

**For discussion
on 19 November 2012**

Legislative Council Panel on Health Services

Construction of Tin Shui Wai Hospital

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' support for the proposed construction of Tin Shui Wai Hospital (TSWH).

Problem

2. The existing hospitals in the New Territories West Cluster (NTWC) of the Hospital Authority (HA) cannot meet the projected demand for public hospital services.

Proposal

3. We propose to construct a new hospital in Tin Shui Wai (TSW) in order to meet the projected demand for hospital services in NTWC. After detailed technical assessments, we have identified a site of around 13 276 m² located at Area 32 of TSW for construction of the proposed TSWH. A site plan for the hospital project is shown at Annex.

Justification

4. Public hospital services are provided by HA on a cluster basis. At present, HA provides medical services for Yuen Long and Tuen Mun (including TSW) districts through its NTWC. A comprehensive range of services, including accident and emergency services, specialist out-patient (SOP) services, extended care, community care and mental health services, etc, are provided in NTWC through its four hospitals, namely Tuen Mun Hospital (TMH), Pok Oi Hospital (POH), Castle Peak Hospital and Siu Lam Hospital. Regarding in-patient services, NTWC has 3 926 beds as at end of March 2012, with a bed occupancy rate of 89% in 2011-12. As for SOP services, major clinical specialties covered include, among others, ear, nose and throat, obstetrics and gynecology, medicine and geriatrics, surgery, orthopaedics and traumatology, neurosurgery, paediatrics and adolescent medicine, etc.

5. According to the latest population projections by the Planning Department (PlanD), population in Tuen Mun and Yuen Long districts will increase from around 1 066 100 in 2011 to 1 193 700 in 2019, representing a 12% rise. The elderly population aged 65 or above in both districts will also increase from around 102 000 in 2011, or 9.6% of the total population, to around 168 300 in 2019 which equals to 14.1% of the total population. The increasing demand for healthcare services from the ageing community adds pressure to the existing public healthcare services. TSW is one of the developing new towns in Hong Kong. According to the 2011 Hong Kong Population Census conducted by the Census and Statistics Department, the population in TSW New Town has already grown to 287 900 in 2011 since its development. PlanD has projected that the population of the new town will further increase to about 292 100 by 2019. The public hospital services in NTWC are insufficient to meet the projected rising need for public healthcare

services.

6. The provision of general beds in NTWC is 2.0 per 1 000 population while the territory-wide average is 2.9 per 1 000 population. There is currently no private hospital in either TSW or NTWC, and there are also fewer private general and specialist practitioners in TSW as compared with those in other districts in Hong Kong¹.

7. Taking into account the population and characteristics of TSW New Town as well as the increasing demand for hospital services in NTWC in general, there is a need to construct a new hospital in order to meet the projected increase in demand for public hospital services arising from the growing and ageing population in NTWC. We propose to construct the new hospital of NTWC in TSW, such that medical services for the residents in the area could be strengthened.

8. The proposed TSWH will serve as a general hospital to provide accident and emergency services, in-patient services and ambulatory and community care services for its catchment population, with necessary resources channeled to meet growing service demand and enhance the overall service capacity of NTWC. It will be supported by TMH as the regional acute general hospital, as well as POH in the role of a district general hospital of NTWC. TMH currently provides a full range of acute, ambulatory services and operative procedures. Moreover, the current referral system between public hospitals in the NTWC will be enhanced to ensure that patients with diseases or injuries of different severity and complexity will receive appropriate hospital services at the right time and at the right place.

9. The proposed site for TSWH is in close proximity to the Tin Wah

¹ The ratio of private practitioners per 1 000 population in TSW is 0.1, as compared to the overall ratio of 0.4 in Hong Kong.

Estate and the Chung Fu Light Rail Stop (LRS). To cater for the increase in pedestrian flow arising from visitors to TSWH by way of the Chung Fu LRS after the commissioning of the hospital, improvement work for pedestrian access will be carried out.

