Public Libraries Advisory Committee

Meeting agenda and summary of discussion of the 15th Meeting

held on 7 February 2013

Facilities and Services of the Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library (PSTSWPL)

1. Members were briefed on the following services and facilities of the PSTSWPL:

    i.   It was built according to the latest planning standard and it was the second largest public library as well as the 6th major library in the HKPL system. It consisted of 8 floors with a total operational floor area of 6,100 square meters;

    ii. Ground floor to sixth floor would be open to public whereas the green roof top on the sixth floor could be used for organizing special extension activities. The layout of the library is as follow:-

        (a)   G/F: Customer Service Counter, User Education Hall, Exhibition Hall,;

        (b)   1/F: Students' Study Room, Young Adult Library and Atrium;

        (c)   2/F: Children's Library;

        (d)   3/F: Newspapers & Periodicals Section, Fiction Area, Extension Activities Room, Coffee Corner and Courtyard;

        (e)   4/F: Adult Library and Computer & Information Centre;

        (f)   5/F: Adult Library, Health Corner and Multimedia Library; and

        (g)   6/F: Reference Library and Green Roof

2. Members' discussion was summarized as follows:-

    i.   In response to Members' suggestions to provide more seats in the library, the library management would consider the usage and attendance rate for each floor after opening and make necessary adjustments and addition;

    ii.   As suggested by Members, more guided tours/visits and a series of promotion activities would be arranged to better promote and publicise the commissioning of the new PSTSWPL and to arouse public attention of the new facilities and enhanced services; and

    iii.   Additional handrail at a lower level along both sides of the staircase leading from 2/F to 1/F were added for the kids to enhance safety.

Presentation of the 'Report of the Business Consultancy Study on the Full Implementation of RFID in Hong Kong Public Libraries' by the consultant

3. Members were briefed on the background that HKPL had launched a pilot scheme since December 2011 to try out the application of RFID technology in six public libraries for further enhancing the public library service through leveraging on new technology and the use of IT. A consultant had been engaged to review on the results of the pilot scheme and to study the business case for implementing RFID technology system-wide.

4. An overview of the RFID project was given to Members and a presentation was conducted by the consultant on the findings of the business consultancy study for Members' consideration.

5. The Committee was generally in support of implementing the RFID technology in the HKPL.   HKPL would follow up with the Committee's suggestions.   A detailed technical feasibility study would be conducted and funding support for taking forward the RFID project would be sought at an appropriate time.

Secretariat of the Public Libraries Advisory Committee
October 2013