

For discussion
on 9 April 2010

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

Provision of Public Libraries at District Level

Purpose

This paper updates Members on the present position regarding the provision of public libraries at the district level.

Background

2. On 8 July 2009, an information paper setting out the additional public library facilities proposed by the 18 District Councils and the provision of libraries under planning by the Administration was circulated to Members. The Panel agreed at its meetings on 10 July 2009 and 15 October 2009 to further discuss the issue.

Provision of Libraries

Public libraries and services

3. The provision of public libraries is made with reference to the current Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPS&G) which state that one district library should be provided for each district and that there should be a district library for every 200 000 persons. At present, the 7.03 million people of Hong Kong are served by 66 static libraries and 10 mobile library vans (Annex A). Generally speaking, the present provision of public libraries in the territory has met the standards suggested in the HKPS&G.

4. On the recommendation of the Committee on Libraries (CoL), the Government has since 2006 adopted an enhanced space provision for new libraries under planning by increasing the floor areas from 3,310 square metres to 6,200 square metres for major libraries; and from 2,200 square metres to 2,900 square metres for district libraries. The expanded floor area has enabled the provision of a more spacious and comfortable reading environment and a larger seating capacity.

Furthermore, new facilities such as Express Check-in Counter, Young Adult Library (for major libraries only), Leisure Reading Corner, Coffee Corner, Computer & Information Centre, electronic lockers and Babycare Room can also be accommodated where appropriate to provide more efficient, higher quality and user-friendly library services. To encourage the search of information through the use of information technology, multimedia workstations and Computer & Information Centres are provided in the Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL), all major and most district libraries.

5. For new facilities, three district libraries and a small library are under planning. The three district libraries are the second Tseung Kwan O Public Library, Yuen Chau Kok Public Library and Tung Chau Street Public Library, and the small library is in Siu Sai Wan.

6. In addition to new libraries, we are planning for the reprovisioning and upgrading of one major library, two district libraries and three small libraries to larger premises (Annex B). Among them, the district library at Tin Shui Wai will be upgraded to a major library and the small library at Lam Tin will be upgraded to a district library. Together with the new district library in Tung Chung to be opened in a few months' time, all these new and reprovisioned libraries will meet the enhanced space provision recommended by the CoL and be provided with the added facilities as set out in paragraph 4 above.

7. Apart from setting up new libraries and reprovisioning some of the existing libraries to larger premises, there are also ongoing renovation programmes to improve the facilities and reading environment of some existing libraries. Under these renovation programmes, libraries which have been in service for 10 or more years will be renovated by phases. So far, the facilities of 44 libraries have been significantly upgraded through renovation (Annex C).

Community libraries

8. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has since 2005 introduced the Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme as one of its initiatives to further promote reading and enhance collaboration with local community organisations. The scheme serves as an effective means to supplement the existing library services to meet the increasing demand in the community. Under the scheme, community libraries are set up through collaboration with non-profit making organisations, in which the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) offers block loan of library materials and free professional advice to the participating organisations in the setting up of the libraries. These community libraries further enhance the provision of library services at district levels by providing local residents, especially children, teenagers, housewives and senior citizens easy access to library materials within their neighbourhood. Presently, about 139 community libraries are operating across the 18 districts.

Proposals from District Councils

9. We have received a number of proposals for additional library facilities from the District Councils. The Administration circulated to Members a position report on these proposals on 8 July 2009. The report has been further updated at Annex D for Members' information.

Application of Information Technology in Public Libraries

10. The LCSD has launched an array of initiatives, including the upgrading of the Library Automation System (LAS) and the Multimedia Information System (MMIS), to tie in with the expansion of the library system.

Upgrading of LAS

11. The existing LAS is one of the world's largest library computer systems with both Chinese and English capabilities. We are in the process of implementing a project to replace the existing system. We aim to launch the new system in mid-2011 and complete the whole upgrading exercise by phases in mid-2013.

