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本署檔號 OUR REF: (7) in L/M (1) in LCS 03/HQ 802/04 (2)  
來函檔號 YOUR REF: CB(3)/PAC/CS(50, 51 & 51A)

8 January 2010

Ms Serena CHU  
Public Accounts Committee  
Legislative Council

Dear Ms CHU,

**Follow-up to Public Accounts Committee Report No. 42  
Provision of Aquatic Recreational and Sports Facilities**

I refer to your letter of 23 December 2009 requesting for a timetable for concluding the review of the alignment of fees and charges of swimming pool complexes as well as the fees for swimming training courses.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department attaches great importance to the review of fees and charges of swimming pool complexes, the proposed alignment of the relevant fees in the urban areas and the New Territories as well as the setting of fees for swimming training courses. Given that a wide range of recreation/sports venues and programmes are provided by the Department, the review involves nearly a thousand items of different fees and charges and is thus a very complex process. We are unable to single out the fees and charges for swimming pool complexes for consideration as any changes to the fee of a certain type of facility/programme, whatever the rationale and formula, will have read-across implications for other facilities and programmes. We have thus adopted a holistic and coherent approach to the review, and a Working Group has been set up to review all the fees and charges of leisure services, including those of the swimming pool complexes and



swimming training courses. The Working Group has conducted a number of studies to review the fee structures and fee levels for using different types of recreation and sports facilities, including, among other things, studies on the utilization rates, cost recovery rates and concessionary rates of various sports and leisure facilities. After collecting the necessary information and considering the overall fee-setting principles applicable to leisure services, we will proceed to formulate the fee proposals for our swimming pool complexes, including the proposed alignment of admission fees and hire charges for the urban areas and the New Territories. The Working Group is also studying the feasibility of aligning the principles of setting course fees for swimming training courses and other recreation and sports programmes in one go.

While we cannot commit at this stage to a firm timetable for completing the review, we are making every effort to speed up the process and to take the necessary steps to address the issues involved. Please rest assured that the Department has accorded the highest priority to completing the review. We will let the Committee have a concrete timetable of the review as soon as we are in a position to do so.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on 2601 8873.

Yours sincerely,

(Horman CHAN)

for Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

c.c. Director of Audit