territories West; if so, of the details (including the name of the public markets involved and the timetable for renovation);
- (3) whether it will pursue the "single site, multiple use" model in multi-storey developments in redeveloping public markets, and build municipal complexes to provide the various types of public facilities; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
- (4) as the Chief Executive indicated in last year's Policy Address that the Government would build a public market in Tung Chung and Tin Shui Wai respectively, whether the Government will provide more public markets in phases having regard to the current and anticipated future population of the two districts; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (5) as the Financial Secretary announced in his 2018-2019 Budget Speech that the Government would earmark \$2 billion for implementing a Market Modernisation Programme over the next 10 years, whether it has assessed the number of public markets that can benefit from the funding; whether it will provide additional funding in a timely manner in order that the relevant works can be carried out in more public markets; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Question 22
(For written reply)

(Translation)

Early withdrawal of Mandatory Provident Fund accrued benefits

Hon James TO to ask:

Under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance (Cap. 485), Mandatory Provident Fund (“MPF”) scheme members may withdraw their accrued benefits early under specified circumstances (such as early retirement, permanent departure from Hong Kong and terminal illness). In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) of the following figures on early withdrawal of MPF accrued benefits under each specified circumstance in each year between 2015 and 2018:
 - (i) the respective numbers of applications received, approved and rejected by the trustees,
 - (ii) the average age of the applicants,
 - (iii) the total amount of accrued benefits in the approved cases, and
 - (iv) the highest, lowest and average amounts of accrued benefits in the approved cases; and
- (2) as the aforesaid ordinance stipulates that a member with a “terminal illness” means the member “has an illness that is likely to reduce the life expectancy of the member to 12 months or less”, but that definition depends on the subjective estimations by individual doctors on the life expectancy of their patients, whether the Government will formulate a more objective and less stringent definition for “terminal illness”, such as setting out, in the form of a table in respect of the various death-causing illnesses, the specific stage(s) for each illness to be regarded as terminal illness?

(Translation)

**Adjournment motion
to be moved by Hon Christopher CHEUNG
under Rule 16(2) of the Rules of Procedure**

Wording of the Motion

That this Council do now adjourn for the purpose of debating the following issue: given that society has been continuously torn apart due to serious disagreements in society over the handling of the amendment to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance, and large-scale demonstrations and conflicts may spark off anytime, the immediate countermeasures adopted by the Government to expeditiously restore social order and stabilize the business environment, so that people's life can return normal.

Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

Resolution

(Under section 34(2) of the Interpretation and
General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1))

Protected Places (Amendment) Order 2019

Resolved that the Protected Places (Amendment) Order 2019, published in the Gazette as Legal Notice No. 66 of 2019 and laid on the table of the Legislative Council on 8 May 2019, be repealed.

Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

Resolution

(Under section 34(2) of the Interpretation and
General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1))

Protected Places (Safety) (Authorized Guards) (Amendment) Order 2019

Resolved that the Protected Places (Safety) (Authorized Guards) (Amendment) Order 2019, published in the Gazette as Legal Notice No. 67 of 2019 and laid on the table of the Legislative Council on 8 May 2019, be repealed.

Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

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Military Installations Closed Areas (Amendment) Order 2019

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Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

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(Under section 34(2) of the Interpretation and
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Shipping and Port Control (Amendment) Regulation 2019

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Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

Resolution

(Under section 34(2) of the Interpretation and
General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1))

Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2019

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Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

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Protected Places (Amendment) Order 2019

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Schedule

Amendment to Protected Places (Amendment) Order 2019

1. Section 1 amended (commencement)

Section 1—

Repeal

“29 June 2019”

Substitute

“1 July 2047”.

Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance

Resolution

(Under section 34(2) of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1))

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Hon CHU Hoi-dick's 2nd group of proposed resolutions

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Substitute

“29 June 2021”.

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Section 1—

Repeal

“29 June 2019”

Substitute

“29 June 2020”.

