

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)2279/11-12(04)

Ref : CB2/PL/HS

Panel on Health Services

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
for the meeting on 11 June 2012**

Redevelopment of Kwong Wah Hospital

The Financial Secretary announced in the 2012-2013 Budget the redevelopment of Queen Mary Hospital and Kwong Wah Hospital ("KWH"). The redevelopment project of KWH will involve revamping existing medical facilities and strengthening KWH's Chinese and Western medicines shared care services, including Chinese medicine inpatient services. Two written questions were raised at the Council meetings of 16 November 2011 and 11 January 2012 respectively relating to the redevelopment of KWH. The questions and the Administration's replies are in **Appendices I and II** respectively.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
5 June 2012

Press Releases

LCQ11: Kwong Wah Hospital redevelopment project

Following is a question by the Hon James To and a written reply by the Secretary for Food and Health, Dr York Chow, in the Legislative Council today (November 16):

Question:

The Tung Wah Group of Hospitals has been striving for the redevelopment of the Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH) and signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the redevelopment project with the Hospital Authority (HA) in 2009, but the redevelopment project has yet to commence. The Chief Executive has also not mentioned the redevelopment of the hospital in his 2011-2012 Policy Address. As far as I know, KWH is in urgent need of redevelopment, and also requires regular building safety inspections and maintenance (including annual inspection and engagement of overseas consultants to carry out a comprehensive structural inspection every five years to ensure building safety). In reply to a Member's question earlier, the Government said that in the redevelopment of hospitals, it would take into account "the future population growth and ageing in the region, the demand for healthcare services, the overall provision of healthcare services in the various clusters under HA, as well as the development of public and private healthcare services". As KWH cannot be redeveloped in the near future and the population of Kowloon West continues to grow, will the Government inform this Council whether it knows:

(a) the respective amounts of expenses (by year) incurred by KWH in the past five year on the engagement of consultants and maintenance for the two types of building inspections (annual inspection and five-yearly comprehensive structural inspection); whether any major structural safety problem has been identified; if so, of the details; the estimated amount of expense on the comprehensive structural inspection to be conducted next year;

(b) given that I have learnt that KWH has invited tenders for services of a consultant relating to the preliminary work of the redevelopment project (including traffic and heritage assessments), the current progress of the preliminary work and when it is expected to be completed;

(c) given that when briefing this Council on the proposed redevelopment of Caritas Medical Centre (CMC) in 2007, the Government indicated that as CMC had been in use for more than 40 years, its facilities were inadequate and outdated, and the population in the region was ageing, it was in urgent need of redevelopment, and as KWH is facing similar problems, whether the Government has made any relevant assessment of KWH (including the current utilisation rates and waiting times for various services and the impact of a growing elderly population in the region on the demand for medical services);

(d) given that the Government indicated in its reply to my earlier inquiry that the facilities of KWH had failed to adequately meet the modern operation needs and the increasing demand of the community for medical services, when the Government expects to seek funds from this Council to kick off the redevelopment of KWH; whether the Government has assessed the redevelopment costs; if so, of the amount involved; what measures

it will adopt prior to the completion of the KWH redevelopment project to compensate for the current inadequate services in KWH; and

(e) what measures the Government will put in place to improve the overall hospital services in Kowloon West, apart from the soon-to-be-completed redevelopment project of CMC and the plan to develop the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics in Kai Tak Development Area?

Reply:

President,

(a) Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH) would conduct annual review on the conditions of the hospital structure and facilities every year and carry out various minor maintenance and improvements works based on the review results. Currently, the annual expenditure on minor maintenance works for the 41 public hospitals under Hospital Authority (HA) is about \$310 million, of which about \$18 million is for works in respect of KWH. Besides, KWH would commission a professional architectural consultancy firm through open tender to conduct a comprehensive inspection every four to five years. When the last comprehensive inspection was completed in late 2008, the report generally indicated that there was no structural problem. The next major structural check will commence next year. The expenditure incurred by such check can only be confirmed after the tendering exercise has been completed.

(b) The Traffic Impact Assessment and the Heritage Impact Assessment conducted for the KWH redevelopment project are underway and will be completed in early 2012. Other preliminary work including preparation of the Schedule of Accommodation and the Functional Brief has also commenced and is expected to be completed within 2012.

(c) Given that most of the buildings of KWH are over 50 years old, HA has earlier submitted a proposal on the KWH redevelopment project to the Government for consideration. It has also conducted various preliminary preparatory work, including preparation of the "Project Definition Statement", "Clinical Service Plan", "Master Development Plan" and "Technical Feasibility Statement", etc. In the planning process, the Administration has taken into consideration a number of factors, such as the projected demand for healthcare services having regard to population growth and demographic changes in the district, the utilisation and estimated growth rate of services of individual specialties, and the possible changes in healthcare services utilisation pattern, etc.

In 2010-11, the bed occupancy rate in KWH was 71%, and the median waiting time for first appointment at its specialist out-patient clinics was 10 weeks. HA will regularly monitor the utilisation rate and trend of demand for various healthcare services and ensure that the services can meet public demand through continued restructuring of service delivery mode of hospitals, hospital development projects and implementation of other suitable measures.

(d) The Government will process the funding application for redevelopment of KWH in accordance with the established procedures to facilitate an early commencement of the project. According to the preliminary estimate, the entire redevelopment project will cost over \$8 billion. We will make a

more detailed estimate before seeking funding approval. KWH will maintain a series of maintenance and repair measures before implementation of the redevelopment project. It will also make service adjustments having regard to the utilisation of and demand for its services, so as to ensure that it can provide safe and appropriate healthcare services to the patients.

(e) To meet the increasing service needs and shorten the waiting time in the West Kowloon district, HA will strengthen its inpatient and integrated care services, including providing additional Haemodialysis places for renal patients, and extending the service hours of emergent coronary artery catheterisation surgery, etc. Furthermore, to enhance service quality, HA will optimise the thoracic, rheumatic, ophthalmic and prenatal care services and implement a series of integrated care service programmes, such as the integrated chronic obstructive pulmonary disease management programme, the integrated care services for elderly patients and the integrated mental health programme, etc.

Ends/Wednesday, November 16, 2011
Issued at HKT 12:20

Press Releases

LCQ19: Queen Mary Hospital and Kwong Wah Hospital redevelopment project

Following is a question by the Hon Chan Hak-kan and a written reply by the Secretary for Food and Health, Dr York Chow, in the Legislative Council today (January 11):

Question:

It has been reported that the Hospital Authority (HA) does not have any specific plan to redevelop the Queen Mary Hospital (QMH) and Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH), yet as both of them are major acute hospitals in their respective hospital clusters and have been completed and commissioned for years, their designs have long been unable to cater for the operation needs of the present day, thus affecting the work efficiency of healthcare staff as well as the quality of the services provided, and causing inconvenience to patients. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

(a) whether it knows the various capital works projects (with the relevant information including the project title, description, location and expenditure incurred, etc. set out in detail in table form) to be taken forward by HA in the coming three financial years;

(b) whether it knows the respective expenditure on maintenance and repairs incurred by HA for each public hospital in the past three years, with a breakdown (in table form) by name of hospital;

(c) whether it knows if HA has any plan to improve the respective environment of QMH and KWH in the near future; if it has, of the details and the way to reduce the impacts on the healthcare staff and patients when the works projects are in progress; if not, the reasons for that; whether preliminary studies will first be conducted on the redevelopment or expansion of QMH and KWH at the current stage so that the time required for the works projects can be reduced in future;

(d) whether it knows the factors to be considered by HA in assessing the redevelopment or expansion of hospitals, and how priorities are set; and

(e) given the Government's relatively strong financial position at present, whether the Government will take the lead to earmark funds for HA to redevelop or expand its hospitals, and request HA to make long-term planning to meet its future service needs?

Reply:

President,

(a) In the coming three financial years, the Hospital Authority (HA) will take forward the four capital works projects are shown in Annex.

(b) The Government granted allocation under Head 708 Subhead 8100MX every year to HA to carry out minor improvement, repair and maintenance works for public hospitals. Each year, HA conducts review on the conditions of the structures and

facilities of its 41 public hospitals and, on the basis of the outcome of the review, determines the order of priority and the amount of funding for implementation of various minor maintenance and improvements works in the coming three years. Under such circumstances, the expenditure on repair and maintenance works of each public hospital may vary substantially each year. The expenditures on minor repair and maintenance works of public hospitals in the past two years were \$330 million and \$290 million respectively, and that for this year is estimated to be \$310 million.

