

Ref: CB2/R/2/20

LC Paper No. CB(2)586/20-21

Position Report on Bills Committees and subcommittees (as at 5 January 2021)

Summary	1.	Number of Bills Committees in action	:	5	(see <u>List A</u> for details)
	2.	Number of vacant slots of Bills Committee	:	11	
	3.	Number of bill pending decision of House Committee	:	1	(see <u>List B</u> for details)
	4.	Subcommittee on Members' Remuneration and Operating Expenses Reimbursement	:		(see <u>List C</u> for details)
	5.	Number of subcommittee on subsidiary legislation/draft subsidiary legislation/other instruments in action	:	1	(see <u>List D</u> for details)
	6.	Number of subcommittees under Panels in action	:	10	(see <u>List E</u> for details)
	7.	Number of subcommittees on policy issues on the waiting list	:	6	(see <u>List F</u> for details)

List A: Bills Committees in action							
Name of Bills Committee Clerk 1. Bills Committee Formed on 16 October 2020 to Study the Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill 2018 - Ms Angel SHEK CCS(1)1 Tel: 3919 3105	Date of First Reading of Bill 14.11.18	Date of formation of Bills Committee Chairman/Deputy Chairman 16.10.20 Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP (Chairman) Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS (Deputy Chairman)	Date and number of meetings held 2 3.11.20 16.11.20	Date of reporting to House Committee	Expected date for resumption of Second Reading debate	Remarks Next meeting to be scheduled.	
2. Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019 (2020-2021 session) - Ms Maisie LAM CCS(2)5 Tel: 3919 3205	20.2.19	Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP (Chairman) Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)	2 6.11.20 17.11.20			Next meeting to be scheduled.	
3. Bills Committee on Mainland Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases (Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement) Bill - Mr Lemuel WOO CCS(4)6 Tel: 3919 3406	2.12.20	4.12.20				First meeting is rescheduled to be held on 11.1.21 to elect the Chairman and meet with the Administration.	

Name of Bills Committee Clerk	Date of First Reading of Bill	Date of formation of Bills Committee Chairman/Deputy Chairman	Date and number of meetings held	Date of reporting to House Committee	Expected date for resumption of Second Reading debate	Remarks
 4. Bills Committee on Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill 2020 - Mr Derek LO CCS(1)5 Tel: 3919 3101 	2.12.20	4.12.20				First meeting is rescheduled to be held on 6.1.21 to elect the Chairman.
5. Bills Committee on Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Bill 2020 - Miss Josephine SO CCS(2)2 Tel: 3919 3202	9.12.20	11.12.20				First meeting to be held on 15.1.21 to elect the Chairman and meet with the Administration.

	List B: Bill pending decision of House	se Committee		
Name of Bill 1. Immigration (Amendment) Bill 2020	Object(s) of the Bill To amend the Immigration Ordinance to revise the procedures and requirements relating to the making and the handling of torture claims and appeals; to clarify the effect of making torture claims; to empower the Chairperson of the Torture Claims Appeal Board to delegate certain functions to a Deputy Chairperson; to revise the grounds for a revocation decision; to amend certain provisions relating to the lawfulness of detention; to enlarge the group of persons prohibited from taking employment under section 38AA and increase the penalty for employing such persons; to provide for the liability of connected persons in body corporates and partnerships when an offence under section 17I is committed; to increase the penalty for cases where aircraft passengers arrive in Hong Kong without valid travel documents; to empower the Secretary for Security to make regulations relating to the supply of information about persons on board carriers; to amend the Weapons Ordinance and the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance to enable members of the Immigration Service to possess arms and weapons otherwise prohibited by those Ordinances; and to provide for transitional and other related matters.	Date of First Reading of Bill 16.12.20	Date of House Committee meeting at which the Bill will be considered 8.1.21	Remarks —

