

Public Libraries Advisory Committee

Summary of Discussion of the 19th Meeting Held on 3 June 2014

Modus Operandi of the Public Libraries Advisory Committee

1. The Committee endorsed the modus operandi proposed by the Department.

Hong Kong Memory Project

2. The “Hong Kong Memory” Project (HKMP) aimed to preserve Hong Kong’s historical and cultural heritage by means of digitization for presentation on the Internet. Commissioned by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Science (Centre of Asian Studies) (HKIHSS) of University of Hong Kong kicked off HKMP which would be handed over to the Department by end of 2014. After hearing the background and development of HKMP, Members made the following comments:
 - (i) Participatory or interactive elements could be added to the Hong Kong Memory Portal (the Portal).
 - (ii) Experience sharing workshops with HKIHSS and/or contributors of the exhibition could be arranged for the public.
 - (iii) Promotion of the Portal should be arranged to maximize the public's exposure to such valuable local heritage.
 - (iv) Accessibility of the Portal through mobile devices could be enhanced and sufficient bandwidth should be provided to ensure satisfactory loading time.
 - (v) Continuous development of the content of the Portal would be important to upkeep the cultural treasure. The Portal would serve as the platform of presenting the research output by academics.
3. The Department responded that while some of the suggestions were already in the pipeline, they would explore the feasibility of other suggestions in detail.

Opinion Survey on Hong Kong Public Libraries 2014

4. The Department carried out public opinion surveys periodically to collect the public’s views and their future needs on library services. A consultant firm had been engaged to carry out the Opinion Survey 2014, which would cover all 77 public libraries, including 67 static libraries and 10 mobile libraries. Interviews would be conducted in English, Cantonese or Putonghua. Interviewees would be invited according to the designed sampling method in which users would be

classified as users/non-users of library service regardless of their ethnic origins. Having regard to the design of the questionnaire, questions applicable to different groups of users were built-in in one standard questionnaire.

5. Noting that the Department had also been collecting users' opinions through other channels, Members suggested that triangulation of data collected through different means could be made for the Department's reference.

Latest Development of the Public Library Services

6. As orientation to new Members, the Department gave a brief account on the latest development of public library services and introduced the upcoming development, with priority focus on promotion of e-services, for Members' general information.

Secretariat of the Public Libraries Advisory Committee
November 2014