立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. FC262/20-21 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref : FC/1/1(28)

Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 29th meeting held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Friday, 18 June 2021, from 2:46 pm to 5:13 pm

Members present:

Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP (Chairman)

Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, GBS, JP

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP

Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP

Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS

Hon MA Fung-kwok, GBS, JP

Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, GBS, JP

Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP Dr Hon Pierre CHAN Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS, JP

Member absent:

Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP

Public officers attending:

Mr Raistlin LAU Chun, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) 1
Miss CHAN Cheuk-yin, Jennie	Principal Executive Officer (G), Financial Services and the Treasury
Mr Peter MAK Chi-kwong	Bureau (The Treasury Branch) Acting Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 1
Mr Jimmy CHAN Pai-ming, JP	Director of Highways
Mr LUK Wai-hung, JP	Project Manager (Major Works), Highways Department
Mr David TO Kam-biu	Principal Project Coordinator (Tsing Yi-Lantau Link), Highways
Mr LEUNG Sai-ho	Department Assistant Commissioner for Transport (Planning)

Mr Thomas CHU Wai-lun Chief Engineer (Major Projects),

Transport Department

Dr CHUI Tak-yi, JP Under Secretary for Food and Health Dr CHEUNG Wai-lun Project Director (Chinese Medicine

Hospital Project Office), Food and

Health Bureau

Ms Ellen CHAN Sheung-man Principal Assistant Secretary for Food

and Health (Health) 7 and Head (Chinese Medicine Unit), Food and

Health Bureau

Ms Amber LAM King-wan Senior Systems Manager (Chinese

Medicine Hospital Project Office) 4A,

Food and Health Bureau

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT Assistant Secretary General 1

Staff in attendance:

Miss Bowie LAM Council Secretary (1)1

Mr Frankie WOO Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3

Miss Yannes HO Legislative Assistant (1)7

Action

<u>The Chairman</u> reminded members of the requirements under Rule 83A and Rule 84 of the Rules of Procedure.

Item 1 — FCR(2021-22)33

RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS

SUBCOMMITTEE MADE ON 20 MAY 2021

PWSC(2021-22)14

HEAD 706 — **HIGHWAYS**

Transport — Roads

884TH — Route 11 (section between Yuen Long and North Lantau)

- 2. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the current item invited members to approve the following recommendations of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") made at its meeting on 20 May 2021:
 - the upgrading of part of **884TH** to Categroy A as **885TH** "Route 11 (section between Yuen Long and North Lantau) ("Route 11") investigation study" (the Study) at an estimated cost of \$319 million in money-of-the-day prices; and
 - (b) the retention of the remainder of **884TH** in Category B.
- 3. <u>Members</u> noted that PWSC had spent about 48 minutes on discussion of this item.
- 4. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that he was an Executive Director and the Chief Executive Officer of Well Link Insurance Group Holdings Limited, as well as a Director of Well Link General Insurance Company Limited and Well Link Life Insurance Company Limited.

Tenderng process

- 5. <u>Mrs Regina IP</u> enquired about the tendering procedures adopted for the current proposal. Noting that over the years, only a handful of firms had been selected by the Government to undertake consultancy studies, <u>Mrs IP</u> was concerned whether individual consultants might make use of their advantaged position and propose exorbitant fees. In response, <u>Director of Highways</u> ("D of Hy") advised that:
 - (a) pursuant to existing practice, the Highways Department ("HyD") had commenced the tendering process for the Study in parallel to seeking the Finance Committee ("FC")'s approval;
 - (b) for complex consultancy studies, only pre-qualified consultants in possession of the requisite capabilities would be invited to submit bids; and
 - (c) the tender exercise was a competitive process during which the technical and price proposals received from each bidder would be subject to vigorous and stringent assessment under the "two-envelope, two-stage" system before a recommendation was made to the Engineering and

Associated Consultants Selection Board ("EACSB") for approval.

