

Ref : CB2/PL/CA

LC Paper No. CB(2)1881/18-19 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Panel on Constitutional Affairs

Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 18 February 2019, at 2:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present	:	Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP (Chairman) Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP (Deputy Chairman) Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP Hon Claudia MO Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP Hon Charles Mak Mei-kuen, BBS, JP Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan Hon IP Kin-yuen Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan Hon Alvin YEUNG Hon CHU Hoi-dick Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP Hon LAM Cheuk-ting Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding Hon HOI Chi-fung Hon HUI Chi-fung Hon HUI Chi-fung Hon Kenneth LAU In-keung, BBS, MH, JP
		Hon Tanya CHAN

Member attending	:	Hon SHIU Ka-fai							
Public Officers	:	Item III							
attending		Mr Patrick NIP Tak-kuen, JP Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs							
		Miss Rosanna LAW Shuk-pui, JP Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs							
		Ms Eiphie CHAN Pik-ki Principal Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs							
		Mr WONG See-man Chief Electoral Officer Registration and Electoral Office							
		Mr Raymond WANG Man-chiu Principal Electoral Officer Registration and Electoral Office							
		<u>Item IV</u>							
		Mr Roy TANG Yun-kwong, JP Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs							
		Ms Cherie YEUNG Lok-sze Principal Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs							
		Mr WONG See-man Chief Electoral Officer Registration and Electoral Office							
		Mr Raymond WANG Man-chiu Principal Electoral Officer Registration and Electoral Office							
Clerk in attendance	:	Ms Joanne MAK Chief Council Secretary (2) 3							

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Staff in attendance	:	Mr Kelvin LEE Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 3				
		Ms Jasmine TAM Senior Council Secretary (2) 3				
		Mr Dennis HO Council Secretary (2) 3				
		Mrs Fonny TSANG Legislative Assistant (2) 3				

I. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting [LC Paper No. CB(2)789/18-19(01)]

<u>The Panel</u> noted that a letter dated 31 January 2019 from Mr Dennis KWOK to the Chairman had been issued to members after the last meeting. Referring to the request raised by Mr KWOK in his letter for the Panel to discuss his proposed private bill to amend the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance ("the proposed Bill"), <u>the Chairman</u> said that subject to members' views, he was prepared to arrange to discuss the proposed Bill with the Administration at a future meeting. <u>The Chairman</u> further said that to facilitate the Panel's discussion, he would request the Administration to provide a paper/written response on the subject as soon as practicable.

Clerk

Mr Dennis KWOK urged that arrangements be made for him to consult 2. the Panel on the proposed Bill, which was prepared back in 2017, as soon as Ms Claudia MO, Mr IP Kin-yuen and Mr LAM Chuek-ting possible. expressed support for Mr KWOK's request. In reply to Mr IP Kin-yuen's enquiry, the Chairman said he noted that there were precedents where private bills proposed by individual Members had been discussed at the meetings of the relevant Panels without the attendance of Government officials. Mr Dennis KWOK indicated that he stood ready to brief members on the proposed Bill, irrespective of whether or not the Administration would field representatives to join the relevant discussion with the Panel. The Chairman responded that the paper/written response to be provided by the Administration would be circulated to members once received and members would be further consulted on the way forward.

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)772/18-19(01) and (02)]

3. <u>Members</u> agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 18 March 2019 at 2:30 pm:

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- (a) "Publicity for the 2019 District Council Ordinary Election"; and
- (b) "Briefing by the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data".

III. Launching a pilot scheme of advance polling in the 2020 Legislative Council General Election

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)772/18-19(03) and (04)]

4. <u>The Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs</u> ("SCMA") briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)772/18-19(03)]. <u>SCMA</u> said that the Administration proposed to launch a pilot scheme of advance polling in the 2020 Legislative Council ("LegCo") General Election. Under the proposed pilot scheme, Government employees (including civil servants and non-civil service contract staff) who needed to perform election-related duties on the polling day that would prevent them from voting would be eligible to vote on the advance polling day, which was proposed to be seven days before the main polling day.

