



香港特別行政區第六屆政府施政建議書

Policy Proposal to 6th HKSAR Government



Visions

During the pandemic these past 2 years, our citizens have lived through many hardships and businesses have encountered serious operating difficulties. International investors have also chosen to go elsewhere to avoid our pandemic crisis. As our society begins to resume its normalcy, we believe this is the right time for every citizen to reimagine our future and the next administration to outline a new vision for better governance and a better future.

After the recent governance crisis, Hong Kong has now returned to a stable law and order environment. The new Administration should actively build bridges to communicate, reach consensus and unify other stakeholders in the society based on inclusiveness, mutual understanding and respect. We hope the government will listen to the opinions from other sectors with humility and formulate policies that are grounded in reality and responsive to the needs of our citizens. Likewise, we hope the government will readily accept the voice of our citizens in politics and policies to minimize discord in our society, to enhance its governance, to raise its administrative effectiveness, and to deliver real results to the people.

Hong Kong's long-term stability and prosperity is the common aspirations of all. Our past success is the result of hard work of many generations before us – no easy feat at all. The role of the new Administration is to strengthen unity and cohesion in our society, placing the happiness of our people as an integral part of national and public security, ultimately ensuring social stability based on public trust and support. And when national and public security are safeguarded, the HKSAR government will be in a position to fulfil its vision in the Basic Law -- the gradual and orderly progress toward democracy and universal suffrage for the elections of the Chief Executive and the LegCo, thus realizing the ideal of Hong Kong people governing Hong Kong democratically.

Winning the hearts and minds of the people is an ongoing journey. We long for a greater sense of belonging among our people, with a shared identity forged by a common voice. Our people aspire to a just, harmonious society through continuous improvement in everyone's livelihood. Therefore, even if we can't reach a consensus on constitutional reform, the new Administration should lead the community to focus on livelihood issues in order to strengthen shared identity and values.

As we face unprecedented global challenges, Hong Kong needs to raise the bar to maintain our competitiveness. Even though ours is a very small economy, we benefit from the support of the motherland. We are among the top global metropolitan cities, with a core value of freedom and openness, and a stable and flexible business environment; all of which enable us to win in both the global and Chinese markets. The new Administration should capitalize on the growth in Hong Kong, as well as the neighbouring regions, and diversify our economy through innovations to create growth and upward mobility for Hong Kong people.

In the past, Hong Kong created an inclusive, progressive and civilized society that has been the pride of generations of Hong Kong people. We believe the new Administration has the determination and the ability to lead and bring the community together to safeguard One Country Two Systems. People want to have a stable Hong

Kong and China so they can pursue better lives for themselves and their children. We have a strong Lion Rock can-do spirit that has enabled us to overcome many challenges in the past. May the new Administration rekindle our hope, energize us with opportunities, and write a new, shining Hong Kong story to make us proud.

Key Recommendations

- 1. Establish 'Future Centre' to reform consultative system**

Path of Democracy proposes the setup of 'Future Centre' in Hong Kong to facilitate more effective communication between stakeholders and the government on priority issues and to recommend feasible medium- and long-term solutions together. The government should review the functions and effectiveness of advisory and statutory bodies on a regular basis, and mandate the members to meet with citizens actively, such that our consultative system can truly meet the needs of the society.
- 2. Establish an active and broad-based "One Country Two Systems" Committee to assist the government in dealing with all the important 1C2S issues.**
- 3. Re-introduce political reform after safeguarding national and public security**

Review three recent elections to determine areas of improvement. For example, lowering the nomination threshold gradually; increasing the transparency of electoral procedures; and providing professional political training for public officials; leading to full implementation of having "patriots governing Hong Kong". When national and public safety are assured, the government should look for an opportunity to push forward the next round of political reform.
- 4. Telling a better Hong Kong story to improve our image globally and in China**

The Chief Executive's Office needs to have a full time, professional press secretary who holds daily press conference to explain government policies, tackle rumours, allay concerns and doubts, and proactively engage with the local and foreign press to tell a better Hong Kong story. The government should task the many Hong Kong government offices in China and all over the world to promote a better Hong Kong image.
- 5. Focus on youth work, strengthen self-identity and sense of belonging**

To help build character among our young people, the government should actively promote the teaching of traditional Chinese moral virtues at school and at home. Additionally, the government should sponsor college graduates to spend a year serving the under-privileged communities in Hong Kong or Mainland. Such service is very effective in building character and a deeper sense of appreciation.

