

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. PWSC117/14-15

(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB1/F/2/1(14)B

**Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee
of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 10th meeting
held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex
on Wednesday, 4 February 2015, at 8:30 am**

Members present:

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC (Chairman)
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP
Hon IP Kin-yuen
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kiwok, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Members absent:

Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon Dennis KWOK
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Public officers attending:

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) ³
Mr CHAN Chi-ming, JP	Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) ²
Mr Thomas CHAN Chung-ching, JP	Deputy Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands) ¹
Ms Anissa WONG, JP	Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Ms Jasmine CHOI Suet-yung	Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)
Mr Kevin YEUNG Yun-hung	Under Secretary for Education
Miss Wendy CHUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary (Infrastructure and Research Support) Education Bureau
Mr KWONG Ying-wai	Principal Education Officer (Special Education and Kindergarten Education) Education Bureau
Mr LEUNG Koon-kee	Director of Architectural Services
Mr Frank WONG Tak-choi	Project Director (1) Architectural Services Department
Mr LEE Kam-yuen	Chief Maintenance Surveyor (School Premises Maintenance) Education Bureau
Mr Peter NG Ka-him	Assistant Director (Youth and Corrections) Social Welfare Department

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Sharon CHUNG	Chief Council Secretary (1)2
-----------------	------------------------------

Staff in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT	Assistant Secretary General 1
Mr Fred PANG	Senior Council Secretary (1)2
Mr Hugo CHIU	Senior Council Secretary (1)6
Ms Christina SHIU	Legislative Assistant (1)2
Ms Christy YAU	Legislative Assistant (1)7
Ms Haley CHEUNG	Legislative Assistant (4)8

The Chairman advised that there were six funding proposals on the agenda for the meeting. The first four were the items carried over from the previous meeting. The fifth item had been put on the agenda for the meeting on 29 October 2014 and the sixth item was a new funding proposal. He reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"), they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the funding proposals under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the items. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting in the case of direct pecuniary interest.

Head 703 – Buildings**PWSC(2014-15)46 108ET Two special schools at Sung On Street, To Kwa Wan**

2. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2014-15)46, was to upgrade 108ET to Category A at an estimated cost of \$484.0 million in money-of-the-day prices for the construction of two special schools at Sung On Street, To Kwa Wan for reprovisioning of Po Leung Kuk Anita L L Chan (Centenary) School ("Centenary School") and Chi Yun School. The Panel on Education had been consulted on the proposal on 14 April 2014 and the Administration had provided supplementary information on the proposal to Panel members on 18 June 2014. Panel members in general supported the submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

3. At the invitation of the Chairman, Under Secretary for Education ("US(Ed)") briefed members on the proposal for the reprovisioning of Centenary School for children with moderate intellectual disability ("MoID") and Chi Yun School for children with severe intellectual disability ("SID").

Design of the proposed project

4. Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed support for the proposed reprovisioning project and appreciated the adoption of a photovoltaic system and a solar hot water system in the project as an environmental friendly measure. He enquired if the proposed special schools would have sufficient barrier-free and crash barrier facilities (e.g. padded wall and corner/edge protectors) to assist and protect the students in these two schools.

5. US(Ed) advised that the design of the proposed special schools had complied with the requirements of the relevant building regulations. To

accommodate the particular need of students with MoID and SID, the proposed special schools would be equipped with barrier-free facilities (e.g. ramps) and crash barrier furniture items. Director of Architectural Services ("DArchS") said that the Architectural Services Department ("ASD") would jointly consult the respective school sponsoring bodies ("SSBs") with the Education Bureau ("EDB") when carrying out the detailed design of the new school premises.

6. While expressing support for the proposal, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung were disappointed at the long delay by the Administration in confirming the project. Dr CHEUNG enquired whether the Administration had adopted the concept of "Universal Design" in the project so that the special schools could be used by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. Citing the example of the Hong Kong Christian Service Pui Oi School in Tuen Mun, where the parent-teacher association had complained about the design of school facilities unable to meet the need of the physically handicapped students, Dr CHEUNG urged the Administration to consult the parent-teacher associations of the special schools concerned on the design of the new school premises. Dr KWOK Ka-ki echoed Dr CHEUNG's view and urged ASD to consult the parents on the school design.

