

立法會
Legislative Council

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LC Paper No. CB(2)923/19-20
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Monday, 20 January 2020, at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex

- Members present** :
- Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH(Chairman)
 - Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Deputy Chairman)
 - Hon Claudia MO
 - Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
 - Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
 - Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
 - Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
 - Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
 - Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
 - Hon IP Kin-yuen
 - Hon Alvin YEUNG
 - Hon CHU Hoi-dick
 - Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP
 - Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
 - Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
 - Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP
 - Hon SHIU Ka-chun
 - Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
 - Dr Hon Pierre CHAN
 - Hon HUI Chi-fung
 - Hon KWONG Chun-yu
 - Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP
 - Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS
- Member attending** :
- Hon James TO Kun-sun
- Members absent** :
- Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
 - Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin

Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP

Public Officers : Item IV
attending

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Edward YU Kin-keung,
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Recreation
and Sport)²

Miss Stella CHANG Lai-chu
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Special
Duties)

Mrs Doris FOK LEE Sheung-ling
Assistant Director (Leisure Services)¹
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Simon LIU Wai-shing
Assistant Director (Leisure Services)³
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Miss Rochelle LAU Shuk-fan
Assistant Director (Libraries and Development)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Michael CHIU Yat-on
Chief Executive Officer (Planning)¹
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms Linda CHEUNG Yuk-shan
Chief Executive Officer (Planning)²
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Miss Amy CHAN Yuen-man, JP
District Officer (Sha Tin)
Home Affairs Department

Mr Simon LAU Hon-wai
Chief Engineer/Strategic Studies
Transport Department

Mr Edward TSE Cheong-wo, JP
Project Director 3
Architectural Services Department

Mr Gary WONG Shek-wah
Senior Project Manager 325
Architectural Services Department

Mr Nevin LAM Yiu-hon
Senior Project Manager 323
Architectural Services Department

Ms Jane AU YEUNG Lai-sze
Senior Project Manager 327
Architectural Services Department

Item V

Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Sandy CHEUNG Pui-shan
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Culture)2

Miss Eve TAM Mei-yee
Assistant Director (Heritage and Museums)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms Betty AU Yuk-fong
Chief Manager (Film & Cultural Exchange)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Edward TSE Kin-fai
Head (Conservation)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Clerk in attendance : Ms Joanne MAK
Chief Council Secretary (2) 3

Staff in attendance : Miss Connie AU
Senior Council Secretary (2) 6

Ms Jasmine TAM
Senior Council Secretary (2) 3

Mr Dennis HO
Council Secretary (2) 3

Mrs Fanny TSANG
Legislative Assistant (2) 3

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I. Election of Deputy Chairman

The Chairman called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship to fill the vacancy arising from the cessation of Mr AU Nok-hin, former Deputy Chairman, to be a Legislative Council Member since 17 December 2019. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen was nominated by Mr Alvin YEUNG and the nomination was seconded by Ms Claudia MO. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen accepted the nomination.

2. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Mr CHAN Chi-chuen elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the remainder of the 2019-2020 session.

II. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting

3. Members noted that no information paper had been issued since the last meeting.

III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)507/19-20(01) and (02)]

4. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 10 February 2020 at 4:30 pm:

- (a) Youth Hostel Scheme - construction works by the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association for the youth hostel project in Jordan; and
- (b) progress of review of the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344) and related administrative measures.

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(Post-meeting note: Members were informed vide LC Paper No. CB(2)587/19-20 issued on 5 February 2020 that the Panel meeting on 10 February 2020 would be rescheduled to a later date upon consideration of the latest situation of the coronavirus disease 2019 epidemic.)

IV. Sports and recreation facility projects (amenity complex in Area 103, Ma On Shan — pre-construction activities; redevelopment of Kowloon Tsai Swimming Pool Complex; and development of open space at Hoi Fai Road, Tai Kok Tsui)

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)507/19-20(03) and (04)]

5. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)507/19-20(03)].