Proposed scope of the project

10. The proposed TSWH will be a public general hospital with a planned capacity of 300 in-patient and day beds in total, providing the following scope of facilities and services –

- (a) in-patient services for emergency care, rehabilitation, convalescent and palliative care;
- (b) ambulatory services covering -
 - (i) an accident and emergency department to provide comprehensive services for acute and emergency cases;
 - (ii) day procedure centre / endoscopy centre with operating theatres to provide multidisciplinary endoscopy, day surgical procedures and day medical procedures;
 - (iii) specialist out-patient clinics including medicine and geriatrics, rehabilitation medicine and palliative medicine, etc.;
 - (iv) haemodialysis centre to provide ambulatory treatment and care to chronic haemodialysis patients and acute peritoneal dialysis patients;

- (v) day hospice including follow-up medical consultations, individual counseling, group therapy, group social activities and special care; and
 - (vi) integrated rehabilitation services to provide in-patients with comprehensive allied health therapies such as rehabilitation training and activities of daily living assessment;
- (c) community care services including -
- (i) community nursing / community geriatric assessment to provide specialist assessment as well as extended care and rehabilitation support;
 - (ii) community rehabilitation to provide rehabilitation service and education to patients;
 - (iii) psychiatric outreaching service to be provided through a multi-disciplinary professional team;
 - (iv) medical social work to provide counselling to patients, to develop community-based social and health programmes and make referrals for application for appropriate social assistance and welfare, etc; and
 - (v) health resources centre to provide health information, health education and referral service to patients and their families;
- (d) diagnostic and ancillary services to support in-patient and out-patient services, including core laboratory, computed tomography

scanner and ultrasound scanner;

- (e) support services including catering services, pharmacy (including out-patient), central sterile supplies department, mortuary, linen, procurement and supplies, transportation and portering, and engineering plants;
- (f) administrative services including hospital administration (including finance and human resources), medical staff and nursing administration, admission, staff accommodation and medical records, etc.; and
- (g) improvement work for ancillary pedestrian facilities by constructing a lift and a stairway at an existing footbridge connected to the Chung Fu LRS to provide direct access to the hospital without detouring Tin Wah Estate.

Project implementation

11. The Administration in the 2008-09 Policy Address committed to building a hospital in TSW to strengthen hospital services for the local community. We completed the detailed technical assessments and studies (including traffic impact assessment and environmental impact assessment) for hospital site selection in 2010.

12. A design-and-build contract will be adopted so that a single contractor will be selected to undertake both the design and construction works for the hospital building. The adoption of such a model will facilitate close communication and interaction between the project proponent and the selected contractor throughout the design and construction period, and thus expediting

project completion. We completed a pre-qualification exercise in April 2011 and invited tenders from the pre-qualified tenderers in March 2012. We have completed the tender assessment.

13. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee (FC) in February 2013. Subject to FC's approval, we will award the design-and-build contract to the successful tenderer in the same month. We expect that the design and construction works will take around 39 months and will be completed by mid-2016. The duration of construction is comparable to similar projects. The proposed lift and stairway near Chung Fu LRS will be implemented under a separate works contract to dovetail with the commencement of operation of the TSWH. The estimated cost of the proposed project is in the order of \$3.9 billion in money-of-the-day prices.

14. In the meantime, NTWC will continue to meet the demands for hospital services in TSW through its existing facilities and services before the commissioning of the project. HA will continue to closely monitor the service utilization of the community in TSW and enhance the medical services for residents where necessary in the interim.

Public consultation

15. We consulted the Yuen Long District Council (YLDC) in March 2009 on the proposed hospital site (Area 32 of TSW) and the proposed project scope, and provided the results of the relevant technical assessments and studies to YLDC in November 2010. Members of the YLDC supported the project and the scope, and requested its early implementation. They further suggested the improvement of pedestrian access from the nearby LRS to the hospital. The suggestion has been incorporated into the project.