7. DArchS said that the design of the proposed special schools had already taken into account the particular needs of the students, such as the provision of larger accessible lifts and widened barrier-free access and ramps. ASD was willing to further discuss with the SSBs and parents concerned on the school design together with EDB. US(Ed) added that the Administration had learnt from the previous experience and requested the special schools concerned to maintain a close contact with their parent-teacher associations on the school design and reprovisioning arrangements.

8. Considering the important role played by SSBs in planning and managing school facilities, Mr IP Kwok-him asked if the Administration had evaluated the relevant experience of the SSBs concerned. He also asked whether the two special schools had maintained a close relationship with the parents of their students.

9. US(Ed) advised that the SSBs concerned were experienced in running special schools and well understood the special facility requirements to meet the needs of students. Being satisfied with the performance of these SSBs so far, the Administration would consult them on the facilities to be provided in the proposed project. US(Ed) also confirmed that the two special schools

had kept a close relationship with the parents, and therefore they understood the parents' concerns on school facilities.

10. Mr IP Kin-yuen expressed support for the proposed reprovisioning for the special schools. He relayed the concerns of the principals of Centenary School and Chi Yun School over the operation of and costs arising from the energy conservation, green and recycling features in the new school premises. A similar concern was also raised by the principal of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Ma Kam Chan Memorial Primary School, the reprovisioning proposal for which was endorsed by the Subcommittee on 30 January 2015. To allay the schools' concerns, he urged the Administration to deploy staff to these schools to explain in detail the operational arrangements of these green features.

11. US(Ed) explained that those green features, which had been adopted in many buildings, were user-friendly. In view of the schools' concerns, the Administration would explain to the schools the operational details of these green features. As each aided school was provided with a block grant for meeting its overall operating expenses, there would not be a separate grant for individual expenditure items such as the operation of the green features. The Administration considered that the block grant disbursed to schools should be sufficient to cover the recurrent operating expenses but adjustments to the block grant would be made if necessary.

Utilization of the project site

12. While expressing support for the proposed reprovisioning project, Dr KWOK Ka-ki enquired whether it was feasible to increase the permitted development plot ratio ("PR") of the project site and build more storeys to meet the demand for school places and boarding places in special schools.

13. US(Ed) advised that to provide ample activity space for students and ensure their safety, schools generally had lower PRs with the maximum height limited to six storeys. To cater for the particular need of students with MoID and SID (e.g. the use of wheelchairs), the height of Centenary School was further limited to five storeys and four storeys for Chi Yun School. The Administration had also consulted the local residents on the proposed project, including the heights of the two special schools. Given that the proposed project could help ease the shortage of the MoID school places, the Administration considered the proposed development scale appropriate.

14. Mr WU Chi-wai opined that the site concerned should be fully utilized to provide more school places and boarding places. To address the

issue of limited developable space, he suggested that additional storeys and lifts should be added to the proposed project. Given that there were many wheelchair users in the two special schools, he asked whether the ramps in the proposed project would occupy the school space.

15. US(Ed) replied that a balance had to be struck between the additional space created by building more storeys and the extra space required to accommodate new barrier-free facilities in view of a larger student intake. Besides, in deciding the capacity of the special schools concerned, the Administration had to take into account other factors, such as the impact of additional school places on school operation. He further explained that unlike the SID school, wheelchairs were not commonly used in the MoID school. Nevertheless, barrier-free facilities, such as accessible lifts and ramps, would be provided in both special schools.

Provision of school places in special schools

16. Mr Christopher CHEUNG said that he supported the proposed reprovisioning project. In order to provide services to more students with special education needs, he enquired if the Administration would consider using the premises to be vacated by Centenary School and Chi Yun School for the development of new special schools.

17. US(Ed) replied that upon completion of the proposed project, Kowloon and Tseung Kwan O Region would have an adequate supply of the SID school places and boarding places while the projected shortage of the MoID school places would be alleviated. The Administration would continue to identify sites for the construction of new MoID schools to meet the shortfall of the MoID school places. As regards the usage of the vacated school premises, the Administration would consider using these premises for other educational purposes.

18. Noting that another special school, namely the SAHK Ko Fook Iu Memorial School ("Ko Fook Iu School") in Sha Tin, had requested reprovisioning, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung sought details on the latest progress. He asked if it was possible to relocate the school to the vacated school premises and arrange school bus services to carry students to the premises.