List C : Subcommittee on Members' Remuneration and Operating Expenses Reimbursement								
			Date of					
	Date of formation of	Date and	reporting to					
Name of Subcommittee	Subcommittee	number of	House					
Clerk	Chairman/Deputy Chairman	meetings held	Committee	Remarks				
Subcommittee on Members' Remuneration	16.12.16	6	28.6.19	_				
and Operating Expenses Reimbursement		20.1.17						
- Ms Amy YU	Hon WONG Ting-kwong,	20.6.17						
PCS1	GBS, JP	20.12.17						
Tel: 3919 3660		4.6.18						
		7.5.19						
		13.7.20						

List D: Subcommittee on subsidiary legislation/draft subsidiary legislation/other instruments in action Date of formation of Date and Date to report Name of Subcommittee Subcommittee number of to House Clerk Chairman/Deputy Chairman meetings held Committee Remarks 1. Subcommittee Subsidiary 16.10.20 27.11.20 At the House Committee meeting on on Legislation Relating to the Prevention and Control of 2.11.20 11.12.20, Members agreed that 11 items (1st verbal Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, report) of subsidiary legislation (i.e. L.N. 241 to Disease 16.11.20 L.N. 251) tabled in Council on 9.12.20 - Ms Maisie LAM SBS, JP 24.11.20 2.12.20 CCS(2)5 16.12.20 should be studied by the Subcommittee. (1st written (Chairman) Tel: 3919 3205 report) 8.1.21 The Chairman of the Subcommittee will Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS (2nd report) move a proposed resolution at the (Deputy Chairman) Council meeting of 6.1.21 to extend the period for amending the above 11 items of subsidiary legislation to the Council meeting of 27.1.21. The Subcommittee issued the second written report on 29.12.20 and will report to the House Committee on 8.1.21 in respect of 14 items of subsidiary legislation (i.e. L.N. 221 to L.N. 223, L.N. 235 and L.N. 241 to L.N. 250) tabled in Council between 18.11.20 and 9.12.20. Next meeting to be scheduled.

List E : Subcommittees under Panel in action						
Name of Subcommittee Clerk	Date of formation of Subcommittee Chairman/Deputy Chairman	Number of meetings held (Date of first meeting) Note 1	Terms of reference of the subcommittee	Remarks		
1. Subcommittee to Study the Development of Textbooks and Teaching Materials for Kindergartens, Primary and Secondary Schools under the Panel on Education - Ms Angel WONG CCS(4)4 Tel: 3919 3404	3.1.20 Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP	5 (28.4.20)	To study the regulation of the development of textbooks and teaching materials for kindergartens, primary and secondary schools and related issues, including the impact of prevailing school-based management policy on the development and regulation of textbooks and teaching materials, examine the relevant regulatory mechanism and make timely recommendations.	12.1.21 to meet with the		
 2. Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Silver Age Card under the Panel on Welfare Services Miss Lilian MOK CCS(2)4 Tel: 3919 3204 	11.5.20		To study and follow up welfare benefits to which members of the public aged between 60 and 64 are currently entitled, as well as the feasibility of introducing the Silver Age Card.	_		

		Number of		
	Date of formation of	meetings held		
Name of Subcommittee	Subcommittee	(Date of first	Terms of reference of the	Remarks
Clerk	Chairman/Deputy Chairman	meeting) Note 1	subcommittee	
3. Subcommittee to Study Issues	8.11.16	7	To study and follow-up on policies and	The Subcommittee, after
Relating to Animal Rights under		(16.12.16)	measures relating to animal rights, and to	completing its 12-month
the Panel on Food Safety and			put forward recommendations where	period of work on 15.12.17,
Environmental Hygiene			necessary.	was put on the waiting list
- Mr Richard WONG				awaiting reactivation.
SCS(2)8 Tel: 3919 3214				Members were informed vide LC Paper No. CB(2)503/20-
161.3919.3214				21 dated 10.12.20 that a
				vacant slot has been allocated
				for the reactivation of the
				Subcommittee.
				First meeting after
				reactivation to be held on
				13.1.21 to elect the Chairman.
	2.11.20			
4. Subcommittee on Issues Relating	2.11.20		To study and follow up measures relating	
to Transitional Housing and Subdivided Units under the Panel			to transitional housing and subdivided units and make recommendations.	15.1.21 to elect the Chairman.
on Housing			diffus and make recommendations.	
- Mr Derek LO				
CCS(1)5				
Tel: 3919 3101				

