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

**Minutes of the 18th meeting
held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex
on Wednesday, 16 March 2016, at 8:30 am**

Members present:

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP (Chairman)
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP
Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS
Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu

Members absent:

Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Hon Dennis KWOK
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Public officers attending:

Mr Raistlin LAU Chun, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) ³
Mr HON Chi-keung, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Mr Michael WONG Wai-lun, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands)
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)
Professor Sophia CHAN, JP	Under Secretary for Food and Health
Miss Linda LEUNG Ka-ying	Principal Assistant Secretary for Food and Health (Health)2
Ms Sylvia LAM YU Ka-wai	Project Director (2) Architectural Services Department
Miss Charmaine WONG Hoi-wan, JP	Assistant Director (2) Home Affairs Department
Mr Martin KWAN Wai-cheong	Chief Engineer (Works) Home Affairs Department
Mrs Alice YU NG Ka-chun	Project Director (3) Architectural Services Department
Mr LI Ho-kin	Senior Project Co-ordination Manager (1) Architectural Services Department
Mr Edward MAK Chun-yu, JP	District Officer (Yuen Long) Home Affairs Department
Ms Aubrey FUNG Ngar-wai, JP	District Officer (Tuen Mun) Home Affairs Department
Mrs ARON Laura-liang, JP	District Officer (Yau Tsim Mong) Home Affairs Department
Mr Gilford LAW Sun-on, JP	District Officer (Kwun Tong) Home Affairs Department
Miss Angela LUK Yee-wah, JP	District Officer (Wan Chai) Home Affairs Department
Mr Simon LIU Wai-shing	Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong East) Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Anne TENG Yu-yan, JP	District Officer (Eastern) Home Affairs Department

Mr William TSUI Yiu-leung,
JP

District Officer (Kowloon City)
Home Affairs Department

Mr Bassanio SO Chek-leung,
JP

District Officer (Tai Po)
Home Affairs Department

Ms Elaine MAK Tse-ling

Principal Assistant Secretary for Home
Affairs (Culture)¹

Attendance by invitation:

Dr Tony KO

Cluster Chief Executive (New Territories
West Cluster)
Hospital Authority

Mr Donald LI

Chief Manager (Capital Planning)
Hospital Authority

Mr SHUM Ho-kit

Chairman
Yuen Long District Council

Mr Lothar LEE Hung-sham,
MH

Vice Chairman
Tuen Mun District Council

Mr Cliff AU Wai-cheung

Controller (Social Services)
Yan Oi Tong

Mr Chris IP Ngo-tung

Chairman
Yau Tsim Mong District Council

Mr Stephen NG Kam-chun,
BBS, MH, JP

Chairman
Wan Chai District Council

Mr KUNG Pak-cheung, MH

Chairman
Steering Group on the Signature Project of
Eastern District of the Eastern District
Council

Mr PUN Kwok-wah

Chairman
Kowloon City District Council

Ms WONG Pik-kiu, MH, JP

Vice Chairman
Tai Po District Council

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Sharon CHUNG

Chief Council Secretary (1)2

Staff in attendance:

Mr Raymond CHOW

Senior Council Secretary (1)6

Ms Ada LAU

Senior Council Secretary (1)7

Ms Maggie LAU

Council Secretary (1)2

Ms Christina SHIU

Legislative Assistant (1)2

Ms Clara LO

Legislative Assistant (1)8

Ms Haley CHEUNG

Legislative Assistant (1)9

Action

The Chairman advised that there were five funding proposals on the agenda for the meeting. The first two items were those carried over from the previous meeting of the Subcommittee on 29 February 2016. He reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of the Legislative Council, 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 proposals. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

Head 703 – Buildings

**PWSC(2015-16)57 86MM Extension of Operating Theatre Block
for Tuen Mun Hospital**

2. The Chairman said that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)57, was to upgrade part of 86MM to Category A at an estimated cost of \$167.2 million in money-of-the-day ("MOD") prices to carry out the substructure and utilities diversion works for the extension of the Operating Theatre ("OT") Block of Tuen Mun Hospital ("TMH"). The Panel on Health Services had been consulted on the proposal on 18 May 2015. Panel members supported the Administration's submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. Pursuant to Panel members' requests, the Administration had

provided supplementary information on the proposal vide LC Paper No. CB(2)499/15-16(01) on 17 December 2015. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

Enhancement of services of Tuen Mun Hospital

3. Mr TAM Yiu-chung and Miss Alice MAK expressed support for the extension of the OT Block of TMH and its early implementation to cope with the increasing demand for surgical services in Tuen Mun and Yuen Long. Noting that the number of medical incidents that had occurred in TMH related to elective surgeries was the highest among all the public hospitals, Mr TAM called on the Hospital Authority ("HA") to investigate the root cause of such medical incidents and to formulate measures to address the problem. Miss Alice MAK shared Mr TAM's concern.