Establish a Youth Impact Assessment system so that government policies can be evaluated objectively and the results made public.
- 6. Establish an Economic Development Council and Hong Kong International Commercial Court**

The government should strengthen its coordination capability and maintain Hong Kong's competitiveness by setting up an Economic Development Council to formulate industrial policies, set up venture capital funds, select promising companies and competitive industries, and invest in the industries of the future. We can leverage Hong Kong's unique advantage in our legal framework to create Hong Kong International Commercial Court to handle international commercial disputes. This can increase the confidence from the world for Hong Kong on the

matter of independent jurisdiction and strengthen our position as the centre for dispute arbitration and international law for Asia-Pacific region.

Consultation & Governance

Beliefs

- Reform the consultation system by dialogues, communication, understanding and respect to forge mutual trust between stakeholders and the government.
- Restore the government's absorptive capacity of gauging public opinions to allow proper responses to the rapidly changing society.
- Government officials and members of advisory bodies should listen to the public by heart and build a partnership with the people.
- Expand the political appointment system, make more officials accountable to society and improve their governance capabilities.
- Reform civil service to improve the administrative efficacy, provide public services with a citizen-centric approach.

Measures

- 1. Setup of 'Future Centre(s)'**

As an alternative type of democratic system, the setup of 'Future Centre/s' in Hong Kong can make reference to its widespread success in Europe for facilitating and encouraging effective communication among businesses, universities, professional bodies, civil organizations, citizens and other stakeholders through policy discussions for proposing feasible medium- and long-term solutions. The government could commission universities and thinktanks to operate 'Future Centre/s' in the capacity of semi-independent entities, focusing on political regimes and governance, sustainable development, social welfare and youth development which are social issues in priority.
- 2. Review advisory bodies on a regular basis**

To review the functions and positioning of advisory and statutory bodies regularly, as well as the effectiveness of the systems for providing advice, attracting talents and public participation, so that the advisory system can meet the current needs of our society.
- 3. Members of advisory bodies take initiative to meet with people**

Members of advisory organizations and statutory bodies should take initiative to meet with people on a regular basis. They should listen to the voices of the public and provide them with opportunities to participate in politics, which can increase mutual trust and shorten the distance between people and the government.
- 4. Restore the ability of the government to gauge public opinions**

To restore the ability of the government to gauge public opinions. The government should consider resetting institutions and systems that have played an important role in governance, such as the war room, political consultants, and part-time consultants of the Central Policy Unit. It allows the government to interact appropriately with the rapidly changing society.
- 5. Government restructuring**

Establish a post as Deputy Secretary of Administration to facilitate the inter-

departmental coordination. One of them will be responsible for national and public security, while the other will be responsible for social issues.

6. Expand the political appointment system

Establish more political appointment posts in each policy bureau for the support of political appointed officials, which can respond to the public expectation for accountability. Also, the government should provide clear career paths for these posts as enhancing the role for nurturing political talents.

7. Introduce a performance management system for civil servants

Carry out appropriate reforms for personnel system, strengthen the meritocracy in the civil service system with performance management as to make up for the fact that civil servants do not need to be held accountable to the public. At the same time the quality of civil servants, such as efficiency, dedication and integrity should be retained.

8. Partner with the public sector to drive policy innovation

The Policy Innovation and Coordination Office should act as a resource coordinator and establish partnerships with other research institutions to proactively review, improve and innovate the policy formulation and implementation process from a behavioural research and design thinking perspective.

9. Evidence-based policy innovation

The government should emphasize the value of scientific decision-making and fully utilize thinktanks for their capacity to conduct consultative research. When tendering or funding research projects, the government could consider assessing the bidder's ability to advocate policies, so as to increase the research capacity of thinktanks as well as the impact of their research.

10. Restore secondment system of senior government officials

To restore the secondment system and to assign senior government officials to think tanks or NGOs for one to two years. Grounded in different communities, NGOs and thinktanks are often much more sensitive to (root) causes of social problems, together with their research capacity, the secondment of senior government officials could renew one's appreciation of social issues from a more grounded point of view.

11. Reform District Councils and local advisory bodies

Reform District Councils and local advisory bodies to accommodate needs of the people at the grassroots level. Decisions on community services made by District Councils should be respected and implemented as much as possible. The government should consult District Councils less on political issues so that Councils can focus more on community work. At the same time, it is necessary to review the constituency boundaries for District Councils to align with the Legislative Council. This will facilitate local organizations to utilise resources for community development and strengthen the training political personnel.

