

**Legislative Council  
Panels on Environmental Affairs,  
Planning, Lands & Works,  
and Transport**

**Information Paper on  
Re-distribution of the duties of  
the Permanent Secretary Posts of  
the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau**

This paper informs Members of an interim re-distribution of the duties of the two Permanent Secretary (PS) posts of the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (ETWB).

Background

2. Approval was given by the Finance Committee (FC) on 14 June 2002 via FCR(2002-03)21 to provide funds for the remuneration of those principal officers under the accountability system and to effect other necessary changes to the 2002-03 Estimates of Expenditure upon implementation of the accountability system.

3. Subsequent to the above, two supernumerary PS posts were created, under delegated authority from FC, in ETWB, i.e. PS (Transport and Works) (PSTW) to oversee the transport and works portfolios and PS (Environment) (PSE) to oversee the environment portfolio.

4. A review of the organisation and division of work within ETWB has been made, with particular regard to the workload, responsibility and span of control of the two PSs and the interface among the three policy portfolios of environment, transport and works. The aim is to enhance internal communication and coordination and to achieve greater efficiency.

### Present Position

5. We have come to the view that PSE should assume responsibility for the transport portfolio besides the environment portfolio while PSTW should be responsible for the works portfolio. This re-distribution of duties will

- (a) ensure a more balanced workload between the two PSs;
- (b) facilitate early consideration and assessment of the environmental impact of transport services and projects, which is crucial to the efficient delivery of such services and projects.

6. The above interim re-distribution of duties will take effect from 1 August 2002. A submission will be made to the Establishment Sub-Committee (ESC)/FC of the Legislative Council as soon as practicable after the summer recess for approval to transfer the control of Head 153 Government Secretariat : Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport and Works) from PSTW to PSE, who will be retitled as Permanent Secretary (Works) (PSW) and Permanent Secretary (Environment and Transport) (PSET) respectively. Approval will also be sought to retitle Head 153 as Government Secretariat : Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport) and Head 56 as Government Secretariat : Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (Planning and Lands) and Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Works). Subject to FC's approval, PSW will then be the Controlling Officer for Head 56 Government Secretariat : Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (Planning and Lands) and Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Works), and PSET the Controlling Officer for Head 153 Government Secretariat : Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport) and Head 154 Government Secretariat : Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Environment) and Health, Welfare and Food Bureau.

7. Until the approval of ESC/FC is obtained for the proposed changes in the designation of Controlling Officers and the titles of Heads 56 and 153 as stated in para. 6 above, the titles of PSTW and PSE and Heads 56 and 153 will remain unchanged despite the redistribution of

duties as set out in para. 5 above. PSTW remains the Controlling Officer for Heads 56 and 153 and PSE the Controlling Officer for Head 154.

Environment, Transport and Works Bureau  
1 August 2002