- 6. On tender evaluation, Mr LUK Chung-hung expressed dissatisfaction at the Administration's supplementary information provided in response to his questions raised at the PWSC meeting, and sought specific information on the marking scheme, if any, for the tender offers, as well as the assessment criteria and their respective weighting. In this regard, Acting Deputy Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) 1 ("DS for TH(T)1(Ag)") and Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)1 advised that:
 - (a) the invitation for and evaluation of tender proposals were carried out in accordance with the guidelines set out in the EACSB Handbook; and
 - (b) the relevant parts of the tender document issued by the Government, including the assessment criteria and respective weightings would be provided to members after the meeting.

[*Post-meeting note*: The Chinese and English versions of the supplementary information provided by the Administration were issued to members vide LC Paper No. FC 205/20-21(01) on 6 August 2021 and 28 October 2021 respectively.]

- 7. <u>Dr CHENG Chung-tai</u> enquired whether consideration would be given to:
 - (a) awarding separate contracts for different works; and
 - (b) appointing different consultants for different tasks of the Study in view of its wide scope.
- 8. In response, <u>D of Hy</u> explained that:
 - (a) under the current proposal, consultants would be engaged to undertake the Study on a lump sum basis;
 - (b) appointing different consultants for different tasks of the Study was not practicable as this might result in a lack of coordination;

- (c) in the detailed design and construction stage, contracts for different categories of works would be awarded to different contractors; and
- (d) this arrangement would enable greater participation by contractors of different specializations, thereby facilitating timely completion and commissioning of Route 11.

<u>Issues related to the investigation study</u>

Cost-effectiveness

- 9. <u>Mr Wilson OR</u> was concerned about measures, if any, to ensure the cost-effectiveness of the Study costing some \$319 million. In response, <u>D of Hy</u> highlighted that:
 - (a) there was an established mechanism for the Government to monitor the performance of consultants commissioned to carry out studies; and
 - (b) the public would be able to monitor the progress and outcome of the Study through various reports issued, such as environmental impact assessment ("EIA") reports which were publicly available, as well as during public consultation on the project.
- 10. Noting that the estimated consultants' fees would amount to \$169 million, Mr Christopher CHEUNG was concerned whether the Study would produce useful findings for taking forward the Route 11 project. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung said that most parts of the study might in fact be carried out off-site, and expressed concern about the merging of lanes at the interface of dual three/four-lane tunnels with at-grade roads. Mr Wilson OR questioned whether the data to be used in the Study could be projected to cater for traffic demand by 2036. He cautioned that the unsatisfactory planning in the case of the Anderson Road development must not recur.
- 11. In explaining the scope and complexity of the Study, <u>D of Hy</u> said that:
 - (a) Route 11 comprised tunnels with a total length of about 8 km, a cross-harbour bridge of 1.4 km and other connecting roads, interchanges and associated buildings;

- (b) on-site investigation would be required as the construction sites were scattered and might have complicated ground, geological and groundwater conditions;
- (c) it was necessary to carry out land and marine ground investigation and geotechnical assessment to obtain sufficient information for the design work;
- (d) the Study would review and update the preliminary traffic impact assessment carried out under the Route 11 feasibility study, which included giving consideration to the latest development parameters and planning of major transport infrastructure, updating the traffic model, testing scenarios etc.; and
- (e) subject to the findings of the Study and before finalizing the detailed design for Route 11, there still existed room for modification, such as refining the alignment by providing more lanes and/or improving the exit points.

Duration and scope of the investigation study

- 12. <u>Mr Christopher CHEUNG</u> considered the target completion time of 54 months for the Study too long, as he recalled that the previous proposal to conduct studies related to the formation of artificial islands in the Central Waters, which were far more costly and complex, had been scheduled for completion in 42 months.
- 13. Mr Tony TSE highlighted the need for early completion of the Study and sought explanation on plans to carry out certain tasks concurrently. He stressed the need to review the existing statutory procedures, notably those relating to EIA and handling of public views on gazetted works, which had been in operation for a long period of time. Mr TSE remarked that past experience revealed that dealing with ill-grounded objections had caused considerable delay to project implementation.