12. Launch a pilot community project with concepts of participatory budgeting

To allocate regional administrative funds to support pilot schemes promoting participatory budgeting. Participatory budgeting empowers citizens to vote for

livelihood-improvement projects, the poll results would then be reviewed by a committee composed of professionals and local representatives and would be put into effect accordingly. This is one of the most direct ways for laymen to see the benefits of participatory policy development where resources are allocated according to the needs of the community.

National Security & Constitutional Development

Beliefs

- Hong Kong should maintain positive interactions with the Mainland and contribute to national rejuvenation with the institutional advantage of 'One Country Two Systems'.
- Recreate the affinity of external communication, so that foreigners and investors can feel the charm of Hong Kong as an international metropolis.
- Construct a Hong Kong perspective of national security by embedding the concept of happiness and enhance citizens' sense of belonging to the country and the city.
- Actively guard against national security risks under the framework of a high degree of autonomy to prevent Hong Kong from becoming a bridgehead for anti-China forces.
- Guarantee the high degree of autonomy, judicial independence, personal security, freedom of speech and universal suffrage which are guaranteed by the Basic Law.

Measures

1. **Construct a new governance narrative**

The government should construct a new governance discourse to tell a "New Hong Kong Story", which will be acceptable to both Hong Kong people and the Central Government. The content should include: 1. Goals/dreams, role positioning, economic and social development models; 2. Being able to have a sustainable development of One Country Two Systems and a conducive system to governance; 3. Strengthen positive publicity capabilities; 4. Formulation of governance models which are recognized by all parties and national security policies.

2. **Establish a 'One Country, Two Systems' committee**

To establish a "One Country, Two Systems" committee which is broadly represented and able to assist the government in dealing with issues related to "One Country, Two Systems". A semi-official high-level think tank should be set up, which will focus on Hong Kong's foreign-related relations and is responsible for promoting and coordinating foreign-related works. The government should promote, assist and encourage regular exchanges between local think tanks and foreign institutions, which can mobilize all sectors of society to strengthen Hong Kong's role in the Asia-Pacific region and international networks.

3. **Persist to protect national and public security**

To apply the laws related to national security firmly and enhance the education and promotion to the public. The government should ensure that citizens are complying with current regulations for lest of being a loophole of national security for the Mainland.

4. **Set up a full-time spokesperson for the government**

To appoint a full-time spokesperson for the Chief Executive's Office and hold

daily briefings to explain the government's news highlights of the day with local and foreign media. After the implementation of the "Hong Kong National Security Law", many international organizations based in Hong Kong are watching the changes. We need to explain and respond to the questions and enquiries of the public and the international business community about the "Hong Kong National Security Law".

5. Brand promotion in the Mainland and the world

Large-scale turmoil and violent attacks have damaged Hong Kong's long time image of prosperity and stability. Local Economic Trade Offices should take measures to improve Hong Kong's image in the Mainland and the globe by telling the story of Hong Kong, China on domestic and international platforms, and facilitating the understanding of the situation in Hong Kong by mainland compatriots and the international community. These actions aim at improving the perception of Hong Kong's development. The government should strive to host high-level international conferences and forums and strengthen international communication as well.

6. Promote political reform at the right time

When national and public safety are properly safeguarded, the government should push forward for the next round of constitutional reform at the right time by adopting the "8.31" framework and achieving dual universal suffrage for the Chief Executive and the Legislative Council ultimately. After the first three elections since the improvement on the electoral system, the government should sum up its experience by conducting a review on the electoral procedures and nomination mechanism. to lower the nomination threshold, increase transparency, and encourage the participation of activists who have the capability but with a weak network for a demonstration of the principle of political inclusion.

7. Provide political training to officials

Provide professional political trainings for public officials, so that Election Committee members, Legislative Council members, District Councillors and all other public officials have an in-depth understanding of the characteristics of "One Country, Two Systems". This can enrich their wisdom for overall national and political issues, so that their proposed policies can both be in line with the actual situation in Hong Kong and national development. In long term, we can fully implement "patriots governing Hong Kong" and manage Hong Kong's affairs well.

