

立法會
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by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

Minutes of meeting
held on Monday, 12 July 2021, at 4:30 pm
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP (Chairman)
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, GBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon YIU Si-wing, SBS
Hon MA Fung-kwok, GBS, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, 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 LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH, JP
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP

Member absent : Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP

Public Officers attending : Item III

Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP
Under Secretary for Home Affairs

Mr Paul CHENG Ching-wan
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Recreation
and Sport)¹

Mr Benjamin HUNG Tak-chuen
Assistant Director (Leisure Services)2
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Item IV

Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP
Under Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Kinnie WONG Kit-yee
Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)

Ms Linus FUNG Wai-fan
Assistant Director (Performing Arts)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Clerk in attendance : Ms Joanne MAK
Chief Council Secretary (4) 7

Staff in attendance : Mr Raymond SZETO
Senior Council Secretary (4) 6

Miss Kitty LEUNG
Council Secretary (4) 7

Miss Vivian YUEN
Legislative Assistant (4) 8

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

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

II. Date of next meeting and items for discussion
[LC Paper Nos. CB(4)1204/20-21(01) and (02)]

2. The Chairman said that with the expected prorogation of the current legislative term at the end of October 2021, the Panel would have to consider the arrangements of holding regular meetings in the remainder of the current

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legislative session. Members agreed to schedule two additional regular meetings for 13 September at 4:30 pm and 11 October 2021 also at 4:30 pm.

3. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 13 September 2021 at 4:30 pm:

- (a) Provision of sports facilities; and
- (b) Arts and culture in Hong Kong: Vision Ahead.

III. Territory-wide Physical Fitness Survey for the Community
[LC Paper No. CB(4)1204/20-21(03)]

4. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Under Secretary for Home Affairs ("USHA") briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)1204/20-21(03)].

Discussion

Lifestyle, exercising and physical fitness

5. Members in general expressed support for conducting the Territory-wide Physical Fitness Survey for the Community ("the TPF Survey"). Members took the view that the TPF Survey should carefully examine the relationship between lifestyle (such as dietary habits, regular sleeping patterns, working hours, the amount of physical exercises) and physical fitness. They strongly suggested that the Administration should make good use of the data collected as a basis for review and improving the existing sports and healthcare policies, as well as to further promote regular physical exercise amongst Hong Kong citizens. Mr Vincent CHENG and Mr MA Fung-kwok suggested that the TPF Survey might also collect information on the chronic diseases of the respondents so as to help the Government pinpoint health problems to facilitate the formulation and implementation of focused policies to improve public health.

6. USHA welcomed members' suggestions. He said that the TPF Survey questionnaire would collect data on the relevant factors of physical fitness, such as heart rate, blood pressure, sleeping patterns for weekdays and holidays, as well as the type(s) of activities engaged during leisure times, and the closest sports facilities regularly used for exercising. The data collected would be used to construct a comprehensive database on the physical fitness of Hong Kong citizens for the purpose of formulating appropriate policies to encourage exercising and improve the overall physical fitness of the populace. USHA further said that

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subsequent to the previous Territory-wide Physical Fitness Test ("the TPF Test") conducted in 2011, the Administration had formulated a number of initiatives to optimize the relevant policies. For instance, to improve the physical fitness of young children, the Education Bureau, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") and the Department of Health ("DH") had collaborated to strengthen the support for exercising in pre-primary education. Also, LCSD had improved its provisions of sports facilities deemed in demand based on the results of the previous TPF Test, such as swimming pools, football fields and basketball courts. He added that the Government announced the Five-year Plan for Sports and Recreation Facilities to launch 26 projects, involving a provision of \$20 billion, before 2022 to develop new and improve existing district sports and recreation facilities, 20 of them had already been approved by the Legislative Council.

7. USHA advised that some of the factors mentioned by members, such as the health conditions of Hong Kong citizens, chronic diseases and dietary habits, would be examined by another survey (i.e. the Population Health Survey) conducted by DH, the most recent of which took place in 2020. The Administration would utilize the data collected through both surveys to holistically formulate and implement the most appropriate healthcare policies.

8. Mr Michael TIEN said that osteoporosis, an asymptomatic medical condition that was difficult to detect, was becoming one of the many lingering problems for the aging population of Hong Kong and had been causing bone fracture injuries amongst the elderly. As osteoporosis was related to physical fitness, he suggested that the Administration should include testing for osteoporosis by qualified professionals in the TPF Survey.

