

COMMUNITY SPORTS COMMITTEE

Future Work Direction of the Community Sports Committee - Follow Up of the Brainstorming Session of the Sports Commission

PURPOSE

This paper :-

- (a) informs members of the discussion made at the Brainstorming Session of the Sports Commission (SC) held on 2 April 2005, in particular on promoting community sports; and
- (b) invite members' views on how to take onboard the key areas of work as developed by SC.

BACKGROUND

2. On 27 January 2005, the Chief Executive (CE) met members of SC and representatives of the sports sector. The CE invited the Secretary for Home Affairs to submit a report which outlines the future direction and strategy in promoting sports development in Hong Kong. In this connection, SC held a brainstorming session on 2 April 2005 to discuss broad issues. It was agreed that the three Committees (i.e. Community Sports Committee, Elite Sports Committee and the Major Sports Events Committee) should also contribute towards a strategy and action plan for the respective issues, so that a consolidated strategy could be formulated for sports development in Hong Kong.

OVERALL VISION AND STRATEGY

3. SC recognizes the value of sports in terms of the health benefits to

individual, enhancement of social cohesion as well as economic benefits to society. The Commission reaffirms its vision in achieving “sports for all” and that this should be achieved through the overall framework in :-

- (a) promoting community participation in sports;
- (b) fostering high performance sports; and
- (c) promoting Hong Kong as an attractive venue for hosting international sports events.

KEY ISSUES FOR PROMOTING COMMUNITY SPORTS

4. The Commission, having taken into account the various discussions of the Community Sports Committee, agreed that the following key areas of work should be further pursued: -

- (a) Improving the overall fitness of the community: as a first step, a comprehensive fitness test should be implemented to provide a standard indicator of the state of fitness that can be used for comparison with neighbouring countries. The findings of the test could also provide a baseline for evaluating effectiveness and the directions for future community sports initiatives;
- (b) Promoting student sports: the Commission agrees that cultivating a sporting culture should start with young people. Promoting students’ participation in sports should therefore be given priority. Efforts should be made to achieve “one sport for each student”. The Community Sports Committee should work closely with education sector to achieve this objective through strengthening physical education in the education system; and
- (c) Sports venues: improve the management and operation of sports venues to facilitate and attract wider participation in sport activities. This may be achieved through further collaboration with National Sports Associations.

Members may refer to the summary of discussion at the Sports Commission Brainstorming Session as at Annex.

WAY FORWARD

5. Members are invited to identify more specific objectives and strategy to take forward the focus of work as developed by SC. SC will consider and consolidate views of this Committee as well as inputs from the Elite Sports Committee and Major Sports Events Committee to formulate an overall strategy on sports development in Hong Kong.

ADVICE SOUGHT

6. Members are invited to note the summary of discussion of SC at the Brainstorming Session (paragraph 3), and comment on the future direction of work as set out in paragraph 4 above.

Community Sports Committee Secretariat
April 2005