Discussion

5. <u>Some members</u> including <u>the Deputy Chairman</u>, <u>Ms Starry LEE</u>, <u>Dr Priscilla LEUNG</u>, <u>Mrs Regina IP</u>, <u>Mr Paul TSE</u>, <u>Mr MA Fung-kwok</u> and <u>Mr Jimmy NG</u> expressed support for the proposed pilot scheme so as to facilitate voting by polling staff who would otherwise be unable to do so due to engagement in election-related duties on the polling day. <u>Ms Starry LEE</u>, <u>Mrs Regina IP</u> and <u>Mr MA Fung-kwok</u> pointed out that advance polling arrangements were also available in many overseas countries. They considered that the polling arrangements in Hong Kong should be brought up-to-date and suggested that the Administration should make reference to overseas experience in formulating the detailed arrangements for the proposed pilot scheme.

6. <u>SCMA</u> advised that the pilot scheme was proposed in response to the recommendation made by the Electoral Affairs Commission ("EAC") in its Report on the 2018 LegCo By-election as well as the views received during the public consultation on review of electoral arrangements in November 2017. <u>The Deputy Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs</u> ("DSCMA") informed members that the Administration had studied the experience of the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the Republic of Korea in implementing advance polling. In response to the enquiries of Mr MA Fung-kwok and Mr Jimmy NG, <u>DSCMA</u> briefed members on the eligibility and arrangements for advance polling in the aforementioned countries. <u>DSCMA</u> pointed out that given their electoral system and actual situations, various approaches and practices were adopted.

The Administration would take into account relevant overseas experience in drawing up the detailed arrangements for the proposed pilot scheme.

Ms Tanya CHAN asked whether the Administration had considered 7. facilitating voting by polling staff by assigning them to work on different shifts on the polling day. SCMA explained that the proposed pilot scheme was aimed not only to facilitate voting by polling staff, but also to provide useful experience for the Registration and Electoral Office ("REO") in the long run if it was considered necessary and appropriate to implement advance polling on a larger scale to cater for the needs of other electors who were unable to vote on the polling day. SCMA advised that according to the experience gained in the past LegCo general elections, REO needed to recruit some 20 000 civil servants, accounting for about one-eighth of the strength of the civil service, to serve as polling staff on the polling day. REO would have to double the number of civil servants to be recruited if polling staff were assigned to work on two shifts on the polling day. In reply to Mr Alvin YEUNG's enquiry, <u>SCMA</u> said that based on past experience, tremendous effort was required to recruit some 20 000 civil servants to work on the There would be practical difficulties in recruiting even more polling day. civil servants for the purpose.

8. <u>Ms Claudia MO</u> queried whether REO, which had previously lost two notebook computers containing the personal data of registered voters, was capable of ensuring the safekeeping of the marked ballot papers and other election-related materials between the advance polling day and the main polling day. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> and <u>Mr Alvin YEUNG</u> also raised similar concerns. <u>Ms MO</u> expressed opposition to launching the proposed pilot scheme and considered that longer lunch/dinner breaks could be arranged instead to facilitate the polling staff concerned to vote on the polling day.

9. SCMA assured members that REO would take all necessary security measures to safeguard the election-related materials between the advance polling day and the main polling day. As to whether alternative arrangements could be made to facilitate voting by the polling staff concerned, DSCMA said that Presiding Officers of polling stations had been advised to make arrangements as far as possible for polling staff to vote on the polling day without disrupting the operation of their polling stations. However, as the voter turnout rate had been rising over the years, there was a substantial increase in workload for polling staff on the polling day. DSCMA explained that given the heavy workload, some polling staff might only be able to have short lunch/dinner breaks. Besides, some polling staff might work at polling stations far from home and thus might not be able to vote at their designated polling stations during their lunch/dinner breaks.

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10. Mr IP Kin-yuen asked whether the election-related duties on the advance polling day would be carried out by those civil servants who would serve as polling staff on the main polling day and if so, what arrangements would be made for the polling staff concerned to vote on the advance polling DSCMA said that taking into account the size of staff eligible for the day. pilot scheme, the Administration proposed to set up one to two polling stations in each of the 18 districts on the advance polling day. DSCMA explained that since the number of polling stations to be set up on the advance polling day would be significantly smaller than that on the main polling day, the number of polling staff required to work on the advance polling day would be much smaller and their workload on that day was expected to be much lighter. As such, the Administration was confident that the majority of Government employees who needed to perform election-related duties on the main polling day would be able to vote on the advance polling day. In response to the enquiries of Dr Priscilla LEUNG and Mr Martin LIAO, SCMA advised that eligible staff who did not vote on the advance polling day could vote at their designated polling stations on the main polling day.

