

立法會
Legislative Council

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Establishment Subcommittee of the Finance Committee

**Minutes of the 7th meeting
held in Conference Room 1 of Legislative Council Complex
on Wednesday, 3 June, 2020, at 8:30 am**

Members present:

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, GBS, JP
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Alvin YEUNG
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN
Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Members attending:

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Members absent:

Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan
Hon CHU Hoi-dick

Public Officers attending:

Mr Raistlin LAU Chun, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) 1
Mr Brian LO Sai-hung, JP	Deputy Secretary for the Civil Service 1
Dr CHUI Tak-yi	Under Secretary for Food and Health
Miss Erica NG Lai-man	Deputy Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 2
Mr Kevin CHOI	Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 2
Mr Philip HAR Mung-fei	Principal Assistant Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 4
Mr PANG Yiu-hung	Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (Acting)
Mr CHAN Chau-fat	Assistant Director (Railways) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Connie SZETO	Chief Council Secretary (1)4
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Staff in attendance:

Miss Judy YEE	Council Secretary (1)4
Ms Alice CHEUNG	Senior Legislative Assistant (1)1
Ms Sharon CHAN	Legislative Assistant (1)4
Ms Haley CHEUNG	Legislative Assistant (1)10

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The Chairman drew members' attention to the information paper ECI(2020-21)3, which set out the latest changes in the directorate establishment approved since 2002 and the changes to the directorate establishment in relation to the four items on the agenda. He then reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP"), they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interest relating to the item under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the item. He also drew members' attention to RoP 84 on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

EC(2020-21)1 Proposed retention of one supernumerary post of Senior Principal Executive Officer (D2) in the Food Branch of the Food and Health Bureau with effect from 24 May 2020 or upon approval of the Finance Committee, whichever is later, for a period of five years to monitor the work on food safety and continue to cope with the complex and challenging food safety policy issues by implementing new initiatives to safeguard food safety

2. The Chairman remarked that the staffing proposal was to retain a supernumerary Senior Principal Executive Officer ("SPEO")(D2), designated as Senior Principal Executive Officer (Food) ("SPEO (Food)") in the Food Branch of the Food and Health Bureau ("FHB") with effect from 24 May 2020 or upon approval of the Finance Committee ("FC"), whichever is later, for a period of five years to monitor the work on food safety and continue to cope with the complex and challenging food safety policy issues by implementing new initiatives to safeguard food safety. The Chairman said that discussion of the item was carried over from the Subcommittee meeting on 20 May, 2020.

Formulating and updating legislation relating to food safety

3. Mr WU Chi-wai said that while FHB was responsible for formulating and updating legislation relating to food safety, such legislation was implemented by law enforcement departments. He asked for details of the work of SPEO (Food) with respect to legislative amendment exercises relating to food safety.

4. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked for details of the legislative amendment exercises taken forward by the incumbent SPEO (Food) since the creation of the post in November 2017, as well as the legislative amendment or updating exercises to be taken forward by SPEO (Food) in

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the next five years.

5. Under Secretary for Food and Health ("USFH") replied that FHB was responsible for legislative amendment exercises covering a wide range of subjects, including overseeing matters relating to import control of food of animal and plant origins, aquatic products and poultry eggs and management of the respective food incidents, updating food safety standards, formulating policies and legislative amendment proposals to regulate the safety standards of edible fats and oils, and regulate harmful substances in food etc. As such, it was necessary to retain the post of SPEO (Food) to share the related work.

6. Deputy Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 2 ("DSFH(F)2") added that since FC gave approval for creation of the SPEO (Food) post in November 2017, efforts had been made by the incumbent officer to take forward the proposed legislative amendments for the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) (Amendment) Regulation 2018. The Regulation was made in October 2018 and came into force in phases starting from November 2019. In the next five years, FHB would take forward legislative proposals currently in the drafting process, which included regulation of harmful substances in food, regulation of veterinary drug residues in food animal and foods, and updating legislation or regulations on food safety standards. Those legislative amendment exercises were complex in nature, involving consultations with stakeholders, keeping in view the latest development in the formulation and regulation of food safety standards including those of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, and taking forward legislative amendments having regard to the dietary habits of the local residents and results of risk assessments.

