

Public Libraries Advisory Committee
Summary of Discussion of the 26th Meeting Held on 5 October 2016

An introduction to the Public Library Services at District Level (PLAC 3/2016)

1. Members were briefed on the latest and upcoming development of the public library services at district level with reference to the missions of the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) as mapped out in the Strategic Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries (2009-2018).
2. Members made the following suggestions:
 - (a) To provide a more attractive and welcoming environment to patrons by modifying the design of layout and furnishings in public libraries at each tier.
 - (b) To set up information centres at more public libraries to meet the increasing demand on the use of computer services and adopt the “learning commons” model on the layout design which had been gaining popularity among academic libraries internationally.
 - (c) To create a more vibrant ambience in public libraries to attract patronage of the younger generations.
 - (d) To explore collaboration opportunities with local organisations’ “community cultural docent tours” in promoting the culture and heritage of individual districts with a view to earning synergy, and set up Cultural and Historical Resource Corner at more libraries to expose the rich collections on history and culture to a larger population.
 - (e) To better promote lifelong learning and foster the reading habit in the grass root community by helping local organisations to set up reading centres in every district for organising reading activities.
 - (f) To form a more efficient platform for sharing of resources by playing a more active role in stepping up communication and co-operation between public libraries and schools.
 - (g) To invite celebrities or renowned authors to broadcast the new self-service library unit trial scheme and place the self-service library units at more easily accessible locations such as MTR stations.
 - (h) To take advantage of the “LIBoratory Project” and explore opportunities in collaborating with schools to complement each other in the provision of

information and knowledge.

An Update on the Review of Public Libraries Fees and Charges (PLAC 4/2016)

3. Members were briefed on the latest progress of the Review of Public Libraries Fees and Charges, the major principles concerning the fee adjustment and the tentative implementation schedule.

4. Members agreed on the major principles of the proposed fee adjustment and made the following comments for consideration by the HKPL:

- (a) To tactfully present the adjustments resulting from the rationale behind the alignment of fees in urban and rural regions.
- (b) To re-examine the difference in the charges between photocopying and printing services in public libraries.
- (c) To study discounted charge for double-sided printing and photocopying compared with single-sided ones.
- (d) To extend colour photocopying service to all public libraries so as to meet the present demand of school work.

Secretariat of Public Libraries Advisory Committee
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