4. Under Secretary for Food and Health ("USFH") replied that HA had set up the Surgical Outcomes Monitoring and Improvement Programme ("SOMIP") to monitor surgical outcomes and identify improvement opportunities in public hospitals. TMH had adopted a number of improvement measures in response to the findings of SOMIP. Cluster Chief Executive (New Territories West Cluster), HA ("CCE(NTWC)/HA") added that the improvement measures that had been implemented, including increasing surgical beds and OT sessions as well as strengthening the training and supervision of healthcare staff, had shown preliminary effective results. The performance of the surgical services of TMH had improved in recent years. The expanded surgical service capacity of Pok Oi Hospital and the commissioning of the future Tin Shui Wai Hospital, which would have 4 OTs, would ease the pressure of TMH before the completion of the extension project.

5. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung enquired whether the provision of surgical services in TMH upon the expansion of the OT Block could meet the service demand of the growing population in Tuen Mun and Yuen Long and the new population of the Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area and Tuen Mun Area 54 in future.

6. Mr LEE Cheuk-yan expressed support for the project. Noting that the current utilization rate for elective surgery in TMH was over 120%, he enquired whether the Administration had taken into account the rising service demand upon the completion of the extension project in future. He sought information about the anticipated reduction of the utilization rate for elective surgery upon the commissioning of the extension block.

7. USFH replied that, upon the completion of the extension project, the number of OTs in TMH would increase from 11 to 20, while the areas of all OTs would be enlarged. She believed that, together with the services provided by Pok Oi Hospital and the future Tin Shui Wai Hospital, the expansion of surgical services in TMH would be adequate to meet the increasing service demand. CCE(NTWC)/HA supplemented that the hospitals in the New Territories West ("NTW") Cluster, including Pok Oi Hospital, had provided more OT sessions in the past few years. Moreover, those less complicated surgeries could be performed in Pok Oi Hospital and the future Tin Shui Wai Hospital to ease the workload of TMH. HA would strive to reduce the utilization rate for surgery in TMH.

8. While expressing support for the proposed extension project, Dr KWOK Ka-ki opined that the overall capacity of the hospital services, including surgical services and intensive care services, in the NTW Cluster was inadequate to meet the demand of a growing and ageing population. In his view, the services of the future Tin Shui Wai Hospital were incomparable with the services of TMH, as the former lacked an intensive care unit to support emergency surgeries. He urged HA to make use of the opportunity of the proposed project to provide additional hospital beds to obviate the need to expand TMH in future.

9. USFH responded that in the 2016 Policy Address, a 10-year hospital development plan had been proposed for the implementation of a number of hospital redevelopment, expansion and development projects. In view of the long waiting time for elective surgery in TMH, there was a pressing need to expand the surgical services. The Administration would continue to monitor the demand for medical services in NTW.

10. Dr KWOK Ka-ki requested the Administration to provide a breakdown of the numbers of surgical operations performed in public hospitals over the past 10 years by (a) category of surgery (i.e. emergency, elective, etc.), (b) districts (including Tuen Mun), (c) number of patients above 65 of age, and (d) number of patients below 65 of age; and the same breakdown (estimation) for the next 10 to 20 years. The Administration was also requested to provide information on whether the proposed increase in the number of OTs in Tuen Mun Hospital could cope with the demand for surgical services in the district in future. USFH undertook to provide the information after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC179/15-16\(01\)](#) on 18 April 2016.)

11. Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked about the Administration's immediate action to address the shortage of healthcare manpower in TMH and the service demand of the local residents during the project period. USFH said that the Administration had allocated more resources and manpower to TMH over the past few years to address the need of the residents of NTW. CCE(NTWC)/HA advised that the number of surgical beds in TMH had increased, while the increase in the number of OT sessions in Pok Oi Hospital would also address the rising demand for surgical services. Retired and part-time doctors had been recruited to strengthen the manpower for surgical services in TMH.

