

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 March 2021.

Progress Update

2. At the meeting held on 29 June 2021, the ESC discussed the following issues.

Progress of Preparation of Athletes for the Tokyo Summer Olympic Games and Paralympic Games

3. The Tokyo Olympic Games (TOG) and the Tokyo Paralympic Games (TPG) have been postponed to July 2021 and August 2021 respectively due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government and the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) would continue to fully support our athletes in preparing for the TOG and TPG.

4. Details are set out in Paper No. SC 7/2021.

Broadcasting Arrangements for the TOG in Hong Kong

5. On 11 May 2021, the Government announced that it had acquired the Tokyo Olympics broadcasting rights for Hong Kong to ensure the public would have wide access to the coverage of the TOG on television free of charge, especially for all events competed by Hong Kong athletes, so that the public can support and cheer for them. It was an one-off initiative taken under the exceptional circumstances of a market failure, in view of the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Hong Kong and the extremely challenging business environment besetting the local broadcasters. The Government was in the process of discussion regarding the broadcasting rights of the TPG.

6. The Government had secured the support of the five local licensed

television broadcasters in broadcasting the TOG on their television platform. The broadcasters are required to fulfil a number of requirements, including (i) providing a minimum aggregate hours of coverage on TOG events; and, (ii) broadcast of the TOG (in live coverage) and the TPG (for daily highlights) focusing on Hong Kong athletes from heats to finals.

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

Advice Sought

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

**Sports Commission Secretariat
July 2021**