

**Public Libraries Advisory Committee**  
**Summary of Discussion of the 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting Held on 26 June 2020**

**“Development of Public Library Services” (PLAC 4/2020)**

1. Members noted the details of the Strategic Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries (2020-2025) and the key areas of work of the libraries for the next few years; and made the following comments:

(a) To offer live stream or video recording of library activities in light of the changing reading habits of the public, such as online reading, the use of audio books and audio-visual materials of talks and seminars, so as to attract viewing and borrowing of relevant books; and to promote territory-wide reading;

(b) To aptly deploy manpower and resources involved in major areas of work; and to set quantifiable indicators to facilitate the objective assessment of work results;

(c) To support the comprehensive development plan of public libraries; and to appeal for library users of different age groups in using library services with various incentives. In view of the changing reading habits of the young generation, social media such as Instagram and YouTube should be leveraged to attract them to rediscover the joy of reading;

(d) To hold more reading promotion activities like “Pick-a-Booket” with the use of mobile libraries to inspire children to read;

(e) Members agreed to a diversified and comprehensive development strategy for libraries to promote library activities to schools in a lively manner such as arranging “Library-on-Wheels” to visit schools and inviting teachers to visit libraries with special features; and to explore on the implementation of the school library ambassador programme, such as launching award or summer internship scheme to foster the interest of students serving in school libraries. To hold activities in various districts to make district libraries local attractions;

(f) Members welcomed the provision of mobile libraries in remote districts and the launch of the Story Ambassador Programme. Activities for library users of different age groups should be organised to attract visits; and

(g) To focus more on aspiring creativity. In promoting reading for all,

resources should be deployed to encourage reading among the middle-aged and the elderly, in addition to children and students.

## **Progress Report on Promotion of Reading Culture in the Community (PLAC 5/2020)**

2. Members noted the progress report and made the following suggestions:
  - (a) To incorporate interactive elements and invite readers to join relevant activities at the end of reading promotion videos, so as to attract them to use library services and take part in activities with a view to raising the attendance rate;
  - (b) To step up publicity on measures relevant to sanitizing library books for assuring the public in using library services after the epidemic situation has stabilized;
  - (c) To step up efforts in promoting social media platforms of libraries to the public; and
  - (d) To enhance promotion of library services among the ethnic minorities, such as inviting them to be story ambassadors.

Secretariat of Public Libraries Advisory Committee

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