Effectiveness of the initiatives on reduction of salt and sugar contents in food

7. Mr WU Chi-wai said that given that the Committee on Reduction of Salt and Sugar in Food ("CRSS") had been established for taking forward public education and publicity, he enquired whether it was necessary for SPEO (Food) to take up the aforesaid duties.

8. Mr SHIU Ka-chun pointed out that as joining the sodium reduction targets set by the Centre for Food Safety ("CFS") were voluntary with no binding effect on participating organizations, it was difficult for the salt and sugar reduction initiatives to achieve specific results. He asked for details on how SPEO (Food) planned to enhance the effectiveness of the initiatives on reduction of salt and sugar contents in food.

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9. Mr Alvin YEUNG said that since the creation of the post, SPEO (Food) had been responsible for overseeing the work of the Secretariat of CRSS, but the initiatives on reduction of salt and sugar contents in food yielded limited results. He enquired about the reasons for that.

10. Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed concerns about the limited effectiveness of the work of CRSS. He cited the findings of the Population Health Survey conducted by the Department of Health ("DH") in 2017, which found that the salt consumption of about 86% of the respondents exceeded the level recommended by the World Health Organization ("WHO") for dietary salt intake; a survey conducted by the Consumer Council in 2018 also found that the sodium levels in over 70 out of 100 food samples taken from restaurants exceeded the average salt intake among adults per day recommended by WHO. Dr CHEUNG asked whether SPEO (Food) would review the effectiveness of the work of CRSS.

11. In a consolidated response, USFH and DSFH(F)2 advised that FHB was of the view that as opposed to regulation by legislation, education and publicity would be more important and effective for enhancing public awareness on the salt and sugar contents in food and their effects in the long run. Over the past few years, FHB had, in collaboration with CRSS, CFS and DH, introduced more than 40 measures for reduction of salt and sugar contents in food. For example, initiatives for health education on salt and sugar reduction had been introduced at schools. As at to-date, more than 400 kindergartens and childcare centres participated in the initiative and pledged to provide children with healthy drinks, not to provide drinks with added sugar or relatively high sugar content. Other initiatives included introduction of the "Salt/Sugar" Label Scheme for Prepackaged Food Products ("the Scheme") to enhance transparency of information and allow consumers to easily identify the content of salt and sugar in prepackaged food products; encouraging restaurants to reduce salt and sugar, which was supported by over 900 restaurants so far; reformulating prepackaged food products to reduce the content of salt and sugar in food; and proactively taking forward public education and publicity etc.

12. DSFH(F)2 added that CRSS updated the sodium reduction target in light of the information on the dietary intake of salt among the general public in the annual Population Health Survey conducted by DH. The Administration had asked primary school lunch providers to reduce the sodium content of their lunchboxes. In 2017-2018 school year, the average sodium content of the lunch boxes for primary schools had met the sodium reduction target for 2018.

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Safety and stable supply of imported food products

13. Mr WU Chi-wai noted that after monitoring and testing the safety of food imported from Japan for some years since the Fukushima nuclear power plant accident, the Administration had relaxed the import control on some Japanese foods since 2018. He queried the need for having SPEO (Food) to follow up on the relevant work.

14. USFH replied that FHB had been monitoring closely the international development of food safety standards with timely updates on local food safety standards to harmonize with international standards so as to facilitate trade and ensure food safety. SPEO (Food) was responsible for a wide range of preparatory work including maintaining thorough communication and coordination with stakeholders, understanding the concerns of the trade, collating public's views as well as taking forward legislative work, etc. before update/amendment proposals were introduced.