11. Mr IP Kin-yuen pointed out that under the current practice, to guard against repeated voting, polling staff had to cross out the name and identity card number of the elector who had been issued with ballot paper(s) on the relevant poll register manually. Noting that the number of polling stations to be set up on the advance polling day would be smaller than that on the main polling day, Mr IP expressed concern about the arrangements relating to the poll registers and how the aforementioned polling record could be made on the advance polling day for subsequent reference on the main polling day. In his view, the proposed pilot scheme should be launched only after the various technical and operational issues pertinent to the scheme had been resolved. SCMA responded that the pilot scheme was proposed to be launched with a view to, among others, evaluating the effectiveness and gaining experience of advance polling. REO would work out the detailed arrangements for the pilot scheme in due course.

12. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> said that Members belonging to the Democratic Party were opposed to launching the proposed pilot scheme. <u>Dr WONG</u> pointed out that EAC had only recommended that the Government should proactively consider adopting appropriate measures to facilitate voting by polling staff, including studying whether arrangements could be made for polling staff to vote in advance. EAC had not made any recommendation on arranging advance polling for other electors. She therefore did not see why the proposed pilot scheme was aimed also to facilitate the Government's further consideration of implementing advance polling for other electors in the

long run. <u>Dr WONG</u> further said that apart from posing great security risks, the proposed pilot scheme would incur extra costs not only to the Government but also to the candidates as they would have to deploy additional manpower to work on the advance polling day. She considered that other administrative arrangements (e.g. allowing polling staff to vote on the polling day before assuming duties and providing dedicated ballot boxes at each polling station for polling staff to vote on the polling day) should be explored to facilitate the polling staff concerned to vote on the polling day.

13. <u>SCMA</u> advised that apart from EAC's recommendation of adopting appropriate measures to facilitate voting by polling staff, the Administration had also received views and suggestions from political parties and LegCo Members on arranging advance polling for electors who, for various reasons (e.g. absence from Hong Kong), were unable to vote on the polling day. Against this background, the Administration proposed to launch a pilot scheme of advance polling to facilitate voting by polling staff and to evaluate the effectiveness as well as gaining experience of advance polling with a view to further studying the need for and the feasibility of implementing advance polling on a larger scale in future elections. <u>SCMA</u> added that as explained earlier, the Administration had explored the feasibility of adopting other administrative measures to facilitate voting by polling staff but none of them were found to be viable due to various constraints and practical difficulties.

Mr AU Nok-hin expressed concern about the possible impact of 14. enabling a particular group of electors (i.e. the Government employees concerned), the total number of which was as many as around 30 000, to vote in advance on the election results. He opined that the Administration should consider scaling down the proposed pilot scheme in order to minimize any possible impact it might have on the election results as well as the security risks associated with the scheme. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen also pointed out that there could be drastic change in the level of support obtained by individual candidates prior to the polling day. He was concerned that allowing certain electors to vote as early as seven days before the main polling day would be unfair to new candidates who were not well known to electors, given that some election forums had yet to be held by then. SCMA reiterated that the pilot scheme was proposed in response to EAC's recommendation in its Report on the 2018 LegCo By-election as well as the views received during the public consultation on review of electoral arrangements in November 2017.

15. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> requested the Administration to explain the rationale for proposing that the date of pilot advance polling be seven days before the main polling day. He asked whether it was possible to shorten the time gap between the advance polling day and the main polling day to, say,

one or two days, so as to alleviate concerns about the security risks posed by advance polling and its possible impact on the election results. <u>Ms Starry</u> <u>LEE</u> and <u>Mr MA Fung-kwok</u> also raised similar enquiries.

SCMA advised that the Administration had explored different options 16. regarding the date of advance polling and was mindful that the advance polling day should be as close to the main polling day as possible. **SCMA** explained that if the advance polling day was scheduled on the day before the main polling day (i.e. on a Saturday), REO would need to take over the venues on the preceding Friday for setting up the polling stations. However. some venue management bodies (e.g. schools) might not be willing to make available their premises for REO's use on Friday lest their services would be affected. SCMA further advised that by the same token, it was also undesirable to schedule the advance polling day on a week day. The Administration was therefore of the view that the most suitable and viable option of the advance polling date was seven days before the main polling day that also fell on a Sunday. <u>Mr Paul TSE</u> suggested that consideration might also be given to making arrangements for polling staff to vote in the evening (e.g. from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm) on the day before the polling day, since the setup of the polling stations should have been completed by then.