RFID Sub-system Pilot Test

12. To coincide with the implementation of the new LAS, a pilot test of a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) sub-system will be conducted at six libraries (two major, two district and two small libraries) by end of 2011. The deployment of RFID sub-system, which replaces the paper bar-code labels on library materials with RFID tags, is expected to further enhance the efficiency of the major library processes, including lending and returning of library materials, sorting, shelving and inventory management of library items. Should the experience gained in the pilot test be satisfactory, the HKPL will draw up proposals for the full implementation of the RFID system in all libraries.

Upgrading of MMIS

13. The MMIS is a digital library system of the HKPL. It has opened up new realms for information retrieval by offering the public instant access to a wide variety of digital documents, audio and video programmes. It provides a convenient one-stop search function enabling library users to explore the library multimedia archives via the Internet or through workstations in the HKCL and the 26 major and district libraries. The system also facilitates the public's access to digital contents, such as digitised newspapers, photos, news clippings, maps, manuscripts, etc. For long-term

development, a Major Upgrade Project of MMIS is underway and the whole exercise is expected to be completed in 2012.

14. With the full implementation of the LAS, RFID and MMIS systems, the public libraries will enter into a new era of high technology whereby the public can enjoy higher quality and more efficient library services with convenient access to a whole spectrum of electronic information and printed materials.

Way Forward

15. The Government will continue to enhance the provision of public library services through the planning of new facilities, the upgrading, reprovisioning and renovation of existing libraries and the application of information technology in the delivery of its services. We will also encourage the setting up of more community libraries to supplement the provision of public libraries by providing the local community with convenient and easy access to the library materials within their neighbourhood. With the concerted efforts of the Government and the community organisations, we will be able to provide high quality, user-friendly and easily accessible library services to the public to support their pursuit of life-long learning.

Home Affairs Bureau
March 2010

**NUMBER OF EXISTING LIBRARIES AND
MOBILE LIBRARY STOPS BY DISTRICT
(as at 31.12.2009)**

TYPE OF LIBRARY DISTRICT (POPULATION¹)	CENTRAL LIBRARY	MAJOR LIBRARY	DISTRICT LIBRARY	SMALL LIBRARY	TOTAL NO. OF STATIC LIBRARIES	NO. OF MOBILE LIBRARY STOPS	NO. OF COMMUNITY LIBRARIES
Central & Western (252 100)		1	1	1	3		7
Wanchai (154 800)	1		1	1	3		2
Eastern (582 000)			3	2	5	4	6
Southern (275 600)			1	3	4	4	5
Yau Tsim Mong (298 900)			2	2	4	1	7
Kowloon City (363 500)		1	1	2	4	2	4
Wong Tai Sin (424 800)			2	4	6	3	6
Kwun Tong (612 300)			2	4	6	7	16
Sham Shui Po (375 900)			2	2	4	3	6
Sai Kung (422 500)			2		2	6	15
Sha Tin (629 600)		1	1	1	3	12	14
Tai Po (300 100)			1		1	8	7
North (304 100)			2	1	3	4	7
Yuen Long (563 800)			2	1	3	10	7
Tuen Mun (507 400)		1	1	1	3	7	9
Tsuen Wan (294 100)		1		1	2	6	10
Kwai Tsing (522 200)			3		3	10	9
Islands (148 300)			1	6	7	6	2
TOTAL	1	5	28	32	66	93	139

¹ Hong Kong resident population by District Council district in 2009 projected by the Planning Department.

