

Information Note for LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works

Creation of supernumerary directorate posts in Works Bureau

At the Special Meeting of the LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works held on 11 June 2001 to discuss, among other things, the proposed creation of supernumerary directorate posts in the Works Bureau (WB) for implementing the recommendations of the Construction Industry Review Committee (CIRC), Members requested and the Administration undertook to provide additional information on –

- (a) the term "clients" as used in designating the parties for implementing specific improvement measures recommended by the CIRC;
- (b) the role of the WB as the overall co-ordinator in implementing the change programme; and
- (c) the number of specific improvement measures for which the WB would be involved in implementation.

"Clients" as used in the CIRC Report

2. The term "clients" as used in designating the implementing parties in the CIRC report comprises developers in the private sector as well as public sector employers including Government bureaux and departments in particular the WB and Works Departments, the Housing Authority and other public sector bodies.

3. According to the Report of the CIRC, the WB, the Works Departments, together with the Housing Authority accounted for almost half of the total construction volume locally in 1999. The CIRC therefore considered that public sector clients should take a lead in changing the behaviour of the construction industry through contractual requirements. As the WB is the policy bureau for the Public Works Programme and the lead agency for construction-related issues, it will naturally play a leading role in this regard.

WB as Overall Co-ordinator in Implementing the Change Programme

4. The proposed Industry Review Division in the WB will be tasked to establish the statutory industry co-ordinating body as a focal point for the construction industry and to develop the framework within the Government in which the WB will co-ordinate relevant bureaux and departments on construction-related matters. These measures will put in place the institutional framework for implementing the change programme. Besides, the Industry Review Division will act as an overall co-ordinator for the implementation of the CIRC's 109 recommendations. As part of this role, it will closely monitor progress of implementation and conduct a full review of overall progress in three years.

WB's Involvement in the Implementation of Specific Improvement Measures

5. Taking into account those improvement measures for which "Government", "major clients", "client organisations", "public sector clients" or "stakeholders", as appropriate, is named as the implementing party, we reckon that WB will be involved in the implementation of 65 improvement measures, i.e. 60% of the 109 measures recommended by the CIRC. Details are given in the Annex for Members' reference.

Works Bureau
June 2001

Annex

Implementing party named	No. of recommendations	Serial No. of recommendations in the CIRC report
WB named as an implementing party	25	11(b), 13(c), 17, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 35, 41, 42, 52, 53, 55, 58(b), 59, 64, 69, 70, 72, 73, 78, 79, 82 and 91
WB will take a leading role as "clients", "client organisations", "major clients" or "public sector clients" are named as implementing parties	33	2, 3, 4, 7, <i>11(a)</i> , 14, 15, 16, 19, 29, 30, 31(a), 32(a), 33, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40, 43, 44, <i>58(c)</i> , 60, 61, 62, 63, 65, 67, 71, 84, 85(b) and (d), 86, 90, 97 and 102
"Government" is named as the implementing party and WB is designated to be the lead agency	6	9(b), 89, 106, 107, 108 and 109
WB is a concerned stakeholder	1	48
Total :	65	

To avoid double-counting, Serial Numbers in *italic* are not taken into account in the figures for the "No. of recommendations" column.