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By Fax (2151 5303) 3 July 2007

Mrs Carrie LAM CHENG Yuet Ngor, JP Secretary for Development Development Bureau 8th Floor, West Wing Central Government Offices Hong Kong

Dear Mrs LAM,

Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to the Provision of Boarding Places, Senior Secondary Education and Employment Opportunities for Children with Special Educational Needs

Reprovisioning of Pui Oi School at Area 16 of Tuen Mun

On behalf of the Subcommittee, I write to convey members' request to the Administration for expediting the reprovisioning of Hong Kong Christian Service Pui Oi School with a boarding section at Area 16 of Tuen Mun.

The Subcommittee has been following up on the provision of boarding service for students with special educational needs. Members support the Administration's plan to build two new 60-place boarding sections in New Territories (NT) East and NT West respectively.

Members note that the new boarding section in the NT West Region will be attached to Pui Oi School in Tuen Mun. As Pui Oi School does not have sufficient space for the project, a site at Area 16 of Tuen Mun, which is about three to five minutes' drive from the School, has been identified for setting up the new boarding section and the School's secondary section, while the primary section remains in the existing premises. However, the School and parents have strongly requested to locate the primary and secondary sections on the same site for effective management and deployment of staff. This means that Pui Oi School will have to be reprovisioned to a new site big enough to accommodate the three sections, namely, the primary, secondary and boarding sections. The Administration has identified an additional site at Area 16 of Tuen Mun for this purpose.

According to the Administration, if the option to reprovision Pui Oi School is to proceed, the project will have to start afresh, and its completion will have to be deferred for at least two years. Given the lack of boarding service for students with physical disability in the NT West region, the Subcommittee requests your Bureau to make the best efforts to complete expeditiously the due process for the reprovisioning of the School so that the boarding section could operate as soon as practicable.

I have separately written to the Secretary for Education in this regard.

I should be grateful for your early response.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung) Chairman of Subcommittee

c.c. Secretary for Education (Fax no.: 2868 5916)