

For information

**Legislative Council
Panel on Environmental Affairs**

**Information Note on
Provision of sewerage in Yuen Long and Kam Tin**

PURPOSE

In discussing the paper on the two projects, namely, **235DS** “Yuen Long and Kam Tin sewerage and sewage disposal” and **274DS** “Yuen Long and Kam Tin sewerage, stage 3”, at the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs held on 23 February 2009 prior to submission to the PWSC for upgrading to Category A, Members requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the following –

- (a) a breakdown on the percentage of village houses which had made connection upon provision of the public village sewerage, together with information on the distance between the reception point and the lot boundary of village house and the reasons for those unable to be connected;
- (b) the assistance schemes available to villagers in implementing the sewer connection works, as well as the measures to ensure compliance with sewer connection requirements; and
- (c) the schedules of delivery for village sewers and sewer connection works and their respective site plans.

This paper sets out the Administration’s response.

THE ADMINISTRATION’S RESPONSE

Village sewer connection

2. Village sewerage is part of the Government’s sewerage provision programme to improve the village environs and sanitary conditions of the unsewered areas. Once public sewers have been laid in an area under the village

sewerage programme, village house owners will be required under the Water Pollution Control (Sewerage) Regulation to convey wastewater arising from their premises to the public sewers. Proper connection of village houses to the public sewerage network will significantly improve the environmental and sanitary conditions of unsewered areas and reduce pollution to our rivers and coastal waters.

3. The percentage of village houses which had made connection upon provision of the public village sewerage is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Village sewerage connection rates (statistics as at end 2008)

Area	Total number of village houses covered	Number of village houses connected	Connection rate (%)
Sha Tin	2328	1934	83
Tai Po	2054	1564	76
North and Yuen Long [#]	1886	1226	65
Sai Kung	1078	950	88
Tsuen Wan [#]	48	37	77
Islands [#]	335	261	78
Total [#]	7729	5972	77

[#] Sewer connection work is still on-going

4. The connection rates of village houses vary and depend on a number of technical factors. Based on past experience, the main reasons for those unable to be connected include limited space, inadequate hydraulic gradient, costly pumping requirement, obstruction from underground utilities, land resumption issues and encroachment on other's private land etc..

Distance between the reception point and the lot boundary of village house

5. During construction of public sewers in villages, we will provide a reception point along the new public sewer for each village house to be connected. The location of a reception point will be determined by agreeing with the concerned lot owner on a case by case basis. The public sewer will then be extended to the agreed location with the reception point, which for most of the cases, is located within one metre from the lot boundary of the concerned village house. In some cases, where the terminal manhole has to be located on Government land for some reasons, the reception point may be placed farther away from the lot boundary of the village house, but would normally be within a metre from the future terminal manhole.

Measures to ensure compliance with sewer connection requirements

6. Under the existing practice, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will issue advisory letters to the house owners concerned when the public village sewers are ready for connection and after consultations with the local residents are done. A time period of about 6 to 12 months is usually allowed for the house owners to complete the connection works. The EPD will serve statutory notices to those owners who fail to carry out the connection works after the specified time period.

7. Upon receipt of the owners' notification of works completion, EPD staff will conduct inspection and testing to verify satisfactory completion of the sewer connections. We have been assisting the owners to resolve the technical and site specific problems as far as possible. Enforcement action is taken as the last resort.

Assistance schemes available to villagers in implementing the sewer connection works

8. In order to assist those village house owners who may have difficulty in meeting the costs of sewer connections, we have made provisions for eligible owners to apply for financial assistance from the following existing building related grant and loan schemes to carry out drainage improvement works (including sewer connection works) within their private lots in connection with the Government's village sewerage projects –

- (a) “Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners” provided by the Government and administered by the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS)
(please visit website
http://www.hkhs.com/eng/business/pm_bmgs.asp for details);
- (b) “Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme” (also known as “Building Safety Loan Scheme”) operated by the Buildings Department
(please visit website
http://www.bd.gov.hk/english/services/index_bsils.html for details); and
- (c) “Home Renovation Loan Scheme” operated by HKHS
(please visit website
http://www.hkhs.com/eng/business/pm_bmm_a.asp for details).

