

Public Libraries Advisory Committee
Summary of Discussion of the 37th Meeting Held on 22 January 2020

**Pilot Programme for Promotion of Local Publications and Reading Culture
(PLAC 1/2020)**

1. Members noted the details of the Pilot Programme for Promotion of Local Publications and Reading Culture (Pilot Programme) and made the following comments:

- (a) To aptly devise the mechanism for distributing programme fee to eligible publishers and authors and to have appropriate measures in handling cases such as publishers no longer in operations or writers out of contact;
- (b) To acquire site licences of e-books from publishers or allow readers to buy e-books via the platform;
- (c) To cover valuable local literary materials collected through donation in the new electronic database under the Pilot Programme;
- (d) To maintain consistency in the quality of book data in the new electronic database and to explore the feasibility of uploading the entire book for readers' access in addition to chapters for preview.
- (e) To formulate indicators to be adopted in reviewing the Pilot Programme.

The Strategic Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries (2020 to 2025) (PLAC 2/2020)
Business Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries (2020-21) (PLAC 3/2020)

2. Members noted and endorsed the Strategic Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries (2020 to 2025) and the Business Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries (2020-21) with the following suggestions:

- (a) To set up public libraries or reading facilities such as self-service library stations in public housing estates, so as to cultivate an ambience and

environment conducive to fostering reading habit;

- (b) To capitalise on the increased spectrum of 5G, the innovation in augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) in alluring children to use the library facilities for reading enjoyment;
- (c) To design diversified interactive activities targeting for children at mobile libraries in various districts;
- (d) In light of changes in the mix of library collection arising from significant increase in use of e-books, to adopt design thinking to convert the future public libraries into a welcoming space in the community;
- (e) To invite schools as well as youth organisations to participate in the Story Ambassador Programme;
- (f) In reference to the thriving cultural and creative industries in other regions, to consider allocating part of the library space for related purposes to attract visitors;
- (g) To encourage cross-over of libraries and museums to achieve synergy, for example, display or recommendation of relevant books at the Exhibition Gallery of the Hong Kong Central Library might motivate visitors to read further after visiting the exhibitions;
- (h) In relation to the criteria in selecting children books by public libraries, to consider establishing close connection with schools and collecting voting data of the Top Ten Book Picks from schools to shed light on the latest reading interest of children for effective collection development;
- (i) To organise competitions and interactive games at libraries to tie in with the gamification trend, using electronic devices as a learning tool; to promote library services with fictitious characters (reference might be made to the

But's Family of the Family Council);

- (j) To organise parents' reading clubs; to invite authors to recommend books or introduce classic reading materials to readers in Ted-style talks;
- (k) To expatiate on the guideline on collection development of public libraries.

Secretariat of Public Libraries Advisory Committee

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