

**Subcommittee on Six Items of Subsidiary Legislation Relating to
the Relocation of Juveniles to
the Tuen Mun Children and Juvenile Home**

**Management and Operation of
Tuen Mun Children and Juvenile Home**

Introduction

At the first meeting of the Sub-committee on 20 November 2006, Members raised questions on the management and operation of the new Tuen Mun Children and Juvenile Home (the new home). This paper provides the Administration's response.

Need for Segregation

2. Members' main question was on how the juveniles admitted under different ordinances were properly segregated and managed in the new home given that juveniles of different background were admitted, e.g. offenders and non-offenders, boys and girls, longer-term stayers and short-term stayers.

3. The Social Welfare Department (SWD) recognizes the need for proper segregation arrangements. We have outlined below how the provision of space and design of the new home will enable SWD to segregate different groups of juveniles in the new home. SWD will also, through appropriate scheduling, ensure that different juvenile groups, will not interact unnecessarily.

Facilities Enabling Segregation

4. There are five main blocks in the new home (layout map at the Annex). They are :

- (a) two residential blocks, one for boys and the other for girls;
- (b) one multi-service block, for reception, screening, residential area and temporary accommodation pending admission;

- (c) one block with training, dining, sports and recreational facilities; and
- (d) one administration block.

Details are set out below.

I. Residential Facilities

5. The following features of the new home provide SWD with the flexibility to segregate and manage the residential units in the two residential blocks and multi-service block :

- (a) a total of 91 small living units in the form of four-person bedrooms are provided in the two residential blocks, as well as in two floors of the multi-service block. Boys and girls will be arranged to live in different blocks/ floors;
- (b) there are also 12 two-person rooms for those requiring temporary care pending admission to the dormitories (say those admitted during the mid-night). This allows easy segregation into many different groups;
- (c) having regard to the fluctuating number of juveniles admitted in each category, the dormitory rooms have been specially designed such that they can be grouped into clusters of four to seven bedrooms with gates and security control points installed in between while accessible through different passages and entrances. This gives SWD the flexibility to house suitable juveniles groups in different clusters while maintaining proper separation and security; and
- (d) adequate common sitting area and/or activity rooms are provided on each floor of the dormitory blocks and multi-service block for leisure, sports and recreational activities for residents, thereby obviating the need for the residents to go to the other floors.

II. Other Facilities

6. Similarly, the educational and vocational training facilities, the

recreational and sports facilities as well as the dining facilities are designed with a view to providing flexibility to facilitate separation and management. Details are set out below :

Educational and Vocational Facilities

- (a) there is adequate provision for educational and vocational training facilities for residents. A total of 16 classrooms, 6 workshops and 3 special rooms, namely computer room, music cum band room and art & design room, each catering for a class size of 15 students and installed with audio-visual equipment, are provided for daily teaching and training for each group of juveniles; and
- (b) the layout of the classrooms, workshops and special rooms has been carefully planned to avoid cross intersection of traffic of different juvenile groups.

Recreational and Sports Facilities

- (a) there is also adequate space for outdoor and recreational activities, without mixing the offenders and non-offenders. For ball games, there is an open ball court for football, basketball, volleyball and badminton;
- (b) basketball and badminton games can also be carried out indoor in the multi-purpose hall large enough to hold mass programmes for five hundred people. This is to meet operational needs like family day, festival events, stage performance and so on;
- (c) in addition, there is a covered playground on the ground floor of the training block and another activity area on the roof top the multi-service block;
- (d) a jogging track and a rock-climbing wall are provided for physical and adventure-based training for residents. There is also a community garden for residents in the open area.

Dining Facilities

- (a) in the residents' canteen which can accommodate two hundred people at one time, there are partitions which divide the canteen

into three parts. Different time schedules can be arranged for different groups of juveniles to take meals; and

- (b) the canteen can be used for other activities such as parents' visits and group activities as appropriate.

Service Improvement

7. Through enhanced facilities and management of the new home, social work staff will be able to focus more on the needs of the residents. They will also, with the support of volunteers of religious bodies, help the juveniles cultivate new values and change their daily living. This will hopefully help them become law-abiding members of the society and avoid re-offending in future. SWD will strive to improve the service quality and provide a more integrated rehabilitative training service for mal-adjusted juveniles and young offenders in the new home.

Health, Welfare and Food Bureau
Social Welfare Department
November 2006

Tuen Mun Children and Juvenile Home

