

Public Libraries Advisory Committee
Summary of Discussion of the 22nd Meeting Held on 3 June 2015

An Update on the Review of Library Fees and Charges (PLAC 3/2015)

1. Members noted that a comprehensive review on library fees and charges had been conducted in 2014-15 and the relevant fee revision would be processed by phases for implementation in late 2015.

Promotion of Reading – The Diverse Library Extension Activities (PLAC 4/2015)

2. Members were briefed on the rich variety of extension activities provided by Hong Kong Public Libraries (“HKPL”) to promote reading and life-long learning, literary arts as well as profitable use of library services and materials in accordance with the “Strategic Plan of Hong Kong Public Libraries 2009-2018”.
3. Members were impressed with HKPL’s efforts paid in designing and arranging a host of extension activities and the major points of discussion were summarised below:
 - (a) HKPL had made use of different publicity channels to promote the programmes for target participants and would continue to explore other promotion channels to expand the target audience base in the community.
 - (b) More detailed analysis of the data relating to participation of the extension activities would be made following the “Opinion Survey on HKPL (2014)” to identify more effective and relevant activities for the community in the present days.
 - (c) While some programmes were designed for specific target groups, some programmes were organised for more than one target group.
 - (d) The public’s reading trend by using the internet should be taken into consideration when formulating the strategy in providing library services to help establish quality reading habit among the youth.
 - (e) Regular reviews on the borrowing habits among readers of different age groups were conducted as a reference for drawing up strategies for promotion of library services including extension activities.

Progress Report of the Implementation of the New Mode of Front-line and Support Service Delivery in Public Libraries (PLAC 5/2015)

4. Members noted the progress of the implementation of the New Mode of Front-line and Support Service Delivery in Public Libraries as well as the recent default contractor incident and made the following suggestions:

- (a) To consider providing job opportunities to disabled persons through non-government organisations to assist in providing library services.
- (b) To explore the feasibility in engaging part-time workers as an alternative source of manpower.
- (c) To draw up a roadmap of technology infrastructure to save time and resources for future upgrading and explore the possibility of adopting new technology by means of hiring contract instead of procuring the whole system.

Secretariat of Public Libraries Advisory Committee
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