15. In a consolidated response regarding the regulation of imported food, USFH and DSFH(F)2 advised that the Administration had been discussing and exchanging views with relevant Japanese authorities on import control on Japanese food since the 2011 Fukushima nuclear power plant accident. The Government relaxed the import control in 2018 by allowing the import of vegetables, fruits, milk, milk beverages and dried milk from Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba and Gunma into Hong Kong on conditions that radiation certificates issued by the Japanese authorities and exporter certificates should be accompanied with such food products. The Food Branch of FHB (under which the SPEO (Food) post was created) would maintain close communication with the Japanese authorities (including meeting twice every year) in respect of food importation arrangements with a view to refining the inspection work. Apart from Japan, the Food Branch would maintain liaison and cooperation with the Mainland (e.g. the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area ("GBA")) and other economies on matters relating to food safety, including exchange of views and discussions on issues such as food safety standards and import control measures. In response to the initiatives on promotion of production of high-quality, green non-staple food in GBA in recent years, FHB and CFS were working with other GBA cities on matters relating to the supply of such food to Hong Kong. Such work required the extensive involvement of SPEO (Food).

16. Mr SHIU Ka-chun opined that amid the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") outbreak, the Administration should step up efforts to monitor the safety of non-staple food from the Mainland. Given the alleged cases of local infection of COVID-19 resulting from handling imported food in recent days, Mr SHIU suggested that the Administration

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should introduce measures to inspect food safety compliance of food imported from other COVID-19 infected areas.

17. Mr SHIU Ka-fai expressed concern on the spread of COVID-19 in Hong Kong via imported food (e.g. packaging materials). He asked whether consideration would be given to conducting random sampling and testing on imported food from areas widely affected by COVID-19.

18. USFH responded that since the outbreak of COVID-19, FHB had been monitoring closely the development of the pandemic and keeping themselves abreast with relevant medical updates. While it was known that the virus was capable of human-to-human transmission through respiratory droplets, there was no evidence that the virus could multiply in food or food packaging, hence the risk of acquiring the virus through food packaging was considered to be very low in real-life situation. FHB would observe the long-adopted standards for monitoring the safety of imported food. Regarding the case referred to by members, the Centre for Health Protection had conducted epidemiological analysis and investigations on those cases. Besides, DH staff had collected environmental samples from the relevant godowns (including surfaces and goods the godown employees frequently came into contact with, as well as surfaces of packaged food products) for testing; negative test results had been returned for all such cases. DH also disseminated information on maintaining good personal hygiene to the public from time to time with a view to reducing the risk of them contracting the virus.

19. The Chairman remarked that the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong, which he was affiliated with, had been paying attention to the stability of food supply to Hong Kong (including food from the Mainland) and following up on the recent tight supply condition of pork from the Mainland. He suggested that FHB should strengthen communication with suppliers of imported food on food supplies to Hong Kong and enhance the transparency in dissemination of public information on food supply. Where necessary, assistance from relevant policy bureaux should be sought in liaising with Mainland food suppliers for a stable supply of food to Hong Kong with a view to minimizing the fluctuation in food supply and avoidance of disruption to the normal livelihood of members of the public.

20. DSFH(F)2 advised that amid the outbreak of COVID-19, FHB had closely liaised with food suppliers and relevant Mainland departments in respect of Mainland's food supply to Hong Kong with a view to ensuring a stable supply of food. FHB had received assistance from the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in the past for coordination with food suppliers in the Guangdong province to ensure a stable supply of

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food. Where there were cases of circulation of misinformation on food supply to Hong Kong or panic buying of food, FHB would disseminate public information on the supply of food to Hong Kong via different channels. Regarding live pig supply from the Mainland, responsible officers at the Food Branch had been liaising closely with Mainland suppliers.

