

LC Paper No. CB(4)1619/20-21

Ref : CB4/PL/HA

## **Report of the Panel on Home Affairs for submission to the Legislative Council**

#### Purpose

This report gives an account of the work of the Panel on Home Affairs ("the Panel") during the 2020-2021 Legislative Council session. It will be tabled at the Council meeting of 20 October 2021 in accordance with Rule 77(14) of the Rules of Procedure of the Council.

#### The Panel

2. The Panel was formed by a resolution passed by the Council on 8 July 1998 and as amended on 20 December 2000, 9 October 2002, 11 July 2007 and 2 July 2008 for the purpose of monitoring and examining Government policies and issues of public concern relating to district, community and rural matters, civic education, building management, youth matters, the provision of leisure and cultural services, the development of arts and culture, public entertainment, sport and recreation. The terms of reference of the Panel are at **Appendix I**.

3. The Panel comprises 17 members, with Hon LEUNG Che-cheung and Hon WONG Kwok-kin elected as its Chairman and Deputy Chairman respectively. The membership list of the Panel is at **Appendix II**.

#### Major Work

#### Sports and recreation

#### New Facilities Building of the Hong Kong Sports Institute

4. The Hong Kong, China Delegation performed with distinction at the Tokyo Olympic Games ("TOG"), achieving the best results of one gold, two silver and three bronze medals in Hong Kong history, with a number of

athletes breaking Hong Kong records or attaining personal best results. Members considered the performance of Hong Kong athletes very encouraging and urged the Administration to continue to strengthen support for Hong Kong's elite athletes. The Panel supported the new facilities building of the Hong Kong Sports Institute ("HKSI") project ("the Proposed Project") proposed by the Administration. Members considered that the facilities and support provided by HKSI to elite athletes should stay abreast of latest developments to support elite sports development in Hong Kong effectively. Members noted that under the Proposed Project, the Government would allocate \$990 million (in money-of-the-day prices) as the project cost for the new building in HKSI with about 9 000 square metres of net operating floor area to expand its Scientific Conditioning Centre and Sports Medicine Centre, and provide additional training, resting and accommodation facilities for athletes.

5. The Administration explained that the proposal was made mainly based on the considerations of the significant increase in the number of athletes<sup>1</sup>, increase in the number of elite sports<sup>2</sup>, and the need to provide support on sports science and sports medicine for athletes. The Administration's target was to commission the new building in June 2024, i.e. before the opening of the Paris Olympic Games. Members requested the Administration to ensure completion of the construction works on schedule and that the construction works should not affect the daily training of athletes. Members also requested the Administration to ensure that the design of the new facilities building could cater for the long-term needs of elite sports training in Hong Kong. In particular, members stressed that the support on sports science and sports medicine was increasingly important in enhancing the performance of elite athletes and protecting them from injuries. The Administration and HKSI expressed agreement with members' views and pointed out that, under the Proposed Project, HKSI would increase facilities provision on sports science and sports medicine by 120% (by net floor area). The Administration advised that HKSI, after expansion, should be able to meet the needs of elite sports development in Hong Kong in the following 10 to 15 years.

6. In response to members' concern about funding support for HKSI, the Administration advised that in 2021-2022, the Government's annual funding for HKSI, through the Elite Athletes Development Fund, amounted to \$737 million, representing an increase of about 42% over the amount in 2017-2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In 2021-2022 (as at August 2021), athletes receiving training in HKSI included 420 full-time senior athletes, 97 non-full-time senior athletes, 127 full-time junior athletes and 245 potential athletes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The number of elite sports has increased from 11 in 2007-2008 to the current 20 Tier A elite sports and 13 Tier B elite sports.

7. The Administration briefed the Panel on the Government's various initiatives to promote sports development in schools. Members shared with the Administration's view that promoting sports in schools was one of the most important ways to foster "Sports for All" and support elite sports development. Members supported the promotion of sports to students, which in their view was beneficial both to students' physical fitness and mental wellbeing. Further, members considered that the excellent results achieved by Hong Kong athletes at TOG and Hong Kong's co-hosting of the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games of China in 2025 could arouse the interest of students in participating in sports, and the Administration should leverage this opportune moment to promote sports development in schools.

