

立法會
Legislative Council

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Panel on Development

**Proposal for setting up a subcommittee
to review the planning of harbourfront areas**

Purpose

This paper seeks members' views on the proposal for setting up a subcommittee under the Panel on Development (the Panel) to monitor and study the planning of harbourfront areas and related issues.

Background

2. Harbourfront enhancement is a policy initiative highlighted in the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2008. According to the paper provided by the Development Bureau for the Panel meeting on 22 October 2008, the Administration will commit additional resources to strengthen the policy on harbourfront planning and implementation of harbourfront enhancement initiatives. Specifically, the Administration will --

- (a) set up a dedicated team in the Planning and Lands Branch to be headed by a Principal Assistant Secretary to handle harbourfront-related planning and land issues;
- (b) open up as much unoccupied government land as possible (including, where appropriate, sites now under short term tenancies) for the development of continuous promenades along the harbourfront;
- (c) identify practical temporary quick-win projects for public enjoyment of the harbourfront as early as possible;
- (d) co-ordinate inter-departmental efforts on harbourfront planning; and
- (e) strengthen engagement of District Councils, the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee and the public in identifying and implementing both long-term as well as short-term harbourfront enhancement projects where appropriate.

3. At the Panel meeting on 14 October 2008, there was a suggestion of setting up a subcommittee to review the planning for the new Central harbourfront. When this suggestion was further considered at the Panel meeting on 28 October 2008, members agreed that a subcommittee should be formed under the Panel to monitor and study harbourfront planning and related issues in respect of both sides of the harbour.

Proposed terms of reference of the subcommittee

4. The terms of reference of the subcommittee is proposed to be --

"To monitor and study the planning, land use and related issues in respect of the harbourfront areas on both sides of the Victoria Harbour."

5. The name of the subcommittee is proposed to be --

"Subcommittee on Harbourfront Planning"

Proposed scope of work

6. It is proposed that the planning (including the existing and future land use proposals) for all harbourfront areas, except the harbourfront areas within the West Kowloon Cultural District and Kai Tak Development¹, may be covered in the study of the subcommittee. The boundary of the Victoria Harbour is shown in the **Appendix**.

7. The major issues to be studied by the subcommittee may include the following --

- (a) short-term and long-term initiatives to enhance the environment and accessibility of harbourfront areas for public enjoyment;
- (b) development of continuous promenades along the harbourfront;
- (c) planning control in respect of development projects at harbourfront sites; and
- (d) institutional arrangements for the planning and management of harbourfront areas.

¹ The waterfront areas of the West Kowloon Cultural District and Kai Tak Development are being planned in conjunction with the other infrastructure projects in the two development areas. It would thus be more appropriate for the relevant planning and implementation matters to be followed up by the Panel on Development, or if appropriate, by the Panel on Home Affairs.

Proposed time frame for completion of work

8. As harbourfront enhancement is a long-term commitment and the enhancement measures for different harbourfront areas will take place along different timelines, it is not envisaged that the subcommittee can complete its work within a short period. The Panel will have to consider the need for continuation of the subcommittee's work at the end of this legislative session. The subcommittee will submit a progress report on its work to the Panel at the end of the legislative session.

Advice sought

9. Members are invited to decide on the terms of reference and work plan of the subcommittee.

10. Subject to the Panel's endorsement of the proposed terms of reference and work plan as set out above, the Secretariat will make arrangements for the first meeting and invite Panel members to signify membership for the subcommittee.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
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