# For Discussion on 19 May 2008

#### **Legislative Council Panel on Health Services**

#### **Expansion of Tseung Kwan O Hospital**

#### **Purpose**

This paper seeks Members' support for the proposed expansion of Tseung Kwan O Hospital (TKOH).

#### **Problem**

2. The existing facilities in TKOH are inadequate in terms of space and capacity to meet the future service requirements and service demand in Kowloon East.

### **Background**

3. The construction of TKOH was approved in 1995 and the original design of the hospital at that time was to provide acute and general hospital services to the 300 000 planned population of Tseung Kwan O (TKO) district. The construction works were completed in mid-1999 and TKOH commenced operation in December 1999 by phases. TKOH is currently providing inpatient, 24-hour accident and emergency service, day care and specialist outpatient services.

# **Need for expansion**

- 4. Over the years, the population in TKO and Sai Kung has increased rapidly, from 287 135 in 1999 to 412 600 in 2007. It is projected that by 2015, the population will reach about 483 850, exerting pressure on the healthcare services to be provided by the TKOH.
- 5. At present, the Hospital Authority (HA) provides medical services for Kwun Tong and TKO districts through its Kowloon East (KE) cluster, which comprises TKOH, United Christian Hospital (UCH) and Haven of Hope Hospital. It is projected that the population in KE cluster will increase from

935 500 in 2007 to around 1 060 800 in 2015, representing a 13.4% rise. With a provision of 2.2 general beds per 1 000 population in KE cluster as compared to an average of 2.9 general beds per 1 000 population of all seven clusters of HA, public hospital services in the KE cluster are insufficient to meet the increasing needs due to population growth. Furthermore, the aging population and enhanced health awareness of the public also contribute to the increasing demand for health care. The existing facilities in TKOH are inadequate in terms of space and capacity to cope with the future service requirements and service demand. We propose to expand the capacity of TKOH by providing up to 178 additional in-patient beds, giving an eventual bed complement of 636 in-patient beds and 140 day beds/places upon completion.

- 6. Over the years, the demand for specialist out-patient (SOP) consultation services in the KE cluster has grown tremendously. The number of SOP attendances in KE cluster increased from 484 860 in 2000-01 to 639 990 in 2007-08, representing a 32% rise. The projected population will exert further pressure on the service provisions by TKOH. We propose to increase the number of consultation rooms in the SOP department from 48 to 70. The capacity of SOP attendances is expected to increase from 171 430 to 250 000 per year. Other expanded services and facilities are also proposed to cope with the requirement of the additional beds and ambulatory care services.
- 7. Expanding the space and services of TKOH will also help to address the need to -
  - (a) enhance ambulatory care services as a result of the shifting of focus on treatment from in-patient services to ambulatory and community-based care; and
  - (b) comply with the prevailing infection control standards in modern healthcare settings, such as maintaining adequate space between patient beds to prevent cross infection.

## **Enhancement of facility provisions**

Additional medical equipment items will be installed to support the delivery of enhanced clinical services. For example, the installation of a new x-ray controlled three-dimensional orthopaedic surgical navigation system will facilitate image-guided navigation surgery to be performed with smaller operative wound exposures but higher surgical accuracy. The new equipment can save operation time and cause less post-operative pains and complications. More surgeries can thus be performed on day basis, achieving shorter lengths of hospital stay and higher patient satisfaction as a result.

9. One of the existing operating theatres will be converted to be negative-pressured such that surgical procedures on patients with air-borne infectious diseases may be performed in an isolation environment.

### **The Proposed Project**

- 10. The proposed scope of the project comprises -
  - (a) construction of a new ambulatory block on part of the existing car parking area of TKOH to accommodate the following non-in-patient services and supporting facilities decanted from the existing hospital main block -
    - (i) an expanded specialist out-patient department (with 70 consultation rooms for different clinical specialties and other ancillary facilities such as clinic administration office, waiting area, toilets, treatment and procedure rooms, patient counselling and education rooms, special diagnostic facilities, etc.) and a traditional Chinese Medicine clinic;
    - (ii) a Day Psychiatric Centre, a Day Geriatric Centre, a Day Medical Centre and an Ambulatory Surgery Centre;
    - (iii) a Health Resource Centre with patient activities rooms, part of the Integrated Rehabilitation Services (IRS), the hospital administration department, lecture theatre, staff car parks and overnight rooms; and
    - (iv) other ancillary facilities including shroff, enquiry and information counter, registration and appointment-booking office, blood-taking room for laboratory tests and staff changing rooms, etc.;
  - (b) conversion / renovation of the spaces vacated by the services and supporting facilities in the hospital main block as mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) above to accommodate
    - (i) three additional acute in-patient wards with a total of 112 beds, a new emergency care ward with 30 beds and a new isolation ward with 12 isolation rooms and ante rooms that meet the prevailing standard for infection control;
    - (ii) an expanded capacity for intensive and high dependency care services by up to 16 beds;

- (iii) necessary facilities for the development of obstetric and neo-natal services, including one neo-natal intensive care unit (NICU) with eight cots;
- (iv) an expanded clinical pathology department, mortuary, pharmacy, IRS and central sterile supplies department;
- (v) reprovisioning of psychosocial and spiritual support services, store rooms, community nursing service and workshops / offices for the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department; and
- (vi) additional offices and reprovisioning of call rooms for medical staff and tuck shop;
- (c) construction of a link bridge connecting the new ambulatory block and the hospital main block; and
- (d) enhancement of equipment and facility provisions by -
  - (i) installing additional medical equipment items;
  - (ii) expanding digital radiography (DR) systems for Accident and Emergency department and outpatient clinics;
  - (iii) upgrading the picture archiving and communication system (PACS); and
  - (iv) equipping one of the operating rooms with negative pressure.
- 11. A site plan of the proposed new ambulatory block is at <u>Enclosure 1</u>.

# **Project Implementation**

- 12. We have engaged consultants and completed minor site investigation works including topographical survey, utility mapping, geotechnical assessment, traffic impact assessment, drainage impact assessment, sewerage impact assessment and pre-contract quantity surveying (QS) services. We have also employed term contractors and completed ground investigation and services diversion works.
- 13. The QS consultant is carrying out the pre-contract QS services and finalizing the tender documents of the project. We propose to adopt the design-

and-build approach for the construction of the new ambulatory block. We will deliver the conversion / renovation works in the hospital main block through design-and-build re-measurement contracts.<sup>1</sup>

14. We plan to seek the Finance Committee (FC) approval in June 2008 to fund the proposed project at an estimated cost of about \$1,945 million in money-of-the-day prices. Subject to FC approval, we plan to start the construction of the new ambulatory block in early 2009. The project is targeted for completion in early 2013.

#### **Public Consultation**

15. The HA has consulted the Sai Kung District Council (SKDC) on 4 March 2008 on the proposed project. Members of the SKDC supported the proposed project.

### **Advice Sought**

16. Members are invited to support the proposed project as outlined in this paper.

Food and Health Bureau Hospital Authority May 2008

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The final expenditure is determined based on the measurement of the actual amount of works completed.