17. <u>Ms Starry LEE</u>, <u>Dr Priscilla LEUNG</u> and <u>Ms Alice MAK</u> stressed that to uphold the fairness and integrity of the election, REO should formulate an effective and robust security plan to safeguard the marked ballot papers and other election-related materials between the advance polling day and the main polling day. <u>Mr Martin LIAO</u> and <u>Ms Tanya CHAN</u> sought details of the measures to be taken by REO in this regard.

SCMA assured members that REO would put in place sufficient 18. security measures and enlist the assistance of the Police for safeguarding the electoral materials. SCMA advised that according to the preliminary plan of REO, the ballot boxes, ballot papers, marked poll registers and other election-related materials of the advance polling day would be transported to one or several central locations for storage under the escort of police officers and polling staff before the main polling day. Closed-circuit televisions would be installed at the storage locations for surveillance purpose and security guards would be deployed at all entrances/exits to ensure the safe custody of the electoral materials. On the main polling day, the electoral materials of the advance polling day would be transported to the respective main counting stations under the escort of police officers and polling staff as Subject to the actual operation, candidates or their agents would be well. allowed to observe the aforesaid transporting processes.

19. Dr CHENG Chung-tai said that while he did not object to making arrangements for Government employees who were required to perform election-related duties on the polling day to vote in advance, he considered it unreasonable to make available advance polling for other electors who were unable to vote on the polling day. Dr Priscilla LEUNG also took the view that any proposal to expand the scale and scope of advance polling would require careful consideration and thorough discussion. She stressed that there should not be two polling days for electors to choose on which day they would like to vote. She also considered that the scale and scope of advance polling should be kept to a minimum so as to minimize any possible impact it might have on the election results. Dr LEUNG added that to avoid causing confusion to electors, the Administration should convey clearly in the publicity programme to be launched for the 2020 LegCo General Election that only the Government employees concerned, and not all registered electors, would be eligible to vote on the advance polling day.

20. <u>The Deputy Chairman, Mr Paul TSE</u> and <u>Ms Alice MAK</u>, however, took the view that as a matter of principle, measures should be taken to facilitate all eligible electors as far as possible to exercise their voting right. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> suggested that in the light of the experience gained from the proposed pilot scheme, the Administration should consider whether arrangements could also be made for other electors who were unable to vote on the polling day due to work (e.g. firemen and doctors who needed to work long shifts) to vote in advance in future elections. <u>Mr Paul TSE</u> asked whether consideration would be given to allowing candidates, their agents and electioneering staff who were usually heavily engaged in election-related work on the polling day to vote on the advance polling day.

21. <u>SCMA</u> responded that while he agreed that any proposal to expand the scale and scope of advance polling had to be examined prudently, he did not consider it appropriate to devise the pilot scheme simply and solely from the perspective of facilitating voting by the Government employees concerned. <u>SCMA</u> stressed that the Administration would consider carefully whether, and if so, how advance polling should be implemented on a larger scale in future elections in the light of the experience gained from the pilot scheme.

22. <u>Mrs Regina IP</u> suggested that apart from arranging advance polling for polling staff, the Administration should also consider making arrangements for eligible electors who were working or residing in the Mainland to cast their votes at the offices of the Government in the Mainland. She considered that the experience so gained could facilitate the Administration's further study on the feasibility of implementing overseas voting in the long run to facilitate voting by electors residing abroad. <u>SCMA</u> responded that any

proposed arrangements for polling outside Hong Kong must be critically examined. That said, Administration would continue to examine the relevant views received with a view to making further improvements to the electoral arrangements.

Motions

23. <u>The Chairman</u> said that he had received two motions proposed by Dr Helena WONG and Ms Starry LEE respectively. He ruled that the two proposed motions were directly related to the agenda item under discussion. <u>Members</u> agreed that these motions be proceeded with at the meeting.

24. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> moved the following motion:

(Translation)

"This Panel urges the Government to, by way of administrative arrangements, ensure that government staff who are on duty on the polling day can exercise their voting rights, and put on hold the launching of a pilot scheme of advance polling in the 2020 Legislative Council General Election, which should be submitted to this Panel again for consideration pending a comprehensive study of the pros and cons of adopting an advance polling system."

