

立法會  
*Legislative Council*

LC Paper No. CB(2)1325/19-20

Ref : CB2/H/5/19

**House Committee of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 7th meeting  
held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex  
at 2:30 pm on Friday, 3 July 2020**

**Members present :**

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP  
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS  
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP  
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS  
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP  
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 Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP  
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding  
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP  
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH  
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP  
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN  
Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH  
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP  
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP  
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS  
Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

**Members absent :**

Hon James TO Kun-sun  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH  
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon Kenneth LEUNG  
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP  
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki  
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang  
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Hon IP Kin-yuen  
Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan  
Hon Alvin YEUNG  
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon LAM Cheuk-ting  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun  
Hon Tanya CHAN  
Hon HUI Chi-fung  
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai  
Hon KWONG Chun-yu  
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho

**Clerk in attendance :**

Miss Flora TAI Clerk to the House Committee

**Staff in attendance :**

Mr Kenneth CHEN, SBS	Secretary General
Ms Connie FUNG	Legal Adviser
Miss Odelia LEUNG	Deputy Secretary General
Ms Anita SIT	Assistant Secretary General 1
Ms Dora WAI	Assistant Secretary General 3
Mr Matthew LOO	Assistant Secretary General 4
Mr Timothy TSO	Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1
Mr YICK Wing-kin	Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 2
Mr Bonny LOO	Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 3
Ms Amy YU	Principal Council Secretary 1
Ms Hallie CHAN	Head (Public Information)
Ms Alice LEUNG	Chief Council Secretary (2)6
Ms Wendy KAN	Assistant Legal Adviser 6
Ms Clara TAM	Assistant Legal Adviser 9
Miss Connie AU	Senior Council Secretary (2)6
Mr Richard WONG	Senior Council Secretary (2)8
Miss Michelle TANG	Council Secretary (2)6
Ms Anna CHEUNG	Senior Legislative Assistant (2)3
Mr Arthur KAN	Legislative Assistant (2)7

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*(When the meeting commenced, the Chairman noted that colour paperboards were placed at the seats of some Members who were not present at the meeting and instructed Secretariat staff to remove them.)*

**I. Confirmation of minutes of meeting**

**Minutes of the 6th meeting held on 26 June 2020**

*(LC Paper No. CB(2)1280/19-20)*

The minutes were confirmed.

## II. Matters arising

### **Report by the Chairman on her meeting with the Chief Secretary for Administration**

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2. The Chairman said that she and the Deputy Chairman had conveyed to the Chief Secretary for Administration ("CS") the views and concerns raised by Members on various issues at the last House Committee ("HC") meeting held on 26 June 2020. She informed Members of CS's responses as follows:

- (a) in order to launch the "health code", the Administration was actively conducting a lot of preparatory work, and it was hoped that the pilot scheme could shortly be implemented and announced. If necessary, CS would consider briefing Members on the progress of the relevant scheme at the next HC meeting on 10 July 2020;
- (b) as regards the eligibility of persons to be exempted from the 14-day quarantine requirement, in order to balance the needs for combating the epidemic, reviving the economy and designing an effective pilot scheme, the number of persons to be exempted must be kept within a manageable scope. The main considerations included whether the trips concerned were necessary and in the interest of Hong Kong's economic development;
- (c) the Administration had announced that the use of Chun Yeung Estate in Fo Tan as a quarantine centre would cease in end July this year, and the Housing Authority had estimated that the first batch of the prospective tenants of the Estate could move in by late August; and
- (d) as regards the lowering of the eligible age of elderly persons under the Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities ("the Transport Fare Concession Scheme") from 65 to 60, the Labour and Welfare Bureau would announce the details of the way forward as soon as possible upon consideration of the results of the consultancy study.

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3. Ms Elizabeth QUAT, Mr CHAN Hak-kan, Mr Steven HO and Mr Holden CHOW expressed disappointment that the Administration had not yet announced the specific date for implementing Hong Kong's "health code" system, the relevant quota of the system, or measures for lowering the costs of viral tests. These Members were of the view that apart from considering the needs of the business sector, the Administration should also give due regard to the needs of the general public travelling between Hong Kong and the Mainland, e.g. visiting their families, going to work, seeking medical consultation, and attending funerals, etc. Ms QUAT and Mr HO also reiterated their concern about the high costs of viral tests conducted in Hong Kong, and Ms QUAT suggested that Hong Kong citizens should be allowed to conduct such tests in the Mainland cities. Mr CHAN pointed out that there had been public outrage over the delayed implementation of Hong Kong's "health code" system. He and Mr HO urged CS to brief Members on the relevant progress and details at the earliest possible time. These Members hoped that CS would attend a special HC meeting.

4. Mr KWOK Wai-keung considered that the epidemic situation in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao had relatively subsided and residents in the three places had a high awareness of the preventive measures against the epidemic. Given the high public demand for reopening the border, Mr KWOK considered that the Administration should put forward relevant measures within this month.

5. Mr SHIU Ka-fai noted that the Administration had launched the Employment Support Scheme under the second round of the Anti-epidemic Fund, which allowed employers to apply for wage subsidies for their employees who were currently making contributions to Mandatory Provident Fund ("MPF") Schemes. However, employees who were aged over 65 were not required to participate in MPF Schemes. Therefore, Mr SHIU considered that the coverage of the wage subsidies should be extended to those employees who were aged over 65. Otherwise, when requiring the relevant employers to provide an undertaking not to make redundancies during the subsidy period, those employees who were ineligible for the wage subsidies should not be included in the calculation of the number of employees on the payroll.