Discussion

Proposed pre-construction activities for the amenity complex in Area 103, Ma On Shan

6. The Deputy Chairman said that according to his understanding, the Sha Tin District Council ("DC") had suggested that a public market should be provided in the proposed amenity complex to meet the needs of local residents. He asked why a public market was not included in the proposed project scope and enquired about details of the fee-paying public carpark to be provided in the proposed amenity complex. SHA and the District Officer (Sha Tin) ("DO(Sha Tin)") responded that the Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee of the Sha Tin DC had been consulted and it was supportive of the proposed amenity complex in general. Some of the suggestions put forth by members of Sha Tin DC had already been incorporated into the proposed project where appropriate. DO(Sha Tin) added that the provision of public markets was under the purview of another bureau. SHA undertook to provide the reason(s) for not providing a public market in the proposed amenity complex in consultation with the bureau concerned.

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(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)897/19-20(01) on 29 April 2020.)

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7. The Chief Engineer/Strategic Studies of the Transport Department said that the existing site was currently used as a short-term tenancy car park with about 300 parking spaces which would be terminated upon construction of the proposed amenity complex. To meet the assessed parking demand in the area, a public car park with about 400 parking spaces, comprising about 300 private car parking spaces, 65 commercial vehicle parking spaces and some motorcycle parking spaces, would be provided subject to the final design of the proposed amenity complex.

8. Mr MA Fung-kwok said that while he had no objection to merging the offices of the Technical Processing Unit, the Book Sorting Unit and the Book Processing Centre of the Hong Kong Public Libraries ("HKPL") into a single one, he questioned the need for the New Book Express Service Point in the proposed amenity complex as he considered that new books should be distributed to individual public libraries for easy access by library users. He suggested that consideration might be given to providing a public library instead of the New Book Centre in the proposed amenity complex. The Assistant Director (Libraries and Development) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("AD(L&D)/LCSD") responded that the New Book Centre would play a pivotal role in the public library system by centrally processing and distributing library materials, including new library materials and library materials returned by patrons, in a one-stop fashion. All processing procedures of new library materials would be completed at the New Book Centre and the library materials would be shelf-ready when they reached individual libraries, thereby shortening their turn-around time. SHA added that the New Book Centre would take up a lot of space and hence could not be accommodated in any existing public libraries. AD(L&D)/LCSD explained that the New Book Express Service Point in the New Book Centre would be a new library facility provided with a display area of new books for lending and a reading zone for readers to browse and borrow new books. As copies of new books would also be made available in other public libraries in addition to the New Book Express Service Point, the service to other public libraries would not be affected. AD(L&D)/LCSD further said that HKPL had taken on board the suggestions from Sha Tin DC and it would arrange a variety of activities at the New Book Express Service Point to promote the reading culture and further cultivate the love and care for books. Activities like subject talks, workshops and docent tours introducing new book processing would be held for the purpose.

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9. Mr SHIU Ka-fai sought information on the construction cost of the New Book Centre. He said that the reading habits of the public had changed significantly in recent years and many people would browse on digital devices instead of reading physical books. Mr SHIU urged HKPL to take into consideration and respond promptly to this change when developing and maintaining its library collection. AD(L&D)/LCSD responded that the construction cost of the New Book Centre would only be available upon completion of the pre-construction activities for the proposed amenity complex. She said that in view of the increasing popularity of digitized reading resources, HKPL had proactively strengthened the acquisition of digital library materials. That said, AD(L&D)/LCSD pointed out that children books continued to be fairly popular among readers and the number of loans of children books amounted to about half of the overall number of book loans. In response to Mr SHIU's further enquiry on the allocation of library resources, AD(L&D)/LCSD said that in determining the quantity of library materials to be acquired, HKPL would take into account various factors including the usage. AD(L&D)/LCSD added that it was anticipated that about 800 000 print materials would be acquired in the coming year of which 76% would be in Chinese (approximately 300 000 books for adults and 260 000 books for children).

Proposed redevelopment of the Kowloon Tsai Swimming Pool ("KTSP") Complex

10. Pointing out that residents in the Kowloon City District had longed for a heated swimming pool, Mr Vincent CHENG expressed concern about the long time needed for implementation of the proposed redevelopment of the KTSP Complex. He said that as the Morse Park Swimming Pool had been temporarily closed for conversion of its secondary pool into an indoor heated pool, the Administration should avoid the closure of the two aforesaid venues concurrently for an unduly long period of time as this might affect the holding of swimming gala/activities by schools and sports organizations. Mr CHENG also asked why KTSP had to be redeveloped instead of modifying an existing pool into a heated pool. Noting that the proposed provision of a heated pool at the Pao Yue Kong Swimming Pool Complex would cost about \$357 million only, Mr Christopher CHEUNG was concerned why the proposed redevelopment project would cost as much as \$1,120 million.

