

Connecting for Consensus and A Better Future

Manifesto of Carrie Lam
Chief Executive Election 2017

27 February 2017

My campaign so far...

Since 16 January announcement to run, I have:

- Met with 38 sectors (regardless of political affiliation)
- “Heart-to-heart” talks at nearly 100 meetings;
- 12 forums with 130 Chairpersons, Senior Advisors and Policy Advisors
- On 3 and 13 Feb, announced my new concept of governance – new style of governance, new roles for Government and new fiscal philosophy; proposed policies on education, economy, land and housing . These triggered further discussions and many more views heard
- Deeply touched in the process; benefitted a lot
- My Manifesto has been written together with the community

What I have heard...

- An enthusiastic young teacher, 8 years after graduation, is still on short-term contract and worries whether she can stay on after summer
- A young public hospital doctor is concerned about inadequate training leading to a shortage of specialist doctors and giving rise to lower standards
- A young Chinese medicine practitioner who graduated from a local university worries about his future because Chinese medicine has no clear position in our public healthcare system

What I have heard...

- A young clinical psychologist worries about his career development and standards in the profession because there is no statutory registration system
- Commuters struggle to afford the cost of convenient long-distance rail transport, while others suffer from overcrowding platforms
- A young professional couple faces sky-rocketing property prices and loses hope of owning a home
- Housewives have little choice in buying more affordable food and other daily necessities because there is no public market nearby

My Manifesto

- Today (27 February), I announce my full Manifesto containing actions to respond to social aspirations and needs
- On the foundation of the two previous steps, I will highlight four policy areas:
 1. Livelihood: Care for the People; Hardship Alleviation
 2. Civil Service: Simplify, Empower, and Boost Morale
 3. Economy: Government to Promote and Facilitate
 4. Youth: Engagement of Youth

1. Care for the People; Hardship Alleviation

Reduce long-distance transport fares through use of MTR dividends

- As MTR's biggest shareholder (about 75%), Government receives about HK\$4 billion a year in dividends
- If elected, I will use some of these dividends to subsidise long distance travel, benefit tens of thousands of commuters

Introduce free Wi-Fi on all trains

- A convenient and speedy Wi-Fi network is indispensable for Hong Kong to become a "smart city"
- Free Wi-Fi already available on Airport Express. Will request MTR to introduce on all trains

1. Care for the People; Hardship Alleviation

Consolidate and upgrade our medical and healthcare system

- Accelerate the 10-year, HK\$200 billion Public Hospital Development Plan. Study expansion of the Chinese University of Hong Kong Medical Centre
- Formulate long-term professional manpower policy for healthcare; allocate appropriate resources
 - Ensure all local medical graduates will be employed in the local healthcare system
 - Stabilise the supply of specialists and allow them to apply their knowledge to the full
 - Develop measures to retain talents in public healthcare

1. Care for the People; Hardship Alleviation

- Introduce statutory registration for healthcare professionals such as clinical psychologists, speech therapists and dieticians to safeguard professional standards and explore feasibility of improving referral procedures
- Determining the position of Chinese medicine in the public healthcare system and improve the tri-partite co-operation model of Chinese medicine clinics in the 18 districts
- Support “Active Ageing” with hardware and policies; provide additional community centres to help the elderly remain fit and alert.

1. Care for the People; Hardship Alleviation

Improve public market facilities to provide more choice

- Inject resources to upgrade markets operated by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to provide more choice and enhance patronage
- Build public markets for districts without them
- Boost district economy with measures such as bazaars and flea markets

Increase supply of HOS rental units

- With 250,000 HOS units with no land premium paid, propose a pilot scheme to allow landlords to work with social enterprises to rent out rooms on the open market to increase the supply of rental units.