8. Members opined that the present allocation of lesson time for physical education ("PE") for primary and junior secondary levels, at only 5% to 8% (i.e. around 80 to 120 minutes per week) of the total lesson time, was grossly insufficient. They urged the Administration to consider increasing the time allocation for PE lessons. The Administration explained that while there was no immediate plan to mandate an increase in the allocation of PE lesson time, the present time allocation for PE lessons was not a ceiling per se, and schools were free to increase the amount of time allocated for PE lessons in accordance with its teaching priorities and sporting culture.

9. Members considered that the Opening up School Facilities for the Promotion of Sports Development Scheme ("the Scheme") was an effective initiative to increase the provision of sports facilities for use by sports organizations and to facilitate schools to cultivate a sporting culture.<sup>3</sup> Noting that there were only 45 out of the 126 participating schools paired with sports organizations under the Scheme, members considered it necessary to encourage more schools and sports organizations to participate and organize more extracurricular sports programmes. The Administration advised that since its launch in the 2017-2018 school year, the Scheme had recorded a gradual increase in the number of participating schools and sports organizations, sports programmes as well as participants. Taking into account the views collected from participating schools and sports organizations, the Education Bureau ("EDB") and the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") had reviewed and enhanced the Scheme. The enhancement measures implemented included extending the Scheme from public sector schools to cover Direct

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Under the Scheme, public sector schools are encouraged to open up their facilities, such as school halls, activity rooms, playgrounds, sports grounds and classrooms, for use by eligible sports organizations, to hold sports programmes during non-school hours.

Subsidy Schools; increasing the upper limit of subsidy for each participating school from \$80,000 to \$130,000 a year; and expanding the list of eligible sports organizations. The Administration reckoned that more schools and sports organizations would be interested in organizing more sports programmes once the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") epidemic abated. Meanwhile, EDB and HAB would continue to collect views from participating schools and sports organizations for on-going enhancements of the Scheme, with a view to organizing more sports programmes by using school facilities.

10. Members queried whether there was a need to enhance the Student Athlete Support Scheme ("SASS") to strengthen financial support for student athletes from low-income families to meet expenses incurred by their participation in sports training and competitions. The Administration advised that in the 2019-2020 school year, HAB provided \$5.49 million under SASS to 534 schools, benefitting 15 376 students. The Administration further advised that the amount of funding had been regularly reviewed and it was understood that the current amount was considered sufficient by participating schools.

# Use and management of public open spaces under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

11. The Administration briefed the Panel on the use and management of public open spaces under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD"). In January 2019, LCSD launched the trial scheme of "Inclusive Park for Pets", under which six suitable parks were selected from various districts across the territory for opening up for entry and use by members of the public with their pets and enabling the use of park facilities by different users in an inclusive environment. Members urged the Administration to extend the scheme to more parks in Hong Kong. The Administration advised that LCSD would provide another 35 "Inclusive Parks for Pets" in various districts starting from February 2021. The Administration pledged that LCSD would continue to listen to public views and consider opening up more venues for pets in future.

12. To enhance the existing public play spaces, the Government announced in the Policy Address in 2019 the launching of a five-year plan to transform more than 170 public play spaces under LCSD. The total estimated expenditure for the entire project is about \$686 million. Members considered that LCSD should encourage and promote community participation and engagement in the process of transforming the public play spaces. The Administration advised that LCSD would foster community engagement through different means, such as conducting workshops and opinion surveys to invite different stakeholders to offer opinions, in order to understand and meet the needs of the residents. It was the Administration's plan to make the public play spaces more innovative and interesting while meeting the needs of local residents, and more natural elements would be introduced as well.