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11. The Assistant Director (Leisure Services)1 of LCSD ("AD(LS)1/LCSD") responded that KTSP, which commenced operation in 1964, required redevelopment. She explained that not only the pool facilities were dilapidated despite regular maintenance, but also the main pool did not meet the international standard. AD(LS)1/LCSD pointed out that KTSP and the Morse Park Swimming Pool were located in the Kowloon City District and the Wong Tai Sin District respectively, and the main pool, diving pool and teaching pools of Morse Park Swimming Pool were scheduled to be reopened in the coming summer before the commencement of the proposed redevelopment of the KTSP Complex. The Project Director 3 of the Architectural Services Department ("PD3/ASD") explained that the estimated project costs of the proposed provision of a heated pool at the Pao Yue Kong Swimming Pool Complex and the proposed redevelopment of the KTSP Complex were different because the two projects were substantially different in scale. The redevelopment of the KTSP Complex involved the demolition of the existing KTSP and re-provisioning of a 50 metres indoor heated main pool, an outdoor training pool, an outdoor leisure pool, an outdoor sun-bathing area and other ancillary facilities. PD3/ASD said that the estimated project cost of the proposed redevelopment project was broadly comparable with similar projects, such as the redevelopment of the Kwun Tong Swimming Pool Complex and the construction of a swimming pool complex in Area 107, Tin Shui Wai. PD3/ASD further said that in estimating the duration of the proposed redevelopment project, the Administration had taken into account the need to minimize disruption to users of the nearby Kowloon Tsai Park and the need to improve the access road connected to Inverness Road during the implementation of the project.

12. Mr SHIU Ka-fai sought information on the opening schedule of KTSP after redevelopment. He was gravely concerned that in recent years, some public swimming pools had to be closed temporarily due to inadequate lifeguards. Mr Christopher CHEUNG considered that the closure period of KTSP for annual maintenance should be shortened. AD(LS)1/LCSD responded that upon completion of the proposed redevelopment project, the outdoor swimming facilities of KTSP would be opened during the swimming season while the indoor heated pool would be opened all year round except for scheduled maintenance which would usually be carried out during the winter season in order to minimize impact on users. AD(LS)1/LCSD said that 80 civil service lifeguard posts had been created in LCSD in 2019-2020 to replace 80 non-civil service contract ("NCSC") seasonal lifeguard positions in an effort to improve the stability of the

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life-saving workforce while seasonal lifeguards would continue to be recruited to augment the lifeguard manpower during the swimming season. SHA and AD(LS)1/LCSD said that LCSD would enhance the provision of training courses in lifesaving and would undertake various measures to ensure there would be adequate supply of lifeguards to provide services at public swimming pools in the long run. Mr SHIU was strongly of the view that to address the manpower shortage problem, the remuneration package of lifeguards should be enhanced to maintain its attractiveness. At the request of Mr SHIU, SHA undertook to provide information on the number of shortfall of civil service lifeguards and NCSC seasonal lifeguards in the past year as well as the number of days of full closure or partial closure of public swimming pools due to inadequate lifeguards in the past year.

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(Post-meeting note: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)897/19-20(01) on 29 April 2020.)

13. Dr Fernando CHEUNG welcomed the provision of a ramp to allow easy access into the water body of the training pool for persons with disabilities under the proposed redevelopment project and suggested that similar provision should be made for the indoor heated swimming pool in the proposed amenity complex in Area 103, Ma On Shan. In addition, family changing rooms with individual toilet compartments/shower cubicles should be provided in public swimming pools to facilitate the use of these rooms by families in need. PD3/ASD responded that newly-built public swimming pools would be equipped with family changing rooms. He said that Dr CHEUNG's suggestions would be taken into consideration where appropriate during the detailed design stage of the projects concerned.