6. Both Mr Steven HO and Mr Holden CHOW said that many elderly persons and persons with disabilities were concerned about the decision of the Electoral Affairs Commission not to arrange "a priority queue" for elderly electors and electors with disabilities to obtain the ballot papers

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and cast their votes in the 2020 Legislative Council General Election. In the view of Mr HO and Mr CHOW, given the long queues of electors at some polling stations during the 2019 District Council Ordinary Election, the Administration should put forward facilitation measures for elderly electors and electors with disabilities so as to ensure the fairness of the 2020 Legislative Council General Election. Mr HO and Mr CHOW considered that CS should explain to Members how the Administration would address the requests of those elderly electors and electors with disabilities when CS attended a special HC meeting.

7. Mr Vincent CHENG said that since the Chief Executive had made the relevant announcement in January 2020, many citizens aged between 60 and 64 looked forward to benefitting from the Transport Fare Concession Scheme. He hoped that the relevant measure could be implemented within this year and requested the Administration to provide a specific date of implementation.

8. The Chairman said that while HC should not deal with issues which fell squarely within the purviews of the respective Panels, as the term of the Sixth Legislative Council was coming to an end, she allowed Members to raise their issues of concern at the meeting. She added that Members had time and again raised concerns about Hong Kong's "health code" system, the relief measures under the Anti-epidemic Fund, and the Transport Fare Concession Scheme, but CS had yet to give a response satisfactory to the public. She assured Members that their views and concerns expressed at this meeting would be relayed to CS, and she would again invite CS to attend a special HC meeting.

### **III. Business for the Council meeting of 15 July 2020**

#### Questions

9. The Chairman said that 22 questions (six oral and 16 written) had been scheduled for the meeting (set out in LC Paper No. CB(3)588/19-20).

#### Government Motion

10. The Chairman said that no notice had been received yet.

### Members' Motions

11. The Chairman said that Members' motions which had stood over from previous Council meetings would be dealt with at the meeting.

### Report of HC on Consideration of Subsidiary Legislation

12. The Chairman invited Members to note the list tabled at the meeting (LC Paper No. CB(3)600/19-20), which contained six items of subsidiary legislation the period for amendment of which would expire at the Council meeting of 15 July 2020. She reminded Members to indicate their intention by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 7 July 2020, should they wish to speak on any of those items of subsidiary legislation.

## **IV. Reports of Bills Committees and subcommittees**

### **(a) Report of the Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019**

*(LC Paper No. CB(2)1267/19-20)*

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13. Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Chairman of the Bills Committee, briefed Members on the deliberations of the Bills Committee and its decision to discontinue its work as detailed in its report. He said that the Bills Committee had held nine meetings to discuss with the Administration the general merits and principles of the Bill, and had received oral representations from 133 organizations and 140 individuals at three of these meetings. The Bills Committee had also received over 11 500 written submissions.

14. Mr KWOK further said that as at early June 2020, the Bills Committee had focused its discussion primarily on the merits and demerits of prohibiting and restricting heat-not-burn products, and had not yet started clause-by-clause examination of the Bill. In addition, some members of the Bills Committee had indicated that a number of amendments would be proposed to the Bill for consideration of the Bills Committee. Having regard to the progress of the scrutiny work of the Bill, some members of the Bills Committee considered it practically impossible that the scrutiny of the Bill could be completed in time before the prorogation of the current legislative term. Some other members of the Bills Committee, however, held the view that the Bills Committee should endeavour to complete the scrutiny of the Bill by holding more meetings as far as possible. After voting, the Bills Committee decided to discontinue its scrutiny work on the Bill.

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15. Members agreed that having regard to the decision of the Bills Committee, the Bills Committee be dissolved.

(b) **Third and final report of the Subcommittee on Subsidiary Legislation Relating to the Prevention and Control of Disease**  
(*LC Paper No. CB(2)1268/19-20*)

16. Ms CHAN Hoi-yan, Chairman of the Subcommittee, briefed Members on the deliberations of the Subcommittee as detailed in its report. Members noted that the Subcommittee had no objection to the four items of subsidiary legislation.

(c) **Report of the Subcommittee on Property Management Services Ordinance (Commencement) Notice 2020 and Property Management Services (Licensing and Related Matters) Regulation**  
(*LC Paper No. CB(2)1282/19-20*)

17. Mr Holden CHOW, Chairman of the Subcommittee, briefed Members on the deliberations of the Subcommittee as detailed in its report. Members noted that the Subcommittee had no objection to the two items of subsidiary legislation.

**V. Position on Bills Committees and subcommittees**  
(*LC Paper No. CB(2)1281/19-20*)

18. The Chairman informed Members that two Bills Committees which had decided to discontinue their work and two subcommittees under HC which had completed their work would report to HC at its next meeting on 10 July 2020. Besides, four subcommittees on policy issues under Panels had completed their work and would report to the relevant Panels, and two subcommittees on policy issues under Panels were still in action.

**VI. Any other business**

19. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:51 pm.