13. With the Pleasure Grounds (Amendment) Regulation 2020 ("the Amendment Regulation") coming into force on 24 July 2020, members noted that noise nuisance arising from music activities in public pleasure grounds ("PPGs") had been effectively curbed.<sup>4</sup> The Administration advised that LCSD had stepped up publicity and inspections to control noise nuisance in PPGs to dovetail with the implementation of the Amendment Regulation. Members suggested that the Administration should conduct inspections to the areas outside PPGs to prevent the singing groups concerned from moving to the neighbouring areas and causing noise nuisance. The Administration advised that it would closely monitor the noise nuisance problem and would consider taking joint-departmental actions where necessary.

## Arts and culture

## Grooming of talents and administrators in the arts and culture sector

14. The Panel discussed the Government's work on grooming talent and administrators in the arts and culture sector and its latest progress. Members held the view that the formulation of the relevant policies should take into account the vast opportunities arising from the integrated development with the 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 other cities in GBA. Members also suggested that the Administration should seek to enhance Hong Kong students' national identity and their appreciation of traditional Chinese culture. For example, the Administration should arrange for more exchange opportunities at cultural venues in GBA for graduates of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts ("HKAPA"), which would also enhance their training opportunities and provide more platforms for them to showcase their talents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> According to the Administration, the Amendment Regulation has enhanced the regulation of music activities in PPGs in terms of the effectiveness of law enforcement, regulation of music activities and the penalty on violation of the provisions. An offender of section 25 of the Amendment Regulation is liable on conviction to a fine at Level 3 (HK\$10,000) and imprisonment for 14 days.

15. The Administration concurred with members' views and pointed out that integrated development between Hong Kong and GBA was an irreversible trend and should be enthusiastically pursued. As the Nation's 14<sup>th</sup> 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 other cities in 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 other cities in GBA. The Administration advised that there were about 110 Hong Kong productions performed in GBA in 2018-2020, 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. 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.

16. According to the Administration, with the support from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Administration had arranged 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.

17. The Administration advised 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 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. The Administration further advised that HKAPA students and other Hong Kong youths would 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.

The support of the Government on the development of arts technology in Hong Kong

18. The Panel discussed the Government's measures in support of the development of arts technology ("Arts Tech") and received a report on the latest progress of relevant work. Members noted that with the advancement of technology in recent years, the integration of arts and innovation and technology ("I&T") had become a new trend in arts development, and had been applied in stage design, image projection and sound effects for performing arts, etc. Members welcomed the Government's new initiatives, including the establishment of the inter-departmental Task Force on Arts Tech ("the Task Force") under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Home Affairs ("SHA") to formulate strategies and measures for the development and promotion of Arts Tech<sup>5</sup>; provision of funds to support Arts Tech projects; and upgrading venue facilities.

19. Noting that the various policy bureaux under the Task Force had set aside a total of \$100 million under funds or schemes of their respective purview to promote Arts Tech, members suggested that the Administration should actively communicate with the relevant industries about the requirements of the funds and schemes under the Task Force with clear instructions to encourage applications. Members also suggested that the Administration should encourage the arts and culture industry to exchange ideas and share experience with overseas and Mainland arts practitioners about Arts Tech.

20. The Administration advised that to help promote the development of Arts Tech, a series of industry engagement activities would be implemented in phases to facilitate the interaction of arts practitioners and I&T talents. LCSD would also host 73 guided visits to showcase to the arts, technology and education sectors the equipment and technology related to Arts Tech. Some 1 000 industry representatives were expected to attend the event. Moreover, in order to assist the industry to take forward proposals related to Arts Tech, the Task Force would provide a one-stop service to answer applicants' queries and refer them to the suitable fund or scheme where appropriate.