14. In response, <u>DS for TH(T)1(Ag)</u> and <u>D of Hy</u> advised that:

- (a) the Study would include various impact assessments, which would be carried out concurrently as far as possible and would take about 28 months;
- (b) after preliminary results of the impact assessments were available (around eight months after commencement of the

- Study), preliminary designs of the various road sections of Route 11 would be carried out concurrently and these tasks were expected to be completed in about 30 months;
- (c) the statutory procedure would commence about 30 months after commencement of the Study and HyD had set aside 24 months for handling public views collected in the statutory procedures;
- (d) if these procedures could be completed earlier, HyD would proceed to the detailed design and construction of the project as soon as possible;
- (e) to facilitate project delivery, every attempt would be made to enhance procedures and address stakeholders' concerns; and
- (f) the use of innovative technology and pre-fabricated parts in the design and construction stage would be conducive to expediting the project.
- 15. <u>Mr Holden CHOW</u> and <u>Mr LEUNG Che-cheung</u> were concerned about the method of conducting public consultation, and enquired whether the current approach could be simplified. <u>D of Hy</u> supplemented that:
 - (a) the Government had to comply with relevant statutory requirements in the construction of Route 11, which was a transport infrastructure project;
 - (b) according to the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) and Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370), the Route 11 project had to undergo EIA and gazette procedures; and
 - (c) collecting public views was one of the necessary steps to comply with the statutory procedures, and would not necessarily prolong the process.
- 16. Referring to the feasibility study on Route 11 approved by FC in May 2018 and basically completed in late 2020, Mr Martin LIAO was concerned that there might be some overlapping between the feasibility study and the proposed Study, such as the marine impact assessment of the Tsing Lung Bridge. He enquired on the feasibility of shortening the estimated duration of 28 months for impact assessments under the Study.

- 17. In response, <u>D of Hy</u> confirmed that while the feasibility study on Route 11 had provided useful reference, it was necessary to conduct updated studies on various aspects including the following:
 - (a) revised alignment of Route 11 in the light of objections/views received during public consultation;
 - (b) new technical requirements such as the headroom of bridges; and
 - (c) EIAs to take into account the latest changes in traffic conditions, noise and air quality.

Commissioning of Route 11

- 18. Noting that Route 11 was scheduled for completion not later than 2036, Mr Michael TIEN cautioned that the population intake of some 200 000 people in Tung Chung by 2024 would put heavy pressure on traffic flows in the area. He further said that Road P1 could serve its intended purpose only if the Tsing Yi-Lantau Link could be completed in 2030 in tandem with Road P1. In response, <u>D of Hy</u> advised that:
 - (a) the engineering study on Tsing Yi Lantau Link had commenced with funding from the relevant Block Allocation;
 - (b) every attempt would be made to expedite this study, but in view of the complexity and scale of the road project, it might not be feasible to complete the project by 2030; and
 - (c) the availability of existing and planned road infrastructure had been taken into account when planning the Tung Chung development.
- 19. To meet the traffic demand arising from the progressive development of Northwest New Territories ("NWNT"), Mr Holden CHOW urged for early project implementation. Dr Junius HO supported the urgent construction and early commissioning of Route 11 to serve NWNT. He considered that existing procedures should be simplified or abolished if they were not conducive to early implementation of infrastructure projects that would benefit the community. D of Hy took note of members' views.
- 20. Whilst concurring with the need to construct Route 11, <u>Mr Martin LIAO</u> remarked that its current design was not conducive to improving connectivity in the Yuen Long district. In this connection, he considered

that an additional exit should be provided in Yuen Long South.