Annex B

LIST OF LIBRARY PLANNING PROJECTS (as at 31.12.2009)

(A) PROVISION OF NEW LIBRARIES

LIBRARIES	LIBRARY TYPE	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
1. Siu Sai Wan Public Library	Small	2010
2. 2 nd Tseung Kwun O Public Library	District	Under planning
3. Tung Chau Street Public Library	District	Under planning
4. Yuen Chau Kok Public Library	District	Under planning

(B) REPROVISIONING OF LIBRARIES

LIBRARIES	LIBRARY TYPE		ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
	EXISTING	AFTER REPROVISION	
1. Butterfly Estate Public Library	Small	Small	2010
2. Tin Shui Wai Public Library	District	Major	2011
3. Lam Tin Public Library	Small	District	2012
4. Pak Tin Public Library	Small	Small	2013
5. Kowloon Public Library	Major	Major	Under planning
6. Yuen Long Public Library	District	District	Under planning ²

² On 5 February 2010, the Finance Committee approved 49RG Public Library and Indoor Recreation Centre in Area 3, Yuen Long. Works will start in 2010 and are estimated to be completed in 2013.

LIBRARY RENOVATION PROGRAMMES
PROJECTS COMPLETED / UNDER PLANNING
(1998-2010)

PROJECTS COMPLETED				
YEAR	MAJOR	DISTRICT	SMALL	SUB-TOTAL
1998			Pak Tin Tsz Wan Shan	2
2000			Lek Yuen Sha Tau Kok	2
2001		Cheung Chau Sai Kung Tai Hing		3
2002		Yau Ma Tei		1
2003			Butterfly Estate North Lamma South Lamma	3
2004	City Hall		Lam Tin Lung Hing	3
2005		Lai Chi Kok North Point	Kowloon City Pok Fu Lam Sau Mau Ping	5
2006	Kowloon Tuen Mun	Aberdeen Ngau Chi Wan Po On Road San Pok Kong	Electric Road Peng Chau	8
2007		South Kwai Chung Yuen Long	Mui Wo Un Chau Street	4
2008	Sha Tin	Fa Yuen Street Lockhart Road Ngau Tau Kok Quarry Bay Sheung Shui Shui Wo Street To Kwa Wan	Tai O	9
2009		North Kwai Chung	Lei Yue Mun	2
2010			Hung Hom Shek Wai Kok	2
TOTAL	4	20	20	44
PROJECTS UNDER PLANNING³				
YEAR	MAJOR	DISTRICT	SMALL	SUB-TOTAL
	Tsuen Wan			1

³ For the remaining 21 libraries, 13 have less than 10 years of service and renovation of the other 8 libraries is at an initial planning stage.

**Proposals from District Councils on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries
(Including Mobile Library Stops)**

(1 January 2006 to 31 December 2009)

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
Central and Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ To set up public libraries in Sheung Wan, Sai Ying Pun, and the Mid-levels.➤ To use part of the building of the Western Magistracy as a small library, a reading room, and a study room before there is any plan for the long-term use and development of the premises.	The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has taken note of the proposals from the District Council (DC). The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Central and Western District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG)</i> . There is presently no plan to provide additional public libraries. Apart from the provision of public libraries, the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up in collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 7 community libraries in the Central and Western District.	The population of the Central and Western District now stands at around 250 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a major library built for a population of 400 000, a district library, and a small library to provide library services to the local residents.