Proposed development of the open space at Hoi Fai Road, Tai Kok Tsui

14. Mr James TO and Mr Vincent CHENG expressed support for the proposed development of the open space at Hoi Fai Road and they urged for its early implementation. Mr CHENG hoped that more information on the design of the children's playground could be provided when the project was submitted to PWSC for consideration. He said that the odour problem in the adjacent Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter should be addressed in parallel with the proposed project. AD(LS)1/LCSD responded that innovative, interesting and inclusive play equipment suitable for children of different ages would be provided in the children's playground. The detailed design of

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the proposed project, including the children's playground, would be prepared by the contractor upon commissioning of the proposed project. AD(LS)1/LCSD said that Mr CHENG's comments regarding the odour issue would be relayed to the relevant department(s) for consideration. PD3/ASD added that ASD would follow up with the department(s) concerned as appropriate.

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15. After discussion, the Chairman concluded that members raised no objection to the submission of the above three funding proposals to PWSC for consideration.

V. Preservation of Hong Kong's film heritage by the Hong Kong Film Archive

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)507/19-20(05) and (06)]

16. SHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(2)507/19-20(05)]. With the aid of a video presentation, the Head (Conservation) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("Head(C)/LCSD") briefed members on the work of the Hong Kong Film Archive ("the Archive") in digitizing and restoring old Hong Kong movies.

17. Members in general welcomed the initiative to speed up the digitization of the Archive's film collection. However, Mr Vincent CHENG was concerned that even with the allocation of \$20 million to the Archive for such purpose, the Archive could only digitize 50 film titles each year and it would still take a long time to complete the digitization of the Archive's current collection of some 4 000 film titles. He enquired about the criteria for prioritizing the film titles for digitization. Mr SHIU Ka-chun enquired about the assessment criteria for the Archive's collection items and whether documentary films, cult films and films on sensitive or political issues would be considered. The Deputy Chairman requested for a breakdown of the use of the \$20 million allocation.

18. The Assistant Director (Heritage and Museums) of LCSD ("AD(H&M)/LCSD") responded that with the additional funding of \$20 million, the Archive would be able to digitize 50 film titles each year, which was more than doubled the number of film titles that the Archive could digitize each year before (i.e. 20 film titles). And by the end of 2023-2024,

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the number of digital films in the Archive's collection would increase from 210 to 460 titles. AD(H & M)/LCSD said that the film inspection and repair work had to be conducted in-house as there were no such service providers in the market. In addition, only around five film laboratories were available in Hong Kong and overseas that could provide digitization service for about 30 films in total a year for the Archive. Owing to the high cost and the risk of loss and damage to the celluloid films in delivering the films to and from the Archive, in-house digitization was preferred where possible.

19. AD(H&M)/LCSD further said that the Archive was dedicated to preserving Hong Kong's treasured film heritage. All Hong Kong films would be considered for acquisition by the Archive according to the established collection acquisition policy. In digitizing the films, priority would be given to film titles with only a sole copy in the Archive's collection and to celluloid film in unsatisfactory conditions that demanded urgent preservation. In addition, films of particular significance, such as those in the "100 Must-See Hong Kong Movies" would be accorded priority for digitization. AD(H & M)/LCSD pointed out that of the \$20 million allocation, about \$3.75 million would be used for engaging additional manpower to assist in the film inspection and repair work, \$11.25 million would be used for commissioning the film laboratories to provide film digitization service and \$5 million would be used for procuring information technology equipment for storing and managing files of the digitized films.

20. Mr MA Fung-kwok was of the view that the pace of digitization was not satisfactory. He said that while old films should warrant priority digitization, newer productions such as those in the 80s and 90s should also be digitized in parallel as it would take less time and cost less to digitize celluloid films which were in comparably better conditions. Mr MA suggested that while some film companies would digitize their own productions, consideration should also be given to acquiring the movies in digital format from these companies directly. He added that to his understanding, some film archives in the Mainland had a good collection of old Hong Kong films. He suggested that the Archive should collaborate with such film archives to enrich the Archive's collection and enhance its preservation work. Mr MA said that some members of the trade had expressed concern about the conditions imposed by the Archive when

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tendering out the film digitization service.