8. Legislation for a ban of releasing false information on the internet

The Internet is flooded with extremely irresponsible and highly harmful false information, and there are obvious loopholes in the laws of the HKSAR to block false information. The government should legislate to restrict false information spreading through the internet, and in accordance with the International Covenant on Human Rights, for restricting these misbehaviours that might harm the rights of others, national security, social order, health and safety, and moral standards. Some of the contents could be considered together in the legislation for Article 23 of the Basic Law.

Livelihood and Social Cohesiveness

Beliefs

- Search common goals for people's livelihood to strengthen their self-identities and sense of belonging by achieving social development and people being felt as a valued group in the society.
- As we respect the rights of all to obtain quality education, our graduates should be equipped with the sense for Hong Kong as their home, perceptions of motherland and international. They should be able to have dreams and capabilities to face with the challenges in 21st century.
- Formulate a standard for comfortable and safe living space, shorten the waiting time for public housing and put an end to subdivided units. The public should be encouraged to participate in urban planning, so that there will be more public space and communities could be designed for the need of elderly.
- Public and private medical services could be complementary with each other so that all people, no matter they are rich or poor, could enjoy quality services in time. Chronic disease sufferers and elderly could get care in community healthcare centres nearby.
- Create a liveable city by achieving zero landfill and carbon neutrality, promoting green industries and this can transform our economy into a circular economy. For a sustainable city, we should balance the goals for economy, society and environmental protection so that natural ecology, history and culture can be protected.
- We should pursue an equal society since more non-Chinese residents choose to live in Hong Kong. Females, disabled people, people with different sexual orientations should be free from discrimination.

Measures

Youth and education

1. **Establish a youth impact assessment mechanism**
Establish a youth impact assessment mechanism. When we formulate all policies, it is necessary to review the impact on youth and list the results of the assessments in the policy document.
2. **Promote character education by volunteer work**
The government should sponsor and encourage college graduates to spend a year serving in less-privileged communities or voluntary organizations in Hong Kong or the Mainland before entering the workplace. It can cultivate the development of good character of young people through community services.
3. **Promote education for moral virtues**
The size of households in Hong Kong is small. If the only child in a family lacks the education from elderly, he/she might misbehave when grows up. The government should advocate the Chinese traditional moral virtues in schools and families for enhancing the moral standards of the society.
4. **Provide free online tutorials to students in poverty**
The government should sponsor NGOs for providing free online tutorials to all

poor students in Hong Kong. This programme should be supervised by Education Bureau. The tutors could be college students who are not yet graduated and the unemployed intellectuals, as long as they have enough knowledge and language skills for tutoring pupils and students.

5. Improve the social image of technical jobs

To improve the social image of vocational trainings and attract young people to engage in technical works to take up vacancies in the job market. The government should closely review the long-term development of human resource with the business community to eliminate the mismatches between the skilled talent and job opportunities.

6. Expand the coverage of the “Belt and Road Scholarship”

To expand the coverage of the “Belt and Road Scholarship” and encourage college students in ASEAN to study in Hong Kong. The scholarship winners could act as cultural ambassadors for their countries, and volunteer to promote their own cultures in Hong Kong. The graduates should work in Hong Kong at least 3 to 5 years for this scholarship to be effective and worthwhile.

7. Evaluate the effectiveness of exchange activities in Mainland

To re-evaluate the effectiveness of past student exchange activities for strengthening quality and depth. We suggest having our students to stay with mainland families in winter and summer vacations. They can have in-depth contact with the life in mainland. Students can get to know each other and complete project together.

8. Provide internship in the Mainland China

To encourage local or multinational companies, who have business in mainland to provide internship to Hong Kong university students. It can be a summer internship program for about ten weeks. Each intern will be guided by a tutor/mentor to ensure that the internship process is fruitful. The living expenses and salaries are suggested to be subsidized by the government.

9. Provide training to Hong Kong teachers for understanding the development of the Mainland

To introduce professional development courses for teachers. Hong Kong teachers can be trained in the Mainland for 2-3 weeks. It can allow them to have a full spectrum understanding of contemporary national development, which can assist them to inspire students on thinking about Hong Kong’s role in national development.

10. Modify the education policy of Chinese language for non-Chinese speaking students

Many non-Chinese-speaking students were born and raised in Hong Kong, and their Chinese proficiency is comparable to that of Chinese-speaking students. The government should gradually adjust the second language learning framework of Chinese language courses, allowing schools to be divided into classes based on Chinese proficiency rather than ethnicity

Land and housing

1. **Continue the policies for land development**

To maintain and keep up the land policies of “Lantau Tomorrow”, “Northern Metropolis” and “Streamlining the development procedures” for increasing the supply of land in long term.

