

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. PWSC 50/06-07
(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/F/2/2

**Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee
of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 6th meeting
held in the Conference Room A of Legislative Council Building
on Wednesday, 24 January 2007, at 8:30 am**

Members present:

Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, SBS, S.B.St.J., JP (Chairman)
Hon Fred LI Wah-ming, JP
Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP
Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon LI Kwok-ying, MH, JP
Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming, SBS, JP
Prof Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP
Hon TAM Heung-man

Members absent:

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, JP
Hon LAU Kong-wah, JP
Hon CHOY So-yuk
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon LEE Wing-tat
Hon Daniel LAM Wai-keung, SBS, JP

Member attending:

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Public officers attending:

Mr Joe C C WONG	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) ³
Mr MAK Chai-kwong, JP	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works)
Mrs Rita LAU, JP	Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands)
Ms Anissa WONG, JP	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)
Mr Davey CHUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)
Ms Bernadette LINN	Deputy Secretary for Education and Manpower (2)
Ms Mable CHAN	Principal Assistant Secretary for Education and Manpower (Infrastructure and Research Support)
Mr C H YUE, JP	Director of Architectural Services
Mr W T CHAN	Chief Technical Advisor (Subvented Projects), Architectural Services Department
Ms Sharon HO Ho-shuen	Principal Assistant Secretary (Transport) 5, Environment, Transport and Works Bureau
Mr WAI Chi-sing, JP	Director of Highways
Mr Y S CHOW, JP	Project Manager (Major Works), Highways Department
Mr H L CHENG	Chief Engineer (Traffic Engineering) (New Territories East), Transport Department
Miss Janet WONG Chin-kiu	Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Recreation and Sport)
Mr Thomas CHOW Tat-ming	Director of Leisure and Cultural Services
Mr Alan SIU	Deputy Director (Leisure Services), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Miss Olivia CHAN Yeuk-oi	Assistant Director (Leisure Services) 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Rosalind MA Senior Council Secretary (1)⁸

Staff in attendance:

Ms Pauline NG	Assistant Secretary General 1
Mr Anthony CHU	Council Secretary (1)2
Ms Alice CHEUNG	Senior Legislative Assistant (1)1
Mr Frankie WOO	Legislative Assistant (1)2

Action

Head 703 – Buildings

PWSC(2006-07)67 100ET Special school at Cornwall Street, Sham Shui Po, for severely intellectually disabled children

The Chairman advised members that the Administration briefed the Panel on Education on the development of the New Senior Secondary Academic Structure for special schools in July 2006.

2. The item was voted on and endorsed.

Head 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment

PWSC(2006-07)68 28EA Reprovisioning of St. Francis' Canossian School at St. Francis Street, Wan Chai

3. The Chairman advised members that the Administration consulted the Panel on Education on 24 October 2005 on the review of projects under planning in the School Building Programme. The Panel supported the recommendation to proceed with six projects for redevelopment and reprovisioning purposes, including the current proposal.

4. The item was voted on and endorsed.

PWSC(2006-07)69 57EC A private independent school (secondary-cum-primary) at Caldecott Road, Sham Shui Po

5. The Chairman advised members that an information paper on the project had been circulated to the Panel on Education on 22 December 2006.

6. The item was voted on and endorsed.

Head 706 – Highways

PWSC(2006-07)71 718TH Improvement to Tung Chung Road between Lung Tseng Tau and Cheung Sha

7. The Chairman advised members that the Panel on Transport had been consulted on the project on 15 December 2006. Mr Andrew CHENG, Chairman of the Panel, said that the Panel noted the Administration's explanation on the need to increase the approved project estimate (APE) and agreed that the proposal be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) for consideration.

8. Pointing out the significance of the Tung Chung Road (TCR) as a link road between the north and south of Lantau Island, Mrs Selina CHOW expressed support to the proposed increase of APE to cover the additional costs incurred due to variations of works to suit the site conditions. Nevertheless, Mrs CHOW expressed concern about the impact of the variations on the schedule for project completion and called on the Administration to expedite the works for early completion of the project.