9. USHA said that the Administration shared member's concern on the physical well-being of the elderly, thus had raised the upper limit of the elderly age group to be sampled by the TPF Survey from 69 to 79 vis-à-vis the previous TPF Test. The age group of individuals from 60-79 would constitute about 2 000 of the 8 500 individuals to be sampled, so that the elderly's physical fitness could be covered sufficiently. While there was no direct test for osteoporosis in the TPF Survey, various test items could be used to assess the mobility and strength of sampled individuals, which would help gauge the extent of the effect of osteoporosis on the physical fitness of elderly citizens. As osteoporosis was a medical condition, DH would consider whether to include the relevant test in their survey. In response to Mr Michael TIEN's concern, USHA undertook to provide a response to the suggestion to include testing for osteoporosis as a physical performance test item in the TPF Survey.

10. Mr KWOK Wai-keung, Mr Wilson OR, Mr LUK Chung-hung and Mr Holden CHOW suggested that the Administration should publicize the benefits

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of exercising and provide incentives to entice citizens to exercise regularly and frequently. In this connection, Mr LUK suggested providing each citizen with \$1000-valued coupons for use of LCSD sports venues.

11. USHA and Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department said that upon the completion of the TPF Survey, the Administration would carry out a series of publicity initiatives to promote the importance of exercising in the community based on the survey's findings. To publicize regular exercising and improve physical fitness of Hong Kong citizens, LCSD had been organizing a series of sports events annually, including the "Sports for All Day" to be held on 1 August 2021, where citizens might use the sports facilities under LCSD for free, as well as the biennial Hong Kong Games. Also, in response to the COVID-19 epidemic, the Administration had organized online leisure activities to help Hong Kong citizens maintain a healthy lifestyle with exercising. Moreover, as an online publicity initiative, LCSD had rolled out the "LCSDPluss" social media platform providing information on healthy lifestyle and major sports events. With regard to policy initiatives on promoting exercising, the Administration had earmarked an annual budget of \$5 billion.

Health impact of the popular use of mobile devices

12. Mr Vincent CHENG and Mr Michael TIEN expressed concern about the vision health of young children, which had emerged as an issue due to their increased use of mobile devices. Mr MA Fung-kwok enquired whether the Administration would attempt to examine the health impact of the increased use of mobile devices, such as damages caused to vision health and cervical vertebrae.

13. USHA advised that the questionnaire of the TPF Survey would contain items to survey the lifestyle habits and leisure activities of children, including sedentary activities such as the use of mobile devices and video gaming, in order to better understand their health impact on children.

Obesity

14. Mr Vincent CHENG suggested that the TPF Survey should include tests for obesity, which was becoming a problem particularly for young children.

15. USHA acknowledged that the issue of obesity was indeed a concern across adults and children as suggested by the data (e.g. Body Mass Index) collected from the last TPF Test in 2011. Therefore, it would continue to be covered by the TPF Survey. USHA added that the Administration would promote outdoor activities and exercises for children to develop a healthy lifestyle.

Survey methodology and implementation

16. The Chairman noted that the relevant work on the TPF Survey was only launched almost two years after the establishment of the Advisory Committee of the TPF Survey in October 2019. He was concerned about the slow pace and that the protracted time gap between this survey and the previous one conducted a decade ago in 2011 might render the data collected this time not suitable for comparative analysis on the changes in the physical fitness of citizens. Mr Vincent CHENG and Mr Holden CHOW expressed similar concerns.

17. USHA agreed that it was important that the data collected from the TPF Survey could be analyzed comparatively in a meaningful manner for future reference. He said that the Administration would consider conducting such surveys regularly with a reasonable frequency (e.g. every five or six years). He further explained that the preparatory work for the TPF Survey, which included the design of the survey and the test items in accordance with scientific principles, was highly challenging and time-consuming. He said that looking forward, the implementation of the TPF Survey would only take about six months from July 2021 to January 2022. Collation and analysis of data and compilation of the survey report would proceed immediately afterwards, and would take about six months from February to August 2022. The survey report would then be published in October 2022. In reply to members' enquiries, USHA said that the total cost of the TPF Survey was \$18.5 million.

18. Mr KWOK Wai-keung asked whether it was possible that more active citizens would be more inclined to participate in the survey, while less active citizens might be overlooked and neglected by this survey. As a result, the analysis drawn from the data might not be able to reflect the real situation.

19. USHA advised that to avoid sampling bias and provide sufficient coverage for both active and passive individuals, the design of the TPF Survey was to collect 8 500 successful samples selected by random sampling according to census data, and would be grouped by working and non-working population (for individuals aged 17-79). To this end, the Administration would reach out to the sampled individuals through employers as well as social welfare organizations with access to the less socially active ones (e.g seniors, housewives and students).