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To build a district library adjacent to the Eastern Law Courts. ➤ To build a cultural and recreation centre in the open space adjacent to Block 30 of Heng Fa Chuen, providing various facilities including a library. 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals.</p> <p>The Department will study the setting up of a district library at the “government, institution and community facilities” site on Lei King Road adjacent to the Eastern Law Courts in Shau Kei Wan.</p> <p>In view of the strong demand for library services from the residents of Heng Fa Chuen, the LCSD has provided a mobile library stop at Heng Fa Chuen. A community library has also been set up in the estate in collaboration with the Owners’ Committee.</p>	<p>The population of the Eastern District now stands at around 580 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 3 district libraries, 2 small libraries, and 4 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 6 community libraries in the Eastern District.</p> <p><u>New library projects under planning:</u> <u>Siu Sai Wan Public Library</u> Construction of this small library commenced in early 2008 and is expected to complete in late 2010.</p>
Wan Chai	<p>The DC noted the current provision of library facilities and services in the district. No comments were raised on the addition of public library facilities.</p>	---	<p>The population of the Wan Chai District now stands at around 150 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a district library and a small library to provide library services to the local residents. Overall renovation of Lockhart Road Public Library was completed in 2008 to enhance its environment, services, and facilities.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
			<p>Apart from the provision of public libraries, the LCSD has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 2 community libraries in the Wan Chai District.</p>
Southern	<p>The DC noted the current provision of library facilities and services in the district. No comments were raised on the addition of public library facilities.</p>	---	<p>The population of the Southern District now stands at around 280 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a district library, 3 small libraries, and 4 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents. Overall renovation of Aberdeen Public Library was completed in 2006 to enhance its environment, services, and facilities. Apart from the provision of public libraries, the LCSD has launched the</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
			<p>“Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 5 community libraries in the Southern District.</p>
Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To set up a library for Fu Pak and Charming areas. ➤ To increase the service frequency of the mobile library at Hoi Fu Court. ➤ To establish a central library for Kowloon in the Yau Tsim Mong District. ➤ To set up a library at the Mong Kok West coastal area. 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Yau Tsim Mong District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. There is presently no plan to provide additional public libraries. As the current schedule of mobile libraries is already tight, it is not possible to increase the frequency of mobile library visit to Hoi Fu Court for the time being.</p> <p>To address the community’s demand for public library services, the HKPL has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community</p>	<p>The population of the Yau Tsim Mong District now stands at around 300 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 2 district libraries, 2 small libraries, and a mobile library stop to provide library services to the local residents.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
		libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 7 community libraries in the Yau Tsim Mong District.	
Sham Shui Po	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To allocate more resources for the review of the planning of public libraries with a view to increasing the number of libraries. ➤ To adopt the standard of providing one district library for every 100 000 persons as proposed by the former Urban Council so as to enhance library services in Sham Shui Po East. ➤ To provide standby mobile libraries to ensure continuity of service during regular 	The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. At present, the Department makes reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i> for the planning of new libraries. Although a study was conducted by the former Urban Council in 1996 with a view to raising the planning standards to one district library for every 100 000 persons, the proposal was not officially accepted for implementation due to various reasons. As revising library planning standards involves overall policy issues and substantial resources, the LCSD and other departments concerned must prudently examine the latest developments and ensure the availability of various resources in the long run before considering the revision of the standards. Presently, it is not possible for LCSD to accept the proposal of providing one district library for every 100 000 persons.	<p>The population of the Sham Shui Po District now stands at around 380 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 2 district libraries, 2 small libraries, and 3 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p> <p><u>New library projects under planning:</u></p> <p><u>Reprovision of Pak Tin Public Library</u> Construction of this small library commenced in mid-2008 and is expected to complete in early 2013.</p> <p><u>Tung Chau Street Public Library</u> Commencement and completion dates of</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
	<p>maintenance of existing mobile libraries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To increase mobile library services at Fu Cheong Estate and Hoi Lai Estate during summer holidays. ➤ To continue to operate a small library at the former site of Pak Tin Public Library after its reprovision. 	<p>Due to limited resources, the LCSD has no plan to provide standby mobile libraries at the moment. As the current schedule of mobile libraries is already tight, it is not possible to increase mobile library services at Fu Cheong Estate and Hoi Lai Estate for the time being. More books for children and teenagers will, however, be made available on the mobile library during summer holidays.</p> <p>To address the community's demand for public library services, the HKPL has launched the "Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme", under which community libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 6 community libraries in the Sham Shui Po District. The Department welcomes proposals from the organisations for setting up more community libraries.</p> <p>The annual recurrent expenditure of Pak Tin Public Library after reprovisioning will amount to \$5.2 million, approximately three times that of the existing</p>	<p>the construction of this district library are now under review by the LCSD.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
