

SPORTS COMMISSION

Progress Report of the Elite Sports Committee

INTRODUCTION

This paper reports on the work of the Elite Sports Committee (ESC) since the last update the Sports Commission (SC) in December 2020.

PROGRESS UPDATE

2. At the meeting held on 9 March 2021, the ESC discussed the following issues.

Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited (HKSIL) 2021-22 Annual Plan and Budget

3. The HKSIL's primary challenge in 2021-22 would be the COVID-19 pandemic, the related impact on international competition and how to facilitate athletes' safe access to and return from appropriate international events to prepare for the Tokyo Olympic Games (OG) and Paralympic Games (PG), which would be postponed to 23 July - 8 August 2021 and 24 August - 5 September 2021 respectively. Since the COVID-19 outbreak, the HKSI has implemented appropriate infection prevention and control measures to help safeguard the health of our athletes, as well as made flexible arrangements for its training programmes and competition plans, in order to minimise disruption to elite sports training.

4. The HKSIL requested for an allocation of \$737 million from the EADF for 2021-22, which was the same as the amount allocation in 2020-21. Having considered the operational needs and requirements of the HKSIL in the financial year of 2021-22, the ESC endorsed the HKSIL's 2021-22 Annual Plan and Budget and recommended its submission to the SC for consideration.

5. Details are set out in Paper No. SC 1/2021.

*Evaluation of Sports' Achievements under Elite Vote Support System (EVSS)
for the 2019-20 Review Period*

6. At its meeting on 18 December 2020, the SC endorsed the postponement of the biennial evaluation of sports achievements under the EVSS, which was originally scheduled to be held in the first quarter of 2021, by one year to the first quarter of 2022 due to the series impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on international sports events. The SC also endorsed that the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) would conduct an evaluation under the current EVSS in the first quarter of 2021 for non-elite sports to identify sports that could newly qualify as a Tier A or Tier B sport, so as to avoid unnecessary delay to the provision of elite training support to new elite sports.

7. Having reviewed the HKSI's evaluation on the sports achievements of non-Tier A/B sports from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2020, the ESC endorsed the evaluation outcome to introduce para athletics (intellectual disability) as a new Tier B para sport for the four-year support cycle from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2025, and recommended its submission to the SC for consideration.

8. Details are set out in Paper No. SC 2/2021.

ADVICE SOUGHT

9. Members are invited to note the progress reported above.

**Sports Commission Secretariat
March 2021**