25. <u>The Chairman</u> put Dr Helena WONG's motion to vote. <u>Dr Helena</u> <u>WONG</u> requested a division. The result was that six members voted for and 12 members voted against the motion, and no member abstained from voting (details of the division attached at **Annex I**). <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the motion was negatived.

26. <u>Ms Starry LEE</u> moved the following motion:

(Translation)

"This Panel supports the launching of a pilot scheme of advance polling to facilitate voting by civil servants who serve as polling staff and who are on duty on the polling day. However, since advance polling arrangements might lead to various problems such as the secrecy of voting results and the risk of loss of ballot papers, this Panel urges that prior to launching the pilot scheme of advance polling, the authorities must examine, for the sake of upholding the fairness and impartiality of elections, whether the relevant legislation and administrative measures currently in place are clear and sufficient, including the existence of corresponding legislation under which prosecution may be instituted against any acts which aim to manipulate elections by guiding the voting preference of electors through the pilot scheme of advance polling, and the existence of proper security measures for various election-related materials such as ballot boxes and ballot papers."

27. <u>The Chairman</u> put Ms Starry LEE's motion to vote and ordered a division. The result was that 15 members voted for and six members voted against the motion, and no member abstained from voting (details of the division attached at **Annex II**). <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the motion was passed. The Administration was requested to provide a written response to the motion.

(*Post-meeting note*: The Administration's response to the above motion was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)957/18-19(01) on 11 March 2019.)

IV. Launching a pilot scheme of electronic counting in the 2020 Legislative Council General Election

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)772/18-19(05) and CB(2)429/18-19(04)]

28. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs ("PSCMA") briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's [LC Paper paper No. CB(2)772/18-19(05)]. PSCMA said that a pilot scheme was proposed to be launched to implement electronic counting using machines with both vote recognition and paper counting functions in three traditional functional constituencies ("FCs") in the 2020 LegCo General Election.

Discussion

29. In response to Ms Claudia MO's enquiry, <u>PSCMA</u> said that the above pilot scheme was proposed to be launched with a view to further studying the feasibility of implementing electronic counting in District Council (second) FC ("DC(second)FC") in future LegCo elections.

30. With reference to Annex A to the Administration's paper, <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> said that two of the four counting machines being tested by REO were manufactured by Casit Information Technology Co., Ltd. (中科信息技術有限公司), which was established by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and was an election equipment and service provider for major conferences of the Chinese Communist Party and of the nation. <u>Mr CHAN</u> enquired whether the Administration would consider providers of counting

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machines of other countries and when the counting machines would be procured. <u>Ms Claudia MO</u> raised concern that if the counting machines were manufactured by a Chinese state-owned company, the public confidence in electronic vote counting might be undermined.

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31. PSCMA said that after consulting the Panel and obtaining the agreement in principle from EAC, the Administration would prepare the required legislative amendments with a view to securing passage by early 2020 so that REO would have sufficient time to launch the scheme in time for the 2020 LegCo General Election. Meanwhile, an open tendering process would be conducted after the Panel meeting to procure the counting machines. It was estimated that the tendering process would be completed in about five In accordance with the established practice, technical specifications months. of the machines would be set out in the tender documents, and the tenderers' countries of origin would not be a consideration. In response to Mr CHAN's and Mr AU Nok-hin's further enquiries, PSCMA clarified that the two manufacturers of counting machines in Annex A to the Administration's paper would not have an advantage over other potential tenderers in the open The detailed testing conducted by REO served to report tendering process. the results of the testing of electronic counting machines conducted by REO to the Panel. REO would ensure that the counting machines eventually selected for use under the proposed pilot scheme would attain an ultimate recognition accuracy of at least 99.99% before the election as required by in the tender documents, and would have the technological compatibility for continued use in subsequent LegCo elections.

32. Dr Helena WONG considered that the Administration should make every effort to ensure that the counting machines to be used under the pilot scheme could attain the required recognition accuracy. Mr AU Nok-hin enquired why the counting machine used in Election Committee Subsector ("ECSS") Elections would not be adopted for use under the proposed pilot <u>PSCMA</u> explained that unlike the ballot papers of ECSS elections, scheme. DC(second)FC ballot papers had a more complex design, were larger in size and needed to be unfolded before being handled by the counting machine. According to REO's testing, if DC(second)FC ballot papers were handled by the counting machine used in ECSS Elections (i.e., the "Sekonic SR-6500 Hybrid" model), the recognition accuracy rate attained would only be 99.8%. Since the traditional FC ballot papers were relatively smaller in size and were not required to be folded, one of the counting machines had already attained a recognition accuracy of 99.99% in REO's testing. At the request of Mr AU Nok-hin, PSCMA undertook to provide supplementary information on the actual expenditure for renting electronic counting machines in the 2016 ECSS Elections after the meeting.