		<p>library. As the operation of the reprovisioned library entails considerable expenditure, all the human resources and annual operational expenses budgeted for the existing Pak Tin Public Library must be transferred to the new library and allocation of additional resources is still required so as to cover the operational cost in full. The existing Pak Tin Public Library will cease operation upon the commissioning of the new library.</p>	
Kowloon City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To rectify the current situation when devising development plans for the Kowloon City District given that library facilities in the district have become inadequate with the completion of a number of new estates. ➤ To provide additional mobile libraries. 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Kowloon City District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. Due to limited resources, it is presently not possible for LCSD to provide additional mobile library stops in the district.</p> <p>To address the community's demand for public library services, the HKPL has launched the "Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme", under which community libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present,</p>	<p>The population of the Kowloon City District now stands at around 360 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a major library built for a population of 400 000, a district library, 2 small libraries, and 2 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p> <p><u>New library project under planning:</u> <u>Reprovision of Kowloon Public Library</u> Initial planning for the provision of a major library at Kai Tak Development Area is underway.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
		there are a total of 4 community libraries in the Kowloon City District.	
Wong Tai Sin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To set up a large library (major library) equipped with a toy library. ➤ To provide toy libraries at district libraries. ➤ To re-provision Lung Hing Public Library to provide more space for additional seats and facilities. ➤ To expand Fu Shan Public Library, Lok Fu Public Library, and Tsz Wan Shan Public Library. ➤ To provide new mobile libraries and to increase the frequency of mobile library visit. ➤ To re-provision Tsz Wan Shan Public Library in a vacant car park in the 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Wong Tai Sin District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. There is presently no plan to provide additional public libraries. Apart from the setting up of static libraries, the HKPL provides users with library services unrestricted by time or space, such as 24-hour online library services, online Multimedia Information System services, telephone renewal service, etc.</p> <p>Due to limited resources, the LCSD has no plan to provide additional mobile libraries for the time being. As the current schedule of mobile libraries is already tight, it is presently not possible to increase the frequency of mobile library visit to the district. To address the community's demand for public library services, the HKPL has, however, launched the "Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme", under which community libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration</p>	The population of the Wong Tai Sin District now stands at around 420 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 2 district libraries, 4 small libraries, and 3 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
	<p>district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To set up small libraries at Fung Wong San Tsuen, Fung Tak Estate, Chuk Yuen South Estate, Chuk Yuen North Estate, and Tsui Chuk Garden respectively. ➤ To convert car parks with very high vacancy rates into libraries. 	<p>with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 6 community libraries in the Wong Tai Sin District.</p>	
Kwun Tong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To lease a commercial unit at Hong Tin Court from the Housing Department for the setting up of a temporary library while retaining the temporary library at Tak Tin Estate until the commissioning of the district library in Lam Tin. ➤ To build a large library at 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. Consideration was given by the Department to reprovisioning Lam Tin Public Library at Kai Tin Shopping Centre, but the project did not materialise due to the lack of suitable units for lease. In view of the strong demand for library services from the local residents, the LCSD is setting up a district library with a space provision of 2 900 m² in the Lam Tin North Municipal Services Building currently under construction to further enhance library services in the district. Construction commenced in late 2009 for completion in mid-2012. Upon its completion, the</p>	<p>The population of the Kwun Tong District now stands at around 610 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 2 district libraries, 4 small libraries, and 7 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p> <p><u>New library project under planning:</u> <u>Reprovision of Lam Tin Public Library</u> Construction of this district library commenced in late 2009 and is expected</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
	<p>Sau Mau Ping Estate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To increase the service frequency of the mobile library at Po Tat Estate to once a week. ➤ To commence the construction of Lam Tin North Municipal Services Building and a district library as soon as possible. ➤ To expand Sau Mau Ping Public Library. 	<p>number of district libraries in the Kwun Tong District will increase from 2 to 3, and the overall library services will also be further enhanced.</p> <p>Apart from the provision of public libraries, the LCSD also sets up community libraries in the district in collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 16 community libraries in the Kwun Tong District.</p> <p>The current weekly schedule of mobile libraries is already tight. Any new stops or extra visits to an existing stop will require consequential adjustments to the timetables of other stops in the district. Due to limited resources, it is not possible to increase the service frequency of the mobile library at Po Tat Estate for the time being. Apart from the provision of a mobile library stop at the estate, the LCSD has also set up a community library there in collaboration with community organisations.</p>	<p>to complete in mid-2012. The existing small library in Lam Tin will cease operation upon the commissioning of the new district library.</p>
Sai Kung	The DC noted the current provision of library facilities	---	The population of the Sai Kung District now stands at around 420 000. In this