21. In addition to policy and resource support, members noted that the Administration would also provide matching hardware for the development and application of Arts Tech in terms of venue facilities. The broadband

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Task Force comprises representatives of HAB, the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, the Innovation and Technology Bureau, EDB, the Innovation and Technology Commission and LCSD. At its first meeting held in February 2021, the Task Force discussed strategies and measures to promote Arts Tech.

network facilities of LCSD performance venues were being upgraded in full swing to provide high-speed and secure data transmission services for live streaming or recorded performances of arts groups.<sup>6</sup> Members enquired whether the Administration had any plan to upgrade and improve the facilities in other venues under LCSD and the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") with the latest Arts Tech to enrich the visiting experience. Noting that a "Pre-testbed Studio" had been set up in Kwai Tsing Theatre to be used as an incubator for the development of Arts Tech, members urged the Administration to set up more similar experiment venues.

22. The Administration advised that it had incorporated the elements of Arts Tech when taking forward projects of new performing arts venues as well as venue upgrading projects. Appropriate Arts Tech with pioneering equipment and technologies would also be applied in LCSD and WKCD venues to attract tourists and local residents. The Administration advised that its key priority for the coming year was to promote and deepen the interaction and understanding between the arts and culture and I&T industries, with a view to inspiring more ideas for innovation and advancement in arts and also wider application of technology.

## Progress report on the East Kowloon Cultural Centre

23. The Administration briefed the Panel on the progress on the construction of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre ("EKCC"). Members noted that the construction works had commenced in January 2016 and were expected to complete by the end of 2021. In the first half of 2022, LCSD would take over EKCC for equipment procurement, and conduct checks, tests and rectifications on various building services installations, stage facilities and systems. Soft opening of EKCC would be arranged in the first half of 2023 to test the operations of its various facilities and admission arrangements, whereas grand opening was scheduled for the second half of the year.

24. Considering the benefits brought about by the application of Arts Tech, members enquired whether the relevant elements would be injected into EKCC. The Administration advised that to foster the development of Arts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> According to the Administration, upgrading works have been completed at Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Hong Kong City Hall, Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre, Ko Shan Theatre New Wing, Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Yuen Long Theatre, Sha Tin Town Hall, Tsuen Wan Town Hall, Tuen Mun Town Hall and North District Town Hall. Relevant upgrading will be carried out shortly at Ko Shan Theatre Old Wing. As regards Tai Po Civic Centre, Sheung Wan Civic Centre and Yau Ma Tei Theatre, broadband network facilities will be installed upon completion of the facility upgrading and improvement works.

Tech, EKCC would be positioned as an advanced culture and arts venue integrating arts and technology, and an incubator for arts practitioners and technology professionals to test and experiment creations by arts and technology. The Administration further advised that EKCC planned to join hands with artists, creative media schools and technology professionals in the promotion of Arts Tech. Facilities to be provided would include 3D projection mapping equipment, surround sound system, all-round real-time stage tracking and execution system, and live streaming system. The Administration's plan was to set up a testbed in a multi-purpose studio and designated as The Lab at EKCC. Members welcomed the positioning of EKCC and looked forward to its opening.

## LCSD online programmes and improvement works during the epidemic

25. The Panel discussed the online resources on a one-stop platform launched by LCSD and the facility improvement works carried out at LCSD venues during the pandemic. Members appreciated the rich variety of contents, such as the one-stop online learning platform Edutainment Channel ("the Channel"). Members were concerned about the promotion strategies of the Channel in view of the small number of subscribers of 101 Academy (i.e. a main feature of the Channel) YouTube channel (about 1 500). To promote the Channel and encourage public participation, members suggested that the Administration should launch large scale online and offline promotional activities including posting posters in public housing estates, hanging banners on the roadside railings, utilizing social media platforms and allowing members of the public to upload content reviews.

26. Some members considered that the general public might prefer joining physical events instead of watching online videos of 101 Academy. To promote publicity of these videos, members called on the Administration to explore more means to broaden the reach of these videos to viewers. As for the contents of the videos, members suggested that the Administration should consider showing videos about sports and Chinese culture (e.g. Chinese traditional musical instruments). The Administration noted members' concern and undertook that it would further step up the publicity of the videos uploaded to the Channel through social media channels.