Advice sought

16. Members are invited to support the proposed project as outlined in this paper.

Food and Health Bureau

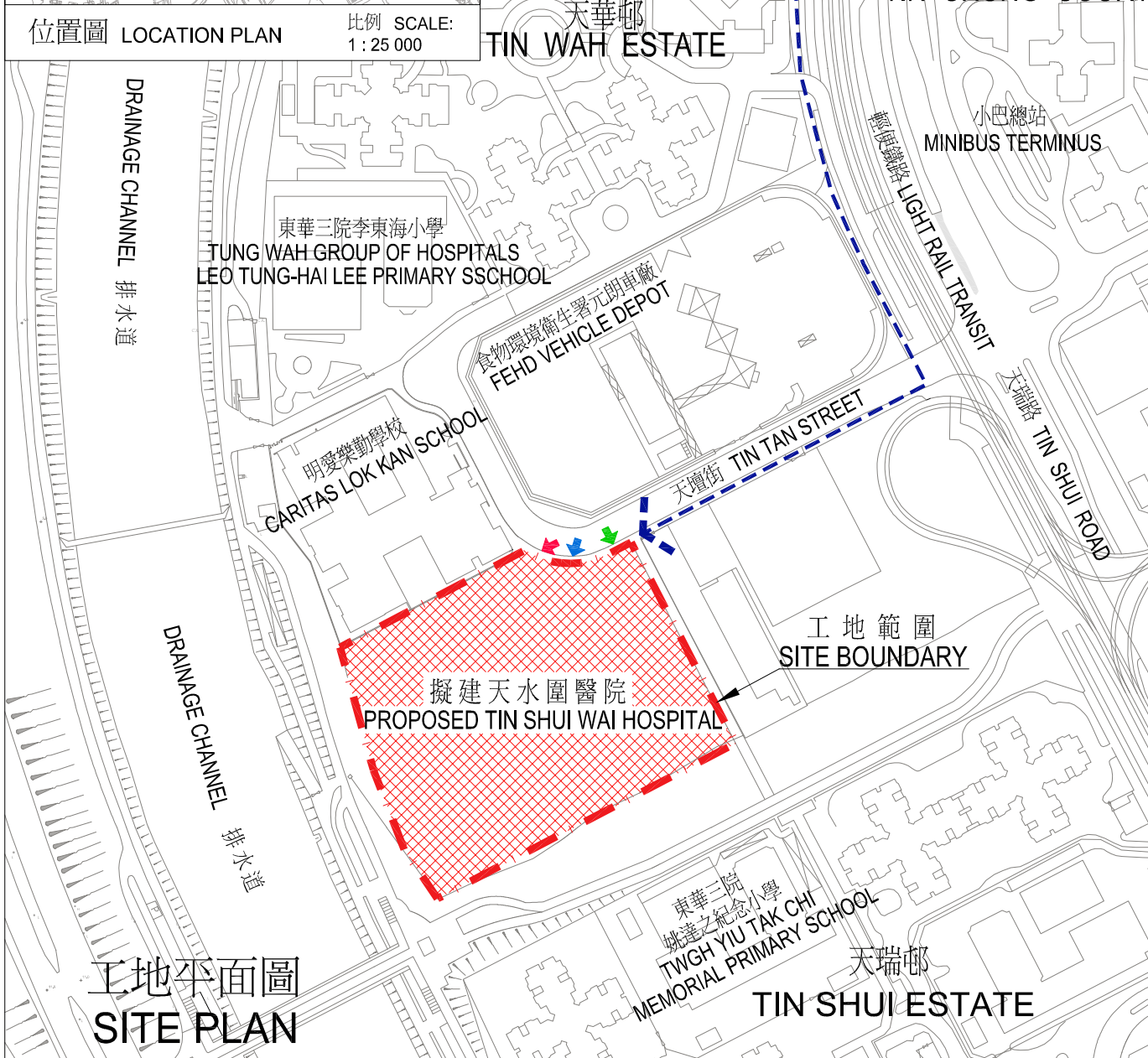
Hospital Authority

November 2012



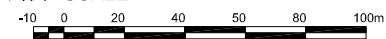
位置圖 LOCATION PLAN

比例 SCALE:
1 : 25 000



工地平面圖
SITE PLAN

比例 SCALE:



圖例 LEGEND:

- 車輛出入口 VEHICULAR INGRESS / EGRESS
- 救護車輛出入口 AMBULANCE INGRESS / EGRESS
- 行人出入口 PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE
- 建議由頌富輕鐵站通往醫院的行人路線 SUGGESTED PEDESTRIAN ROUTE FROM CHUNG FU LRS TO THE HOSPITAL

Title 項目名稱

73 MM

天水圍醫院

TIN SHUI WAI HOSPITAL

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date 日期
6/11/2012

date 日期
6/11/2012

drawing no. 圖則編號

7784/Xh001



ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT 建築署