Schedules of delivery for village sewers

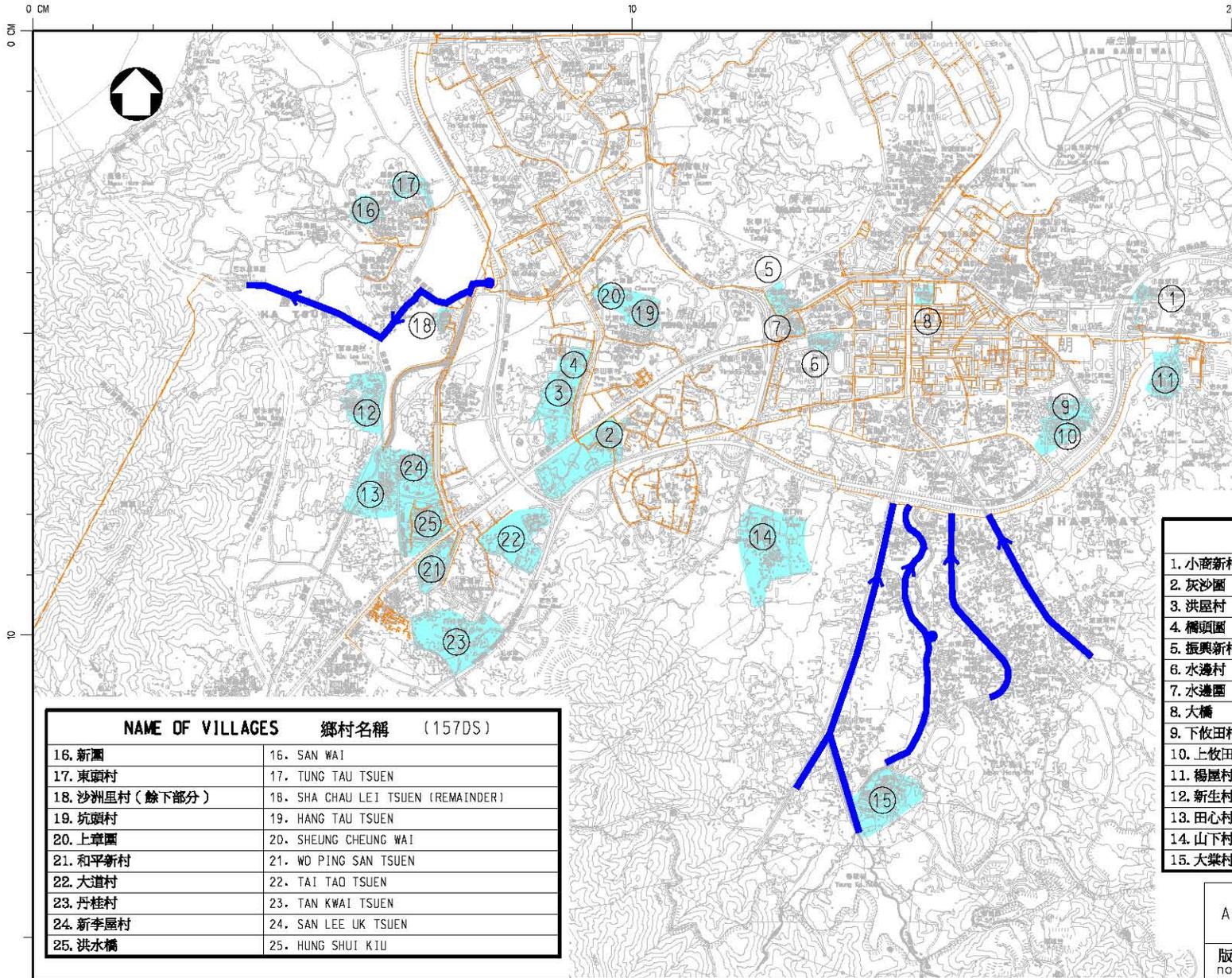
9. The sewerage works under **235DS** that we propose to part-upgrade to Category A for consideration by the Public Works Subcommittee on 22 April 2009 and the Finance Committee on 8 May 2009 (the Proposed Works) comprises –

- (a) construction of trunk sewers in Yuen Long South and Ha Tsuen areas;
- (b) construction of a new sewage pumping station near Shui Tsiu San Tsuen Road in Yuen Long South and expansion of the existing Ha Tsuen sewage pumping station; and
- (c) ancillary works.