27. Members noted that the development of the Channel cost about \$400,000. The Administration would keep developing the Channel in the coming year under the budget of around \$20 million. The future development of the Channel would be decided in the light of public response.

28. Members noted that before the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic, there were only around two to three LCSD performance venues equipped with high-speed data transmission services for live streaming performances. Over the past year, nearly all performance venues were installed with optical fibre broadband facilities. Therefore, arts organizations now would be able to do live streaming performances in LCSD venues. Members appreciated that LCSD had taken a series of anti-pandemic measures at its venues according to the development of the COVID-19 epidemic.

#### Territory-wide Physical Fitness Survey for the Community

29. The Administration briefed members on the progress on the implementation of the conducting of the Territory-wide Physical Fitness Survey for the Community ("the Survey"). LCSD carried out the Survey in 2005-2006 and 2011-2012 respectively. To develop benchmarking data and continuously monitor the physical condition of the public, HAB proposed in 2018 to carry out the Survey again. Preparatory work for the Survey commenced in 2019, while the data collection and related work would be conducted between July 2021 and January 2022. Members considered that the Survey should examine the relationship between lifestyle and physical fitness. The Administration should use the data collected as a basis for reviewing and improving the existing sports and healthcare policies, as well as to further promote regular physical exercising amongst Hong Kong citizens. Some members suggested that the Survey might also collect information on the chronic diseases of the respondents for improving public health policies.

30. The Administration advised that the Survey questionnaire would collect data on the relevant factors of physical fitness, and the data collected would be used to construct a comprehensive database on the physical fitness of Hong Kong citizens for policy formulation. The Administration pointed out that information on chronic diseases would be surveyed by the Department of Health ("DH"). There was also a suggestion that the Survey should cover osteoporosis, which 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. The Administration advised that while there was no direct test for osteoporosis in the Survey, various test items could be used to assess the mobility and strength of sampled individuals, which would also help gauge the extent of the effect of osteoporosis on the physical fitness of elderly citizens. The Administration explained that as osteoporosis was a medical condition, DH would consider whether to include the relevant test in their survey.

31. Members also expressed concern about the vision health and obesity of young children. The Administration advised that the questionnaire of the Survey would contain the relevant items to survey the lifestyle habits and leisure activities of children.

32. Members expressed concern that the protracted time gap between the current Survey and the previous one conducted in 2011 might render the data unsuitable for comparative analysis on the changes in the physical fitness of citizens. The Administration expressed agreement that it was important that the surveys should be conducted within a reasonable interval (say five or six years) so that the data collected could be analyzed comparatively. The Administration explained that much time had been allotted for the preparatory work for the Survey, which was highly challenging and time-consuming. Looking forward, the implementation of the Survey would take about six months from July 2021 to January 2022. After that, collation and analysis of data and compilation of the survey report would proceed from February to August 2022 for publication by October 2022.

Youth Hostel Scheme – construction works of the youth hostel projects by the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals

33. The Panel was consulted on the funding proposals for the construction works for two youth hostel projects by the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association ("HKGGA") and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals ("TWGHs").<sup>7</sup> Members considered that the Youth Hostel Scheme ("YHS") should be expeditiously implemented so as to meet the aspirations of some working youth in having their own living spaces and to unleash the potential of development sites. Members supported the above two projects and urged the Administration to expedite their implementation. Members also requested the Administration to make sustained efforts in easing the housing needs of young people.

