

政府總部
民政事務局

香港添馬添美道二號
政府總部西翼十二樓



GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
HOME AFFAIRS BUREAU

12/TH FLOOR, WEST WING,
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
2 TIM MEI AVENUE,
TAMAR,
HONG KONG.

本函檔號 Our Ref: HAB/R&S 4035/1/3
來函檔號 Your Ref: CB2/PL/HA

電話號碼 Tel. No.: 3509 8124
傳真號碼 Fax No.: 2519 7404

6 August 2020

Ms Joanne MAK
Clerk to the Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Mak,

Panel on Home Affairs
Motions passed at the meeting on 13 July 2020

At the meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs (the Panel) on 13 July 2020, Members passed three motions under agenda item II “Hong Kong Football Association Strategic Plan”. Our response is set out below.

We reported the Vision 2025 Strategic Plan (V2025 Plan) of the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) to the Panel through LC Paper No. CB(2)1317/19-20(01). As set out in the paper, the HKFA’s V2025 Plan covers initiatives for the technical development of football, which are supported by funding from the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC)¹. The Government agrees that the HKFA should continue to improve the development of young players and promote football in the community.

The HAB has accepted the recommendation of the Football Task Force (FTF) and the Sports Commission to grant in-principle support to some football development initiatives. These initiatives mostly focus on development of young players and continuous capacity building in football professionals,

¹ The funding from the HKJC will support the HKFA’s work in promoting football in the community, covering grassroots and youth football, women’s and girls’ football, futsal, coach development, referee development, etc.; while the subvention from the LCSD is mainly used for the HKFA’s football development programmes (including squad training, overseas competitions and School Sports Programme), venue rental support and the daily office expenses and some of the staff costs.

including –

- (a) support to clubs on youth training;
- (b) introduction of the PYL;
- (c) introduction of the education grant for professional players;
- (d) implementation of referee development programmes;
- (e) implementation of coach development programmes; and
- (f) promotion of the Hong Kong Team (including the men's, women's and futsal teams) and the HKPL.

The HKFA is required to submit the details of these initiatives, including justifications, implementation plans, performance targets and indicators, to the HAB to earmark funding. The total funding sought by the HKFA for these initiatives with in-principle support is \$12.75 million. However, the final amount to be earmarked by the HAB for these initiatives will be subject to the FTF's review of the HKFA's submission. Furthermore, the HAB will earmark around \$1.07 million to support specific football development initiatives, including training workshop for Hong Kong Team coaches, overseas training programmes for women's football coaches, training for volunteers and football fraud detection and monitoring services.

To ensure the effective use of public funding to the HKFA, the HKFA should develop appropriate performance targets and indicators for the initiatives covered by the HAB's funding for us to monitor the HKFA's progress in its V2025 Plan. The performance targets and indicators would be set out in the funding agreement between the HAB and the HKFA. The HAB would consider reducing the amount earmarked for the HKFA or shortening the cycle of funding should there be significant shortfalls in compliance and/or fulfilment of performance targets/indicators with a view to enhancing the financial leverage to induce the desired changes. The HAB has also reduced the annual funding earmarked for funded posts of the HKFA from around \$18.5 million in 2019-20 under the Five-year Strategic Plan to around \$15.6 million annually under the V2025 Plan. Besides, the HKFA is required to submit half-yearly reports on its progress of the performance targets and indicators to the HAB. The HAB will conduct a review of the V2025 Plan by end-2022.

The HKFA is an independent legal entity established under the Companies Ordinance. The HKFA's Board of Directors is formed by election according to its Articles of Association. Persons who wish to join the Board of Directors should solicit nomination and votes accordingly. The current Board of Directors is composed of persons with various professional background, including those with football expertise and linked with football clubs. In addition, the FTF has been urging the HKFA to enhance its communications

and build a closer relationship with stakeholders. Under the V2025 Plan, the HKFA would strengthen its communications with fans, such as holding meetings and exchanges. The FTF has advised the HKFA that in formulating strategies and tactics, it should consult stakeholders and report their views to the Board for consideration when discussing the relevant items. The FTF has also requested the HKFA to report its work on stakeholder engagement and collaboration in its reports to the HAB. Member's proposal on reforming the Board of Directors of the HKFA will be brought to the attention of the HKFA for its consideration.

We have already conveyed Members' suggestions on football development and reform of the HKFA's Board of Directors to the HKFA for its consideration.

Yours sincerely,



(Paul CHENG)
for Secretary for Home Affairs