

立法會

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Panel on Home Affairs

Background brief prepared by Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 11 April 2008 Redevelopment of the Hong Kong Sports Institute

Purpose

This paper provides background information on the redevelopment of the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) and gives an account of relevant discussions held by the Panel on Home Affairs (the Panel).

Background

2. The HKSI complex, which was completed in 1982, occupies a government site of about 158 650 square metres. The site is bounded by stables managed by the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) on the northwest side, and the Sha Tin Racecourse and Penford Park on the northeast side. Following the dissolution of the Hong Kong Sports Development Board, HKSI was re-constituted to become an incorporated body (i.e. the Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited) on 1 October 2004 to provide elite athletes with a quality training environment and support services. HKSI is the training base for more than 750 athletes where they can obtain centralized support in terms of training facilities, strength and conditioning, sports science and medicine, as well as accommodation and catering. The Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited receives recurrent subvention from the Government and derives income from other sources such as commercial sponsorship and private donations. The Elite Training Programme in HKSI covers 11 "Elite Sports" - badminton, cycling, fencing, squash, rowing, swimming, table tennis, tenpin bowling, triathlon, windsurfing and wushu.

3. According to the Administration, key stakeholders have expressed concern that the facilities at HKSI cannot keep pace with the increased sophistication in sports development and elite training. Moreover, with a steady increase in the number of elite athletes under training, supporting facilities like hostel, and those for fitness training, sports medicine, sports science, etc. are inadequate in meeting

the present day needs. In his 2006-2007 Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced the redevelopment of HKSI to provide world-class training facilities for elite athletes in Hong Kong. In November 2006, a HKSI Redevelopment Project Steering Committee (the Steering Committee) chaired by the chairman of the Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited was set up to take forward the planning of the project. The Steering Committee comprises members from the Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited, relevant government bureaux/departments and individual professional members.

4. In support of the 2008 Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events (the Equestrian Events) to be co-hosted by Hong Kong, HKSI has been temporarily relocated to YMCA's Wu Kwai Sha Youth Village (WKSJV) at Ma On Shan since January 2007. The HKSI site (a site in the northeast measuring about 44 000 square metres) and facilities are being converted by HKJC, which provides funding and undertakes the construction of venues for the Equestrian Events, into competition venues and supporting facilities for the Events to be held in August and September 2008. The Administration's plan is to reinstate the site by December 2008 after the Equestrian Events. To expedite the redevelopment project, the Administration and the Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited have decided that all pre-construction preparatory work be carried out in the intervening period so that on site construction can commence immediately upon completion of the Equestrian Events.

5. The Administration briefed the Panel on the redevelopment project of HKSI and the development option to proceed with the project on 13 April 2007. Details of the redevelopment project are in **Appendix I**. With the support of the Panel, the Administration obtained the endorsement of the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) to proceed with the preparatory works of the project at its meeting held on 6 June 2007. The preparatory works comprises ground and slope investigations, structural investigation, condition survey of building services system, topographical and tree surveys, and consultancy services for outline sketch design, detailed design, as well as tender documentation and assessment for the main works. The Finance Committee (FC) approved funding at an estimated cost of \$52.9 million for these preparatory works at its meeting held on 22 June 2007.

Relevant discussions held by the Panel

Meetings held

6. The Panel received a briefing from the Administration on the redevelopment project of HKSI and the development option to proceed with the project at its meeting on 13 April 2007. The Panel further discussed the subject with deputations (including members of District Councils, Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China and National Sports Associations) and the Administration at its meeting on 11 May 2007. The major concerns raised by

members at these meetings are summarised in paragraphs 7 to 13 below. Members may also wish to refer to the Administration's response to the views made by the deputations (issued vide LC Paper No. CB(2)1939/06-07 on 22 May 2007).

Impact on the training of elite athletes during and after the redevelopment of HKSI

7. Miss TAM Heung-man expressed concern about the reduction in the number of tennis courts from 14 to six in HKSI after redevelopment. The Administration explained that there would be six outdoor tennis courts and one indoor court after redevelopment. Given the size of the squad and the training schedules of the athletes, these facilities should be sufficient to meet the training needs of the HKSI tennis squad. The Administration also informed members that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) planned to convert, as a pilot scheme, the Kowloon Tsai Park Tennis & Squash Courts into a dedicated sports training base for tennis. Fewer tennis courts were therefore planned for in HKSI after redevelopment and the tennis courts in the Kowloon Tsai Park Tennis & Squash Courts could make up for the shortfall. A non-profit making sports organization would be invited to manage the training base on a self-financing basis.

8. Miss TAM Heung-man enquired about the measures to be taken to minimise disruption to the training of elite athletes during the redevelopment of HKSI which would not be completed until the third quarter of 2011.

9. The Administration informed members that HKSI, which had been temporarily relocated to WKSJV, would remain in its current temporary main base in WKSJV and continue to use the venues of LCSD for elite training until completion of phase one works of the redevelopment project, estimated to be the third quarter of 2009. The Administration assured members that, after the reprovisioning of HKSI to WKSJV in January 2007, elite athletes and coaches were content with the reprovisioned facilities. After completion of phase one works, HKSI would move back to Fo Tan venue where normal operation would resume. Phase two works would proceed in parallel with the normal operation of HKSI, and elite training facilities would by and large remain intact.

Sports and supporting facilities for athletes with disabilities

10. Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed concern about whether the sports and supporting facilities at HKSI after redevelopment would comply with the latest requirements of the draft revised Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 1997. The Administration assured members that the needs of disabled persons would be addressed in the redevelopment of HKSI. The Administration would take the opportunity to put in place more integrated sports facilities for athletes with disabilities, such as boccia, warm-up and cross-training venues. The Administration also informed members that both Hong Kong Paralympic

Committee and Sports Association for the Physically Disabled and Hong Kong Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped had expressed support for the project.

Subsidence problems in the main stable compound of the Sha Tin Racecourse

11. Members noted that HKJC had reported serious subsidence problems found in the main stable compound of the Sha Tin Racecourse, resulting in severe damage to the stable buildings and associated structures and services. HKJC had asked to be allowed to retain the stables and training arenas after the Equestrian Events so that a major plan to replace all stable blocks in the Sha Tin Racecourse could be arranged.

12. Ms Emily LAU expressed concern about whether the subsidence problems had implications on the timetable for the redevelopment of HKSI. The Administration explained that the subsidence problems had only prompted HKJC to request to retain the use of the Olympic stables for decanting horses during replacement of the stable blocks. The subsidence problems had no implications on the redevelopment timetable because the scope of the project did not include the site on which the Olympic stables were built. The Administration also invited members to note that, with the proposed new and additional facilities provided at HKSI after redevelopment, it would be possible to meet the full needs of HKSI in the foreseeable future without recovering the site in question. The Steering Committee and key stakeholders (including the Board of HKSI, relevant National Sports Associations, coaches, athletes and the staff of HKSI) had indicated no objection to the revised site coverage of HKSI.

13. Ms Emily LAU and Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed concern about whether the chairman of the Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited, who was a Voting Member of HKJC, had participated in making the decision of allowing HKJC to retain the Equestrian stables upon completion of the Equestrian Events. The Administration explained that he had not participated in the discussions between the Government and HKJC. As the entire site of HKSI at Fo Tan was on Government land and HKSI was not a grantee holding the site, the discussion over the use of the site was entirely a matter between the Government and the relevant party. In connection with the Equestrian Events, the site in question had been leased to the Equestrian Company, the executive arm of the Equestrian Committee (Hong Kong) of Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad. As HKSI was satisfied that the redevelopment project could meet the expectations of its stakeholders, HKSI had no objection to the Government's decision.

Recent development

14. The Administration has proposed to consult the Panel on the funding application for the main works of the redevelopment project of HKSI before submission to PWSC and FC by mid 2008.

Relevant papers

15. A list of relevant papers on the Project, including funding proposals/papers provided by the Administration and minutes of relevant meetings of the Panel, PWSC and FC, is in **Appendix II**.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
8 April 2008

Appendix I

Details of the redevelopment project of the Hong Kong Sports Institute

- (a) A new 11-storey multi-purpose building situated at the site of the existing outdoor velodrome. It will house the following facilities :
 - (i) a 12-lane bowling centre
 - (ii) a sports information centre
 - (iii) conference centre, lecture and coaching rooms and function rooms
 - (iv) athletes' canteen / restaurant
 - (v) athletes' hostel (5 storeys at Level 5 to 9 with a capacity for 370 athletes)
 - (vi) sports residence (2 storeys at Level 10 to 11 for visiting athletes and sports personnel)
 - (vii) offices and ancillary facilities
- (b) A new multi-purpose sports hall (for an indoor tennis court, a venue for training of wushu and 2 doubles squash courts convertible to 3 singles courts)
- (c) A new 52m international standard indoor swimming pool (connected with the existing 25m pool)
- (d) A new 2-storey rowing boathouse
- (e) A new 120m 4-lane warm-up track with spectator stand
- (f) Upgrading of the existing indoor sports complex (to provide better facilities for table tennis, fencing, badminton, sports science laboratories, sports medicine clinic and fitness training centre with expanded, integrated recovery centre, coaches offices, building services and fittings)
- (g) Upgrading of the running / cycling trail with 3m wide rubber finish
- (h) Refurbishment of 4 tennis courts, 2 new tennis clay courts and conversion of the surplus tennis courts and volleyball courts into a new multi-purpose outdoor venue

- (i) A new covered walkway connecting the new 11-storey multi-purpose building and the existing indoor sports complex
- (j) Integrated sports facilities for athletes with disabilities including, but are not necessarily limited to, fencing, boccia, table tennis, rowing, tenpin bowling, swimming, track and field, warm-up and cross-training. Additional ancillary facilities will be specifically targeted to athletes with disabilities including residence, access, toilets and changing rooms, lifts, car-parks, wheel-chair storage etc.

Appendix II

List of relevant papers

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
13.4.07	Panel on Home Affairs	Paper entitled "Redevelopment of the Hong Kong Sports Institute" provided by the Administration	CB(2)1493/06-07(02) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/panels/ha/papers/ha0413cb2-1493-2-e.pdf
		Extract from minutes of special meeting of the Panel on 20 July 2005	CB(2)1493/06-07(03) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/panels/ha/papers/ha0413cb2-1493-3-e.pdf
		Background brief entitled "Sports development in Hong Kong" prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat	CB(2)1493/06-07(04) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/panels/ha/papers/ha0413cb2-1493-4-e.pdf
		Minutes of meeting	CB(2)1980/06-07 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/panels/ha/minutes/ha070413.pdf
11.5.07	Panel on Home Affairs	Submission from Hong Kong Elite Athletes Association (Chinese version only)	CB(2)1817/06-07(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/chinese/panels/ha/papers/ha0511cb2-1817-1-c.pdf

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		Submission from Hong Kong Table Tennis Association (Chinese version only)	CB(2)1773/06-07(03) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/chinese/papers/ha0511cb2-1773-3-c.pdf
		Submission from Mr KWOK Ming-chi	CB(2)1773/06-07(04) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/papers/ha0511cb2-1773-4-e.pdf
		Submission from Hong Kong Tennis Association	CB(2)1773/06-07(05) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/papers/ha0511cb2-1773-5-e.pdf
		Submission from Equal Opportunities Commission	CB(2)1800/06-07(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/papers/ha0511cb2-1800-1-e.pdf
		Submission from Rehabilitation Alliance Hong Kong (Chinese version only)	CB(2)1808/06-07(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/chinese/papers/ha0511cb2-1808-1-c.pdf
		Paper entitled "Response to views/submissions from deputations on sports development at the meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs held on 11 May 2007" provided by the Administration	CB(2)1939/06-07(01) http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/papers/ha0511cb2-1939-1-e.pdf

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		Minutes of meeting	CB(2)250/07-08 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/p/panels/ha/minutes/ha070511.pdf
		Redevelopment of the Hong Kong Sports Institute 15 QJ	PWSC(2007-08)20 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/fc/pwsc/papers/p07-20e.pdf
6.6.07	Public Works Subcommittee	Minutes of meeting	PWSC 93/06-07 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/fc/pwsc/minutes/pw070606.pdf
		Recommendations of the Public Works Subcommittee made on 6 June 2007	FCR(2007-08)21 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/fc/fc/papers/f07-21e.pdf
22.6.07	Finance Committee	Minutes of meeting	FC 18/07-08 http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/fc/fc/minutes/fc070622.pdf