2. **Implement the policy for minimum living area per capita**

Development Bureau has set the minimum living area per capita at 280 sq. ft. To the implement the policy, all government departments should not approve building and renovation plans for flats of the size less than 280 sq. ft, in order to protect Hong Kong people's right to decent housing and eliminate sub-divided private flats.

3. **Expediate the allocation for housing to those in need**

To review the allocation system for public housing (including Home Ownership Scheme and Public Rental Housing) to expedite the allocation of flats to those in need. At the same time, the government should build transitional housing on idle land for those on the waiting list for public housing. When allocating public housing, incentives should be provided to encourage the elderly to apply for living in new developed but more remote areas, while young families can be arranged to live in urban areas if possible. This will reduce the mismatch in terms of transportation needs and quality of life between the two groups of people. It is also necessary to encourage families from the same root to live in the same district, so that the younger generation can take care of the elderly.

4. **Introduce progressive mortgage if financial market is stable**

It is anticipated that the burden of mortgage repayment on citizens will increase in the forthcoming low-interest rate environment. Hence, the government should not relax “demand-side management measures” against the overheat of property market and to maintain the stability of the financial markets. If the economy recovers, the Government can introduce progressive payment mortgage which allows more non-owner Hong Kong people to own their homes. The bank can offer a mortgage of half of the house price and the other half is guaranteed by the government so that the first-time homeowners will only need to pay 5-10% down payment to have a new home.

5. **Assist youth to buy properties**

For first-time home buyers who are below 40, they can be exempted from stamp duties for the property once if they acquire the properties for public housing or properties from the Urban Renewal Authority (URA). In addition, after URA projects obtain the discount on land premium, 30% of flats for the projects should be reserved for young first-time home buyers. This aims at rejuvenating the urban area and increasing the labour efficiency in the community.

6. **Review the definition of ‘first-time home buyers’**

The government should review the definition of ‘first-time home buyers’ for closing the loopholes of stamp duties. This discount on stamp duty for first-time home buyer should be offered only once in a lifetime for citizens. If one has purchased properties on behalf of a company, he/she shall not be exempted from paying stamp duties by reasons of being a ‘first-time home buyer’.

Healthcare and elderly care

1. **Develop primary healthcare**

To provide additional subsidies to encourage primary healthcare doctors to conduct more screening tests supported by medical evidence. This is to identify and treat patients with chronic serious diseases at an early stage, to avoid the aggravation of the disease and complications.

2. **Encourage people to make use of primary healthcare**

To provide incentives for the public to receive treatment from primary healthcare doctors. For example, each citizen is encouraged to be paired with one doctor. If the patient seeks treatment from the doctor, he/she can receive a larger proportion of subsidies from the "medical voucher". If the doctor is a specialist (such as a family medicine specialist), both the doctor and the patient can receive an increased amount of subsidy. This will encourage doctors to upgrade their qualification and improve the quality of primary healthcare.

3. **Expand primary healthcare services to 18 districts**

To enhance the promotion of primary medical services such as "community health centres" and "district health centres", such primary medical services should be expanded across the 18 districts in Hong Kong. Such expansion can strengthen the one-stop primary medical services in Hong Kong, assist in the long-term implementation of the "home-based elderly" policy and ensure the effective use of medical resources.

4. **Facilitate the cooperation between doctors and social workers**

The government should take social welfare policies for the elderly into account when it considers the medical care policies for them. Since Hong Kong has an ageing society, healthcare services for the elderly are just one of the policies for care of elderly in the society. Two policy bureaux for health services and social welfare should join their hands, such as setting up supervisory committees constituting two senior officials, to supervise such coordination from the top to the bottom. It is also beneficial for the coordination in the departmental level.

5. **Facilitate the cooperation between Chinese medicine and doctors**

The services from Chinese medicine has been increasingly recognised during COVID-19 pandemic. The Government should take this opportunity to promote Chinese medicine as one of the solutions to strengthen primary healthcare system. As the first Chinese Medicine Hospital will be in operation in 2025, Hospital Authority shall reserve more space and plan for services of Chinese and Western medicine for clinic use and take part in co-treatment for international studies.