34. The Administration advised that a total of seven projects were in progress under YHS.<sup>8</sup> According to the Administration, if the aforementioned funding proposals were approved in the current legislative session, HKGGA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Under YHS, NGOs will be fully funded by the Government to construct youth hostels on under-utilized sites and, upon completion, operate the youth hostels on a selffinancing basis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> As at January 2021, seven YHS projects were under planning or construction (namely The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups' project in Tai Po, Po Leung Kuk's project in Yuen Long, HKGGA's project in Jordan, TWGHs' project in Sheung Wan, the Hong Kong Association of Youth Development's project in Mong Kok, the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited's project in Yuen Long, and the Salvation Army's project in Wan Chai), providing more than 3 300 place in total.

and TWGHs would commence construction works for completion in the latter half of 2024. The Administration further advised that other YHS projects were also underway. HAB had been working closely with and providing necessary assistance to interested non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") to help them take forward their proposed YHS projects. On easing the housing needs of young people, the Administration advised that it had actively taken forward YHS and, having regard to members' views, relaxed the requirement to allow YHS tenants to apply for public rental housing as well.

## Community Care Fund

35. The Panel discussed the work progress of the Community Care Fund ("CCF") at two meetings in the current legislative session. Members expressed particular concern about whether CCF could introduce short-term programmes to help needy individuals, especially the unemployed, to tide over the difficulties arising from the COVID-19 epidemic. Members were concerned that a number of companies would lay off their staff or close their businesses upon the end of the second tranche of the Employment Support Scheme. Members urged CCF to play a more active role in providing relief to individuals hard hit by the epidemic. Noting that the Administration had no plan to establish a new unemployment assistance system, members asked whether CCF would launch any assistance programmes to address the imminent needs of the unemployed.

36. The Chairman of CCF Task Force advised that considering the scale of impact caused by COVID-19 on the community and the available resources of CCF, it was more appropriate to deploy the financial resources of the Government instead of CCF to introduce the relevant relief measures. That said, the Chairman of CCF Task Force advised that CCF had launched the first round of the "One-off Living Subsidy for Low-income Households Not Living in Public Housing and Not Receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance" Programme ("Living Subsidy Programme") and the "One-off Allowance for New Arrivals from Low-income Families" Programme in July and September 2020 respectively to provide assistance to persons from low-income families. In addition, the second round of the Living Subsidy Programme was rolled out in January 2021 to provide relief to the targeted recipients.

37. Members considered that the "Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families" and the "Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low-income Carers of Persons with Disabilities ("PWDs")" should be enhanced, such that CCF should relax the eligibility criteria so as to benefit more carers. Members also suggested that CCF

should consider increasing the living allowances provided under the two pilot schemes, with a view to encouraging more carers to take care of the elderly persons and PWDs.

38. The Chairman of CCF Task Force advised that the Administration had provided various support services to carers of elderly persons and PWDs. The living allowances provided under the two pilot schemes were a form of financial assistance aiming to supplement the living expenses of carers with difficulties. The Chairman of CCF Task Force further advised that the Labour and Welfare Bureau had already launched a study on support for carers to explore their needs with a view to formulating a more comprehensive policy on support for carers. A multi-disciplinary consulting team of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University had been commissioned to assist in carrying out the study. Pending the completion of the study in 2021, the two pilot schemes would be extended for 36 months until end-September 2023 to continue to provide living allowances for carers in need.

39. Members expressed support for the "Pilot Scheme to Subsidize Using Rooms in Hotels and Guesthouses as Transitional Housing" ("Pilot Scheme for Transitional Housing"), which was to rent about 800 suitable rooms in hotels and guesthouses with substantial vacancies for use as transitional housing through NGOs, with a total funding provision of \$95 million. Members expressed concern that the application process had been slow and whether the CCF funding would cover renovation costs.

40. The Chairman of CCF Task Force advised that the Pilot Scheme for Transitional Housing had approved about \$30 million of subsidies to two proposals, covering about 240 rooms, and the recruitment for the needy tenants had been launched. The Chairman of CCF Task Force explained that the Pilot Scheme for Transitional Housing covered simple and minor renovations, as the rooms in participating hotels and guesthouses would only be used as transitional housing temporarily, and their status as hotels and guesthouses would remain unchanged. Substantial conversion works requiring restoration were not anticipated. Since the Pilot Scheme for Transitional Housing was still in an early phase, it would be reviewed at a later juncture to identify room for improvements. As approved by the Finance Committee in June 2021, additional funding, if needed, could be made available from the funding scheme to support transitional housing projects by NGOs, of which \$8.3 billion had been allocated.