21. Mr SHIU Ka-fai opined that FHB should strike a balance between safeguarding the safety of food supplied to Hong Kong and economic development. He remarked that given the drastic decrease in the supply of live pig and pork to Hong Kong amid the recent outbreak of African Swine Fever and COVID-19, members of the trade had been seriously affected, and prices for pork had surged. Mr SHIU suggested that the Administration should introduce measures to relax the import of pork from the Mainland. Besides, the Administration should make reference to the scheme for mutual recognition of health codes and COVID-19 nucleic acid testing results implemented in May by the Macao Government and the Zhuhai authorities and introduce it to Hong Kong to facilitate travelling and business operations.

22. USFH remarked that since the outbreak of COVID-19, FHB had been making efforts to balance public hygiene and the needs for economic activities. As the outbreak abated in March and April, the Administration gradually relaxed the restrictions imposed on the catering business and the scheduled premises. The Administration also explored with Mainland authorities ways to increasing the supply of live pigs in Hong Kong to alleviate the tight supply of pork. The Administration was making preparation for relaxing the inspection and quarantine requirements imposed on adjacent regions such as the Guangdong province and Macau within certain limits.

Monitoring the operation of the Government Laboratory and Centre for Food Safety

23. Mr WU Chi-wai queried the arrangement for making SPEO (Food) responsible for the housekeeping of the Government Laboratory and overseeing the implementation of IT systems improvement by CFS, and enquired about the details of these duties. Mr WU was concerned that engaging SPEO (Food) in the management structure and operation of the Government Laboratory and CFS could unnecessarily complicate their day-to-day operation.

24. DSFH(F)2 replied that prior to the creation of the SPEO (Food) post, Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 1("PAS(FH)(Food)1"), was responsible, under her supervision, for

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housekeeping the Government Laboratory including its day-to-day operation. SPEO (Food) would be mainly responsible for housekeeping the Government Laboratory and administration such as deployment of resources and manpower etc. While CFS would lead the improvement of its IT systems, given the scale of the project and that the project would be carried out in five phases, SPEO (Food) would provide policy support on matters relating to reviewing and improvement of the IT systems. CFS would consult the relevant Panel next week on improvement to the IT systems of CFS.

Policies on organic food

25. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the details of the duties of SPEO (Food) on formulation of policies in relation to organic food, and whether any targets had been set for the task.

26. DSFH(F)2 advised that organic certification services for the agriculture, fisheries and processing sector was currently provided by the Hong Kong Organic Resource Centre ("HKORC"). The Government would continue to allocate resources to and cooperate with HKORC in promoting organic certification.

Justifications for creating posts in the Administrative Officer grade and the Executive Officer grade

27. Mr WU Chi-wai noted that the duties of the SPEO (Food) post proposed to be retained covered a wide range of duties, a number of which were handled by Administrative Officer Staff Grade C ("AOSGC") officers, such as formulation of policy and review of legislation. He asked for justifications for creating a SPEO post when the post to be created had to deal with formulation of policy.

28. Mr Alvin YEUNG noted that most of the duties of the SPEO (Food) post involved policy formulation, which were similar to the duties of an officer in the Administrative Officer ("AO") grade. He was worried that the job natures of AO grade and Executive Officer ("EO") grade would become indistinct from each other. Mr YEUNG enquired if the Government planned to promote officers from the EO grade to take up duties of officers in the AO grade in the future and whether SPEOs had been arranged to take up AOSGC posts in Bureaux/Departments ("B/Ds").

29. Dr Fernando CHEUNG also enquired about the justifications for the arrangement under which SPEO (Food) was made responsible for formulation of a number of policies in relation to food safety. Given that some of those policies covered a wide range of subjects and required

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professional knowledge, Dr CHEUNG asked if relevant training would be provided for the officer.