6. **Introduce smart medical facilities**

The trial projects for smart medical facilities were proved to be favourable for long term development since the pandemic breakout. Hence, the government should require the Hospital Authority to introduce certain proportion of smart medical facilities in its second 10-year hospital development plan to improve

operational efficiency. The internal guidelines for the Government should be updated for approving the applications on time.

7. Provide electronic registers for elderly medical records

With reference to the experience of “e-health system”, we can carry out electronic archives works in 41 elderly district centres in Hong Kong, which can strengthen communication between medical institutions, elderly district centres and neighbourhood centres for the elderly, and between different services of the same organization, in order to promote cross-services management. We can also promote all-in services management mode.

8. Review of community care service vouchers for the elderly

To review the use of "community care service vouchers for the elderly". We can make reference to the use of medical voucher and consider cancelling the limit thereon and replace it in the form of reimbursement. It can make the community voucher easier to use and freeing up the service capacity of institutions.

9. Retain talents in elderly services

To provide a sustainable career ladder to allow the elderly services industry to retain talents. Due to unfavourable factors such as wages, benefits and work pressure, many employees working at elderly homes eventually switch to the medical care industry. While maintaining fair employment opportunities for local workers, the Government should consider whether to increase the supply of foreign workers to relieve manpower in shortage.

10. Insert a clause for building elderly facilities in land grants

The Government should insert a clause in land grants, which requires developers to build elderly centres, rehabilitation centres etc. basing on a certain percentage of area as conditions, in order to tackle with the sharp rise for aging population in Hong Kong. In addition, it is beneficial for Hong Kong to enhance the policies of elderly services in Greater Bay Area, including Guangdong and Fujian Scheme.

Social inclusion and welfare

1. Review taxation system

The Government should review the current regulatory system of tax policy and propose corresponding tax reforms to make these systems be fairer and less politicized. The government's tax reform should focus on long-term economic welfare, and a progressive tax policy will help redistribute the wealth of the society and narrow the gap between the rich and the poor.

2. Make good use of taxation information for allocating subsidies

To improve the Inland Revenue Department's database of Hong Kong taxpayers to provide convenience for citizens to apply for cash assistance in future. Before implementing any cash subsidies, the Government can take the initiative to screen the tax information of registered citizens for distributing cash allowances according to their annual income. Hence, this can encourage taxpayers to have more tax rebates, which will allow more liquidity to stimulate consumption.

3. **Expand the duties of district social welfare officers**
To strengthen the coordinating role of the district social welfare officer, and encourage cooperation between the academia, business community, social welfare organizations, social enterprises and regional organizations (especially youth services and elderly services), for paying attention to the issue of intergenerational integration together.
4. **Increase the spending to social welfare organisations**
To provide special funding to non-governmental organizations (such as relating to living environment, food banks, etc.) in respect of the basic needs of citizens, and appropriately provide more assistance to these organizations. For example, “matching” the funds raised by the organizations in a specific proportion to protect the needy people's basic living conditions.
5. **Promote family-friendly policies**
To increase the supply of government-sponsored day care centres, encourage enterprises to implement family-friendly policies and provide childcare services, such as flexible working hours, protecting the rights of breastfeeding in public areas etc. While working mothers are struggling to take care of their children whether they work in offices or at home, the Government should provide convenience for them to go to work, so that female workforce can be released.
6. **Recruit non-Chinese speaking talents proactively**
To increase the participation and representation of non-Chinese speaking people within the government structure, such as the civil service team, district administrative structure and advisory committees, for matching the proportions of their population in Hong Kong which will demonstrate the diversity of Hong Kong society.
7. **Increase students’ understanding of religions and cultures**
To cultivate the international horizon of students and for them to learn about the diversity of religions and cultures in different countries. The countries along the “Belt and Road” can be a starting point. We should develop value education as a base to deepen the universal values of tolerance and respect in the civilized society.

Liveable city and sustainable development

1. **Formulate UN Sustainable Development Goals which are applicable to Hong Kong**
Hong Kong is an international city, but its urban planning has not been aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Also, it has not proposed a city-wide action plan yet. The Government should design policies which are commensurate with the sustainable goals in future policy addresses, reports on emissions reduction or climate-related policies, urban planning policy guidelines, etc. so that Hong Kong could adhere to global standards.
2. **Modify the process for environmental impact assessment**
Modify the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance to avoid

overlapping with other control measures, and shorten the time required for the EIA process. The development and assessment work can be carried out at the same time so this can protect the environment and not hinder the progress of the project.

