

Public Libraries Advisory Committee
Summary of Discussion of the 47th Meeting Held on 28 July 2023

Planning and Development of Public Libraries (PLAC 2/2023)

1. Members noted the report and made the following suggestions :
 - (a) To enhance the promotion of the branding of “Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL)” in the future grand opening of Lei King Road Public Library, such as holding activity to invite patrons taking photos and sharing on social media platforms, with a view to extending the publicity and attracting patronage.
 - (b) To invite designers sharing on their design concepts of the new library, such as the inclusive design elements, in order to promote the characteristic facilities and the outstanding interior space designed by local designers; To nominate library buildings for architectural design competitions so as to enhance the branding of HKPL; To procure furniture made from recyclable materials to dovetail with the Government’s low-carbon policy and attract more patronage to libraries.
 - (c) To set up service counters for the promotion of electronic resources and provision of technical support to encourage usage by patrons.
 - (d) To strengthen connection between HKPL and the community, for example connecting with schools by promoting the rich resources of HKPL to students and encourage them to visit the libraries regularly or organising reading clubs under different themes to bring the youth together; To make good use of the diversified library collections in extension activities to enliven reading atmosphere in community, such as organising pop-up events at night time.
 - (e) To make reference from libraries overseas in setting up retreat / meditation rooms furnished with relevant reading information to inspire patrons.
 - (f) To collect and analyse usage figures of Sham Shui Po Public Library, such as age groups of visitors attracted to the library; To formulate promotion strategy of new library according to population distribution of the serving community, such as focusing on parents

and their young kids if the community is populated with young families; To enhance the promotion of libraries with kid's reading area to facilitate visiting by the seniors with their grandchildren for the enjoyment of paired reading.

- (g) To offer tea at vending machines at coffee corner in public libraries; To engage retirees who love reading as volunteers to help in locating reading resources for library patrons.
- (h) To incorporate design elements with local features in district libraries; to exhibit works of students studying in the district for attracting them and their families to visit the libraries.
- (i) With increasing number of self-service terminals to be installed in libraries, it is recommended to promote electronic books along with printed books to acquaint readers with the variety of library resources; to introduce new elements to enrich services in the new 24-hour self-service area, such as providing space for book crossing activity in the self-service area.

Enhance Loan Quota for Public Libraries (PLAC 3/2023)

2. Members noted the report and made the following suggestions :

- (a) To assess the need and feasibility of extending loan period or to set different loan period and quotas for different collections based on the loan statistics.
- (b) To enhance the interactivity of the HKPL mobile app with more user-friendly functions, such as personalised recommendation on collection based on search results, which could boost overall collection usage.
- (c) To deploy resources for dual development of physical and electronic reading and review the loan quota for electronic books.
- (d) To offer incentive programmes such as “love reading families”, “love reading seniors / children” and “love reading schools” basing on loan figures to better promote reading and to formulate strategy in increasing the use of less popular collections.

- (e) To organise large scale events during the weekend of “Hong Kong Reading for All Day”, such as inviting loyal readers to share reading experience, organizing cross-over activities with radio stations and bookstores, holding book launch and sharing by famous writers and collaborating with Key Opinion Leaders in publicity events etc. to arouse interest in reading among the public.
- (f) To provide book delivery service for patrons who borrowed larger number of items from the library.
- (g) To pilot at the coming Lei King Road Public Library the provision of service to students in the district including group application of library card with online account for use of electronic resources and orientation in order to promote both online and offline reading.
- (h) To introduce a bonus point programme in which patrons could redeem books or other gifts with points rewarded based on number of materials they borrowed from libraries.

Secretariat of Public Libraries Advisory Committee
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