9. The Director of Highways said that the progress of works had not kept pace with the originally envisaged programme due to the difficult site conditions and difficulties in dealing with unforeseen situations. He noted Mrs Selina CHOW's concern about early completion of the project and assured members that the Administration would work closely with the contractor to expedite project delivery with a view to opening the improved TCR within 2007.

10. The item was voted on and endorsed.

Head 703 – Buildings

PWSC(2006-07)64 53RE Improvement to Hong Kong Coliseum 54RE Improvement to Queen Elizabeth Stadium

11. The Chairman advised members that the Panel on Home Affairs (HA Panel) had been consulted on the proposed improvement works to 12 venues designated for holding the 2009 East Asian Games (EAG) on 8 December 2006 and 12 January 2007 (proposals under **PWSC(2006-07)64, 65 and 66**). In response to some members' dissatisfaction of the repeated funding proposals submitted by the Administration for hosting the 2009 EAG, the Administration assured members that the proposed improvement works to the 12 venues had been worked out after detailed assessments having regard to the professional input of the concerned National Sports Associations. As such, the Administration did not envisage any need for submitting funding proposals for other improvement works to venues for the 2009 EAG. Noting the supplementary information provided by the Administration on the resources for the improvement works and for support to athletes who were going to compete in the 2009 EAG, the Panel did not object to the submission of the relevant proposals to PWSC. Nevertheless, some members

had reservation on the proposed replacement of all the fixed arena seats (about 10 500 seats) of the Hong Kong Coliseum (HKC) at a unit cost of \$1,800 to \$2,300. Moreover, some members urged the Administration to ensure barrier free access for persons with disabilities (PwDs) at the venues concerned upon completion of the improvement works. As regards members' suggestion of enhancing greening at the venues, the Administration undertook to take the opportunity of the improvement works to enhance greening and landscaping through appropriate means subject to technical feasibility.

12. Mrs Selina CHOW expressed support for the improvement works under the current proposal and called on the Administration to ensure timely commissioning of the proposed works to tie in with the holding of the 2009 EAG. Mrs CHOW also supported the proposed replacement of the fixed arena seats of HKC as these seats had been in use for over 20 years and could no longer meet the current demand of spectators for comfortable seats. As to the proposed works at the Queen Elizabeth Stadium (QES), Mrs CHOW considered it necessary to improve and upgrade the facilities of the venue to provide for the standard which would commensurate with the prime location of QES as well as to meet the requirements for holding major events and competitions at international level. Noting that QES had an average usage rate of about 70% only, she was concerned whether and how the usage rate of the venue would be increased upon completion of the improvement works.

13. The Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (DLCS) advised that the existing facilities of QES were grossly outdated given its commissioning about 26 years ago. The proposed improvement works, for example, the improvement of the air-conditioning system and refurbishment of the front-of-house and backstage facilities, would enhance its functional efficiency and aesthetic image which would make the venue more appealing to organizers of sports, cultural and entertainment programmes. As such, the improvement works would likely help to increase the usage rate of QES upon completion.

14. Mrs Selina CHOW urged the Administration to step up efforts in publicity to achieve higher usage rates for the venues after completion of the improvement works. Apart from efforts to increase the usage rates, Mrs CHOW was of the view that the Administration should explore measures to facilitate usage of the venues for events of natures which matched the design and purposes of the upgraded facilities, through improving administration of the venues such as the booking systems.

15. Mr Andrew CHENG appreciated the Administration's efforts in providing supplementary information to address members' concerns raised at the HA Panel meetings in December 2006 and January 2007. He pointed out that Members of the Democratic Party (DP) did not object to the upgrading of hardware for sports development but they were concerned that equal importance should also be attached to the software such as training of athletes. Pointing out that the facade of HKC was monotonous, Mr CHENG sought information on the works included in the provision of \$10.5 million under external works of **53RE**

and enquired whether works for improving the design of the facade of HKC would be included.