19. US(Ed) advised that the Administration had provided the Ko Fook Iu School with two floors of an adjacent vacant school building. The additional space could accommodate more facilities for the students in the Ko Fook Iu School although these facilities were still somewhat different from those provided in the new standard schools.

20. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung and Mr CHAN Han-pan sought information about (a) the current figures of the MoID school places and the SID school places and boarding places; and (b) the additional school and boarding places to be provided under the proposed project. Mr LEUNG urged the Administration to increase the SID boarding places in the proposed reprovisioning project to address the pressing demand for these places. Separately, Mr CHAN enquired how the projected shortfall of the SID school places was worked out.

21. Principal Education Officer (Special Education and Kindergarten Education), Education Bureau ("PEO(SE&KG)/EDB") replied that the class number of Centenary School would increase from nine classes to 12 classes, and from 10 classes to 12 classes for Chi Yun School. As for the projected figures of school places and boarding places in special schools, the projected demand for these places was based on a number of factors, such as the projected population and past enrollment trend in these types of special schools, while the projected supply of these places had taken into account the design capacity of special schools, etc. PEO(SE&KG)/EDB stressed that notwithstanding the projected shortfall of school places in planning, no children with MoID and SID would be unable to attend special schools, albeit the learning environment in some of these schools might not be as favourable as that in the new standard schools.

22. US(Ed) supplemented that as at September 2014, Centenary School had 74 students. The proposed reprovisioning project would provide an additional 70 MoID and 64 SID school places and 35 SID boarding places. Therefore, upon completion of the reprovisioning project, the projected demand and supply of school places of the MoID schools and school places and boarding places of the SID schools in Kowloon and Tseung Kwan O Region in the 2018/19 school year would be as follows:

2018/19	MoID schools	SID schools	
	Number of school places	Number of school places	Number of boarding places
Demand	840	260	160
Supply	640	296	180
Excess/(Shortfall)	(200)	36	20

23. US(Ed) summed up that by the 2018/19 school year, there would be sufficient SID school places and boarding places in Kowloon and Tseung Kwan O Region, while a shortfall of the MoID school places would still exist. On the feasibility of providing more SID boarding places under the project, US(Ed) advised that it would be difficult to increase such places as the design of the project had been carried out having regard to the site size and

permissible construction area. Nevertheless, the Administration would consider providing more SID boarding places wherever feasible and necessary to address the demand.

24. Noting that there would still be a shortfall of 200 MoID school places in Kowloon and Tseung Kwan O Region, Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok urged the Administration to keep on identifying sites for the MoID schools in the region. He also expressed concern over the sufficiency of school places and boarding places of special schools in the rest of the territory. US(Ed) said that the Administration had been closely monitoring the situation and would take measures to increase such places wherever possible.

Other issues

25. Mr TAM Yiu-chung and Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok indicated support for the proposed reprovisioning project as it could help ease the shortage of the MoID and SID school spaces. They hoped that the Finance Committee ("FC") could approve the item as early as possible. Ir Dr LO also expressed concern over the increase in the estimated cost of the proposed project, i.e. \$20 million higher than the cost estimate made by the Administration in June 2014.

26. Noting that most of the students in the special schools concerned would take school buses or use Rehabus services, Mr IP Kwok-him asked whether the proposed project would provide sufficient spaces for students to get on and off the buses inside the school premises.

27. US(Ed) advised that not many students in the SID school would need to commute by school bus on a daily basis as most of them boarded at the school. For the MoID school, its students were mainly commuted to and from the school by school bus and transport services other than private cars. The parking lots within the school premises would be sufficient to meet the parking need of these vehicles. Hence, the operation of these two schools would have little impact on the traffic flow of the vicinity.

28. The item was voted on and endorsed.

29. The Chairman consulted members on whether the item would require separate discussion and voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

Head 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment
PWSC(2014-15)47 93EB Construction of an annex to Baptist Lui
Ming Choi Secondary School, Shatin,
New Territories

30. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2014-15)47, was to upgrade 93EB to Category A at an estimated cost of \$148.8 million in money-of-the-day prices for the construction of an annex to the Baptist Lui Ming Choi Secondary School ("the School"). The Panel on Education had been consulted on the proposal on 12 May 2014 and Panel members in general supported the submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

31. At the invitation of the Chairman, US(Ed) briefed members on the proposal.

Implementation timetable

32. Mr IP Kin-yuen stated his support for the proposed project. Relaying the concerns of the principal of the School, he asked whether the construction works for Phase One could be expedited for early completion well ahead of the original scheduled completion date of July 2017, so as to allow sufficient time for the School to prepare for the commissioning of the annex in the 2017/18 school year. He also enquired about the feasibility of starting the construction works for Phase Two earlier, so that all the new facilities would be ready for use in the 2017/18 school year.