- 21. <u>D of Hy</u> took note of concerns about ways to meet traffic demands in Yuen Long. He added that to improve connectivity, plans were underway to widen a section of Yuen Long Highway to provide better connection with Route 11 when completed.
- 22. Noting that there was only a slight difference of 0.1 between the Volume/Capacity ("v/c") ratios of Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng Section) before and after the commissioning of Route 11, Mr Tony TSE sought further explanation and urged the Administration to provide more information to the public in justification for the costly Route 11 project. In elucidation, D of Hy said that:
 - (a) the ratio value of 1.1 referred to the v/c ratio for lanes other than the bus-only lane on Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng Section) with the proposed Route 11;
 - (b) the v/c ratio for the bus-only lane would be below 1.0, indicating smooth traffic flow on the bus-only lane; and
 - (c) opportunity would be taken to review existing traffic arrangements upon commissioning of Route 11 when connectivity of NWNT with urban areas improved.

Voting on FCR(2021-22)33

23. At 4:02 pm, <u>the Chairman</u> put item FCR(2021-22)33 to vote. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the majority of the members present and voting were in favour of the item. The item was approved.

Item 2 — FCR(2021-22)31

HEAD 140 — **GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT**:

FOOD AND HEALTH BUREAU (HEALTH

BRANCH)

Subhead 700 General non-recurrent

New item "Preparation for service commencement of the

Chinese Medicine Hospital'

CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE FUND HEAD 710 — COMPUTERISATION

Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Health Branch)
New Subhead "IT support for the new Chinese Medicine Hospital"

- 24. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the current item invited members to approve the creation of two new commitments for the Food and Health Bureau (Health Branch):
 - (a) a non-recurrent commitment of \$80.445 million under Head 140 Government Secretariat: Food and Health Bureau (Health Branch) Subhead 700 General non-recurrent for engaging experts and hiring services in preparation for the service commencement of the Chinese Medicine Hospital ("CMH"); and
 - (b) a commitment of \$383.9 million under Capital Works Reserve Fund Head 710 Computerisation for developing and implementing information technology ("IT") systems for CMH.
- 25. At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms Elizabeth QUAT, Chairman of the Panel on Health Services, reported that at its meeting on 9 April 2021, the Panel had discussed the proposed capital works of CMH, as well as the funding proposals for preparation for service commencement and development of the IT systems for CMH. Whilst expressing support for the proposal, some members were concerned about the financial arrangements for the future CMH. Some other members requested the Administration to draw reference from the experience of the National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine (國家中醫藥管理局) in implementing Integrated Chinese-Western Medicine ("ICWM") with a view to improving its implementation in Hong Kong.

Engagement of experts

- 26. On the proposed non-recurrent funding of \$24 million for engaging experts in different specialized areas, <u>Mr Martin LIAO</u> sought explanation on the following:
 - (a) as CMH was the first of its kind in Hong Kong, the relevance of making reference to the experience of public hospitals of a comparable scale in pre-commissioning preparation;

- (b) a breakdown of the \$24 million; and
- (c) the selection criteria for experts, and whether any experts from outside Hong Kong would be engaged.

27. In response, <u>Project Director (Chinese Medicine Hospital Project Office)</u>, <u>Food and Health Bureau ("PD(CMHPO)</u>, FHB") advised that:

- (a) notwithstanding its uniqueness, CMH shared similar requirements on core facilities and equipment as public hospitals of a comparable scale of service;
- (b) the proposed non-recurrent expenditure of \$24 million would be phased over five years with an annual expenditure of \$4 to \$6 million;
- (c) experts would be engaged on the basis of their expertise in drawing up user requirements for the detailed design of the hospital, procurement of furniture and equipment as well as setting up IT systems comprising various sub-systems;
- (d) it was anticipated that both experts from Hong Kong and the Mainland would be engaged, as the former were more familiar with service provision while the latter possessed more expertise in facilities and technical requirements; and
- (e) upon funding approval, the service of experts would be engaged in accordance with the existing procurement procedures.
- 28. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> sought further information on the total number of experts, the proportion (if applicable) of local, Mainland and overseas experts, as well as their tenure and remuneration. <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, FHB advised that:
 - (a) a wide range of expertise would be required and the experts would not be engaged on a full-time basis, but would be remunerated on an hourly or time basis for providing advice; and
 - (b) at this stage, the Government was tapping into the expertise and experience from relevant experts and was not yet in a position to advise on the respective numbers or proportions of experts engaged locally and outside Hong Kong.