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	<p>and services in the district. No comments were raised on the addition of public library facilities.</p>		<p>district the LCSD currently operates 2 district libraries (one in Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O each) and 6 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents. Apart from the provision of public libraries, the LCSD has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 15 community libraries in the Sai Kung District.</p> <p>To further enhance library services in the district, the LCSD is planning to set up a second district library in Tseung Kwan O. Project commencement and completion dates are now under review.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
Kwai Tsing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To set up a library at Cheung Wang Estate, Tsing Yi. ➤ To reallocate one half-day mobile library visit from Kwai Shing West Estate to Kwai Shing East Estate. ➤ To increase the frequency of mobile library visit to the stop at Cheung Wang Estate. ➤ To provide additional large and small libraries. ➤ To set up a library at the ex-Kwai Chung Police Married Quarters site. 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Kwai Tsing District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. There is presently no plan to provide additional public libraries. Apart from the provision of public libraries, the HKPL has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up in collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 9 community libraries in the Kwai Tsing District.</p> <p>The LCSD has obtained DC funding for the provision of a mobile library stop at Kwai Shing East Estate, which commenced service in May 2009. Meanwhile, as the schedule of the mobile libraries is already tight, it is not possible to increase the frequency of mobile library visit to the stop at Cheung Wang Estate for the time being.</p>	<p>The population of the Kwai Tsing District now stands at around 520 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 3 district libraries and 10 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p>
Tsuen Wan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To set up a library or a mobile library stop in Ma 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities</p>	<p>The population of the Tsuen Wan District now stands at around 290 000.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
	<p>Wan, Tsuen Wan.</p>	<p>for the Tsuen Wan District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. There is presently no plan to provide additional libraries.</p> <p>Apart from the provision of public libraries, the HKPL has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up through strengthened collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 10 community libraries in the Tsuen Wan District.</p> <p>Due to limited resources, it is not possible for the LCSD to provide a static library or a mobile library stop in Ma Wan, but a community library has already been set up in the area.</p> <p>To further enhance library services in the district, the LCSD plans to renovate Tsuen Wan Public Library. The project was supported by the District Facilities Management Committee of the Tsuen Wan DC in July 2009 and is under planning by the LCSD.</p>	<p>In this district the LCSD currently operates a major library built for a population of 400 000, a small library, and 6 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
Tuen Mun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To expand Butterfly Estate Public Library. ➤ To build a complex in Area 29, Tuen Mun (adjacent to Po Tin Estate), and to provide a library in the complex. ➤ To increase the service frequency of mobile libraries in the Tuen Mun District. ➤ To set up a mobile library stop at Kin Sang Estate, Tuen Mun. ➤ To include a community library in the community hall to be built in Area 18, Tuen Mun. ➤ To retain the library at Tip Ying House, Butterfly Estate. ➤ To provide additional libraries in Area 29 and Area 54, Tuen Mun. 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Tuen Mun District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>.</p> <p>As the current schedule of the mobile libraries is already tight, any new stops or extra visits to an existing stop will require consequential adjustments to the timetables of other stops in the district. Due to limited resources, it is not possible to increase the mobile library services in the Tuen Mun District for the time being.</p> <p>Apart from the provision of static and mobile library services, the HKPL has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up in collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 9 community libraries in the Tuen Mun District.</p>	<p>The population of the Tuen Mun District now stands at around 510 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a major library built for a population of 400 000, a district library, a small library, and 7 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p> <p><u>New library project under planning:</u> <u>Reprovision of Butterfly Estate Public Library</u></p> <p>To address the strong demand for library services from the local residents, DC funding has been allocated to the reprovision and expansion of the existing Butterfly Estate Public Library. The new library is expected to open by June 2010. The existing Butterfly Estate Public Library will cease operation upon the commissioning of the new library.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