**Motion under Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law of
the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of
the People's Republic of China
to be moved by Hon Dennis KWOK**

Wording of the Motion

That, pursuant to Article 73(5) and (10) of the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, this Council summons the Secretary for Justice, Ms Teresa CHENG, S.C. and Director of the Chief Executive's Office, Mr Eric CHAN Kwok-ki to attend before the Council at its earliest meeting after the passage of this motion to produce all relevant papers, books, records or documents and to testify or give evidence on handling of the matter of and in relation to the engagement of Ms Teresa CHENG, after taking the office of the Secretary for Justice, in or her being concerned with (either directly or indirectly as principal, agent, director or shadow director, employee, or otherwise) any other trade, business, occupation, firm, company (private or public), chamber of commerce or similar bodies, public body or private professional practice (in particular relating to arbitration), and relevant matters.

(Translation)

**Motion on
“No confidence in the Fifth Term Government
of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region”
to be moved by Hon Dennis KWOK**

Wording of the Motion

That this Council has no confidence in the Fifth Term Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Ensuring children’s right to play
for them to grow up happily”
to be moved by Hon HO Kai-ming**

Wording of the Motion

That, children in Hong Kong have long schooling time and heavy homework load, and lack time for leisure, play and even rest; coupled with the fact that the living environment (especially in sub-divided units) in Hong Kong is so cramped that children often do not have sufficient space for activities, not to mention space for playing; at present, public playgrounds for children are unevenly distributed among districts, channels for community participation in the design process are inadequate, play equipment is insufficient and designs are identical with no elements to stimulate the healthy growth of children; moreover, inclusive play equipment has failed to meet the needs of children with disabilities, and play equipment and services for in-patient children are also in acute shortage; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to formulate measures to ensure that local children can enjoy the rights stated in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the right to rest and leisure, and to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child, and at the same time improve the software and hardware of children’s play equipment, so that children can obtain more diversified recreational experience, enjoy leisure and grow up happily; specific measures include:

- (1) urging the Commission on Children to conduct studies on ensuring children’s entitlement to the right to play and draw up criteria for the construction of children’s play equipment, such as play equipment should embody the elements of variety, flexibility, inclusiveness and holistic and healthy development of children, and to make amendment proposals on the relevant laws and regulatory measures based on the findings of the studies;
- (2) revising the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines to raise the standard for provision of children’s playgrounds;
- (3) requiring private housing courts to provide suitable children’s play equipment through various means, including imposing land sale conditions, and providing financial assistance and technical support for

owners or owners' corporations of private housing courts and Tenants Purchase Scheme to provide additional and upgrade children's play equipment in housing courts or estates;

- (4) identifying suitable sites in public housing and private developments for constructing children's playgrounds, and providing at least one inclusive playground in each district for children with or without disabilities to play together;
- (5) setting up additional children playrooms under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in various districts and improving the equipment of existing playrooms, including setting up specifically designed playrooms for infants and pre-school children to provide more public play area for parents and children;
- (6) setting up additional toys libraries in various districts to enable children of all ages and from different strata to have equal rights and opportunities to access to toys;
- (7) increasing the number of child care centres and subsidized child care service places, so that young children can receive care and enjoy free playtime in a safe and healthy environment;
- (8) urging the Hospital Authority to provide sufficient play equipment and services for sick children;
- (9) reviewing the frequency of internal tests and examinations and homework load of primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong, so that children will not have less time for rest and play due to excessive homework and tests and examinations, thereby promoting their balanced development;
- (10) stepping up the development of game-based education and collaboration with non-governmental organizations to provide games and organize outdoor activities within and outside schools, as well as organize more outdoor activities during holidays; at the same time, providing appropriate subsidies for grass-roots children to ensure that they enjoy equal rights to participate in games and activities;
- (11) providing training on game-based education for teachers and parents, and promoting to them the benefits and importance of play to children, with a view to reversing the social atmosphere of pursuing examination success and catching up with the curricula, so that teachers and parents can attach more importance to children's right to play; and

- (12) expeditiously reviewing the outdated holiday policy to align statutory holidays with general holidays to 17 days, so that all employees in Hong Kong can enjoy the same number of holidays, thereby increasing their family time and playtime with children.