New elements have to be added to designated projects so the government can make use of smart platforms and big data to assess the environmental impact in future. A standardised EIA can allow the public to focus on issues and facilitate more effective public participation.

3. Policy of municipal solid waste levy according to the amount of garbage

At present, the cost of recycling is too high. Citizens do not need to pay for waste disposal, nor do they have to bear the social costs. The recycling rate of Hong Kong's municipal solid waste is only 29%, far below 50% in developed areas. The municipal solid waste levy should be imposed as soon as possible, and the Government should provide sufficient enforcement and adequate recycling facilities.

4. Zero landfill in 2035

The recycling value of many wastes cannot be realised, and they end up in landfills or being thrown into the marine ecosystem. The Government should provide policy incentives to recycle plastics with values, while other wastes that are too expensive to be recycled should be converted into energy. The Government should build no fewer than three integrated incineration facilities with an average daily processing capacity of 2,500 to 3,000 tonnes, and strive to achieve "zero landfilling" by 2035.

5. Increase the supply of recreation area

To convert the idle land with transportation connection into recreational area. For example, Ngong Ping plateau (approx. 2 sq. km. in area) which is connected with cable cars, could be convertible to mediation centres; Tung Lung Chau (approx. 2.4 sq. km in area) is suitable for being a rock-climbing centre and for other uses.

6. Concern for conservation of private wetlands

There are many private wetlands in the New Territories and South Lantau, and some of which have been damaged, which may not conform to the zoning of sites. The Government should take the initiative to follow up these issues with the public, such as to increase transparency, and ensure that the promised uses as conservation are implemented. In the long run, it should consider resuming the relevant land parcels and setting up a conservation park.

Economic Development and International Competitiveness

Beliefs

- Hong Kong is in proximity to our motherland and it has a substantial business network in Asia-Pacific region, enabling us to become part of the national development, participate in domestic economic cycle in Mainland, leverage our advantage of being globalised to facilitate the international economic cycle.
- To adhere to the core values such as the rule of law and integrity, and strengthen the status of the international financial centre, the international shipping centre, the international trade centre, the international dispute resolution centre in the Asia-Pacific region, and four emerging centres.
- To drive the economic growth by innovation, emphasise on the investment on research and development, create values from talents and creativity.
- To maintain a business environment with level-playing field, narrow down the income inequality. This means that small businesses could stand out from markets, small and medium enterprises and high-ended service industries could attract talent and enhance our competitiveness in the world, while multinational corporations and large enterprises should take social responsibility into account of their corporate management.
- Hong Kong could diversify her economic growth by emphasising creativity, art, culture and sports for nurturing local soft power and international branding.

Measures

1. **Establish Economic Development Council to formulate industrial policies**
With reference to Singapore's experience, we should establish the "Economic Development Council" and set up venture capital for future investment. The committee is responsible for formulating economic development strategies, strengthening policy coordination, and managing funds for innovation and technology projects. The committee should have permanent executive departments and researchers to coordinate with relevant government departments or agencies, such as the Productivity Council, Science Park, Cyberport, Trade Development Council, InvestHK and Research Grants Committee.
2. **Establish Hong Kong International Commercial Court**
Given our international reputation of legal system, to establish Hong Kong International Commercial Court which can provide an alternative to international arbitration to settle commercial disputes. The court can include judges from both common law and civil law jurisdictions, which can promote our edge in legal services and provide confidence for the international community in HK's judicial independence.
3. **Formulate a blueprint for development of legaltech**
To formulate a blueprint for the development of legaltech to promote the digitalization and application of technology in the Judiciary and the legal

profession. We should introduce to law firms and legal departments in corporations to adopt legaltech and relevant precaution measures. We should list out governmental policy supports in short-, medium-, and long-term, which can convince the legal sector to invest more resources in technological areas.

4. Relocate facilities for shipping hub

To relocate the Kwai Chung Container Terminal and plan a new port with modern infrastructure and automation equipment, which can link the logistics and transportation network of Hong Kong and neighbouring ports strategically and enhance the international competitiveness of Hong Kong logistic hub.