20. The Chairman expressed worry that the number of sampled participants might fall short of the target of 8 500 due to reluctance of citizens to go through the survey in fear of contracting the COVID-19 virus. He enquired about the minimum sample size for reaching statistical significance. To improve response rate, Mr YIU Si-wing suggested that the Administration should consider providing souvenirs for participants of the TPF Survey as an incentive.

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21. USHA said that the Administration and the contractors involved would strictly implement all anti-epidemic measures relating to COVID-19 so as to offer complete protection for the participants and staffers. The 8 500 sample size was in fact a mandatory target, so the TPF Survey would continue until the target sample size was reached. The Administration was confident that the citizens sampled were mindful of their own physical fitness and would be willing to participate in the TPF Survey, during which they could receive information as well as professional advice on their own physical fitness.

22. Mr KWOK Wai-keung said that research into the lifestyle of individuals, such as eating and sleeping habits, might warrant a rolling survey over a longer time scale rather than a snapshot to be taken by the TPF Survey. Mr YIU Si-wing said that the Administration should consider comparing the analysis results of the TPF Survey with other Chinese cities such as Macau, so as to determine the relative physical fitness of Hong Kong citizens for better policy planning.

23. USHA advised that the analysis results of the TPF Survey would be compared against national figures. Moreover, the Administration would submit the aggregate data to the General Administration of Sports of China for record to allow national organizations to acquire a better understanding of the physical fitness of Hong Kong citizens.

IV. Grooming of talents and administrators in the arts and culture sector
[LC Paper Nos. CB(4)1204/20-21 (04) and (05)]

24. At the invitation of the Chairman, USHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)1204/20-21(04)].

Discussion

Integrated development with the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area

25. Members generally held the view that the formulation of policies in grooming of talents and administrators in the arts and culture sector should take into account the vast opportunities arising from the integrated development with the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area ("GBA"). Members considered that suitable training and internship opportunities should be provided for prospective talents and administrators to facilitate better collaboration in the arts and culture sector between Hong Kong and GBA.

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26. USHA expressed agreement with members' views. He pointed out that the Nation's 14th Five-Year Plan supported Hong Kong's development into an exchange centre for arts and culture between China and the rest of the world. Cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and GBA would be an important aspect of Hong Kong's future strategic position. In this connection, the Administration had entered into various agreements with Mainland authorities to facilitate collaborations of cultural events and exchange of talents between Hong Kong and GBA. USHA said that there were about 110 Hong Kong productions being performed in GBA in 2018-20, with over 60 000 audiences across seven cities and 15 cultural venues. There were also more than 1 100 talents and administrators in the arts and culture sector working in GBA. He added that owing to the COVID-19 epidemic since 2020, some Hong Kong productions had been showcased online, with over 3 million viewers recorded including those residing in GBA.

27. Assistant Director (Performing Arts), Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("AD(PA)/LCSD") supplemented that the Administration had arranged, with the support from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Hong Kong Week 2021 in Guangzhou in a hybrid mode, which showcased Hong Kong productions in the performing arts, exhibitions, movies, etc. Interactive sessions and workshops were also set up in Guangzhou to facilitate live exchanges between Hong Kong producers and the audience. Moreover, the Administration had entered into an agreement with Tencent to provide online streaming of Hong Kong productions in GBA with revenue sharing.

28. Mr YIU Si-wing considered it necessary to enhance students' national identity and their appreciation of traditional Chinese culture. The Administration should also publicize success stories in GBA to entice Hong Kong talents. Mr Holden CHOW echoed Mr YIU's views, and said that the Administration should arrange for more exchange opportunities at cultural venues in GBA for Hong Kong graduates so as to enhance their training opportunities and provide more platforms for them to showcase their talents.

29. USHA said that integrated development between Hong Kong and GBA was an irreversible trend and should be enthusiastically pursued. Students of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts ("HKAPA") and other Hong Kong youths should be provided with the opportunities to be educated about traditional Chinese culture. To this end, the Administration had arranged specialized internship placements at important cultural venues in the Mainland, such as the Palace Museum in Beijing and the Duanhuang Academy China. AD(PA)/LCSD supplemented that HKAPA graduates and students generally welcomed cultural exchange opportunities with GBA counterparts. Theatres and cultural venues in GBA were also very interested in working with Hong Kong to facilitate staging

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Hong Kong productions in GBA, going as far as launching residence programmes to solicit Hong Kong arts groups to settle in GBA cities for collaborative productions with their GBA counterparts.

