

**Public Libraries Advisory Committee**  
**Summary of Discussion of the 46<sup>th</sup> Meeting Held on 9 March 2023**

**Business Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries (2023-24) (PLAC 1/2023)**

1. Members noted the report and made the following suggestions and enquiries:
  - (a) Members appreciated the provision of a reading area for children aged between 0 and 3 and a create • info zone in the Sham Shui Po Public Library for connecting people from all walks of life. They also suggested incorporating more supporting hardware relating to the design and creative industries and showcasing the works of local designers in the library, in a bid to support the industries in passing on the torch and enhance the style of the library.
  - (b) To organise extension activities that appeal to adult patrons, launch reading activities themed on various industries and recommend books of related themes.
  - (c) To focus on the promotion of major activities and competitions and scale up existing ones, such as introducing kindergarten and open categories to creative competitions for schools, and consider the display of winning entries at venues outside library premises to extend the reach of the activities.
  - (d) To enhance the borrowing function in the mobile application and explore the feasibility of integrating with those from various government departments. In addition, to set up “iAM Smart +” self-registration kiosks at libraries for the convenience of local residents, in support of the implementation of the Smart City Blueprint for Hong Kong.
  - (e) To strengthen collaboration with schools in delivering information on library activities more effectively and in cultivating reading habit among children from an early age.
  - (f) Regarding the promotion of local literary works, members appreciated the highly practical and interesting videos in the “101 Academy” at Edutainment Channel which are beneficial to classroom teaching and learning of Chinese and literature. They

also suggested formulating long-term strategies for the development of programme content.

- (g) To collaborate with local arts and cultural organisations to achieve synergy in promotion. In addition, to consider collaborating with the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) by inviting librarians to participate in the “One-minute Reading” programme and introduce the features of various libraries.
- (h) To consider promoting the new library image and new library facilities by putting large advertisements in mass transit railway stations and on the body of buses so that members of the public could know more about the services provided by the HKPL. Also to consider selecting suitable magazines for publicising and promoting library activities regularly.
- (i) To formulate long-term plan for optimising the search function by applying “ChatGPT” driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology and to understand the needs of readers during their search for information in an interactive way through “AI Librarian”, so as to help members of the public use library services more efficiently and attract more readers.

Secretariat of Public Libraries Advisory Committee  
September 2023