

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE

Digest of meeting held on 18 October 2005

Members Present

Chair : Ms Christine Fang

Members : Dr Andrew Thomson

Mr Chong Chan-yau

Ms Jacqueline Cheng

Mr Michael Lai

Mrs Mei Ng

Mr Tai Hay-lap

Dr Alvin Kwok

Mr Plato Yip

Mrs Juliana Chen, Deputy Director of Information Services

In attendance Mr. Lee Chi-hung, Chief Curriculum Dev Officer (Personal, Social and Humanity Education), Education and Manpower Bureau

Mrs Susan Mak, Deputy Director of Administration (DD of Admin)

Ms Vivian Tsang, Senior Town Planner, SDU

Ms Caroline Pang, Town Planner, SDU

Mr C. P. Li, Senior Executive Officer, SDU

Secretary : Mr Jonathan McKinley, Assistant Director of Administration (Sustainable Development) 2

Item 1 – Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

Members noted that the minutes had been confirmed by circulation and that a digest would be uploaded onto the Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) website.

Item 2 – Briefing from Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) on SD in the new Liberal Studies Curriculum

Mr Lee Chi-hung, Chief Curriculum Development Officer (Personal, Social and Humanity Education) of the EMB gave a presentation to Members on the development of the New Senior Secondary Liberal Studies Curriculum and the way SD could be promoted through the subject. He explained that Liberal Studies was proposed as one of the core subjects in the New Senior Secondary Curriculum. He added that SD would be incorporated as an issue for enquiry and as

a perspective from which to examine other issues in the curriculum. Consultation on the curriculum had ended and the framework would be confirmed in February or March 2006.

Members' views on the proposed SD content in the Liberal Studies Curriculum are summarized as follows -

- The proposed coverage of SD appeared to be too academic and curriculum-based, and should take a more liberal approach.
- SD should not be presented as an abstract concept. Rather, guiding themes, such as UN Agenda 21 and sustainable production and consumption, could be used to generate ideas that would enable teachers and students to develop a practical view of the subject.
- Case studies on the sustainability of major events such as the 2008 Olympics Games and the 2009 East Asian Games should be used as teaching materials to stimulate thinking on SD issues.
- There should be regular communication between the EPSC and the Curriculum Development Committee on this issue – having a Member from each body sit on the other's committee would facilitate this interface.

Item 3 – “SDF – Assessment procedures for the 3rd round of applications” (Paper 09/05)

The Chair invited Members' views on the proposed SDF application process and asked whether previous Vetting Committee (VC) Members who were non-EPSC Members should be invited to serve on the VC.

Members noted that the difference in membership of the VC and EPSC had created some inconsistencies and considered that the 3-tier screening process in the previous round of applications could be improved. Members agreed to streamline the process, so that the SDU would do the pre-screening and scoring for the applications while the EPSC, rather than the VC, would review the projects in detail at the next EPSC meeting.

Members also agreed that the screening be enhanced by descriptive comments with the scores given under each assessment criteria. The SDU should also obtain recommendations and expert advice from relevant government departments where appropriate.

Members agreed that bonus points would not be necessary for projects that fell within the proposed priority areas.

In dealing with applications from individuals, Members agreed that the SDU would verify each track record wherever possible and provide information on links with target organizations or communities.

Item 4 – “Implementation of the School Outreach Programme” (Paper 10/05)

Members noted that the School Outreach Programme was part of the Education & Publicity Strategy agreed by the Council and the EPSC should continue to support it. The Chair considered that the programme was worthwhile, and suggested that the SDU review its content to ensure quality and then outsource the task to stakeholder partners.

Item 5 – “Mass Production of Selected Winning Entries of SD Publicity Materials Design Competition as Council Publicity Materials” (Paper 11/05)

Members agreed to upload the four selected AV-production winning entries on the SDU website for public viewing. They also agreed to mass-produce two distinction award booklets (from the Secondary School Group and the Open Group) and two selected Merit Award posters (one from the Open Group and one from the Secondary School Group) for distribution to the public.

Item 6 - Any Other Business

“Special Report on SDF Project: Green Culture Island - Peng Chau (SDF102)” (Paper 12/05)

Members agreed that a meeting should be convened to discuss with the grantee any difficulties in implementing the project.

Item 7 - Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting would be scheduled for December.

Council Secretariat
December 2005