16. In response, the Director of Architectural Services (D Arch S) said that the provision under external works of **53RE** was mainly for carrying out improvement works for areas outside the building structure of HKC, which included works such as upgrading access to the building for PwDs and replacing the tiles of the podium floor in the area surrounding HKC. He advised that while the current proposal would include works to incorporate the thematic design on the exterior of HKC to create a coherent sports identity for the 2009 EAG, the maintenance of the facade of the building structure was covered under separate regular maintenance programme.

17. Noting that the Administration had provided a reduced estimate for the replacement of the fixed arena seats for HKC in response to HA Panel members' concern about the high unit cost, Mr Andrew CHENG sought information on the difference in the unit cost and the resultant reduction in funding requirements for the replacement.

18. DLCS said that the Administration had modified slightly the specifications for the seats having regard to Members' views expressed at the meetings of the HA Panel. The estimated unit cost for replacing the arena seat had been reduced by \$300 and thereby the total estimated cost for the project by about \$3.1 million.

19. Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong said that DP Members would accept the funding requirements for replacement of seats for HKC given that unit cost had been reduced from \$1,800 to \$2,300 to \$1,600 to \$2,000. Nevertheless, Mr CHENG opined that the additional features of seats with a unit cost of about \$2,000 might not be necessary for the spectators of the events in HKC. In this connection, he urged the Administration to try its best to achieve value-for-money in the procurement process with a view to identifying quality seats which were durable and comfortable at a lower cost i.e. around \$1,600. DLCS noted Mr CHEUNG's view and assured members that the Administration had all along attached importance to value-for-money in its procurement process.

20. Dr Fernando CHEUNG opined that to cater for the needs of different users, in particular PwDs, the Administration should take the opportunity of the improvement works for the venues designated for holding the 2009 EAG to upgrade the facilities of the venues in accordance with the draft revised Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 1997 released in early 2006. To allow flexibility for both wheelchair users and other spectators to use the seats in the venues, Dr CHEUNG suggested that demountable seats could be installed. Pointing out the inadequate provision of facilities for PwDs (including lifts, lavatories and seats for wheelchair users) in HKC, Dr CHEUNG was concerned that in the absence of detailed information on improvement works for such facilities in the current proposal, whether the Administration would implement suitable improvement works to the venues to facilitate use of PwDs in consultation with the relevant

organizations if funding approval for the project was granted by the Finance Committee (FC).

21. DLCS referred to the scope of improvement works to HKC and QES set out in the current proposal and pointed out that facilities for PwDs were included in the proposed scope of works for both venues. He advised that for newly built government buildings, the Administration would provide access and facilities in compliance with the prevailing standards of the Design Manual (DM). He pointed out that as the current proposal involved improvement works to existing venues, the Administration could only provide access and facilities in compliance with the standards of DM where technically feasible. In working out the detailed design for improvement works to be implemented at the venues to facilitate the use by PwDs, the Administration would liaise with organizations representing the disabled and take heed of their concerns as far as practicable.

Admin

22. D Arch S added that the Administration had put in place clear guidelines on facilitating universal accessibility in the building design of new public works projects. For existing government buildings, the Administration would provide barrier free access and suitable facilities for PwDs in carrying out alteration or renovation works as far as practicable. D Arch S advised that the Administration would also consult organizations representing the disabled on the improvement works for PwDs to be implemented at these venues. At the request of Dr Fernando CHEUNG, the Administration undertook to provide information on the additional facilities for PwDs under each of the improvement works projects submitted through **PWSC(2006-07)64, 65 and 66** before the relevant FC meeting.

23. In response to Dr Fernando CHEUNG's enquiry on the engagement of accessibility consultant on the design of barrier free access for public works projects, D Arch S advised that while currently the Administration had not adopted such an arrangement, it had taken into account advice from members of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects in the design of access and facilities for PwDs for public works projects. Dr Fernando CHEUNG maintained his view that the Administration should seriously consider engaging accessibility consultants in the design of buildings for capital works projects as he had received views from the architectural profession that this was in line with the international best practice.

24. Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong expressed similar view on the need for improving access and facilities for PwDs at the sports venues. Referring to the provision of wheelchair platform at prominent location of the spectator area in a football stadium in the United Kingdom which allow wheelchair users and their companions to watch the matches together, Mr CHEUNG called on the Administration to give special consideration to the needs of PwDs in designing the improvement works for the venues.

25. DLCS assured members that the Administration would try to take into account the needs of PwDs in the improvement works to the venues for holding the 2009 EAG, where technically feasible. By way of illustration, he referred to

Enclosure 2 to **PWSC(2006-07)66** on the improvement works to the Hong Kong Stadium and advised that the scope of the project covered the provision of additional seats for PwDs together with seats for mentors to replace the existing empty bays for wheelchair users at the Main Level.

26. The item was voted on and endorsed.

PWSC(2006-07)65 248RS Improvement to Kowloon Park Swimming Pool

27. The Chairman advised members that the HA Panel was consulted on the project on 8 December 2006 and 12 January 2007.

28. Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed concern about the facilities for PwDs at the Kowloon Park Swimming Pool (KPSP), in particular the lack of family changing and shower facilities for PwDs and their care-takers. In response, the Assistant Director (Leisure Services)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department said that the indoor training pool at KPSP was equipped with a pool lift, an access ramp, changing room facilities and other ancillary facilities for PwDs. The Administration would consider further improvements to the access of and facilities for PwDs under the current project, where practicable.

29. Dr Fernando CHEUNG opined that the standards for provision of facilities for PwDs might fall short of the actual demand of PwDs. He urged the Administration to give due consideration to the needs of PwDs and to provide facilities on a par with the international standards so as to strengthen the image of Hong Kong as a modern and caring society.

30. Noting the computer rendered drawings at Enclosure 2 to **PWSC(2006-07)65** showing KPSP before and after the proposed improvement works, Ms Miriam LAU enquired whether there would still be diffusion of natural light into the indoor swimming pool upon completion of the improvement works. In response, DLCS and D Arch S said that the banners and screens shown in the drawing of KPSP after the improvement works were movable and could allow diffusion of natural light into the indoor swimming pools.

31. Mrs Selina CHOW was concerned about the inadequate provision of sanitary fitments in female lavatories and enquired whether the Administration would increase the provision of such facilities in female lavatories through the improvement works for the venues for holding the 2009 EAG. In this connection, Mrs CHOW also sought information on the latest ratio for provision of sanitary fitments in male and female lavatories. Ms Miriam LAU expressed similar concern and called on the Administration to consider increasing the provision of sanitary fitments in both male and female lavatories so that the provision would be in line with the standards overseas.

32. In reply, D Arch S advised that the ratio for assessing the number of sanitary fitments in male and female lavatories in the new Practice Note promulgated by the Buildings Department in May 2005 was 1:1.25. The Administration had adopted the aforesaid ratio in assessing the provision of sanitary fitments for new public works projects. He pointed out that while the provision of sanitary fitments in accordance with the new ratio in existing venues would be subject to the structural and space constraints of the venues concerned, the Administration had included in the proposed improvement works to the venues for holding the 2009 EAG, where practicable, works to increase the provision of sanitary fitments to meet the requirement promulgated in the new Practice Note. D Arch S noted members' concern about increasing the provision of sanitary fitments and assured members that the Administration would try to provide facilities up to and exceeding the promulgated requirements to meet the increasing public demand as far as practicable.

33. The item was voted on and endorsed.

PWSC(2006-07)66	246RS	Improvement to Hong Kong Stadium
	249RS	Improvement to Hong Kong Squash Centre
	250RS	Improvement to Lai Chi Kok Park Sports Centre
	251RS	Improvement to Western Park Sports Centre
	253RS	Improvement to Shek Kip Mei Park Sports Centre
	254RS	Improvement to Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground
	255RS	Improvement to Stanley Main Beach Water Sports Centre
	257RS	Improvement to Tseung Kwan O Sports Centre
	262RS	Improvement to King's Park Hockey Ground

34. The Chairman advised members that the HA Panel was consulted on the project on 8 December 2006 and 12 January 2007.

35. The item was voted on and endorsed.

36. The meeting ended at 9:20 am.