Name of Subcommittee Clerk 5. Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project under the Panel on Development and the Panel on Home Affairs - Ms Doris LO CCS(1)2 Tel: 3919 3106	Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH	Number of meetings held (Date of first meeting) 1 (4.1.21)	Terms of reference of the subcommittee To monitor issues relating to the implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District project, including the work of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, the project's interface with arts and cultural development, and other related matters.	
6. Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Improvement of Environmental Hygiene and Cityscape under the Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene - Miss Josephine SO CCS(2)2 Tel: 3919 3202	10.11.20		To study and follow up on measures for the improvement of environmental hygiene and cityscape, and to put forward recommendations where necessary.	First meeting to be held on 13.1.21 to elect the Chairman.
 7. Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Stimulation of Hong Kong's Economy under the Panel on Commerce and Industry - Mr Boris LAM CCS(1)3 Tel: 3919 3103 	17.11.20 Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP (Chairman) Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS (Deputy Chairman)	1 (22.12.20)	To review and study policies relating to the stimulation of Hong Kong's economy, including policy objectives, complementary support measures, policy implementation as well as other related matters, and to make timely recommendations.	Next meeting to be scheduled.
8. Subcommittee to Study the Setting Up of an Unemployment Assistance System in Hong Kong under the Panel on Manpower - Miss Betty MA CCS(2)1 Tel: 3919 3201	17.11.20		To study the setting up of an unemployment assistance system in Hong Kong and related issues, and to make recommendations where necessary.	

Name of Subcommittee Clerk 9. Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways under the Panel on Transport - Ms Sophie LAU CCS(4)2 Tel: 3919 3402	Date of formation of Subcommittee Chairman/Deputy Chairman 20.11.20 Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP (Chairman) Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP (Deputy Chairman)	Number of meetings held (Date of first meeting) 1 (5.1.21)	Terms of reference of the subcommittee To follow up on overall planning of railways (Note 2), and various issues relating to the planning and implementation of new railway projects, and the operation of existing railways as follows: (a) implementation progress of "Railway Development Strategy 2014"; (b) overall planning and financing of new railway projects; (c) environmental impact assessment of new railway projects; (d) resumption of land arising from the implementation of new railway projects under the Railways Ordinance (Cap. 519); (e) progress update on the implementation of new railway projects; (f) provision of supporting public infrastructure for new railway projects; time table of the implementation; (g) co-ordination of other public transport services consequent to the commissioning of new railway lines and related matters;	Remarks Next meeting to be held on 15.1.21 to meet with the Administration.
			(h) performance of existing railway lines including train service performance and safety management;	(to be continued on next page)

Name of Subcommittee Clerk	Date of formation of Subcommittee Chairman/Deputy Chairman	Number of meetings held (Date of first meeting) Note 1	Terms of reference of the subcommittee	Remarks
9. (continued from previous page)			 (i) maintenance programme; and (j) train service disruptions and breakdowns, and arrangements for handling emergency situations. Note 1: Matters relating to corporate governance of the post-merger corporation and fares, including review of the fare adjustment mechanism, should be dealt with by the Panel on Transport. Note 2: According to the "Third Comprehensive Transport Study" conducted in 1997, railways would form the backbone of the passenger transport system. Railway developments would thus have considerable impact on the overall community and people's livelihood. At the meeting of the Panel on Transport on 20 November 2020, members expressed the view that the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways should not only follow up on the operation of individual railways, but should also focus on the overall planning of railway developments and time table of the implementation. 	