30. Deputy Secretary for the Civil Service 1 ("DS(CS)1") replied that generally speaking, officers of the AO grade were mainly responsible for policy research and rendering support for policy formulation, while officers of the EO grade were responsible for administration and policy implementation. Given the increasingly complex process in the formulation and implementation of policies, the duties of both grades were, to a certain extent, interrelated. Decision could be made by relevant B/Ds for creation of either AOSGC posts or SPEO posts, both pitched at D2 level, in light of their respective operational needs and nature of the job. Similar arrangements were currently in place.

31. USFH pointed out that at present Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Food), Deputy Secretary for Food and Health (Food) 1 and DSFH(F)2 were primarily responsible for policy implementation in the Food Branch, while other officers under their supervision (including SPEO (Food)) were responsible for provision of administrative and policy support such as data collection for the purpose of policy research.

32. DSFH(F)2 added that considering the significant increase in the overall workload of the Food Branch in recent years, FHB considered that support given by PAS(FH)(Food)1 alone was not enough. Given the nature of the job, and after discussing with Civil Service Bureau ("CSB"), FHB considered it appropriate to arrange an officer from the EO grade to take up the relevant post, hence the proposal for retaining the SPEO (Food) post for a period of five years. Officers of the EO grade were mainly responsible for giving administrative and policy support. As such, when professional knowledge was required, assistance would be given by officers from the professional grade. For example, professionals from CFS would provide professional support to SPEO (Food) regarding food safety regulation.

Justifications for retaining the Senior Principal Executive Officer (Food) as a supernumerary post

33. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan opined that safeguarding food safety was important and enquired about the reasons for not making the SPEO (Food) post permanent. She also suggested that the Administration should step up enforcement on food labelling and enquired about the relevant initiatives for safeguarding food safety concluded by the incumbent SPEO (Food) since the creation of the post in 2017 and the work targets for the next five years.

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34. USFH replied that during consultation with the Panel, FHB had proposed making permanent this post. Given that some members found it inappropriate to do so at this stage, FHB put forth a revised proposal for retention of the SPEO (Food) post on a supernumerary basis for a period of five years.

35. Regarding the past duties of SPEO (Food), DSFH(F)2 advised that the incumbent officer had assisted in the exercise for amending the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) (Amendment) Regulation 2018, liaised closely with major food suppliers and Government bodies amid the COVID-19 outbreak for maintaining a stable supply of food in Hong Kong, and disseminated public information on the supply of food in a timely manner. Subject to retention of the post, SPEO (Food) would continue to render assistance on food supply and exercises on legislative amendment regarding food safety.

36. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the justifications for retaining the supernumerary SPEO (Food) post for a period of five years. Noting that the Administration had decided to implement a pay freeze for civil servants in 2020-2021 taking into account such factors as the state of Hong Kong's economy and the Government's fiscal position, etc., he enquired whether the Administration had any plans to introduce other measures to cut down expenses relating to the civil service, such as suspension of civil service recruitment exercises or the creation of permanent posts or retaining end-of-term supernumerary posts.

37. USFH reiterated that the original proposal of FHB was to make permanent the supernumerary SPEO (Food) post to handle long-term tasks. However, as some members opined that it was not appropriate to make the post permanent at this stage when the relevant Panel was consulted, FHB accepted members' views and submitted a proposal for retaining the SPEO (Food) post on a supernumerary basis for a period of five years.

38. DS(CS)1 responded that decision of the Chief Executive in Council for freezing the pay for civil servants was made in accordance with the established annual civil service pay adjustment mechanism. Regarding staffing proposals, a rigorous system was in place to examine staffing proposals for the directorate level. Each directorate staffing proposal would be examined by relevant bureaux, the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau and CSB prior to submission for the approval of the Legislative Council to ensure proper use of public resources.