Career prospects in the art and culture sector

30. Mr Kenneth LAU and Mr YIU Si-wing expressed concerns about the career prospects of HKAPA graduates in the arts and culture sector and whether talents could be retained. Noting from the Administration's paper that, according to the graduate employment survey conducted by HKAPA in 2019, around 67% of the respondents were working in the performing arts sector, Mr Vincent CHENG asked whether there was room for enhancing the employment opportunities of HKAPA graduates in the performing arts sector, and whether the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA") could provide more such career opportunities through the latest wave of recruitment.

31. USHA and Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2) ("DSHA(2)") advised that according to the said graduate employment survey, while about 67% of the respondents were working in the performing arts sector, a good portion of the rest was actually working in related sectors, such as TV broadcasting and film industry. Moreover, more than 90% of the participants of training programmes provided by the Administration and the Hong Kong Arts Development Council ("HKADC") were able to find jobs in the arts and culture sector. As for WKCDA's recruitment efforts, DSHA(2) said that WKCDA planned to employ over 400 personnel in 2021-2022. As at May 2021, they had recruited 348 personnel, which was about 80% of the recruitment target. With more facilities of the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") being completed and commencing operation, it was envisioned that WKCDA would further increase staffing and employ even more talents and administrators.

Grants and scholarships for art talents and administrators

32. Dr Pierre CHAN remarked that since 2013-2014, HKADC had put in place various scholarships and internship programmes to facilitate local, Mainland and overseas training of art talents and administrators, which were instrumental for grooming the right talents for local art and cultural organizations and providing experienced art administrators opportunities for further training and networking. In this connection, Dr CHAN raised the following suggestions:

- (a) the Administration should consider increasing the amount of grants and introducing one-off grants to assist small-scale arts and cultural groups to help them retain experienced talents and administrators;

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- (b) the Administration should consider providing support, grants and other subsidies to talents and administrators in the arts and culture sector on an individual basis, especially for fields including visual arts, performing arts, music and writing;
- (c) the Administration should consider expanding training and partnership opportunities offered by HKADC to more professionals in the sector, such as screen directors, choreographers, designers, artists and dramaturgs; and
- (d) the Administration should consider facilitating cross-sector exchanges and collaborations for mid-career talents and administrators to foster diversified development of the arts.

33. USHA noted Dr Pierre CHAN's suggestions. DSHA(2) supplemented that the Administration was aware of the manpower limitation of the small-scale arts groups, thus HKADC provided a subsidy scheme for the arts groups to employ an additional employee to replace the staff engaged in an internship during the year.

34. DSHA(2) said that HKADC had provided training and internship opportunities for administrators on an individual basis by organizing the biennial Overseas Training for Arts Administrators. Under the arrangement, overseas training places would be provided for individual arts administrators based on their own choice of topic, helping administrators to further develop their own expertise. Local arts administrators could also apply for various scholarships schemes offered by HKADC for advanced degrees taken locally, overseas or in the Mainland.

35. In response to Mr Kenneth LAU's enquiry on the Administration's measures to support the visual arts specifically, DSHA(2) said that in addition to the aforementioned schemes, attachment/internship quotas at renowned museums and cultural organizations overseas for local talents in visual arts were available under the overseas cultural internship and training programmes provided by HKADC.

Compliance with the Law of the People's Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("the National Security Law") in the arts and culture sector

36. Referring to the recent incident involving displaying books by jailed Apple Daily founder Jimmy LAI Chee-ying as "the Librarian's Choice for Borrowing" at a public library ("the Library Incident") and another incident where certain art collections at the M+ Museum of WKCD were alleged to have violated the National Security Law ("the WKCD Collection Incident"), Mr Michael TIEN enquired about the measures to be taken to ensure compliance with the National

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Security Law by arts practitioners and administrators. He suggested that the Administration might need to highlight to candidates (especially those from overseas) during job interviews the need to fully comply with the National Security Law.

37. USHA advised that since the promulgation of the National Security Law, the Administration had been sparing no efforts in promoting national security amongst Government departments and the local arts and culture sector, so as to ensure that all relevant parties understood and observed the requirements of the National Security Law. USHA explained that the local arts groups/organizations had full autonomy over the recruitment and training of their employees, and the Administration would remind them about the need to observe Hong Kong laws including the National Security Law at an appropriate juncture.

38. AD(PA)/LCSD said that disciplinary action had been taken against the staff member involved in the Library Incident. She further said that to prevent recurrence of similar incidents, LCSD had reviewed the book selection arrangements for the "Librarian's Choice for Borrowing" shelf and communication with staff would also be strengthened.

39. As for the WKCD Collection Incident, AD(PA)/LCSD said that as the Administration understood, WKCDA had pledged that it would ensure full compliance with the National Security Law in its policy on art collections and display. AD(PA)/LCSD added that members' concerns would also be conveyed to WKCDA.

V. Any other business

40. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6:16 pm.