

NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supplementary Information on 242RS – Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground

INTRODUCTION

In considering the paper referenced PWSC (2004-05) 54 on project 242RS – “Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground” presented to the Public Works Sub-committee on 26 January 2005, Members requested the Administration to provide the following information:-

- (a) proposed capital works items and the project costs in relation to venue preparation for hosting the 2009 East Asian Games (2009 EAG);
- (b) Administration’s policy, resource allocation and implementation measures for the development of sports in Hong Kong, including the promotion of a sporting culture, encouraging public participation, sports training, etc., particularly in anticipation of Hong Kong’s hosting of the 2009 EAG; and
- (c) latest development and implementation timeframe for the construction of a multi-purpose stadium in the South East Kowloon Development.

THE ADMINISTRATION’S RESPONSE

Venue Preparation for the 2009 EAG

2. In a supplementary note to the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs regarding the project 242RS, “Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground”, Members were informed of the overall venue arrangements for hosting the 2009

/EAG

EAG. Members may note that while Hong Kong has won the hosting rights for the 2009 EAG, the sports events to be organised would be finalised by the East Asian Games Association nearer the time of the launching of a EAG. A final rundown of sports events for the 2009 EAG would unlikely be concluded until around 2007 at the earliest¹. However, based on the experience of the previous EAGs we have based our planning on certain sports events likely to be selected for the 2009 EAG.

3. In any event, the Administration considers that the preparation of venues for the EAG should start now. Members will recall that the bid for the hosting of the 2009 EAG was made on the basis that the sports events would be held in (a) existing Government venues, (b) new venues which would shortly come into operation under the public works programme, and/or (c) private venues.

Improvement to existing facilities

4. After consultation with the relevant National Sports Associations (NSAs), the Administration's preliminary assessment is that these venues, with suitable upgrading works, could be brought up to international standard for meeting the requirements of the 2009 EAG as well as the long-term needs of sports development in Hong Kong. The list of core sports facilities identified and the possible events to be held there are as follows –

Core Sports Facilities	Possible Events
Hong Kong Island	
(1) Hong Kong Stadium	Opening Ceremony Closing Ceremony Football (Final)
(2) Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground	Football (Preliminaries)
(3) Queen Elizabeth Stadium	Wushu (Final) Badminton
(4) Western Park Sports Centre	Wushu (Preliminaries) Basketball (Preliminaries) /(5)

¹ As a reference, the sports events to be held in the 2005 EAG in Macau in October 2005 was only finalised in early 2004.

Core Sports Facilities	Possible Events
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(5)	South China Athletic Association	Bowling
(6)	Hong Kong Park Sports Centre or Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre	Snooker
(7)	Hong Kong Squash Centre	Squash
(8)	Victoria Park Tennis Court	Tennis/Soft Tennis
(9)	Harbour Road Sports Centre	Volleyball (Preliminaries)

Kowloon

(10)	Kowloon Park Swimming Pool	Aquatics
(11)	Hong Kong Coliseum	Volleyball (Final) Basketball (Final)
(12)	Shek Kip Mei Park Sports Centre	Judo

New Territories

(13)	Ma On Shan Sports Centre	Fencing Gymnastics Table Tennis
(14)	Tseung Kwan O Sports Centre	Taewondo
(15)	Kwai Tsing Theatre	Weightlifting
(16)	Shatin Rowing Centre	Rowing

5. The Administration will shortly work out in detail the scope, extent of improvements required, and cost estimates for these facilities. The upgrading works required can broadly be classified as follows:

- (a) **essential renovation works** required as a result of the aging of venues as well as for supporting the continuous development of sports in Hong Kong. These venues include the Kowloon Park Swimming Pool and the Hong Kong Squash Centre; and
- (b) **temporary supporting facilities** for doping control and media services, temporary spectator stands as well as face-lifting and thematic design works.

/Details

Details of improvement works and cost estimates will be presented for Members' information in mid 2005.

New facilities

6. Apart from upgrading existing venues, we have also taken the opportunity to review the scope of new sports facilities which will come into operation in the next few years under the public works programme. The objective is to identify and make available these venues for staging major international events including the 2009 EAG. Two new venues which will soon be opened or under active planning have been identified -

Projects	Possible Events	Anticipated Commissioning Date
Stanley Water Sports Centre	Windsurfing	mid 2005
Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground (TKOSG)	Athletics	late 2008

7. Members have been informed in the earlier submission that the project scope of the TKOSG could be suitably expanded to accommodate warm-up field and track facilities to meet international standards for holding large-scale athletic competitions. This is more cost-effective than in-situ upgrading of existing sports grounds.