Yuen Long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To expedite the commencement of the public library project in Area 3, Yuen Long. ➤ To retain the existing Tin Shui Wai Public Library at Kingswood Ginza upon the commissioning of the major library in Tin Shui Wai. ➤ To provide additional mobile library stops at Tin Yan Estate and Tin Ching Estate, Tin Shui Wai. 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Yuen Long District with reference to the standards set out in the HKPSG. To further enhance library services in the district, the LCSD is actively planning to reprovision and expand the existing Yuen Long Public Library in Area 3, Yuen Long, and to set up in Tin Shui Wai a major library for a population of 400 000. Upon the commissioning of the major library in Tin Shui Wai, the LCSD will review the provision and utilisation of library facilities in the district. It will also strengthen cooperation with non-profit-making organisations for setting up community libraries in the neighbourhood to foster local accessibility to library services.</p> <p>As the current schedule of the mobile libraries is already tight, any new stops or extra visits to an existing stop will require consequential adjustments to the timetables of other stops in the district. Apart from the provision of static and mobile library services, the HKPL has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community</p>	<p>The population of the Yuen Long District now stands at around 560 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 2 district libraries, a small library, and 10 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p> <p><u>New library projects under planning:</u></p> <p><u>Reprovision of Yuen Long Public Library</u></p> <p>Construction of this district library will commence in mid-2010 and is expected to complete in mid-2013. The existing Yuen Long Public Library will cease operation upon the commissioning of the new library.</p> <p><u>Reprovision of Tin Shui Wai Public Library</u></p> <p>The existing Tin Shui Wai Public Library (a district library) will be replaced by a major library built for a population of 400 000. Construction</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
		<p>libraries are set up in collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 7 community libraries in the Yuen Long District. The LCSD is also discussing with DC members about the setting up of community libraries at Tin Yan Estate and Tin Ching Estate.</p> <p>(Note: On 5 February 2010, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved the proposed project of 49RG - Public Library and Indoor Recreation Centre in Area 3, Yuen Long. Works will start in mid-2010 and are expected to complete in mid-2013.)</p>	<p>commenced in late 2007, and is expected to complete in mid-2011.</p>
North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To include a library in the government complex project in Area 44, Fanling. ➤ To set up mobile library stops at Ching Ho Estate, Sheung Shui and Fanling South. ➤ To relocate Sha Tau Kok Public Library to an adjacent vacant shop with 	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the North District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. There is presently no plan to set up or to re-provision public libraries save for the provision of additional mobile library stops. To further enhance library services in the district, new mobile library stops at Ching Ho Estate, Sheung Shui, and Wah Sum Estate, Fanling were set up in April 2009 with DC finding. Apart from the provision of static and mobile library services, the HKPL has</p>	<p>The population of the North District now stands at around 300 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates 2 district libraries, a small library, and 4 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
	<p>a larger area so as to enhance library services in Sha Tau Kok.</p> <p>➤ To include a library in the proposed New Territories East Cross-District Community Cultural Centre.</p>	<p>launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up in collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 7 community libraries in the North District.</p>	
Tai Po	<p>➤ To set up a mobile library stop at Wan Tau Tong Estate, and to adjust the service hours of the mobile library stop at Tai Yuen Estate.</p>	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Tai Po District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. With the consent of the DC to redeploy the mobile libraries within the district, the LCSD revised the service hours of the mobile library stop at Tai Yuen Estate, and set up a mobile library stop at Wan Tau Tong Estate in September 2009 to further enhance library services in the district.</p>	<p>The population of the Tai Po District now stands at around 300 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a district library of 3 600 m² and 8 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 7 community libraries in the Tai Po District.</p>