Number of surgeries performed in Tuen Mun Hospital from 2013 to 2015

12. Referring to LC Paper No. CB(2)499/15-16(01), Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung queried why the number of "major" surgeries performed in TMH had substantially increased from 5 260 to 7 127 between 2013 and 2015. CCE(NTWC)/HA explained that the service demand for elective surgeries in NTW had increased in the past few years. Mr LEUNG requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the issue after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC179/15-16\(01\)](#) on 18 April 2016.)

13. Mr WU Chi-wai asked whether the services of the day surgery centre of TMH had attributed to the significant increase in the number of "major" surgeries. CCE(NTWC)/HA replied that while less complicated surgeries could be carried out in Pok Oi Hospital, more complicated surgeries, such as neurosurgical operations, were mainly carried out in TMH.

Standard of medical facilities and equipment in Tuen Mun Hospital

14. Mr WONG Kwok-hing said that the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions had all along supported the extension of the OT Block of TMH. Noting that the area of each of the existing OTs was about 40 square metres ("m²"), he enquired whether, upon the completion of the extension project, the areas of all OTs would be enlarged to meet the international standard of 60 m². USFH replied in the affirmative and said that the 11 existing OTs and 9 additional OTs would be up to the modern days' standards upon the completion of the project.

15. Ms Emily LAU called on the Administration to allocate more resources for the provision of medical services in Tuen Mun. She enquired

whether HA had taken into account the needs of different surgeries in allocating spaces for OTs. CCE(NTWC)/HA replied that patients who had to receive surgeries would be referred to suitable hospital setting according to the types of surgeries to be performed. In the NTW Cluster, "ultra-major" and "major" operations were mainly performed in TMH, while the less complicated and ambulatory surgeries were mainly performed in Pok Oi Hospital.

16. Mr Jeffrey LAM expressed appreciation for the efforts of healthcare professionals and workers in the delivery of healthcare services to patients during the winter peak season of influenza. He enquired whether the Administration had any plan to replace the obsolete medical equipment in TMH and procure new equipment after the completion of the extension project. CCE(NTWC)/HA replied that due to space constraints, there were difficulties in accommodating new medical equipment in the existing OTs of TMH. HA would upgrade the medical equipment in the new OTs with large area.

Impact of the proposed works on the services of Tuen Mun Hospital

17. Mr LEUNG Che-cheung and Mr Christopher CHEUNG indicated support for the extension of the OT Block of TMH. They expressed concern on the impact of the proposed works on the operation of the hospital. Miss Alice MAK asked whether the reprovisioning of the underground fuel tank located at the open car-parking area outside the existing OT Block would affect the delivery of patient services and the traffic flow in the area during the works period. She enquired whether the number of car parking spaces in TMH would be reduced in future.

18. Chief Manager (Capital Planning), HA ("CM(CP)/HA") advised that the project site, adjacent to Block D of TMH, was not close to the areas with heavy pedestrian traffic. The impact of works on the services of the hospital would be minimal. The project cost of \$167.2 million was proposed for the implementation of the substructure and utilities diversion works. Separate funding for stage 2 works covering the construction of the extension block would be sought from the Finance Committee ("FC") at a later stage to dovetail with the implementation programme.

19. USFH added that stage 2 of the project would comprise the construction of link bridges to connect the extension block with the existing OT Block, and the expansion of the accident and emergency ("A&E") department and the radiology department located on the ground floor of Block D of TMH.

Project implementation*Application for funding*

20. Mr WONG Kwok-hing expressed concern that the filibustering conducted by some members might stall the approval of the funding proposal, resulting in an increase in the project cost and delay in the completion of the project. Mr WONG suggested that, in formulating the timetable for the implementation of the project, the Administration should take into account the adverse impact of filibustering. Mr TANG Ka-piu asked why the Administration had not considered seeking funds for the two-stage extension project in one go.

21. CM(CP)/HA explained that the detailed design of the whole extension project would take about 2.5 years. If the stage 1 works (viz. substructure and utilities diversion works) were not implemented in parallel with the detailed design of the project, the overall project duration would be longer.

22. Mr TANG Ka-piu further asked, if the funding approval of FC for the project could not be obtained by July 2016, whether the project cost could be covered under the \$13 billion one-off grant for minor projects of HA. CM(CP)/HA replied that the minor works projects to be funded by the one-off grant were subject to a financial ceiling of \$75 million. The project of the extension of the OT Block of TMH, with an estimated cost exceeding \$75 million, could not be funded by the said one-off grant.

23. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen said that the cause of the long waiting time for surgeries in TMH was the insufficient resources allocated to TMH, not the conduct of filibustering of some members. He requested the Administration to provide the timetable for the submission of the funding proposal for each stage of the extension project to FC and the estimated project cost for each stage of the project. CM(CP)/HA responded that if the funding proposal for the whole extension project was submitted in one go, it was estimated that the project would complete in 2023; if the project was to be carried out in two stages, it was estimated that the whole project would be completed earlier in 2020-2021. USFH undertook to provide the timetable and the project costs requested by Mr CHAN after the meeting.

(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC179/15-16\(01\)](#) on 18 April 2016.)

Invitation of tenders

24. Mr TANG Ka-piu noted that the Administration had carried out a tender exercise for the extension project. He asked the Administration whether the arrangement of "tendering before funding application" would be more cost-effective than "funding application before tendering". CM(CP)/HA replied that the practice of "tendering before funding application" had been adopted as it would provide a more accurate estimation for the project cost.

25. Mr TANG Ka-piu further asked whether the total project cost would be lower if only one tender exercise was to be carried out for the whole extension project, instead of separate tender exercises for the two stages of the project. CM(CP)/HA replied in the negative and said it was common that the contractor for the entire project would outsource the foundation works to a specialist foundation contractor, leading to higher tender prices.

26. Mr CHAN Han-pan was concerned that funding approval from FC for the proposed project could not be obtained before the scheduled commencement of the project in mid-2016, taking in view the slow progress of FC's work in scrutinizing funding proposals. Noting that the tender exercise for stage 1 of the project had been conducted in September 2015, he enquired when the tender validity period would expire and whether a re-tender exercise would have to be carried out for the project if FC's funding approval could not be obtained before mid-2016.

27. USFH said the Administration would strive to obtain members' support for the funding proposal. CM(CP)/HA advised that the tender validity period for stage 1 of the project would expire in July 2016.

Project completion

28. Miss Alice MAK queried whether the proposed project could be completed in 2020-2021 as planned if FC's funding approval was only obtained in July 2016. USFH replied that, subject to the FC's funding approval, stage 1 of the extension project would commence in mid-2016 for completion in late-2017. Funding for stage 2 would be sought at a later stage. The Administration aimed to complete the stage 2 works in 2020-2021.

Design of the foundation for the extension of the Operating Theatre Block

29. Mr Albert CHAN indicated support for the proposal. Noting that the Administration planned to commence the foundation works for the extension

of the OT Block of TMH before the design of the extension block was available, Mr CHAN was concerned that additional works would have to be carried out if the foundation design turned out to be incompatible with the design of the extension block. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung opined that provisions should be made for the design of the foundation to accommodate additional facilities of the extension block in future. CM(CP)/HA replied that the design of the foundation had taken into account the preliminary design of the extension block. Mr CHAN requested the Administration to provide the preliminary design (preferably with drawings) of the extension block.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC179/15-16\(01\)](#) on 18 April 2016.)

30. Mr Albert CHAN considered that a two-stage implementation (i.e. foundation works in stage 1 and construction of a building in stage 2) was uncommon for a works project. He asked about the rationale for adopting such a practice. The Chairman commented that two-stage implementation was a commonly adopted practice for works projects, in particular, in the development of public housing.

31. CM(CP)/HA advised that some works projects of public hospitals, such as the Caritas Medical Centre, the United Christian Hospital and Kwong Wah Hospital, had adopted the practice of two-stage implementation. Mr Albert CHAN did not subscribe to the explanation of HA and said that the development of the Tin Shui Wai Hospital did not follow such a practice. He urged the Administration to submit the funding application for stage 2 of the extension of the OT Block of TMH as soon as practicable, so as to achieve better cost-effectiveness and a smooth transition from stage 1 to stage 2. He held the view that the funding for works projects (covering both foundation and superstructure works) of a hospital should be sought under one proposal. USFH took note of Mr CHAN's view.

32. Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed dissatisfaction over the Administration's slow response in addressing the inadequate provision of medical service in Tuen Mun. He said that the demand for medical service of the ageing population in Tuen Mun should not be neglected. He asked whether the design of the foundation for the extension of the OT Block of TMH would allow further expansion works to cope with the service demand in 2040. CM(CP)/HA replied that, under the statutory Outline Zoning Plan for the area, there was a height restriction of 11-storey for the extension block. Constructing a taller building at this location would also have adverse impacts on helicopter operations in the vicinity. In response to Dr KWOK's

further enquiry, CM(CP)/HA said that alteration of the helicopter route would not be practicable as there were many high-rise public housing buildings near TMH.