21. AD(H & M)/LCSD responded that 210 film titles in the Archive's current collection were available in digital format, of which 94 were acquired from film companies and the rest digitized by the Archive over the years. The Archive would continue to proactively liaise with the film companies with a view to soliciting their support in donating their digitized films to the Archive. She said that the Archive had recently signed a memorandum of understanding with the Shanghai Film Museum and the Shanghai Film Archive respectively to strengthen the mutual cooperation in film conservation, programming and professional exchanges. AD(H&M)/LCSD further said that the Administration would consider Mr MA Fung-kwok's suggestions where appropriate. AD(H&M)/LCSD added that the Archive had not encountered any major difficulties in tendering out the film digitization service. In response to the further enquiry of Mr MA, Head(C)/LCSD said that the scanning resolution currently adopted by the Archive was 2K but a higher resolution might be considered for adoption in future where appropriate.

22. Noting that the Administration was exploring the possibility of collaborating with local tertiary institutions or the Vocational Training Council ("VTC") to offer film preservation courses, the Chairman, Mr MA Fung-kwok and the Deputy Chairman expressed a similar concern about the career prospects of the graduates as celluloid films had already become obsolete with the emergence of digital cinema. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman asked if the Archive would give priority in recruiting the graduates of those courses. The Chairman considered that it would help attract new talents into the field of film preservation if the graduates had better career prospects.

23. AD(H&M)/LCSD responded that although additional resources could help speed up the digitization pace, the shortage of technical manpower had to be addressed in the long run. She said that the Hong Kong film industry had an accumulated production of more than 10 000 film titles over the course of a century and the Archive's current celluloid film collection of about 4 000 film titles would continue to grow. In order to groom a new generation of film conservators for the Archive, the possibility of offering film preservation courses in collaboration with local tertiary institutions or

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VTC was being explored. Graduates of those courses could find job opportunities not only in the Archive but also in film laboratories and film companies. AD(H&M)/LCSD said that the Archive's Conservation Unit was currently staffed by three Assistant Curators, eight Laboratory Technicians as well as four film technicians and some of these positions were created with the \$20 million allocation. Through on-the-job training as well as training and internship programme at film archives abroad, a pool of in-house experts could be trained up to provide long-term and sustainable manpower support to the Archive's film preservation work as well as pave the way for succession of film expertise. Creation of additional positions within the Archive might be considered if extra funding was available in future. In response to the Deputy Chairman's enquiry, AD(H&M)/LCSD said that the entry requirements of the Archive's Laboratory Technician III were Level 2 or above in five subjects in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (one of which must be Chemistry plus another one in Science), or equivalent.

24. Mr Vincent CHENG and Mr SHIU Ka-chun asked in what way the public could benefit from the Archive's digitized films and its film collection. AD(H & M)/LCSD responded that the Archive had been promoting Hong Kong's film culture through making more precious old Hong Kong movies accessible to audiences both local and worldwide and to this end, a variety of thematic exhibitions, screening programmes and educational activities were organized by the Archive. She said that about 160 screening programmes, 20 seminars and 40 post-screening discussions were organized by the Archive each year in addition to various thematic exhibitions. The Archive was also planning to screen 30 recently digitized films by phases in 2020-2021. That apart, the Archive would liaise with the donors of the films concerned with a view to make available the digitized films in the Resource Centre of the Archive for on-site viewing by the public upon reservation. For selected restored films and subject to the consent of the donors concerned, the Archive would also publish DVD/Blu-ray discs for purchase by the public. AD(H & M)/LCSD added that the Archive's film collection might also be loaned to local and overseas organizations in furtherance of film culture. In Hong Kong or any part of the world, very few cinemas could project celluloid film prints and as such the digitized film of old Hong Kong movies would facilitate screening outside of the Archive.

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25. In response to members' enquiries on copyright issues, the Chief Manager (Film & Cultural Exchange) of LCSD explained that the copyright of the films donated to the Archive belonged to the donors. The screening of such films or the publication of the digitized version of the restored films had to obtain the prior consent of the donors concerned. That said, the use of the digitized version of the restored films by third parties would be subject to the consent of the Archive.

VI. Any other business

26. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:15 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
5 May 2020