

## Press Release

### **The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers’ Views to the Chief Executive for the Formulation of the 2023 Policy Address**

(18 August 2023, Hong Kong) The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) proposed initiatives to the Chief Executive for consideration in the formulation of the 2023 Policy Address. The HKIE eagerly anticipates the Chief Executive’s inclusion of the Institution’s proposal into Hong Kong’s strategic development blueprint.

Key highlights of the HKIE’s recommendations are:

#### **Talent Acquisition**

- Nurturing local talent to build our reserve of human resources needed for the sustainable prosperity of the city.
- Raising the subsidy to companies running the HKIE Scheme “A” Graduate Training from HK\$5,610 to HK\$10,000 or above to provide stronger incentives to offer trainees higher starting salaries.
- Increasing the subsidised quota from the current level at 272 to 1,000 to accelerate talent training.
- Considering offering two-year subsidies to companies that employ overseas graduates at a monthly rate of approximately HK\$10,000.
- Reaching out further to engineering graduates in overseas countries, particularly those engineering graduates who originate from Hong Kong.
- Offering subsidies to education institutions or companies that recruit eligible talents by referencing the existing Technology Talent Admission Scheme.
- The Government’s negotiation with Mainland authorities to allow local tertiary institutions to recruit more Mainland students interested in pursuing engineering and technology-related degree programmes.

#### **Education**

- Reviewing the admission requirement of university and secondary school curriculum soonest possible.
- Expanding the “Engineers on Campus” scheme to arouse interest in engineering among students.
- Stimulating students, especially those in junior high schools, to develop interest in science subjects.
- Reviewing and providing extra support to teachers in introducing engineering practices in the current curriculum, particularly when teaching science- and mathematics-related subjects.

### **Innovation and New Industrialisation**

- The Administration's adoption of a new mindset that could leverage the city's advantages to cover research, capital injection and talent nurturing in the upstream sector; the transformation and commercialisation of R&D outcomes in the midstream sector; and industrial development in the downstream sector.
- Loosening regulations that limit the portion of profits that go to innovators to encourage creativity and innovation.
- Providing incentives to leading enterprises and local industries fulfilling the scope of Hong Kong's new industrialisation for recruiting local engineers and technologists.
- Granting land directly projects relevant to innovation and new industrialisation directly instead of going through public sale.
- Setting a lower rent at the beginning of the tenure to facilitate the growth of startups.
- Funding training programmes on skills required for the future for local professionals.

### **Fast Track Infrastructures and Development Processes**

- Broadening the engineer base by policy making to attract talents from other regions to work in Hong Kong.
- Deploy new technologies, materials and construction methods to improve work efficiency and reduce human and natural resources.
- Streamlining Government submission and approval processes, and promote a new approach of a facilitator role among Government officers.
- Reviewing procurement policies to curb artificially very low bids in tenders.

### **Land and Housing Supply**

- Expediting the planning, design, and construction stages to accelerate the provision of land parcels.
- Reviewing the approval mechanisms in land, town planning, engineering, landscaping, and architectural submissions.
- Prioritising the allocation of different types of housing units.
- Vesting the responsibility of improving certain minor infrastructure or site formation works to the developers to release the potential of private land and expedite the development of Private Subsidised Sale Flat Pilot Scheme under a private land approach.
- Expanding the quota of the White Form Secondary Market Scheme and relaxing the Mortgage Insurance Programme of the Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation.

## **Transportation and Infrastructure**

- Developing heavy duty hydrogen vehicles.
- Accelerating the schedule for commencing preparation work of deploying hydrogen vehicle in 2024 and introducing proposed legislative amendments to the Legislative Council in 2025.
- Promoting electric vehicles and hydrogen vehicles as substitute for petroleum vehicles.
- Piloting electronic road pricing in Hong Kong in Central.
- Expanding the Greater Bay manpower initiative launched for the aviation industry beyond the Greater Bay Area to attract talent to Hong Kong.

## **Integration with GBA**

- Taking the lead in strengthening cooperation and promoting dialogues to expand the mutual recognition of professional qualifications into more engineering disciplines.

## **Smart and Sustainable City**

- Engaging engineers in formulating climate strategies and policies.
- Conducting energy or carbon audits in New Development Areas projects as a measure to evaluate the effectiveness of carbon emission control.
- Develop climate-resilient infrastructure.
- Providing extra support to small and medium enterprises on green transition.
- Formulate regulations that will help drive sustainability transition on a long term.
- Developing e-autonomous vehicles.
- Allocating extra resources to facelift the cityscape.

The Institution will persist in offering our professional engineering knowledge and expertise, collaborating with the Administration and various sectors, to foster the advancement of Hong Kong.

The full submission is available [here](#).

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