Community Sports Committee <u>Preparatory Work for the 8th Hong Kong Games</u>

Objectives

This paper briefs Members on the preparatory work for the 8th Hong Kong Games (HKG).

Background

2. To further promote the "Sport for All" culture in the community, the Sports Commission (SC) and its Community Sports Committee (CSC), in collaboration with the 18 District Councils (DCs), the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC), and the relevant National Sports Associations (NSAs), have organised the HKG biennially since 2007. It is a territory-wide major multi-sport event in Hong Kong with the 18 DCs as the participating units. Its objectives are to provide districts with more opportunities for sports participation, exchanges and co-operation, encourage active public participation in sports, and improve sporting standards at the district level, thus helping to strengthen the public's sense of belonging to the district they live in, foster the communication and friendship between the 18 districts, and promote community cohesion.

3. The 7th HKG was held in 2018 and 2019 with a total of 3 344 athletes from the 18 districts participating in the competition events of eight sports, namely athletics, badminton, basketball, futsal, swimming, table tennis, tennis and volleyball. The total number of spectators at competitions and participants of the related community participation programmes exceeded 920 000, representing an increase of over 70 per cent as compared with that in the 6th HKG. Since its first launch in 2007, HKG has become a major biennial sports event in Hong Kong and the numbers of athletes and members of public participating in HKG has shown significant increases. A summary of the 7th HKG was presented to CSC at its 46th meeting on 17 October last year. The Committee's views consolidated by LCSD will be submitted to the 8th Hong Kong Games Organising Committee (OC) to be formed shortly for

consideration.

The 8th Hong Kong Games

4. The 8th HKG will be held in 2020 and 2021. The 8th OC will be formed shortly to oversee the preparatory work and review the effectiveness of HKG. To facilitate the effective organising of HKG, in addition to the representatives from CSC, 18 DCs, SF&OC, the relevant NSAs, the Home Affairs Bureau and LCSD, representatives from other different sectors, including SC, the Hong Kong Paralympic Committee and Sports Association for the Physically Disabled and the Hong Kong Sports Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability, will be included as OC members. Former members of the Standing Committee under OC, including representatives from the Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation, the Hong Kong Elite Athletes Association, media and public relations sectors will also be included as OC members and invited to give valuable advice in their respective areas of expertise.

5. The first meeting of the 8th OC is planned to be held in May 2020 to decide on the competition events, competition rules and regulations, eligibility requirements for athletes, selection mechanism and so forth of the coming HKG, so that the 18 DCs can conduct open selection of eligible athletes representing their districts in HKG and arrange pre-event training as early as possible to get prepared for this HKG. Apart from developing comprehensive strategies on publicity and public engagement to gain public support and participation, OC will also report to CSC on the progress of the preparatory work on a regular basis.

Presentation

6. Members are invited to note the preparatory work for the 8th HKG.

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