<u>Implementation</u>, financial arrangement and mode of operation of the Chinese medicine hospital

- 29. <u>Mr SHIU Ka-fai</u> expressed full support for the proposed CMH and urged for its early completion. On efforts to expedite the project, <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, <u>FHB</u> highlighted that:
 - (a) as advised by the Architectural Services Department, the construction phase of the project would commence in July 2021;
 - (b) the use of the "Design and Build" approach would shorten the delivery time for the project by a few years; and
 - (c) where practicable, pre-fabricated parts and materials would be used to save construction time.
- 30. <u>Mr Tony TSE</u> enquired on the financial arrangement and mode of operation of CMH in the longer run, as well as the fee-charging policy. In this connection, <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, <u>FHB</u> explained that:
 - (a) the Government would finance the construction of the hospital, provide the necessary furniture and equipment and set up the necessary IT systems;
 - (b) the future non-profit-making organization ("the Contractor") selected through tendering would incorporate a company ("the Operator") to manage, operate and maintain CMH;
 - (c) per future agreement with CMH, the Government would provide recurrent funding to subsidize CMH's clinical services, training and scientific research with reference to their costs as assessed by an independent third party duly approved by the Government;
 - (d) with cost subsidy from the Government, CMH would be required to provide subsidized services to the public;
 - (e) the future fees charged on patients receiving subsidized services would be determined by the Government;

- (f) the future CMH would also roll out services to meet the demand of the market for Chinese medicine at fee levels as determined by its governing board;
- (g) it was estimated that some 75% of the overall expenditure of the future CMH would be funded by the Government; and
- (h) the prospective Contractor would be required to propose in its bid the extent of limited financial liability it would be prepared to take up if operating deficits were incurred.
- 31. <u>Mr CHAN Han-pan</u> urged the Administration to ensure that upon commissioning, CMH would be staffed by adequate trained Chinese medicine clinical and related staff.
- 32. As regards the proposed IT systems for CMH, Ms YUNG Hoi-yan enquired about the operation of the Telemedicine System. Ms YUNG and the Deputy Chairman were concerned whether reference had been/would be made to the state-of-the-art systems currently used in Hong Kong and the Mainland. In response, PD(CMHPO), FHB advised that:
 - (a) the Telemedicine System enabled remote consultation with patients via Internet channels and would be useful for follow-up consultation and joint consultation by local and Mainland Chinese medicine experts, while face-to-face consultation would continue for first-time appointments;
 - (b) after reviewing local needs and the effective implementation experience in the Mainland, an array of IT systems comprising Clinical Systems, Clinical Supporting Systems and Business Supporting Systems would be developed for CMH; and
 - (c) there were plans to develop mobile applications for healthcare providers and staff of CMH, as well as patients and their carers with a view to enhancing work efficiency, service quality and patients' experience.

Hire of services of the Contractor and the Operator

33. On the estimated cost of \$56,445,000 for hire of services of the Contractor and the Operator, <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, <u>FHB</u> advised that the bulk of the proposed expenditure would be for the Contractor to procure essential furniture and equipment not covered in the relevant capital works project,

and establish stock of consumables and materials necessary for the commencement of the hospital services together with the carrying out of all necessary work related to the preparation for the commencement of hospital services. In this connection, the Deputy Chairman requested a breakdown on the respective costs attributable to the services of the Contractor and the Operator.

[*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was issued to members vide LC Paper No. FC 201/20-21(01) on 27 July 2021.]