Name of Subcommittee Clerk	Date of formation of Subcommittee Chairman/Deputy Chairman	Number of meetings held (Date of first meeting) Note 1		Remarks
 10. Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Insurance Coverage for the Transport Sector under the Panel on Transport - Ms Shirley CHAN CCS(4)5 Tel: 3919 3405 	20.11.20		To study and follow up on the problems encountered by the transport sector in procuring insurance, and to make recommendations to tackle such problems where appropriate.	First meeting to be scheduled.

Note 1: A subcommittee on policy issues should complete its work within 12 months of its commencement, unless decided otherwise by the House Committee. The 12-month period is determined on the basis of the date of the first meeting of the subcommittee.

List F : Subcommittees on policy issues on the waiting list Note 2							
Name of Subcommittee	Date of appointment of Subcommittee	Terms of reference of the subcommittee	Remarks				
Subcommittee on Epidemic Prevention and Control under the House Committee	30.10.20	To follow up the Government's measures relating to people's livelihood, the economy, healthcare and social welfare in response to the COVID-19 epidemic after its outbreak, discuss the anti-epidemic efforts with the Government and make timely recommendations.	At the House Committee meeting on 30.10.20, Members endorsed the appointment of these three Subcommittees with the respective proposed terms of reference, work plans and time frames.				
2. Subcommittee on Unemployment Financial Assistance under the House Committee	30.10.20	To examine the unemployment situation in Hong Kong and the livelihood issues faced by the unemployed amid the COVID-19 epidemic, and to study ways to take forward practical assistance measures and long-term policies, with a view to supporting the unemployed in tiding over the epidemic, while encouraging the underprivileged to take up employment again as well as revitalizing the labour force and local economy amid the epidemic.					
3. Subcommittee to Support Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises under the House Committee	30.10.20	To examine the operating environment of small and medium-sized enterprises in Hong Kong and the problems encountered in their operation amid the epidemic, and to study ways to take forward practical assistance measures and long-term policies, with a view to supporting small and medium-sized enterprises in tiding over the COVID-19 epidemic, while motivating the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises including start-ups, so as to promote the diversified development of Hong Kong's employment market and economy.					

Name of Subcommittee	Date of appointment of Subcommittee	Terms of reference of the subcommittee	Remarks
4. Subcommittee on Labour Exploitation, Illicit Activities by Employment Agencies, and Human Trafficking under the Panel on Security	3.11.20	To review and follow up on the Government's efforts in tackling matters concerning labour exploitation, illicit activities by employment agencies, and human trafficking ("concerned activities"), and practices that enable concerned activities, including but not limited to the Action Plan to Tackle Trafficking in Persons and to Enhance Protection of Domestic Workers in Hong Kong and relevant laws, reporting and enforcement mechanisms, and policies, and provide recommendations to address the abovementioned issues.	At the meeting of the Panel on Security on 3.11.20, members endorsed the appointment of the Subcommittee with the proposed terms of reference, work plan and time frame.
5. Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Parking Spaces and the Park-and-Ride Schemes under the Panel on Transport	20.11.20	To study and follow up on measures to improve the provision of parking spaces and the Parkand-Ride Schemes, and to make recommendations.	20.11.20, members endorsed the appointment
6. Subcommittee on New Directions for Economic and Employment Development under the House Committee	20.11.20	To study the causes of Hong Kong's economic predicament and the strategies and way forward to make a breakthrough by, among others, examining the problem of imbalanced industrial structure, and to make recommendations on ways to promote the policies on new and high technology as well as re-industrialization, etc., together with recommendations on promoting employment and creating more quality employment opportunities.	At the House Committee meeting on 20.11.20, Members endorsed the appointment of the Subcommittee with the proposed terms of reference, work plan and time frame.

Note 2: Pursuant to the decision made at the House Committee meeting on 4.12.20 and the consultation results issued on 10.12.20 regarding allocation of resources to the servicing work of investigation committees, select committees formed by a petition and subcommittees on policy issues in the 2020-2021 session, these six subcommittees on policy issues are put on the waiting list in accordance with the established practice.