5. Establish an innovation system in line with Hong Kong's positioning

The Innovation and Technology Bureau should commit to establishing an innovation system in line with Hong Kong's positioning. They should combine innovative ideas, international networks and investment vitality with the development of the Greater Bay Area and the global market. Also, the Bureau should provide financial and administrative support for basic research and applied research, which can facilitate commercialization of innovation and technology research results.

6. Invest in industries with competitive edges

Invest HK and Hong Kong Science and Technology Park should provide land for, or Land Fund should inject capital to, industries with competitive edges, such as biological technology, medical studies, pharmaceutical treatment, or chip design.

7. Enhance productivity of manufacturing industries

To assist the traditional manufacturing industries to enhance their competitiveness. We can promote the cooperation between the European Enterprise Network (EEN) and Hong Kong companies in the Greater Bay Area, which can enhance technology transformation. It can assist in developing into a technology-intensive industry.

8. Review regulations related to technological development

Review regulations for financial industry to align with Hong Kong's goal as a financial technology hub, set up a cross-industry working committee to formulate industry codes for promoting the sharing economy, such as studying the regulatory framework for civil and commercial autonomous vehicles.

9. Develop green and sustainable finance

The Mainland aims at achieving the goal of carbon neutrality, and major cities have the goal for reducing air pollution emissions. Hong Kong should develop green finance-related industries, set up ESG standards, and speed up the establishment of carbon emissions trading centres in the Greater Bay Area for carbon reduction.

10. Develop cultural and art industries

To set up an international cultural and art centre, increase the supply of cultural and art venues by integrating existing ones; support small and medium-sized art groups by long-term planning and development; set up an international art exchange centre, connect the art groups and innovation and technology

specialists together, promote international certification and assessment systems, and establish "Hong Kong standards" as an international brand.

11. Strengthen the overseas promotions of local enterprises

To assist local enterprises to strengthen promotion in EU and ASEAN, which enables them to expand their markets and facilitate bilateral cooperation.

12. Support community economy

Set up flea markets in 18 districts for facilitating diversified economy and growth of small businesses in the community.

Path of Democracy

Board of Governors

Convenor:	Tong Ka Wah, Ronny	
Honorary Advisers:	Law Sau Fai, Francis Wong Yu Chim, Richard	Shih Wing Ching
Co-convenor (International):	Lung Ka Lung, Alan	
Co-convenor (Research):	Poon Hok Chi, Ray	
Governors:	Chan Chun Hung, Jeffery Chu Pak Ning, Ian Kong Siu Hang, Enzo Wong Chi Hung, Frank	Chan Mong Chi, Hopkins Daley Mak. Hing Fun Angel Moses Wanki Park Wong Wing Ho, Allan

Policy Proposal to 6th HKSAR Government

Members:	Baljinder, Jimmy Singh Chan Wai Ying, Christina Cheung Lok Yee Chong Wai On, Dennis Chu Pak Ning, Ian Deng Lan, Chloe Ke Wing Shuen Kong Siu Hang, Enzo Pauline Yam Van Tak Sun, Winston Yam Pauline Yip Chak Hung Dennis	Chan Chun Hung, Jeffery Cheuk Edward Choi Suk Man, Daphne Chow Sheung Ming, Sherman Daley Mak Hing Fun Angel Ho Pak Hay Ko Pok Ho, Howard Lung Ka Lung, Alan Poon Hok Chi, Ray Wong Chi Hung, Frank Yao Jie Ning, Maxine
----------	--	--

Our Mission

Path of Democracy (PoD) is a mission- and action-driven think tank that strives to create maximum room for democratic development under the principles of “One Country Two Systems”, “Hong Kong People Ruling Hong Kong”, and a high degree of autonomy.

We believe that communication with mutual trust, conducted with a moderate attitude, is essential for the development of democracy. To this end, we have established Path of Democracy as a platform to:

- Consolidate the majority of supporters of the democratic camp in the society;
- Promote a moderate political approach in a proactive manner, and to carve out new political horizon in the society;
- Formulate agenda and construct systematic political discourse;
- Establish new ideological dimensions in the politics, society, economics and culture of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region together with different stakeholders through research, dialogue and engagement.
- Conduct various activities and schemes, including establishing the Hong Kong Academy of Politics and Public Policy, to cultivate a new generation of political leaders and public policy makers.

Enquiry:	Daphne Choi (General Manager)
Tel:	2509 3131
Fax:	2509 3130
Address:	3/F, Kam Chung Commercial Building 19-21 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
Website:	www.pathofdemocracy.hk