2. Simplify, Empower, and Boost Morale

- Simplify procedures and delegate powers, including streamlining approval procedure for Government-operated funds, without compromising public interest
- Review impact of the “0-1-1” cost savings programme on public services and make adjustments accordingly
- Review time-limited posts and their impact on staffing and promotion to provide stability in civil service
- Re-examine whether civil servants recruited after 2000 on non-pension terms may retire at 65 (60 for disciplined services staff)
- Revamp the Central Policy Unit into a policy and project co-ordination unit tasked to foster public participation in policy formulation, cross-bureau policy research and innovation, and joint scrutiny of innovative projects. The revamped unit will no longer play any role in appointments to government boards and committees

3. Government to Promote and Facilitate

New direction for taxation: propose a competitive tax policy to promote business and economic development

- I already announced two tax reduction proposals:
 - A two-tier profits tax to relieve the burden on SME's. The first HK\$2 million in reported profits will be taxed at 10% from current 16.5% Tax rate for profits above HK\$2 million will remain unchanged
 - Super Tax Deductions for corporate expenditure in R&D, will receive a tax deduction higher than the amount invested (eg 200%). The same approach may apply to investment on environmental improvement, culture, art and design.
- I will host a Summit on “New Directions for Taxation”

3. Government to Promote and Facilitate

Open up more space for business operation and development

- Encourage owners of “revitalised” industrial buildings to rent out parts of their premises as “co-working space”
- Relax limitations on using the lower floors of industrial buildings for non-industrial purposes, subject to fire safety requirements
- Take advantage of infrastructure development on Lantau to create a “link up zone” with the Pearl River Delta, including implementing the First Phase of the Hong Kong International Airport North Commercial Development Project

3. Government to Promote and Facilitate

Reinforce overseas links and promote external affairs on a “Government to Government” basis

- Seek to sign a comprehensive “Belt and Road” co-operation agreement with the Mainland to build Hong Kong into a financial service hub for “Belt and Road” projects
- Organise regular, high-level trade delegations to different economies including the “Belt and Road” countries
- Set up more economic and trade offices, set concrete targets to identify trade opportunities for Hong Kong and enhance the role of trade officials as “economic ambassadors”.
- Sign FTAs, IPPAs and CDTAs with other economies, as well as bilateral and multilateral agreements

3. Government to Promote and Facilitate

Develop talents for different industries

- Set up a Human Resources Planning Committee, chaired by the Chief Secretary of Administration, to oversee the development of manpower for industries like finance, medicine and shipping.
- Develop Hong Kong into a training hub for financial services
- Provide improved hardware and policies for professional education. Explore increased funding for Continuing Education

4. Engagement of Youth

- Young people are the most vital and creative members of our community. We must resolve the difficulties they face in education, career development and home ownership. We should also encourage their involvement in politics and political discussion. Measures for youth development:
 - a) Education:** Increase recurrent expenditure on education; assist students attending local self-financing tertiary institutions; and study more flexible student loan repayment arrangements
 - b) Career development:** expand the economy and create employment opportunities for the young, especially in innovative, technological and creative industries. Provide more assistance and opportunities for start-ups
 - c) Home ownership:** Rebuild “housing ladder”, expand land resources, introduce starter homes for Hong Kong citizens¹⁵

4. Engagement of Youth

- d) **Dialogue with the Young** : The Chief Executive will chair an annual summit of the Youth Development Commission and principal officials will regularly visit schools and use social media to strengthen dialogue with young people
- e) **Policy discussions**: Statutory bodies and advisory committees will appoint a certain proportion of young members
- f) **Participation in politics**: 20-30 young people with aspirations to pursue a career in policy and project research will be recruited to the revamped central policy unit
- Coordination of youth initiatives will be carried out by the Young Development Commission, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration

My Vision is for...

- ...children to grow up happily and healthily in an inspiring and creative environment
- ...younger generations to use their talent fully to build fulfilling lives
- ...citizens in their prime to enjoy a stable and satisfying living environment so that they can continue to prosper and provide for their families
- ...senior citizens to enjoy their golden years.

**Let's CONNECT for a better
Hong Kong!**

Thank You