Disposal of the construction waste generated by the project

33. Mr Albert CHAN said that most of the construction waste which was not properly disposed of was generated from public works projects. He criticized the incumbent Secretary for the Environment for failing to address the problem of illegal disposal of construction waste. Mr CHAN requested the Administration to provide information on whether provisions would be incorporated in the tender documents/works contract(s) of the proposed project to require the successful bidders/contractor(s) to specify where the construction waste generated during the demolition works would be disposed of. CM(CP)/HA replied that tenders for the stage 1 works had been received, and HA would liaise with the contractors on the requirements for proper management of construction waste.

(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC179/15-16\(01\)](#) on 18 April 2016.)

34. The Chairman suggested that matters related to the disposal of construction waste should be followed up at the relevant Panel meetings.

Demolition works of the project

35. Mr TANG Ka-piu said TMH had been built in the 1980s when asbestos was commonly used in the construction works. He expressed concern on whether the Administration would conduct asbestos assessments for the proposed demolition works and how the materials containing asbestos would be disposed of. CM(CP)/HA advised that the extension block would be built on an essentially vacant site and no asbestos had been found according to the results of asbestos investigations conducted for the project.

Design of hospitals

36. Mr WU Chi-wai said that the Democratic Party supported the project and urged for its early implementation. He said that the Administration had proposed the establishment of the Project Cost Management Office under the Development Bureau to achieve better cost management of works projects. He asked whether cost control measures and cost reduction initiatives, such as the use of standardized building designs, would be adopted for the projects under the 10-year hospital development plan. CM(CP)/HA replied that HA

had adopted standardized designs for all works projects in recent years. With the application of standardized designs, the time required to complete the detailed designs had been reduced by 4 to 5 months, whereas the estimated project cost reduction was about 5%.

37. Mr WU Chi-wai further enquired about the details of the adoption of standardized designs of hospital blocks for hospital projects in the past. CM(CP)/HA replied that a hospital could generally accommodate about 3 000 rooms, about 70% to 80% of which could be categorized into 20 types. The design of all rooms under the same category would be standardized, thus reducing the time required for the detailed design of the whole project. The external design of public hospitals would not be standardized because it was subject to the topographical constraints of the sites, as well as the facilities and equipment to be accommodated in individual hospitals.

Manpower needs

38. Mr WU Chi-wai noted that a total provision of \$200 billion had been earmarked for the implementation of a hospital development plan in the next 10 years. He sought information about the Administration's healthcare manpower plans to support the operation of all new, redeveloped, and expanded public hospitals under the development plan. Mr Albert CHAN also expressed concern on the shortage of doctors and nurses in Hong Kong.

39. Mr CHAN Han-pan expressed support for the extension of the OT Block of TMH. He asked how the Administration would increase the manpower support for the services of TMH to dovetail with the extension project and whether the provision of incentives to encourage medical staff to work in TMH would be considered. Mr Jeffrey LAM asked what measures that the Administration would take to help relieve the stress faced by healthcare staff.

40. USFH advised that a steering committee had been established under the Food and Health Bureau, chaired by Secretary for Food and Health, to conduct a strategic review on healthcare manpower planning and professional development in Hong Kong. Two local universities had been commissioned to provide professional input and technical support to the review. Under the review, healthcare professions of various disciplines would be represented in the six consultative sub-groups set up under the steering committee. The report detailing the recommendations on how to cope with anticipated demand for healthcare manpower would be available by late-2016. She added that the Administration had proposed a reform of Medical Council. The number of lay council members would be increased by four. To facilitate admission of non-locally trained doctors, the maximum term of

registration and renewal of medical practitioners with limited registration was proposed to be extended from not more than one year to not more than three years. CCE(NTWC)/HA supplemented that the number of medical and nursing staff of TMH had increased by an average of about 4% to 5% in the past three years. TMH would continue to enhance its manpower resources through staff training and recruitment.

41. In response to Mr WU Chi-wai's enquiry, USFH advised that, in respect of the manpower requirement for the expanded OT services of TMH upon the completion of the extension project, the number of doctors would increase from 36 to about 51 to 69, whereas the number of nurses would increase from 113 to about 170 to 210. The manpower requirement of administrative and supporting staff would also increase.

42. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung said that the Administration had closed all nurse training schools in Hong Kong more than 10 years ago, resulting in a severe shortage of nurses in recent years. He asked whether the Administration had reserved some areas in TMH for nurse training. USFH advised that there were three HA nurse training schools in TMH, the Caritas Medical Centre and Queen Elizabeth Hospital providing 100 training places each year. The institutions funded by the University Grants Committee and some private institutions also provided more than 2 000 nurse training places annually.

Voting on PWSC(2015-16)57

43. There being no further questions from members on the item, the Chairman put the item to vote. The item was voted on and endorsed.

44. The Chairman consulted members on whether the item would require separate discussion and voting at the relevant meeting of FC. Mr Albert CHAN said that he might consider requiring separate voting for the item at the relevant meeting of FC after studying the supplementary information to be provided by the Administration.

Head 707 – New Towns and Urban Area Development

PWSC(2015-16)58 201SC Signature Project Scheme (Yuen Long District) – Construction of a Yuen Long District Community Services Building

465RO Signature Project Scheme (Tuen Mun District) – Revitalisation of Tuen Mun River and Surrounding Areas

- 66RG Signature Project Scheme (Tuen Mun District) – Promotion of Youth Development in Tuen Mun**
- 67RE Signature Project Scheme (Yau Tsim Mong District) – Yau Tsim Mong Multicultural Activity Centre**
- 460RO Signature Project Scheme (Kwun Tong District) – Construction of Lift Tower at Shung Yan Street in Kwun Tong**
- 458RO Signature Project Scheme (Kwun Tong District) – Construction of Music Fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade**
- 68RE Signature Project Scheme (Wan Chai District) – Construction of Moreton Terrace Activities Centre**
- 463RO Signature Project Scheme (Eastern District) – Eastern District Cultural Square**
- 462RO Signature Project Scheme (Kowloon City District) – Revitalisation of the Rear Portion of the Cattle Depot**
- 69RE Signature Project Scheme (Tai Po District) – Establishment of an Arts Centre by Retrofitting Tai Po Government Secondary School**
- 459RO Signature Project Scheme (Tai Po District) – Improving the Tourist Facilities at Lam Tsuen Wishing Square**

45. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2015-16)58, was to upgrade 201SC, 465RO, 66RG, 67RE, 460RO, 458RO, 68RE, 463RO, 462RO, 69RE and 459RO to Category A at a total estimated cost of \$740.1 million in MOD prices for implementing 11 projects under the Signature Project Scheme ("SPS") in eight districts, namely Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, Yau Tsim Mong, Kwun Tong, Wan Chai, Eastern, Kowloon City and Tai Po. The Panel on Home Affairs had been consulted on the proposed projects on

11 May and 17 July 2015, and 18 January 2016, and Panel members did not object to the Administration's submission of the proposals for the projects to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussions had been tabled at the meeting.

Request for separate discussion and voting on individual items under the proposal

46. Mr Albert CHAN said that some items under the proposal, such as the project on "Improving the Tourist Facilities at Lam Tsuen Wishing Square", were controversial, and it would take time for the Subcommittee to deliberate on them. He suggested that the Administration should take out the controversial items from the proposal for separate discussion and voting so that the Subcommittee could first examine and make recommendations on the other items under the proposal.

47. Assistant Director (2), Home Affairs Department ("AD(2)/HAD") replied that the Administration had no objection to the suggestion for separate voting on some individual items under the proposal. She explained that the present arrangement of including the 11 SPS projects under one proposal was aimed at facilitating members' discussion on them in one go. The same arrangement had been adopted for another proposal for SPS projects submitted for discussion at the meeting on 30 June 2015. After consultation with the Administration, the then Chairman had taken out a few projects for separate voting in response to some members' requests. In order for funding approval to be obtained at the earliest for items which were supported by members, she suggested that the Subcommittee might consider first endorsing these items and then proceed to discuss the remaining items under the proposal.

48. The Chairman referred to the Administration's suggestion and said that the Subcommittee might not be able to complete examination of any one of the items under the proposal at the meeting in view of the limited time left. The Administration might further consider Mr CHAN's suggestion after the meeting.