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Voting on the item

39. There being no further questions from members, the Chairman put the item EC(2020-21)1 to vote. At the request of members, the Chairman ordered a division, and the division bell rang for five minutes. Sixteen members voted for the item and 7 against it. The Chairman declared that the Subcommittee agreed to recommend the item to FC for approval. The votes of individual members were as follows:

For

Mr WONG Ting-kwong	Ms Starry LEE
Mr WONG Kwok-kin	Mrs Regina IP
Mr Steven HO	Mr KWOK Wai-keung
Ms Elizabeth QUAT	Mr Martin LIAO
Mr POON Siu-ping	Dr CHIANG Lai-wan
Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok	Mr SHIU Ka-fai
Ms YUNG Hoi-yan	Dr Pierre CHAN
Mr CHAN Chun-ying	Mr Tony TSE
(16 members)	

Against

Mr WU Chi-wai	Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr KWOK Ka-ki	Dr Fernando CHEUNG
Mr Alvin YEUNG	Mr SHIU Ka-chun
Mr Jeremy TAM	
(7 members)	

40. No members requested that the item to be voted on separately at the relevant FC meeting.

EC(2020-21)3 Proposed creation of two permanent posts of one Chief Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (D1) and one Chief Electronics Engineer (D1) in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department upon approval by the Finance Committee to strengthen the regulation on the safety of railway services through an enhanced, more proactive and comprehensive monitoring regime

41. The Chairman remarked that the staffing proposal was to create the two permanent posts of one Chief Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (D1) and one Chief Electronics Engineer (D1), to be designated as Chief Engineer/Railways 3 ("CE/R3") and Chief Engineer/Railways 4 ("CE/R4") respectively in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

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("EMSD") upon approval by FC to strengthen the regulation on the safety of railway services through an enhanced, more proactive and comprehensive monitoring regime.

42. The Chairman pointed out that the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways had discussed this staffing proposal at the meeting on 6 December 2019. Some members had reservations about the proposal and enquired how creation of the two proposed chief engineer posts could strengthen regulation on railway safety. Some members requested the Administration to provide supplementary information to explain the cost-effectiveness of creating the two proposed directorate posts, the key performance indicators of the posts and how relevant staff could strengthen the regulation on railway safety. The Administration's response (LC Paper No. CB(1)324/19-20(01)) (Chinese version only) was circulated to all Members on 11 February 2020.

43. Pointing out the signal fault when the MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL") tested the new signalling system of the East Rail Line to which mixed mode operation was introduced, Mr Alvin YEUNG asked why the Administration had not given the public an account on the incident in a timely and proactive manner. Mr YEUNG enquired about the criteria adopted by the Administration and the management of MTRCL for giving public accounts on testing results or system failures, as well as how the two chief engineer posts proposed to be created could strengthen regulation on railway safety.

44. Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport)² advised that given the continuous expansion of the railway network and the ageing of facilities built in earlier years, a number of major asset replacement and modification projects had to be carried out by MTRCL in recent years, including upgrading and introducing new signalling systems. The CE/R3 and CE/R4 posts proposed to be created would be mainly responsible for the comprehensive audits of the asset management system and safety management system of MTRCL's entire railway system, monitoring the MTRCL's major asset replacement projects and regulating the safety of such projects, etc. The Government had all along disseminated information relating to the testing of the systems of MTRCL in a timely and proactive manner, and would brief the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways on the progress on upgrading the signalling systems of MTRCL.

45. Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (Acting) added that pre-commissioning testing on the signalling system aimed to identify potential issues for timely rectification with a view to ensuring the safety and reliability of the system. EMSD and the consulting agency it

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commissioned had monitored the testing of the signalling system on the East Rail Line and proposed that a series of stress tests be conducted to ensure compliance of the new signalling system with required specifications. Subsequent to the faults during the testing conducted on 23 and 25 May this year, EMSD had immediately asked MTRCL to stop testing on the signalling system, run a thorough check on the software and hardware of the relevant system, and review the adequacy of the workflow for carrying out testing.

46. The Chairman remarked that as some members were still waiting for their turn to ask questions, the Subcommittee would continue the discussion on this item at the meeting on 17 June 2020.

47. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:29 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
9 July 2020