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Panel on Welfare Services

**Subcommittee on Improving Barrier Free Access
and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities**

**Minutes of the second meeting
held on Wednesday, 20 July 2011, at 5:00 pm
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Members present : Hon WONG Sing-chi (Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Member absent : Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Member attending : Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Public Officers attending : Item I

Miss Neve LEUNG Man-shan
Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare
(Rehabilitation)

Mr FONG Siu-wai
Assistant Director (Property Services)
Architectural Services Department

Mr Allan WONG
Chief Manager/M(KC)
Housing Department

Mr Danny CHENG
Sr Maintenance Surveyor/RD
Housing Department

Mr CHU Shun-wah
Ch Highway Engr/Works
Highways Department

Mr LEE Man-ho
Ch Transp Offr/Planning/Disabled Transport & Projects
Transport Department

MTRC

Mr Ivan LAI Ching-kai
Head of Operating

Mr Jeff LEUNG Chi-keung
Senior Manager - External Affairs

Hospital Authority

Mr Donald LI
Chief Manager (Capital Planning)

Dr Daniel CHU
Chief of Service & Consultant (Family Medicine &
Primary Healthcare)
Deputy Cluster Service Director (Community Service)
Hong Kong East Cluster

Mr Jimmy WONG
Department Operations Manager (Family Medicine &
Primary Health Care)
Hong Kong East Cluster

The Link Management Limited

Mr K T POON
Director (Corporate Communications)

Mr Christopher WONG
Assistant General Manager - Compliance & Tenancy Works

Equal Opportunities Commission

Mr LAM Woon-kwong
Chairperson

Clerk in attendance : Miss Betty MA
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

Staff in attendance : Miss Karen LAI
Council Secretary (2) 4

Miss Maggie CHIU
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

Action

- I. Meeting with the Administration and representatives of The Link Management Limited, MTR Corporation and Hospital Authority [LC Paper Nos. CB(2)488/10-11(03), CB(2)1618/10-11(01), CB(2)2120/10-11(02), CB(2)2371/10-11(01) to (08), CB(2)2393/10-11(01) to (02) and CB(2)2408/10-11(01)]**

The Subcommittee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, representatives of The Link Management Limited ("The Link"), the MTR Corporation ("MTRC") and the Hospital Authority ("HA") highlighted to members the existing barrier free access provision and the enhancement plan of respective organisations. The upgrading work schedules were as follows -

- (a) The Link had made an announcement on its commitment in and proposal for the provision of barrier free access at its retail

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properties on 19 January 2011. It would upgrade all of its facilities under the Best Practicable Principle, at a budget of \$200 million, to comply with the standards set out in the Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008 by three phases, with 90% of the works scheduled for completion by 2014 and the remaining by 2016. The first phase, commencing in June 2011, covered 17 of its shopping centres. The work progress and details of the second and third phases would be announced to the public every six months;

- (b) MTRC, which had spent \$600 million since 1992 on barrier free improvement projects, would invest a further \$200 million for the next five years to further enhance barrier free access facilities, including the installation of passenger lifts connecting the ground level and station concourses in 11 MTR stations, between 2012 and 2015; and
- (c) HA had commissioned a consultant to review the provision of barrier free access in its hospitals and clinics. The review would take place in three phases. The first phase, covering all general outpatient clinics would be completed by end 2011 and the upgrading works would be scheduled for completion by end 2012/early 2013. The second phase of review covering all acute hospitals with accident and emergency services would commence by end 2011 and the third phase would cover the remaining hospitals under HA's management.

3. Chairperson of the Equal Opportunities Commission ("EOC") appealed to public organisations to set a higher standard on the provision of barrier free access facilities by adopting the principle of universal design, instead of meeting the minimum requirements as stipulated in the Design Manual. He took the view that MTRC should take the initiative to upgrade its barrier free facilities especially the installation of passenger lifts connecting the ground level and station concourse in a number of old MTR stations along the Tsuen Wan Line.

4. Noting that owners of pre-1997 private buildings were exempt from complying with the latest design requirements set out in the Design Manual unless renovation and addition works to the premises were made, members considered that the Subcommittee might consider discussing the EOC's recommendation of removing the exemption of buildings from the requirements and imposing penalties for non-compliance.

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Housing
Authority

5. Referring to a recent court case relating to the provision of accessible lifts in the Pok Hong Estate, which was a housing estate under the Tenant Purchase Scheme ("TPS"), members urged the Housing Authority and the Housing Department, as a matter of policy, to exercise its role of the major owner and support any proposals in connection with improving barrier free access facilities in TPS estates.

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6. Members were concerned about the implementation progress of upgrading works of the barrier free access facilities by each of the attending organizations, and requested these organisations to keep the Subcommittee abreast of the progress. As such, members requested the Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB") to coordinate the responses in respect of the following issues -

- (a) the number of improvement works items, together with a breakdown by types of facilities such as lifts and ramps, to be carried out in The Links' properties upon completion of all the upgrading works of barrier free access facilities under the three-phase programme;
- (b) a table showing the specific timetable for the installation of passenger lifts connecting the ground level and concourses in individual MTR stations and the work progress;
- (c) MTRC to consider adopting a service target for the average waiting time for using the stair lifts and wheelchair aids in MTR stations and to provide the number of station assistants to provide assistance to users of such facilities;
- (d) the follow-up action taken by the Transport Department in respect of the outstanding issues required of MTRC as raised at meetings of the Working Group on Access to Public Transport by People with Disabilities; and
- (e) details of the improvement/upgrading works under the three phases of review on enhancing the barrier free access facilities in hospitals/clinics under the management of HA.

7. The Subcommittee also examined the accessibility issues surrounding the Peng Chau Clinic. To facilitate access to the Peng Chau Clinic by persons with disabilities or wheelchair users, members suggested the authorities concerned to consider the viability of procuring an electric-driven vehicle for the convenience of the clinic users to travel to and from uphill

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Admin areas of the Clinic. LWB agreed to convey the suggestion to the Food and Health Bureau for consideration.

8. Members were concerned about the progress of the feasibility studies on the provision of hillside escalator links and elevator systems. Noting that the Administration had assessed 20 previously received proposals for hillside escalator links and elevator systems under the assessment system to determine the merits of the hillside escalator links and elevator proposals and the relative priorities for conducting feasibility studies, members requested the Administration to provide -

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- (a) the expected completion dates of the feasibility studies and the commencement dates of individual proposals; and
- (b) details of the assessment systems for determining the merits of the hillside escalator links and elevator proposals and the relative priorities for conducting feasibility studies.

II. Any other business

9. Members agreed that the next meeting would be held in mid/late October 2011. To facilitate discussion, the Architectural Services Department would incorporate in the quarterly progress report for the retrofitting programme with brief descriptions of the improvement works and the expected completion dates of individual premises/facilities. LWB was requested to provide a consolidated progress report and coordinate the follow-up actions and issues raised at the meeting.

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10. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8:08 pm.

**Proceedings of the second meeting of the
Subcommittee on Improving Barrier Free Access
and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities
on Wednesday, 20 July 2011, at 5:00 pm
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
<i>Agenda item 1 – Meeting with the Administration and representatives of The Link Management Limited, MTR Corporation and Hospital Authority</i>			
000000 - 000944	Chairman Administration Ms Emily LAU	Opening remarks The Administration's advice that the quarterly progress report as at 30 June 2011 on the retrofitting programme for upgrading the barrier free facilities in existing Government and Housing Authority premises would be provided to members in late July/early August 2011.	
000945 - 002419	The Link Management Limited Ms Emily LAU Chairman Administration	Briefings by The Link Management Limited ("The Link") on the work progress of its barrier free access upgrading works. [LC Paper No. CB(2)2371/10-11(06)] Enquiries of Ms Emily LAU on - (a) why only 17 shopping centres detailed in Appendix 1B to The Link's paper were identified for upgrading works of barrier free access facilities; (b) details of the upgrading works for the eight properties of The Link which were recommended for barrier free upgrading works by the Equal Opportunities Commission ("EOC"); (c) the role of the Access Advisor appointed by The Link; and (d) the role of the Housing Department ("HD") in enhancing the connectivity of barrier free facilities between The Link's properties and public housing estates. The Link's response that - (a) 17 shopping centres were covered under phase one barrier free access improvement works to be carried out in the coming six months. The Link would upgrade all the barrier free access facilities in its properties, which would be rolled out in three phases;	

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		<p>(b) eight properties managed by The Link were recommended by EOC for improvement of barrier free access facilities related to the connectivity with public housing estates. Most of the upgrading works had been completed in March 2011. EOC was satisfied with the progress of the improvement works at these eight properties; and</p> <p>(c) an international barrier free access expert was appointed by The Link as its Access Advisor who would review the barrier free access facilities of each of its properties and advise on the best practicable solutions in accordance with international standards. The Access Advisor would take part in the discussion of the Access Advisory Group which was formed by The Link and comprised 10 major rehabilitation organisations.</p> <p>Advice of HD that -</p> <p>(a) HD had maintained close communication with The Link on connectivity of barrier free access facilities at the interface, notably the tactile guide path provision. A joint working group was set up in early 2011 to review progress on connectivity of barrier free access facilities and to resolve controversial issues. The Link would furnish HD with a list of premises to be improved in coming months such that the programme of work could be better coordinated; and</p> <p>(b) The Link would commence barrier free access improvement works in nine premises in coming six months, HD would continue to work with The Link to ensure connectivity of barrier free access facilities in these premises with those under HD's management.</p>	
002420 - 002932	Ms Emily LAU Chairman Equal Opportunities Commission The Administration	<p>Ms Emily LAU's invitation of views from EOC on The Link's upgrading works programme.</p> <p>Advice of EOC that -</p> <p>(a) the project scope and timetable of The Link's improvement works on the barrier free access provision were considered reasonable;</p> <p>(b) the communication and coordination between HD and The Link as well as that among government departments were enhanced in respect of the provision and interface of barrier</p>	

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		<p>free access facilities;</p> <p>(c) instead of meeting the minimum requirements under the Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008, Government departments should adopt a higher standard for barrier free access provision, i.e. adoption of the universal design where resources were feasible; and</p> <p>(d) HD should assist Incorporated Owners ("IOs") of the Tenant Purchase Scheme ("TPS") estates to provide and enhance the barrier free access facilities therein.</p> <p>Advice of HD that while building management of TPS estates were taken care of by the respective IOs, HD would provide technical advice to IOs in regard to the provision of barrier free access facilities if required.</p>	
002933 - 003742	Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Chairman The Link Management Limited	<p>Views of Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung that The Link should extend its consultation network to gauge views of district organisations and local residents in respect of the provision of barrier free access facilities.</p> <p>The Link's elaboration on its consultation mechanism at the district level.</p>	
003743 - 004235	Mr TAM Yiu-chung Chairman The Link Management Limited	<p>Mr TAM Yiu-chung's elaboration on the shortfalls related to the barrier free access provision in premises under The Link's management, as revealed from the surveys conducted by the Democratic Alliance for Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong ("DAB") in August 2010 and April 2011.</p> <p>Response of The Link that it would duly follow up the recommendations made in DAB's survey reports as far as practicable, subject to the deployment of manpower resources required and the complexity of the upgrading works. If the upgrading of facilities, such as the installation of lifts, involved structural changes to the premises, the improvement works would be carried out in future renovations.</p>	
004236 - 005939	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che The Link Management Limited Chairman	<p>Views of Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che that -</p> <p>(a) access doors within shopping centres managed by The Link were so heavy that they were not user friendly for the elderly and disabled persons;</p> <p>(b) The Link should consider appointing an access officer for each shopping centre to conduct regular checks for the provision of</p>	

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		<p>suitable barrier free facilities and to offer assistance to persons with difficulties in access to the shopping centre and using the services therein; and</p> <p>(c) the timetable for completing all the upgrading works for the barrier free facilities in all the properties of The Link.</p> <p>Advice of The Link that -</p> <p>(a) the current design of access doors of the shopping centres was drawn up after taking into account the physical constraints and customer flow as well as balancing the views of different users;</p> <p>(b) the appointment of an access officer for each shopping centre was not viable as the building management of the shopping centres had been outsourced. The Link had been working closely with the management companies to organise training for frontline staff to enhance their knowledge and skills in handling barrier free access enquiries and providing appropriate assistance to users; and</p> <p>(c) 90% of the upgrading works was scheduled for completion by 2014 and the remaining by 2016. A provisional budget of \$200 million was earmarked for upgrading all of its barrier free facilities. More funding for the purpose could be injected, if necessary.</p> <p>Enquiries by the Chairman on the provision of tactile guide paths and visual alarm systems for visually and hearing impaired persons at the Lok Fu Shopping Centre.</p> <p>The Link's advice that tactile guide paths were provided at shopping centres leading to customer service counters and disabled toilets, but not individual shops. Visual fire alarm systems for hearing impaired persons would be installed in common areas within shopping centres. The Link had been collaborating with local universities to develop technological devices to assist visually impaired people to locate individual shops within the shopping centres.</p>	
005940 - 010547	Ms Emily LAU The Link Management Limited Administration Chairman	Ms Emily LAU's enquiry on the number of improvement works items, together with a breakdown by types of facilities such as lifts and ramps, to be carried out in The Link's properties upon completion of all the upgrading works of	

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		<p>barrier free access facilities under the three-phase programme.</p> <p>The Link's advice that it was unable to provide an estimation at the moment as it was studying the upgrading works to be carried out under phases two and three. The Link would make public quarterly progress report. The Labour and Welfare Bureau ("LWB") was requested to collate the information for the reference of the Subcommittee.</p> <p>Enquiry of the Chairman on the role of the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee ("RAC") regarding the provision of barrier free facilities in the properties managed by The Link.</p> <p>The Administration's elaboration on the discussion between RAC and The Link in December 2010, and the issues of concern and follow-up action taken by The Link were detailed in its paper (LC Paper No. CB(2)2371/10-11(01)).</p>	<p>The Link/ Admin</p>
010548 - 011134	<p>Ms Emily LAU Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Administration Equal Opportunities Commission</p>	<p>Citing a court case relating to the provision of accessible lifts in a TPS estate (i.e. Pok Hong Estate), Ms Emily LAU and Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che enquired the role of HD in respect of barrier free access provision in TPS estates.</p> <p>The Administration's advice that HD was one of the owners of TPS estates which was bound by the decisions of IOs. Hence, HD would support the decision of improving accessible facilities in TPS estates if consent was secured for the IO concerned to proceed with the upgrading works. HD would attend the management committee meetings of IOs and strive to convince the committee to obtain the consent of the IO in improving accessible facilities therein.</p> <p>Views of EOC that as the Housing Authority was the major owner of TPS estates, it should assume an active role in promoting the provision barrier free access facilities at TPS estates from the public interest perspective.</p> <p>Views of the Chairman and Ms Emily LAU that as a matter of policy, the Housing Authority should support a proposal of improving barrier free access facilities in TPS estates.</p>	<p>Housing Authority to consider</p>
011135 - 011721	<p>Chairman Ms Emily LAU MTRC</p>	<p>Briefings by the Mass Transit Railway Corporation ("MTRC") on the barrier free facilities in MTR and the enhancement items under planning. [LC Paper No. CB(2)2371/10-11(07)]</p>	

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011722 - 012046	Chairman Ms Emily LAU Administration	Briefings by the Administration on the discussions on barrier free access and facilities by MTR at the meetings of the Transport Department ("TD")'s Working Group on Access to Public Transport by People with Disabilities from 2008 to 2010. [LC Paper No. CB(2)2371/10-11(05)]	
012047 - 012438	Chairman Equal Opportunities Commission MTRC	<p>EOC's elaboration on its investigation on accessibility cases relating to MTRC from July 2001 to June 2011 [LC Paper No. CB(2)2408/10-11(01)].</p> <p>Views of EOC that MTRC's response to accessibility-related cases and its plan to enhance the barrier free facilities and services as set out in its paper were positive, although it was disappointed that the progress of installation of passenger lifts connecting street level and concourse of stations along the Tsuen Wan Line remained slow.</p> <p>MTRC's response that passenger lifts connecting the ground level and station concourse would be installed in all MTR stations between 2012 and 2015 as detailed in LC Paper No. CB(2)2371/10-11(07)), except the Fortress Hill and Tin Hau stations where other viable options were under study in the light of the physical constraints.</p>	
012439 - 020447	Ms Emily LAU MTRC Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Equal Opportunities Commission	<p>Views of Ms Emily LAU that -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the barrier free facilities and services in MTR stations should be freely and easily accessible by different types of passengers including persons with disabilities and goods transport; (b) MTRC should expedite the installation of passenger lifts connecting the ground level and concourses in all MTR stations; and (c) MTRC should, in the meantime, review the operation of stair lifts and illegal use of the stair lifts for goods transport before the completion of lift installation works. <p>MTRC's reiteration of its commitment to making MTR accessible to all. MTRC's advice that the timetable for installation of passenger lifts in MTR stations was detailed in paragraph 8 of its paper. However, stations constructed in earlier years had limited scope for retrofitting of facilities. Notably, it was technically difficult for carrying out the installation works in Fortress Hill and Tin Hau stations. The installation of passenger lifts in Admiralty and Diamond Hill stations would be</p>	

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		<p>carried out during the extension projects. As regards the Yaumatei station, MTRC maintained close communication with the District Office concerned on different options to improve station accessibility. The stair lifts were not permissible for goods transport because of the loading capacity. MTRC had stepped up monitoring the use of the stair lifts and reminded the tenants of the proper use of the stair lifts, and would deploy additional manpower to provide assistance to users of stair lifts.</p> <p>The Chairman's request for periodic update of the progress of the installation of passenger lifts in MTR stations.</p> <p>Disappointment of Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung at MTRC's lack of commitment in providing barrier free access facilities by ensuring direct access to all MTR stations. In his view, EOC should make recommendation to the Government to require public organisations to ensure that barrier free access facilities would be provided at the design stage and impose penalties for non-compliance with the requirements.</p> <p>EOC's advice that -</p> <p>(a) MTRC was obliged to provide barrier free facilities under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. While MTRC had provided barrier free access facilities such as stair lifts in the stations, the facilities could not fully meet the needs of passengers including the elderly and wheelchair users. MTRC should expedite the installation of passenger lifts in all stations. EOC, however, would act as a mediator on accessibility-related cases in respect of the MTR system;</p> <p>(b) it was stipulated in the Buildings Ordinance ("BO") that all post 1997 constructed new buildings and substantially altered private buildings had to comply with the latest design standards as set out in the Design Manual ("DM") and the requirements in the Building (Planning) Regulations. BO should be amended to the effect that owners of pre-1997 buildings should provide barrier free access facilities in compliance with DM within a reasonable period; and</p> <p>(c) public organisations should strive to meet a higher standard of barrier free facilities provision. As such, MTRC should take the</p>	<p>Admin/ MTRC</p>

