



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局  
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

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4 February 2013

Ms Annette Lam  
Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee  
Public Works Subcommittee  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central  
(Fax: 2978 7569)

Dear Ms Lam,

**PWSC(2012-13)47 - 73MM - Tin Shui Wai Hospital**

In considering PWSC (2012-13)47 on the construction of Tin Shui Wai Hospital at the Public Works Subcommittee meeting on 9 January 2013, Members requested the Administration to provide the following supplementary information –

- (a) the estimated bed occupancy rate and service capacity (e.g. the estimated no. of patients to be served) of the various service units after the commissioning of the proposed Tin Shui Wai Hospital (TSWH);
- (b) the provision of barrier free access within the proposed TSWH;
- (c) the provision of barrier free access to the hospital building from the nearby public transport facilities, with particular regard to the provision of appropriate ramps and pedestrian facilities that would enable wheelchair users to board and alight from the public transport facilities with ease; and
- (d) the provision of female toilet facilities in the hospital.

3. The Administration provide the requested information in the ensuing paragraphs.

*Paragraph 1(a) above*

4. The proposed TSWH will be a public general hospital with a planned capacity of 300 in-patient and day beds in total. The construction works of the new hospital is expected to be completed in mid-2016 and the hospital will commence operation in phases by 2017. To ensure that appropriate services would be provided to meet the latest demand in the region, the Hospital Authority (HA) would review the health care needs of the whole New Territories West Cluster (NTWC) catchment population nearer the commissioning of the proposed TSWH. In the planning process, HA would take into account the geographical distribution and demographic profiles of the population, their service utilization pattern, and the scope of service of each hospital within the cluster such that the service provision will be flexibly adjusted to meet the local community needs.

5. There are normal daily and seasonal fluctuations in bed occupancy rate throughout the year. According to our current estimates, it is expected that TSWH can provide 10,000 - 12,000 day patient episodes and 80,700 - 85,400 bed days per year at an estimated average in-bed occupancy rate of 85-90% upon full operation of the hospital.

*Paragraph 1(b) above*

6. We will duly consider the requirements for barrier free access within the proposed TSWH. The design of barrier-free access in TSWH will meet the requirements as set out in the "Design Manual – Barrier Free Access 2008" issued by the Buildings Department, including related design requirements on access, way-finding, sanitary provisions, furniture provisions and safety aspects etc. Where possible, a higher standard above the minimum statutory requirements will be applied. For example, (1) provisions of larger accessible toilet cubicles of at least 2m x 2m in area; (2) provisions of corridors with wider width; and (3) provisions of dropped kerb not steeper than 1:12 at external locations with level difference.

*Paragraph 1(c) above*

7. Under the vision of "Transport for All", the Transport Department (TD) has been committed to provide accessible transport facilities to people with disabilities (PwDs) so as to facilitate their integration into the community.

8. TD has developed a Transport Planning and Design Manual (TPDM), providing general guidelines on the design and provision of transport facilities including the installation of dropped kerbs and tactile warning strips for PwDs. All new public transport interchanges (PTIs), traffic infrastructure and public roads, including connections between community facilities such as hospitals and public transport facilities, are designed and constructed to comply with the new standards in

TPDM for provision of accessible facilities for PwDs. TD has been gradually retrofitting the existing facilities as far as practicable, taking into account of actual situation to meet the needs of PwDs.

9. The Government is also striving to improve barrier-free access at pedestrian facilities including installation of disabled elevators and ramps, etc. at pedestrian footbridges, elevated walkways and pedestrian subways to facilitate the use of these facilities by PwDs.

10. The construction of a lift and stairway at an existing footbridge connected to the Chung Fu Light Rail Stop (LRS) is included in the project scope of the proposed TSWH to facilitate wheelchair users' access between Chung Fu LRS and Tin Shui Road. Wheelchair users by Light Rail can get access to the hospital building via Tin Shui Road and Tin Tan Street which have provided barrier-free pedestrian crossing facilities such as dropped kerb and tactile warning strip at pedestrian crossing.

11. Wheelchair users by buses can board and alight super-low-floor buses at bus stops located at Tin Shui Road and get access to the hospital building via Tin Shui Road and Tin Tan Street which have provided barrier-free pedestrian crossing facilities such as dropped kerb and tactile warning strip at pedestrian crossing.

*Paragraph 1(d) above*

12. In the current design, the provisions of toilets will consider the clinical services requirement of the hospital. The provisions of male and female toilets for TSWH will be no less than the minimum requirements as set out in the Building Regulations for comparable usage. Taking into consideration the needs of female users, the provisions of female toilet cubicles in public area of the hospital such as lobby and waiting area of clinical services (e.g. pharmacy, out-patient clinic, Accident & Emergency Department) will be no less than doubled of that provided for male toilet. Unisex accessible toilets will also be provided in the public area of the hospital (e.g. waiting hall) to facilitate people having practical difficulty (e.g. family members helping people of opposite sex).

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Angel Tong)  
for Secretary for Food and Health

c.c. Hospital Authority

(Attn. : Dr Tony Ko, Hospital Chief Executive, Pok Oi Hospital  
Mr. Donald Li, Chief Manager (Strategy & Planning))

Architectural Services Department

(Attn. : Ms CHAN Hoi-ming, Project Director (2)  
Mr. Stephen Ip, SPM 221)

Transport and Housing Bureau

(Attn. : Miss Carrie Lee, AS(T)5B)