Policy, Resource Allocation and Implementation Measures for the Development of Sports in Hong Kong

Vision on sports development

8. The Administration is committed to promoting and developing a strong sporting culture in the community as well as raising our international profile on sports. Our vision for sports development is:

- (a) **Promoting "Sports for All"** – a sustainable and community-wide sporting culture whereby people of all age groups participate actively in sports in quest of sound physical and psychological health as well as positive community spirit;

/(b)

- (b) **Fostering High Performance Sports** – a cadre of high performance athletes who can compete in major international and overseas sports events competitively, and become role models for our youth; and
- (c) **Promoting Hong Kong as An Attractive Venue for Hosting International Sports Events** - thereby bringing in more tourists and other economic benefits.

This vision is generally supported by the community at large, and can only be realised with the concerted efforts of various interested parties and stakeholders.

Administrative framework

9. To realise this vision, a new administrative framework for sports development has been put in place in 2004. The Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA) has the overall responsibilities for the formulation and implementation of sports policies, coordination of planning of recreational and sports projects, and the appropriation of resources to major sport-related initiatives, programmes and facilities as well as provide resources for sports bodies. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has the executive responsibilities of promoting community sports and administering the funding support to the relevant bodies in accordance with policy directives, while the Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited (HKSIL) is to focus on elite sports training.

10. On 1 January 2005, the Sports Commission was established to advise the Administration on sports development in Hong Kong. Supported by three Committees (see para. 11), the Commission advises SHA on strategic matters as well as play a pivotal role in providing a focused and holistic approach to the long-term and sustainable sports development in Hong Kong, and in initiating a new partnership relationship on sports with different sectors of the community.

Overall strategy and implementation measures

11. With the new vision for sports development (para. 8) and new administrative structure (para. 9 & 10), the Administration will adopt a three-pronged strategic approach in:

/(a)

- (a) **promoting wider participation in sports in the community:** we will involve all sectors in the community, in particular students' participation in sports activities. With the advice of the Community Sports Committee through the Sports Commission, we will establish close partnership with schools, District Councils, district sports associations and clubs, and NSAs. Through community sports programmes we aim to promote healthy life style, team spirit, and a more cohesive community;
- (b) **more focused development of elite sports training:** the key objective is to sustain and enhance Hong Kong's competitiveness in the national and international sporting arena. HKSIL working closely with the relevant NSAs will continue to be responsible for the management of high-performance athlete training programmes, coach training and education, training of junior and pre-elite squads, and provision of performance-related information and research projects. The Elite Sports Committee will advise through the Sports Commission on matters pertaining to high performance sports, provide policy direction to HKSIL, and on funding priorities for supporting high performance sports and athletes;
- (c) **promoting major sports events in Hong Kong:** three major sports events are being organised annually by the respective NSAs with their own resources, or with commercial sponsorship and financial support from the community, as well as from Government². Such events have attracted international media coverage, and which helped promote tourism and sports with economic benefits. The Major Sports Events Committee has formulated strategies and initiatives on how the sports sector, tourism industry, and the private sector could collaborate in promoting more such events in Hong Kong.

/Resource

² These include: (a) Hong Kong Rugby Sevens, (b) the Carlsberg Cup, and (c) the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon. There are many other major local international sports events organised by NSAs where LCSD provide venue support to some of these events.

Resource allocation on sports development

12. The Administration has devoted considerable recurrent resources to support sports development in Hong Kong. In 2004-05, a total of \$2.5 billion was provided to LCSD for development and management of recreation and sports facilities, as well as for organisation of a wide range of activities in order to promote recreation and sports at all levels in the community. The Department provides subvention to NSAs and sports organisations. In 2004-05, around \$115 million is provided for such purposes. Furthermore, Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) provides subvention to Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (\$7.6 million in 2004/05) and Hong Kong Sports Development Board/ Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited (\$91 million in 2004/05). The Sports Commission will advise the Administration on resources allocation to support the various facets of sports development in Hong Kong.

Multi-purpose Stadium in the South East Kowloon Development

13. In line with the strategies for long term sports development in Hong Kong, the Administration is considering the provision of a multi-purpose stadium complex in South East Kowloon.

14. The Administration has commissioned a consultancy study on a new stadium in South East Kowloon. The consultant has studied the need for a world-class venue for international sports competitions, its scale and capacity, main design features, necessary ancillary facilities, as well as the viability and flexibility to engage business partners in organising international sports and entertainment events, concerts, conferences, product shows, and other major events. The Administration would consult the Sports Commission and LegCo Home Affairs Panel on the findings of the consultancy study and consider the way forward taking into account the overall viability and resource available.

15. On the implementation timetable, as the proposed stadium forms part of the South East Kowloon development, its implementation would need to be coordinated with the overall planning and development of the South East Kowloon area. The outline concept plan for South East Kowloon development will soon be reviewed and in that context the proposed stadium would also be looked at in tandem.