SPS project of Eastern District Council

49. Mr WONG Kwok-hing said that he was a member of Eastern District Council ("DC"). He opined that the "Eastern District Cultural Square" project (i.e. 463RO) would provide a venue for local residents to carry out recreational and cultural activities, and appealed to other members to support the project.

SPS project of Kwun Tong District Council

50. Dr KWOK Ka-ki said that while some items under the proposal could address local needs, other items, such as "Construction of Music Fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade" (i.e. 458RO), were controversial. He enquired whether and how the Administration had taken into account the views of local residents on the options for implementing the SPS project of Kwun Tong DC.

51. District Officer (Kwun Tong) ("DO/KT") replied that a community project study conducted by a team from the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong, as commissioned by the Kwun Tong Development and Renewal Task Force of Kwun Tong DC in July 2012 and completed in January 2013, had recommended, among others, that music fountains should be constructed at the Kwun Tong waterfront area. When considering the SPS framework at the meeting in March 2013, Kwun Tong DC had decided to collect public views based on a bottom-up approach. Kwun Tong DC members had subsequently proposed a total of 16 options for implementation under SPS, and eventually put forward the current projects after a sequence of meetings and site visits. Kwun Tong DC had all along paid heed to the opinions of the local community, including those divergent views on implementation of SPS projects in Kwun Tong. That said, in an opinion survey conducted by some Kwun Tong DC members in August 2013, over 80% of the respondents supported the proposal of constructing music and interactive fountains at the Kwun Tong Promenade. Construction of music fountains at the Kwun Tong Promenade was also one of the options that were ranked among the top five district facilities most welcomed by the respondents in an opinion survey conducted by a local organization in July 2015. In response to Dr KWOK's enquiry, DO(KT) advised that the Administration would provide information on the other four most-welcomed district facilities in the survey.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members vide [LC Paper No. PWSC169/15-16\(01\)](#) on 11 April 2016.)

SPS projects of Wan Chai, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long District Councils

52. Mr WONG Kwok-hing said that he supported the project on "Construction of Moreton Terrace Activities Centre" (i.e. 68RE) as it would meet the demand for an additional venue at a convenient location in Wan Chai for holding small-scale activities such as meetings, performances, etc. He further said that he was supportive of the SPS projects of Tuen Mun and

Yuen Long DCs, and enquired about the works to be carried out under the project on "Revitalization of Tuen Mun River and Surrounding Areas" (i.e. 465RO).

53. District Officer (Tuen Mun) replied that the proposed scope of works under 465RO comprised the reconstruction of a site near Choi Yee Bridge to provide a leisure area for the public's enjoyment; the replacement of the existing railing at the riverside area near the Tuen Mun Swimming Pool and reinstatement of the existing paving areas; the beautification works at selected parts of the Tuen Mun Riverside Park; the installation of decorative lighting on some of the streets in the Tuen Mun town centre; and the design, production and installation of artwork by local artists at specific locations in Tuen Mun.

SPS project of Tai Po District Council

54. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung noted that Tai Po DC had endorsed a limited company, Tai Po Lam Tsuen Heung Educational Development Company Limited ("TPLTHEDCL"), as the partner organization to manage, operate and maintain the proposed project on "Improving the Tourist Facilities at Lam Tsuen Wishing Square" (i.e. 459RO). He sought clarification on whether the company was a non-profit and charitable organization, and how the Administration would ensure that the company would operate on a non-profit-making basis, and its objects remained charitable.

55. District Officer (Tai Po) replied that TPLTHEDCL was a non-profit-making organization and had acquired charitable status under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112). The constitution of TPLTHEDCL provided that the company's members shall not take any share of the profits or assets upon dissolution of the company. TPLTHEDCL would be required to sign with the Government a service agreement under which the company had to submit audited accounts of the funds expended on the SPS project at stipulated time points to Tai Po DC and Tai Po District Office ("DO") for consideration. Ms WONG Pik-kiu, Vice Chairman, Tai Po District Council added that TPLTHEDCL would form a management committee to monitor the performance of the SPS project. Members of the management committee included representatives from Lam Tsuen Rural Committee, Tai Po DC, Tai Po DO, TPLTHEDCL, an independent member, etc.

Extension of the meeting

56. At 10:28 am, the Chairman put the question on whether the meeting should be extended by 15 minutes to 10:45 am to the Subcommittee. The

question was negatived. The Chairman advised that discussion on the proposal would continue at the next meeting scheduled for 13 April 2016 at 8:30 am.

57. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:29 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
21 April 2016