Sha Tin	<p>➤ To expedite the construction of a new library in Area 14B, Sha Tin.</p> <p>➤ To shelve the plan of</p>	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. The Department has been providing public library facilities for the Sha Tin District with reference to the standards set out in the <i>HKPSG</i>. To further enhance library services in the district, the LCSD is actively planning</p>	<p>The population of the Sha Tin District now stands at around 630 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a major library built for a population of 400 000, a district library, a small</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
	<p>constructing a post-secondary college atop MTR Tai Wai Station, and to reconsider building community facilities comprising a static library at the site.</p> <p>➤ To increase the duration of the mobile library visit at Chevalier Garden from half a day every alternate week to one day every alternate week.</p>	<p>to set up a district library in Yuen Chau Kok, Sha Tin. Commencement and completion dates of the project are now under review.</p> <p>As the current schedule of the mobile libraries is already tight, any new stops or extra visits to an existing stop will require consequential adjustments to the resources and timetables of other stops in the district. As such, it is not possible to increase the number of visit to the mobile library stop at Chevalier Garden for the time being. Apart from the provision of static and mobile library services, the HKPL has launched the “Libraries@neighbourhood - Community Libraries Partnership Scheme”, under which community libraries are set up in collaboration with community organisations to provide reading and lending services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 14 community libraries in the Sha Tin District.</p>	<p>library, and 12 mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents.</p> <p><u>New library project under planning:</u> <u>Yuen Chau Kok Public Library</u> Commencement and completion dates are now under review by the LCSD.</p>
Islands	<p>➤ To increase the service frequency of the mobile library in Tung Chung North, and to deploy a</p>	<p>The LCSD has taken note of the DC proposals. As the current schedule of the mobile libraries is already tight, any new stops or extra visits to an existing stop will require consequential adjustments to the</p>	<p>The population of the Islands District now stands at around 150 000. In this district the LCSD currently operates a district library, 6 small libraries, and 6</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
	<p>large mobile library to serve the local residents prior to the commissioning of the new Tung Chung Public Library.</p> <p>➤ To retain the existing interim small library at Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung upon the commissioning of the new Tung Chung Public Library.</p>	<p>timetables of other stops in the district. Besides, public access on the Lantau Island consists mainly of narrow and winding mountain roads which, as concluded by LCSD's Transport Section, are unsuitable for large vehicles. To better meet users' demands, the library materials on the mobile libraries are changed and replenished regularly with regard for the needs of users at different stops.</p> <p>The annual recurrent expenditure of Tung Chung Public Library after reprovision will amount to about \$13 million, four times that of the existing library. As the operation of the reprovisioned library entails considerable expenditure, all the human resources and annual operational expenses budgeted for the existing Tung Chung Public Library must be transferred to the new library and allocation of additional resources is still required so as to cover the operational cost in full. The existing Tung Chung Public Library will cease operation upon the commissioning of the new library. The mobile library stops are being re-arranged to provide mobile library services to the residents of Yat Tung Estate twice a week.</p> <p>(Note: A non-profit-making organisation has expressed</p>	<p>mobile library stops to provide library services to the local residents. At present, there are a total of 2 community libraries in the Islands District.</p> <p><u>New library project under planning: Reprovision of Tung Chung Public Library</u></p> <p>The existing small library will be replaced by this district library. Construction commenced in late 2006 and completed in late 2009. The new library is expected to commence service in mid-2010.</p>

District	Proposals from the District Council on the Addition and Expansion of Libraries	Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Library Facilities in Existence and under Planning
		interest in taking over the library premises at Yat Tung Estate for the setting up of a community library. It will collaborate with LCSD to provide book lending service, newspapers and periodicals service and Internet service, etc to the residents.)	

Remark:

The LCSD provides public library services for all districts with reference to the standards set out in the *HKPSG* issued by the Planning Department, which stipulate that there should be a district library for every 200 000 persons and that planning should be made on a district basis so that at least one district library is provided for each district.