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(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1245/18-19(01) on 16 April 2019.)

33. <u>Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok</u> took the view that the Administration should also strive to streamline the counting process in addition to introducing electronic counting so as to further expedite the counting of ballot papers. He enquired whether the counting machines would mistakenly accept questionable ballot papers during the electronic counting process. <u>Mr Alvin YEUNG</u> also enquired whether the counting machines to be used under the pilot scheme would be able to identify blank and questionable ballot papers and segregate them from the other valid ballot papers. <u>PSCMA</u> replied that questionable ballot papers would be separated from the counting machines for further examination by counting staff. The respective Returning Officers ("ROs") would be responsible for determining the validity of questionable ballot papers identified by the counting machines.

34. <u>Ms Claudia MO</u> suggested that the counting machines to be used in the proposed pilot scheme should have transparent casings in order to enhance transparency of the counting processes. <u>PSCMA</u> said that the Administration would consider Ms MO's suggestion.

35. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u>, <u>Mr Alvin YEUNG</u>, <u>Mr Holden CHOW</u> and <u>Mr Charles MOK</u> enquired under what circumstances ROs would accept requests for re-count of votes. <u>Dr WONG</u> asked whether the re-counts would be conducted manually or by the counting machines under the pilot scheme.

36. <u>PSCMA</u> replied that under the proposed pilot scheme, if the request for re-count was accepted by RO, the re-count would be conducted manually. <u>PSCMA</u> explained that under the relevant electoral legislation, a candidate or an election agent who was present could request RO to count again the counted votes. RO must comply with the request unless the Officer was of the opinion that the request was unreasonable. <u>PSCMA</u> stressed that the decision on whether to accept a re-count request would rest upon the RO concerned. In the past, RO had complied with re-count requests under certain circumstances, including when the vote margin was considered too close between candidates; and when questionable ballot papers were considered to have been counted as valid votes.

(At 4:27 pm, the Chairman directed that the meeting be extended by 15 minutes beyond the appointed ending time.)

37. <u>Mr Charles MOK</u> enquired whether the recognition accuracy rates in the testing results of the counting machines had been audited. <u>Dr CHENG Chung-tai</u> enquired how the Administration would ensure the integrity and security of the electronic counting system so as to avoid any possible manipulation of public elections. <u>PSCMA</u> said that in implementing the pilot scheme, REO would engage:

- (a) an independent system testing and quality assurance services provider to conduct various user acceptance tests for the counting machines so as to ensure that the machines met the relevant requirements;
- (b) an independent information technology security risk assessment and audit services provider to undertake risk assessment for the electronic counting machines; and
- (c) an independent computer audit firm to perform computer audit in relation to the level of stability of the entire electronic counting system.
- Admin <u>PSCMA</u> undertook to provide supplementary information on the measures taken by the Administration to ensure the integrity and security of the electronic counting system in the proposed pilot scheme. He added that the Administration would report the outcome of the proposed pilot scheme to the Panel after its implementation.

(*Post-meeting note:* The supplementary information provided by the Administration was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1245/18-19(01) on 16 April 2019.)

V. Any other business

38. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 4:37 pm.

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 23 August 2019

點名表決DIVISION: 1 日期 DATE: 18/02/2019 時間 TIME: 03:51:52 下午 PM

動議 MOTION: 黃碧雲議員就 "在 2020 年的立法會換屆選舉推行預先投票試行計劃 "動議的議案 Motion moved by Dr Hon Helena WONG on "Launching a pilot scheme of advance polling in the 2020 Legislative Council General Election"

動議人 MOVED BY:	き見	 f	Ę	Dr Helena WONG
出席 Present			:	19
投票 Vote			:	18
贊成 Yes	:	6		
反對 No	:	12		
棄權 Abstain	:	0		
結果 Result			:	否決 Negatived

個別表決如下 THE INDIVIDUAL VOTES WERE AS FOLLOWS:

議員	MEMBER	投票	VOTE	議員	MEMBER	投票	VOTE
張國鈞	CHEUNG Kwok-kwan	出席	PRESENT	葉建源	IP Kin-yuen		
林健鋒	Jeffrey LAM	反對	NO	廖長江	Martin LIAO	反對	NO
李慧琼	Starry LEE	反對	NO	蔣麗芸	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan	反對	NO
陳克勤	CHAN Hak-kan	反對	NO	盧偉國	Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok		
梁美芬	Dr Priscilla LEUNG			鍾國斌	CHUNG Kwok-pan	反對	NO
黃國健	WONG Kwok-kin			楊岳橋	Alvin YEUNG		
葉劉淑儀	Mrs Regina IP			朱凱廸	CHU Hoi-dick	贊成	YES
謝偉俊	Paul TSE	反對	NO	吳永嘉	Jimmy NG	反對	NO
毛孟靜	Claudia MO	贊成	YES	林卓廷	LAM Cheuk-ting		
何俊賢	Steven HO			周浩鼎	Holden CHOW	反對	NO
馬逢國	MA Fung-kwok	反對	NO	陳淑莊	Tanya CHAN	贊成	YES
莫乃光	Charles Peter MOK			許智峯	HUI Chi-fung		
陳志全	CHAN Chi-chuen	贊成	YES	陸頌雄	LUK Chung-hung	反對	NO
麥美娟	Alice MAK			劉業強	Kenneth LAU		
郭榮鏗	Dennis KWOK			鄭松泰	Dr CHENG Chung-tai		
張華峰	Christopher CHEUNG	反對	NO	區諾軒	AU Nok-hin	贊成	YES
黃碧雲	Dr Helena WONG	贊成	YES				

秘書 CLERK -ð

點名表決DIVISION: 2 日期 DATE: 18/02/2019 時間 TIME: 03:53:30 下午 PM

動議 MOTION: 李慧琼議員就 "在 2020 年的立法會換屆選舉推行預先投票試行計劃"動議的議案 Motion moved by Hon Starry LEE on "Launching a pilot scheme of advance polling in the 2020 Legislative Council General Election"

動議人 MOVED BY: 李慧琼 Starry LEE 出席 Present 22 : 投票 Vote 21 : 贊成 Yes 15 : 反對 No 6 : 棄權 Abstain : 0 結果 Result 通過 Passed :

個別表決如下 THE INDIVIDUAL VOTES WERE AS FOLLOWS:

議員	MEMBER	投票	VOTE	議員	MEMBER	投票	VOTE
張國鈞	CHEUNG Kwok-kwan	出席	PRESENT	葉建源	IP Kin-yuen		
林健鋒	Jeffrey LAM	贊成	YES	廖長江	Martin LIAO	贊成	YES
李慧琼	Starry LEE	贊成	YES	蔣麗芸	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan	贊成	YES
陳克勤	CHAN Hak-kan	贊成	YES	盧偉國	Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok		
梁美芬	Dr Priscilla LEUNG			鍾國斌	CHUNG Kwok-pan	贊成	YES
黃國健	WONG Kwok-kin	贊成	YES	楊岳橋	Alvin YEUNG		
葉劉淑儀	Mrs Regina IP	贊成	YES	朱凱廸	CHU Hoi-dick	反對	NO
謝偉俊	Paul TSE	贊成	YES	吳永嘉	Jimmy NG	贊成	YES
毛孟靜	Claudia MO	反對	NO	林卓廷	LAM Cheuk-ting		
何俊賢	Steven HO			周浩鼎	Holden CHOW	贊成	YES
馬逢國	MA Fung-kwok	贊成	YES	陳淑莊	Tanya CHAN	反對	NO
莫乃光	Charles Peter MOK			許智峯	HUI Chi-fung		
陳志全	CHAN Chi-chuen	反對	NO	陸頌雄	LUK Chung-hung	贊成	YES
麥美娟	Alice MAK	贊成	YES	劉業強	Kenneth LAU		
郭榮鏗	Dennis KWOK			鄭松泰	Dr CHENG Chung-tai		
張華峰	Christopher CHEUNG	贊成	YES	區諾軒	AU Nok-hin	反對	NO
黃碧雲	Dr Helena WONG	反對	NO				

 Δ 秘書 CLERK