33. US(Ed) advised that the Administration would closely communicate with the School during the construction period and strive to expedite the construction works as far as possible.

Facilities in the proposed new annex

34. Mr WONG Kwok-hing and Dr KWOK Ka-ki indicated support for the proposed project. Mr WONG requested the Administration to provide information on the arrangement to meet the accommodation need of the School's caretakers after the existing caretakers' quarters were demolished. Dr KWOK opined that the School should continue to provide quarters for the caretakers.

35. US(Ed) confirmed that the proposed project would include the reprovisioning of the caretakers' quarters in the new annex. Chief Maintenance Surveyor (School Premises Maintenance), Education

Bureau ("CMS(SPM)/EDB") elaborated that the School would arrange accommodation for the caretakers during the construction period and the details would be provided to members after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. PWSC108/14-15(01) on 24 February 2015.)

36. In response to Dr CHIANG Lai-wan's enquiry about the toilets for persons with disabilities in the School, CMS(SPM)/EDB said that five such existing toilets would be relocated to the new annex, one on each floor, to make way for the construction of a corridor connecting the existing school building and the new annex. US(Ed) advised that upon completion of the new annex, barrier-free toilets for persons with disabilities would be provided on each floor and accessible from either the existing building or the new annex.

37. Dr Elizabeth QUAT expressed support for the proposed project. She enquired about the maintenance cost for the vertical greening provision in the proposed project and whether such cost would impose a financial burden on the School. She also asked if the new annex would include a school garden to enable the students to take part in gardening activities.

38. US(Ed) advised that a small garden had already been provided on the roof of the existing School building. On the roof of the new annex, there would be a playground and a green roof. The Administration would liaise with the School to find out whether students would be allowed to access the new green roof in safe conditions.

39. Referring to the planning target of the School to provide two square metres ("m²") of open space per student after the construction of the new annex, Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked if there were other schools in Hong Kong which failed to meet such standard. He also enquired whether the design of the annex would facilitate the installation of green facilities (e.g. food waste composter) to raise students' awareness on environmental protection.

40. US(Ed) advised that all new schools had complied with the prevailing standard of providing 2 m² of open space for each student. Permanent Secretary for the Environment said that the Administration had endeavoured to promote the use of green facilities in schools. For example, with the support of the Environment and Conservation Fund, many schools had developed green facilities in their school premises. Under school improvement projects, such as the proposed project, provision of green features was included. As for the green facilities to be provided by the

School in the new annex, the Administration would approach the School to find out the details.

Reprovisioning of the School at another site

41. Indicating support for the proposed project, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung expressed concern over the existing over-crowded conditions of the School and the difficulty encountered in expanding the School premises. He noted that, to reduce the noise nuisances caused by the construction works, insulated windows and air conditioning had to be installed in the rooms at the façade facing Yuen Wo Road. He enquired if the Administration had explored the option of reprovisioning the School at another site.

42. US(Ed) replied that the Administration had discussed various school improvement options with the School. Among those options, the construction of a new annex was the quickest solution to provide more classrooms and other facilities for the School. Moreover, the School had indicated strong wish to serve the local community and to continue its operation in Sha Tin. Given the tight supply of school sites in Sha Tin, reprovisioning of the School at a site in the same district was highly unlikely. US(Ed) assured members that mitigation measures would be put in place in the course of construction to minimize its impact on the School, in particular during the examination periods. Principal Assistant Secretary (Infrastructure and Research Support), Education Bureau supplemented that, school premises/sites for reprovisioning were allocated on a competitive basis under the School Allocation Exercise ("SAE"). It would be up to SSBs to decide whether they would make an application under SAE.

43. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan enquired, in the event that there was a need for the School to increase the number of classes in future, whether the Administration would assist the School in expanding its premises in-situ or reprovisioning it in another place.

44. US(Ed) advised that, in anticipation of a decline in the number of Secondary One students in Sha Tin over the next few years, the Administration considered it unlikely that the School would be allowed to increase the number of classes in the near future. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan said the Administration should bear in mind that Sha Tin would probably be the district with the greatest amount of new land supply in future.

Timing for submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee

45. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok said that he was supportive of the proposal. He recalled that the Subcommittee had spent considerable time on discussing

certain items, such as the "one landfill and one incinerator" proposal and the study for topside development at the Hong Kong boundary crossing facilities island of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, in the last legislative session. As a result, a number of items, including the present proposal (93EB), had been deferred to the current legislative session. He hoped that the Subcommittee and FC could approve the item as early as possible. Mr WONG Kwok-hing said that the discussion on the item had been delayed by the filibustering tactic employed by some Members.

46. Dr Elizabeth QUAT asked, in case there was filibustering at the time the item was submitted to FC for approval, whether the Administration had any contingency plan to avoid further delay in the proposed project. She appealed to Mr IP Kin-yuen to ask other members not to filibuster.

47. US(Ed) advised that while the Administration hoped that the proposed project could be commenced early, it was difficult to predict when FC would approve the proposal. He said that, compared with the Administration's estimate made in early 2014, the updated project estimate had increased by about 4%. The target completion date of the project had also been postponed from September 2017 to January 2018. He hoped that there would not be further delay in the project caused by any filibustering at the time the item was submitted to FC for approval.

48. Dissatisfied with US(Ed)'s remark on filibustering, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung sought clarification from the Administration about the cause of late submission of the item to the Subcommittee. He considered that the late submission of the item was due to the prolonged internal procedures within the Administration for the preparatory work, and the failure of the Administration to plan ahead the increasing demand for classrooms and special rooms in the School following the implementation of the New Senior Secondary ("NSS") curriculum under the New Academic Structure. He queried why the Administration had taken four years to complete the technical feasibility study and design of the annex after the proposed project had been approved by the Permanent Secretary for Education, and why the Subcommittee had to wait for months to deliberate the item after the Panel on Education had been consulted on the project in May 2014.

49. US(Ed) replied that subsequent to the consultation with the Panel on Education on 12 May 2014, the item had been put on the agenda for the Subcommittee meeting on 2 July 2014. The item had been held up since then. He further advised that it took time to go through the necessary procedures, such as drawing up a design for the new annex, conducting consultations with the School and parents, etc. to bring the proposed project

from concept to reality. Before the implementation of the NSS, it was premature for the School to assess the number of additional classrooms it would need, as the number would depend on the subjects to be offered by the School and the number of study groups and split classes to be formed.

50. In response to Mr Albert CHAN's enquiry, the Chairman advised that the item had been put on the agenda for the Subcommittee meeting on 2 July 2014. Shortly before the Chairman would have made a ruling on re-arranging the order of the items on the agenda for the meeting on 19 November 2014, the Administration took out 13 items, including the present proposal, from the agenda.

51. Taking into consideration that the delay in the deliberation on the item was caused by, among other things, the act of the Administration to take out the item from the agenda a few months ago, Mr Albert CHAN considered US(Ed)'s remark about filibustering unfair and unreasonable. He said that the Subcommittee wished to give priority to deliberating those items that were uncontroversial and livelihood-related, such as those projects related to schools. He requested US(Ed) to withdraw his remark about filibustering; otherwise he would propose a motion to adjourn the discussion on the item.

52. US(Ed) said, responding earlier to a member's concern, he had made a remark that he hoped there would not be any further delay in the project caused by filibustering at the time the item was submitted to FC for approval. He did not comment on whether or not filibustering had hindered the approval of the item.

53. Miss Alice MAK opined that given the importance of the proposed project to the School, it was irrational and unacceptable for a member to move an adjournment motion on the item simply because an official had made a remark disagreeable to the member. Mr Paul TSE said that it was undesirable for members to react so strongly to a disagreeable remark of the Administration. Mr CHAN Kam-lam held the view that it was inappropriate for the meeting to engage heavily in disputes unrelated to the proposed project. Mr Michael TIEN called on other members to decide without delay whether to endorse the item so that the Subcommittee could move on to other items on the agenda.

[At 10:28 am, the Chairman suggested and members agreed that the meeting be extended for 15 minutes.]

54. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said the Administration might wish to make the following clarifications about its remarks - that filibustering had delayed the approval of some funding proposals but not 93EB, and that the possible

impact of the prolonged discussion on some items at FC on the approval of 93EB would be a matter of concern. The Chairman asked US(Ed) if he did not mean that any particular member had conducted filibustering on 93EB. US(Ed) confirmed he did not mean that any particular member had conducted filibustering on 93EB. Mr Albert CHAN said that, though he was not fully satisfied with US(Ed)'s clarification, he would not propose an adjournment motion. The Chairman advised that the discussion on US(Ed)'s remark about filibustering, which was unrelated to the proposal, should come to an end.

55. The item was voted on and endorsed.

56. The Chairman consulted members on whether the item would require separate discussion and voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

Head 703 – Buildings

PWSC(2014-15)48 107ET A school for social development for girls at Choi Hing Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon

57. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2014-15)48, was to upgrade 107ET to Category A at an estimated cost of \$373.7 million in money-of-the-day prices for the construction of a school for social development ("SSD")-cum-residential home for girls at Choi Hing Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon. The Panel on Education had been consulted on the proposal on 14 April 2014 and the Administration had provided supplementary information on the proposal to Panel members on 18 June 2014. Panel members in general supported the submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

58. At the invitation of the Chairman, US(Ed) briefed members on the proposal.

59. Ms Cyd HO referred to the Direct Investigation Report issued by the Office of The Ombudsman in February 2012 on Special Education Services for Students with Moderate to Severe Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties, in which the shortfall in SSD places had been examined. Noting that the Administration had taken action to make the demand for SSD places look small, i.e. "suppressing the demand", instead of boosting the supply of SSD places, she commented that such action was inappropriate. While

expressing support for the proposed project, Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed a similar concern over the supply and demand of SSD places.

60. PEO(SE&KG)/EDB responded that the Administration had not made the demand for SSD places look small. The purpose of developing the proposed project was exactly to meet the projected shortage of SSD places. The Administration had stayed in close touch with SSDs to ensure that the needy girls could attend these schools.

61. Referring to her past visits to SSDs, Ms Cyd HO expressed concern over the over-crowded conditions and the lack of privacy for the girl boarders. To understand whether the girl boarders would have sufficient private space in the proposed SSD, she sought information about the layout of the bedrooms/dormitories in the proposed project. Moreover, she considered that the library facilities in SSDs were generally insufficient and urged the Administration to take follow-up actions.

62. US(Ed) advised that there would be eight "family homes" in the residential home portion of the proposed project, each with a sitting room and some bedrooms. Depending on its size, each bedroom could accommodate two to six girl boarders. Beds would be separated by wardrobes to provide privacy to the boarders. New boarders would be assigned to smaller bedrooms where greater personal care could be given, while other boarders would be assigned to bigger bedrooms to facilitate development of their social skills. At the request of Ms Cyd HO, the Administration would provide (a) plans/drawings of the layout design of the bedrooms/dormitories for the boarders; and (b) information on how the design would take into account the need for privacy of the boarders.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. PWSC108/14-15(01) on 24 February 2015.)

63. In response to Dr KWOK Ka-ki's enquiry, Assistant Director (Youth and Corrections), Social Welfare Department advised that in each "family home", there would be at least one registered social worker in each shift to provide round-the-clock counseling services for the girl boarders. Other ancillary staff would also be present to offer support services to these boarders every night. In the proposed SSD, staff quarters would be provided.

64. Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok indicated his support for the proposed project. Given that the proposed project fell within the 250-metre Consultation Zone of the Jordan Valley Landfill, he requested the Administration to provide a brief report in due course on the implementation of the landfill gas protection measures and the monitoring results during the construction and

operation/maintenance stages of the project. DArchS undertook to provide such information to members in due course.

65. Mr Michael TIEN noted that the total capital cost of the three items discussed at the meeting (i.e. 108ET, 93EB and 107ET) were about \$38 million higher than the cost estimated at the time they had been put on the agenda for the Subcommittee's meeting on 2 July 2014. He sought confirmation on whether the increase in the capital cost was due to the change in the price adjustment factor, i.e. the trend rate of changes in the prices of public sector building and construction output, etc., during the construction period.

66. DArchS confirmed that Mr TIEN's understanding was correct. If funding could not be approved in time to enable the project to proceed in accordance with the time frame stated in the paper to the Subcommittee, the Administration might have to revise the capital cost in accordance with the change in the price adjustment factor and would inform members about the cost changes, if that might be the case.

67. The item was voted on and endorsed.

68. The Chairman consulted members on whether the item would require separate discussion and voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

Any other business

69. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:42 am.