## Other issues

41. The Panel was also consulted on the Administration's funding/staffing proposals on:

- development of Town Park in Area 68, Tseung Kwan O;
- development of Kwai Chung Park;
- renovation of Tsuen Wan Public Library;
- facility upgrading of Tai Po Civic Centre;
- development of the open space at Hung Hom Waterfront;
- proposed retention of one supernumerary post of Government Architect (D2);
- renovation and improvement project for the Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre;
- development of Open Space at Hoi Fan Road, Tai Kok Tsui;
- development of Water Sports Complex at Rehabilitated Shek O Quarry Site;
- broadcasting arrangements for TOG in Hong Kong; and
- Sports Science and Research Funding Scheme.

42. The Panel also discussed the findings of a consultancy study on provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong commissioned by HAB.

## Meetings held and visit conducted

43. During the period between October 2020 and October 2021, the Panel held a total of 12 meetings. The Panel also conducted a visit to the experience centre and site office of the Kai Tak Sports Park to understand the development progress of the project.

Council Business Division 4 Legislative Council Secretariat 12 October 2021

## Appendix I

#### **Legislative Council**

#### **Panel on Home Affairs**

#### **Terms of Reference**

- 1. To monitor and examine Government policies and issues of public concern relating to district, community and rural matters, civic education, building management, youth matters, provision of leisure and cultural services, development of arts and culture, public entertainment, sport and recreation.
- 2. To provide a forum for the exchange and dissemination of views on the above policy matters.
- 3. To receive briefings and to formulate views on any major legislative or financial proposals in respect of the above policy areas prior to their formal introduction to the Council or Finance Committee.
- 4. To monitor and examine, to the extent it considers necessary, the above policy matters referred to it by a member of the Panel or by the House Committee.
- 5. To make reports to the Council or to the House Committee as required by the Rules of Procedure.

## Appendix II

## **Panel on Home Affairs**

# Membership list for the 2020-2021 session\*

Chairman	Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP	
Deputy Chairman	Hon WONG Kwok-kin, GBS, JP	
Members	Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP Hon YIU Si-wing, SBS Hon MA Fung-kwok, GBS, JP Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding 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	
Clerk	Ms Joanne MAK	
Legal Adviser	Miss Evelyn LEE	

\* Changes in membership are set out in **Annex to Appendix II** 

## Annex to Appendix II

## **Panel on Home Affairs**

## **Changes in membership**

Member	Relevant date
Hon James TO Kun-sun	Up to 9 November 2020
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP	Up to 9 November 2020
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP	Up to 10 November 2020
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP	Up to 10 November 2020
Hon IP Kin-yuen	Up to 10 November 2020
Hon SHIU Ka-chun	Up to 11 November 2020
Hon HUI Chi-fung	Up to 11 November 2020
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho	Up to 11 November 2020
Hon Claudia MO	Up to 12 November 2020
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH	Up to 12 November 2020
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan	Up to 12 November 2020
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin	Up to 12 November 2020
Hon LAM Cheuk-ting	Up to 12 November 2020
Hon KWONG Chun-yu	Up to 12 November 2020
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung	Up to 18 November 2020
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP	Up to 1 December 2020
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS, JP	Up to 1 December 2020
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP	Up to 2 December 2020
Hon YIU Si-wing, SBS	Up to 2 December 2020
Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH	Up to 2 December 2020
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP	Up to 3 December 2020
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP	Up to 3 December 2020
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP	Up to 6 December 2020
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, GBS, JP	Up to 6 December 2020
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, SBS, JP	Up to 6 January 2021
Hon YIU Si-wing, SBS	Since 8 April 2021

For **changes in LegCo Membership**, please refer to the link below: (<u>https://www.legco.gov.hk/general/english/members/yr16-20/notes.htm</u>)