(c) Although most of the buildings of the Queen Mary Hospital (QMH) and Kwong Wah Hospital (KWH) were built in early years, no structural problem has been found since the measure of conducting annual review and maintenance works has been proved effective. Notwithstanding the above, in order to cope with the service development of both hospitals and to meet the needs of patients for healthcare services, HA has earlier submitted proposals for redevelopment of QMH and KWH for consideration by the Government, with a view to enhancing the environment and facilities of both hospitals. Having considered the information submitted by HA, including the needs and specific details of the two projects, the Government has accepted the two redevelopment proposals in principle.

Before the formal implementation of the redevelopment project, HA has to carry out preliminary planning work, including various preliminary technical assessments to ascertain the project's technical feasibility. HA has already commenced the relevant preliminary planning and study for the two hospitals while both hospitals will continue to have a series of measures to carry out maintenance and repair for upkeeping the environment for their healthcare staff and patients. In 2011-12, for instance, the expenditures on minor repair and maintenance works of QMH and KWH are about \$36 million and \$18 million respectively. In the meantime, both hospitals will make service adjustments having regard to the utilisation of and demand for their services, so as to ensure that they can provide safe and appropriate healthcare services to the patients.

After completion of the relevant preparatory works and detailed estimation of the capital works expenditures, we will process the funding applications of the two hospitals according to the established procedures and seek funding approval from the Legislative Council for commencement of the works.

(d) In determining the order of priority for development of new hospitals and expansion or redevelopment of existing hospitals, HA will take into account the future population growth and ageing in different regions, the demand for healthcare services, the overall provision of healthcare services in the various clusters under HA, the conditions of the hospitals' structures and facilities, HA's long-term objectives and strategies for its overall service development, as well as the development of public and private healthcare services.

(e) HA conducts long-term planning for provision of public healthcare services on an on-going basis. In the process, HA takes into account a number of factors, including the projected demand for healthcare services having regard to population growth and demographic changes, the growth rate of services of individual specialties, the possible changes in healthcare services utilisation pattern, and the standards required of modern medical equipment etc. so that planning can be made for provision of services and hardware facilities in public hospitals to meet the demand for healthcare services. The Government will

continue to conduct planning for the hardware of medical facilities on a need basis, and handle funding application in accordance with the established procedures to ensure that the public will continue to be provided with adequate quality medical facilities.

Ends/Wednesday, January 11, 2012
Issued at HKT 18:48

Legislative Council Q19

Annex

In the coming three financial years, the Hospital Authority (HA) will take forward the following four capital works projects

Name of Project	Details and Location of Project	Estimated Expenditure
Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics	A Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics will be built in Kai Tak Development Area to provide over 400 hospital beds with a number of departments such as the haematology and oncology unit, cardiology and paediatric surgery unit, intensive care unit and neonatal care unit for handling various complicated medical cases related to paediatrics.	Approximately \$9.7 billion
Tin Shui Wai Hospital	A new hospital will be built in Tin Shui Wai Area 32 with 260 beds to provide in-patient care services for emergency medicine, rehabilitation, convalescent and palliative care. Upon commissioning, the Tin Shui Wai Hospital together with the Pok Oi Hospital and the Tuen Mun Hospital of the New Territories West Cluster will provide appropriate hospital services to residents in the districts.	Approximately \$2.8 billion
Reprovisioning of Yaumatei Specialist Clinic (YMTSC) at Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH)	The existing services provided at YMTSC including the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist Clinic, the Geriatric Day Hospital, the Renal Dialysis Centre, Child Psychiatric Out-patient Clinic and the Child Psychiatric Day Hospital, will be reprovisioned at QEH. In addition, the ambulatory care services of QEH will also be expanded for provision of such facilities as the Adolescent Medical Centre, the Special Medical Care Centre, the Diabetes and Metabolic Centre and the Multidisciplinary Pain Management Centre.	Approximately \$1.4 billion
Preparatory works for expansion of United Christian Hospital (UCH)	Preparatory works will be carried out for construction of an ambulatory cum pathology block in the UCH and for conversion and renovation of the vacated space in the existing hospital blocks to improve, expand and rationalise the operation of existing departments and their services. The preparatory works include site investigation, building survey, detailed design, tender documentation and tender assessment for the UCH expansion project.	Approximately \$340 million