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		<p>initiative to upgrade the barrier free access facilities in those stations constructed before 1997, i.e. the Tsuen Wan Line.</p> <p>The Chairman's advice that the Subcommittee might consider discussing the proposal to remove exemption of buildings from the barrier free access provision at a future meeting. Ms Emily LAU's suggestion of inviting deputations to the meeting when the issue was discussed.</p>	
020448 - 020849	Chairman Administration Ms Emily LAU	<p>Views of the Chairman and Ms Emily LAU that MTRC should consider adopting a service target for the average waiting time for using the stair lifts and wheelchair aids in MTR stations and the number of station assistants deployed for the purpose, and revert to the Subcommittee on its response.</p> <p>LWB was requested to provide a consolidated response on the following -</p> <p>(a) a table showing the specific timetable for the installation of passenger lifts connecting the ground level and concourses in individual MTR stations and the works progress; and</p> <p>(b) the follow-up action taken by TD in respect of the outstanding issues required of MTRC as raised at meetings of the Working Group on Access to Public Transport by People with Disabilities.</p>	<p>MTRC to consider</p> <p>LWB to follow up</p>
020850 - 021122	Chairman Ms Emily LAU Hospital Authority	Briefings by the Hospital Authority ("HA") on the barrier free access facilities in premises under its management, in particular at the Peng Chau Clinic. [LC Paper No. CB(2)2371/10-11(08)]	
021123 - 021210	Chairman Equal Opportunities Commission	EOC's advice that apart from a case on accessibility issues surrounding the Princess Margaret Hospital, not many accessibility-related cases of HA had been received.	
021211 - 021358	Administration Chairman	<p>Briefings by the Administration on the accessibility issues surrounding the Peng Chau Clinic. [LC Paper No. CB(2)2393/10-11(01)]</p> <p>The Chairman's advice that a case conference on the subject matter would be convened by the Complaints Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat on 8 August 2011.</p>	
021359 - 022147	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Chairman Hospital Authority Administration	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che's concern that the proposal of lift installation for access to and removal of the Peng Chau Clinic could not address the accessibility issue in the meantime. Mr CHEUNG's	

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		<p>concern about the concrete assistance to be provided by HA staff to persons with disabilities or using wheelchairs for access to the Peng Chau Clinic and the plan in place to facilitate the accessibility of the Clinic, for example, purchasing electric-driven vehicles for the convenience of the clinic users to travel to and from uphill areas of the Clinic.</p> <p>HA's advice that manual assistance would be rendered to users of the Peng Chau Clinic to travel uphill if required. HA would explore possible option(s) to facilitate persons with disabilities or wheelchair users travelling to and from uphill areas of the Clinic.</p> <p>The Chairman's request for LWB to relay to the Food and Health Bureau the suggestion of procurement of electric-driven vehicles to enhance the accessibility of Peng Chau Clinic.</p>	<p>LWB to follow up</p>
<p>022148 - 023845</p>	<p>Ms Emily LAU Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Hospital Authority Equal Opportunities Commission Administration</p>	<p>Enquiry of Ms Emily LAU on -</p> <p>(a) details and progress of the three-phase review conducted by HA on the feasibility of improving the barrier free access environment and facilities in its hospitals/clinics; and</p> <p>(b) plans for enhancing the accessibility of the Princess Margaret Hospital.</p> <p>Views of the Chairman that the accessibility issues surrounding HA clinics and hospitals should be looked into.</p> <p>Enquiry of Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung on the need to conduct the review on barrier free facilities in HA premises by three phases.</p> <p>HA's advice that -</p> <p>(a) consultants had been commissioned by HA to study the feasibility of improving the environment and facilities in its hospitals and clinics. The review had been taking place in three phases. The first phase of the review covered all general outpatient clinics would be completed by 2011, and the upgrading works would be completed by end 2012/early 2013 in the light of the project scope. The second phase of review covering all acute hospitals with accident and emergency services would commence by end 2011 and the third phase would cover the remaining hospitals under HA's management;</p>	

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		<p>(b) improvement works would be conducted during or soon after the review, where feasible. Where more intensive works would be required, the works would be arranged to tie with major renovations for service development and expansion; and</p> <p>(c) HA had allocated resources to conduct a feasibility study on the installation of a hillside lift within the premises of the Princess Margaret Hospital. The study would be completed within six months.</p> <p>Views of EOC that while only a few complaints were received relating to the barrier free facilities in HA hospitals, HA should adopt a higher standard in this regard. HA's advice that its established policy was to provide a barrier free built environment and adopt standards higher than the DM requirements.</p> <p>HA was requested to provide details of improvement/upgrading works under the three phases of review on the barrier free access facilities of its hospitals/clinics.</p>	HA to follow up
023846 - 025247	Chairman Administration	<p>Briefings by the Administration on the progress of the feasibility studies for the provision of hillside escalator links and elevator systems. [LC Paper No. CB(2)2393/10-11(02)]</p> <p>Briefings by the Administration on the work progress of the retrofitting programme. [LC Paper No. CB(2)2371/10-11(04)]</p>	
025248 - 025710	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Ms Emily LAU Administration Chairman	<p>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che's enquiry on the expected completion date for the provision of hillside escalator links and elevator systems for proposals ranked top 10, and the way forward for the remaining eight proposals.</p> <p>Enquiry of Ms Emily LAU on -</p> <p>(a) criteria for determining the order of priority of the proposals and whether new proposals would be included for feasibility study if so requested by District Councils ("DCs"); and</p> <p>(b) details of the proposal that ranked 15.</p> <p>The Administration's advice that -</p> <p>(a) 20 proposals for hillside escalator links were received from various DCs and being assessed by a comprehensive and objective scoring</p>	

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		<p>system for their relative priority. Two proposals were considered infeasible in the initial screening stage. The Administration would take forward in phases feasibility studies for proposals ranked top 10 and detailed cost estimation. Afterwards, it would take forward the remaining proposals of relatively lower ranking, together with new proposals received;</p> <p>(b) it was estimated that all feasibility studies would be completed by phases in about 24 to 48 months depending on the complexity of the proposed systems. The DCs concerned would be informed of the results upon completion of the feasibility studies;</p> <p>(c) the Panel on Transport was briefed on the details of the feasibility studies at its meeting held on 26 February 2010. TD had met with the DCs concerned to explain the assessment system, and how the Administration would take forward the proposals; and</p> <p>(d) the proposal ranked 15 was suggested by residents in the vicinity of the Princess Margaret Hospital, which would be pursued in parallel with the accessibility issues surrounding the Princess Margaret Hospital.</p> <p>The Chairman's view that the Administration's paper on the provision of hillside escalator links and elevator systems would be provided to 18 DCs for reference when DCs were invited to give views to the Subcommittee.</p>	
025711 - 030256	Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Ms Emily LAU Administration Chairman	<p>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's enquiry on the viability for taking forward all the 18 proposals for hillside escalator links and elevator system in one go.</p> <p>The Administration's advice that taking account of resources deployment, it would first take forward in phases feasibility studies for proposals ranked top 10.</p> <p>TD was requested to provide the expected completion dates of the feasibility studies and commencement dates of individual proposals.</p>	TD to follow up
030257 - 030719	Ms Emily LAU Administration Equal Opportunities Commission Chairman	<p>Ms Emily LAU's enquiry on the categorisation of work items and comments of EOC on the work progress of the retrofitting programme</p> <p>The Administration's elaboration on the categorisation of projects for upgrading works under the retrofitting programme and the work</p>	

Time marker	Speaker(s)	Subject(s)	Action required
		<p>progress of the projects.</p> <p>EOC's remarks that the progress of retrofitting programme had been satisfactory and EOC would monitor the implementation progress of the projects.</p> <p>LWB was requested to consolidate and provide the updated quarterly progress report of the retrofitting programme to the Subcommittee.</p> <p>TD was requested to provide more information about the assessment system for determining the merits of the hillside escalator links and elevator proposals and the relative priorities for conducting feasibility studies.</p>	<p>LWB to follow up</p> <p>TD to follow up</p>
<i>Agenda item II – Any other business</i>			
030720 - 030905	Ms Emily LAU Chairman Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung	Date and discussion item of the next meeting	