34. <u>Mr CHAN Han-pan</u> looked forward to early announcement of the selected Contractor. <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, <u>FHB</u> confirmed that the tender exercise was in its final stage and the result would be announced very shortly.

Training and development of personnel

- 35. <u>Ms YUNG Hoi-yan</u> expressed support for the current proposal and enquired whether the future CMH would provide job opportunities for all graduates from the three local universities offering Chinese medicine undergraduate programmes. In this regard, <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, <u>FHB</u> advised that:
 - (a) upon commissioning, CMH would serve as the teaching hospital for Chinese medicine undergraduate programmes of the three local universities;
 - (b) it was anticipated that in future, about 50% of the clinical training would be provided at CMH where students could benefit from knowledge of and exposure to local cases, while 50% would be undertaken in the Mainland in view of its established expertise; and
 - (c) consideration would also be given to inviting experts from the Mainland to conduct training in CMH.
- 36. While welcoming the implementation of CMH and the development of Chinese medicine in Hong Kong, <u>Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok</u> sought information on the future training and development framework, if any, for Chinese medicine professionals. PD(CMHPO), FHB advised that:
 - (a) a comprehensive training and development framework was being devised in collaboration with the Chinese medicine

- sector and CMH would serve as a platform for implementation of the framework;
- (b) structured training would comprise foundation training for Chinese medicine graduates with post-qualification experience of one to three years, and advanced training for those with experience of four years or more; and
- (c) after it had come into operation, CMH would be able to provide ample opportunities for practical training as it developed more specialized services and special disease programmes.

Role of Chinese medicine in the healthcare system

- 37. <u>Ms Starry LEE</u> sought elaboration on the future role of CMH and stressed the need for the Administration to proactively steer the development of Chinese medicine in Hong Kong, such as promoting the use of Chinese medicine in certain disease areas or specialties such as medicine, pain management, post-stroke care and cancer. <u>Ms LEE</u> also saw a need to attract outstanding students to pursue Chinese medicine undergraduate programmes. <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, <u>FHB</u> took note of Ms LEE's views and highlighted that:
 - (a) CMH would serve as a flagship institution leading the development of Chinese medicine in Hong Kong;
 - (b) apart from providing specialized Chinese medicine services, CMH was also tasked to promote Chinese medicine education, training, innovation and scientific research on Chinese medicine drugs, as well as identify specific priority disease areas where Chinese medicine had advantages for strategic development; and
 - (c) a series of consultations had been scheduled for the latter half of 2021 to gauge the views and expectation of the Chinese medicine sector on the future CMH and the services to be provided.
- 38. Mr CHAN Han-pan was concerned whether Chinese medicine clinical staff at CMH would take the lead in determining the diagnostic and treatment options, such as whether a Chinese medicine practitioner could directly refer a patient to receive X-ray examination or physiotherapy. Mr CHAN considered that in the interest of patients and to ensure effective

operation of CMH, the role and responsibilities of Chinese medicine practitioners should be enhanced. In this connection, <u>PD(CMHPO)</u>, <u>FHB</u> advised that:

- (a) Chinese medicine would play a predominant role in the services of the future CMH. Joint consultation and/or ICWM treatment would be initiated by the attending Chinese medicine practitioner after considering the patient's needs;
- (b) currently, the referral and administration of various paramedical services were governed by the respective legislation;
- (c) the respective roles and functions to be performed by Chinese and western medicine professionals in the healthcare system should best be addressed by the Chinese and western medicine sectors after thorough deliberations; and
- (d) the operating procedures and workflows could be reviewed and refined in the light of operational experience gained after the commissioning of CMH.

Voting on FCR(2021-22)31

- 39. At 5:13 pm, the Chairman put item FCR(2021-22)31 to vote. The Chairman declared that the majority of the members present and voting were in favour of the item. The item was approved.
- 40. The meeting ended at 5:13 pm.

<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 5 November 2021