

**Public Works Subcommittee  
Meeting on 8 February 2012**

**PWSC(2011-12)45  
31LJ – West Kowloon Law Courts Building**

**Issue**

At the discussion of the captioned item at the Public Works Subcommittee meeting held on 8 February 2012 (“the PWSC meeting”), the Administration was requested to provide information on the following suggestions by members –

- (a) to refine the design of the elevations of the proposed West Kowloon Law Courts Building (“WKLCB”) to better reflect its use as a court of law; and
- (b) to make provisions for dining facilities or a place for court users to consume light refreshments in the building.

**Response**

**(a) External Building Design**

In response to members’ views expressed at the PWSC meeting that the design of the elevations of the proposed WKLCB did not adequately project the image of a court of law, an improved external design of the building has been developed (the perspective drawing of the new building is provided at Enclosure).

The latest design has made the following refinements:

- (i) The vertical fins on the façade together with the canopies at the top of the twin towers replicate the portico of the entrance of traditional law courts buildings;
- (ii) The simple and balanced composition in façade and building form projects an independent image of the law courts building; and
- (iii) The main pedestrian entrance facing Tonkin Street West and the pedestrian entrance facing Tung Chau Street are articulated by huge and tall round columns which give a sense of dignity and solemnness.

We consider the refined external design acceptable.

**(b) Provisions for Dining Facilities or a Place for Court Users to Consume Light Refreshments**

Following consideration by Public Accounts Committee in February 1999 of Director of Audit's Report No. 31, the Government promulgated in 2001 a new policy on provision of canteens in government buildings. Under the policy, provision of canteen facilities is an exception rather than the norm, having regard to the availability of eating places in the vicinity of the government buildings. Canteens may be provided when there is no available or practicable alternative method to supply meals or refreshments.

Pursuant to the Government's policy and having regard to the availability of eating places in the vicinity of the proposed WKLCB, the provision of a canteen in the building is considered not justified.

In view of members' request for a place for court users to consume light refreshments in the proposed WKLCB, we have reviewed the arrangement and would propose that a tuck shop be provided, in place of a convenience store, in the building. The proposed tuck shop will supply some hot food, light meals, refreshments, drinks, confectionery, stationery, newspapers and magazines, etc.

In addition, we will provide a seating area at an appropriate location in the building for court users to consume the food and beverages purchased from the tuck shop.



31LJ  
West Kowloon Law Courts Building  
西九龍法院大樓

PERSPECTIVE VIEW FROM SOUTHERN DIRECTION

從南面望向大樓  
的透視圖