We plan to commence construction of the Proposed Works in mid 2009 for completion in late 2013.

10. For the villages located within the catchment of the Proposed Works, we have included the village sewerage programme for 25 villages under two Category B items, namely **157DS** “Yuen Long and Kam Tin sewerage stage 2 phase 3B, 3C, 3D, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D and 5E” and **274DS** “Yuen Long and Kam Tin sewerage, stage 3”. We plan to commence the village sewerage works for these 25 villages progressively from 2010 for completion in 2016. Nevertheless, the associated village sewerage programme is still at the planning and design stage and the proposed delivery programme is tentative, subject to detailed design, public consultation, land resumption and gazettal process. A site plan showing the names and locations of these 25 villages is at Enclosure 1.

Environmental Protection Department
April 2009



LEGEND 圖例

- 現有污水渠
EXISTING SEWER
- 157DS 及 274DS (部分)**
將提供公共污水收集系統的鄉村
VILLAGES TO BE PROVIDED WITH PUBLIC SEWERAGE
- 235DS (部分)
擬於2009年年中提升為甲級的污水收集系統
PROPOSED SEWERAGE TO BE UPGRADED TO CAT A IN MID 2009
- 擬建污水幹渠
PROPOSED TRUNK SEWER
- 擬建污水泵房 / 擬擴建污水泵房
PROPOSED SEWAGE PUMPING STATION / PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SEWAGE PUMPING STATION

NAME OF VILLAGES 鄉村名稱 (157DS)	
16. 新圍	16. SAN WAI
17. 東頭村	17. TUNG TAU TSUEN
18. 沙洲里村 (餘下部分)	18. SHA CHAU LEI TSUEN (REMAINDER)
19. 坑頭村	19. HANG TAU TSUEN
20. 上章圍	20. SHEUNG CHEUNG WAI
21. 和平新村	21. WO PING SAN TSUEN
22. 大道村	22. TAI TAO TSUEN
23. 丹桂村	23. TAN KWAI TSUEN
24. 新李屋村	24. SAN LEE UK TSUEN
25. 洪水橋	25. HUNG SHUI KIU

NAME OF VILLAGES 鄉村名稱 (274DS)	
1. 小商新村	1. SMALL TRADERS NEW VILLAGE
2. 灰沙圍	2. FUI SHA WAI
3. 洪屋村	3. HUNG UK TSUEN
4. 橋頭圍	4. KIU TAU WAI
5. 振興新村	5. CHUN HING SAN TSUEN
6. 水邊村	6. SHUI PIN TSUEN
7. 水邊圍	7. SHUI PIN WAI
8. 大橋	8. TAI KIU
9. 下攸田村	9. HA YAU TIN TSUEN
10. 上攸田村	10. SHEUNG YAU TIN TSUEN
11. 楊屋村	11. YEUNG UK TSUEN
12. 新生村	12. SAN SANG TSUEN
13. 田心村	13. TIN SUM TSUEN
14. 山下村	14. SHAN HA TSUEN
15. 大業村	15. TAI TONG TSUEN

圖則名稱 drawing title

157DS 及 274DS 工程項目中位於235DS (部分) 污水系統集水區內的鄉村位置

LOCATION OF VILLAGES UNDER 157DS & 274DS WITHIN THE SEWERAGE CATCHMENT OF 235DS (PART)

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部門 office 污水工程部 SEWERAGE PROJECTS DIVISION		香港特別行政區政府渠務署 DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION	