

**Legislative Council Public Works Subcommittee  
meeting on 23 April 2016**

**62RG - Sports Centre, 5-a-side Soccer Pitch and Public Library  
Facilities at Northwest Kowloon Reclamation Site 6, Sham Shui Po  
Supplementary Information**

**PURPOSE**

On 23 April 2016, the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) recommended **62RG** be submitted to the Finance Committee (FC) for consideration. Members requested that the following supplementary information be provided –

- (a) on whether the relevant government bureaux/departments have consulted Department of Health that there is any need to set up an Elderly Health Centre at the proposed public library facilities block or the adjacent social welfare facilities (SWF) block, and the response from the Department of Health;
- (b) on whether the provision of facilities and services (especially the elderly services and child care services) at the SWF block, which is adjacent to the proposed public library facilities block, is in accordance with the “Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines”, and whether the increase of residents arising from the soon-to-be-completed new public housing developments in the district has been taken into consideration;
- (c) regarding the proposed library and reserve stack;
  - (i) whether consideration will be given to adjusting the area of the reserve stack so that the public using library services can enjoy more space; if so, the details of the plan;

(ii) the areas and capacities of the facilities in the stack and the library set out in table form; and

(iii) whether consideration will be given to installing drinking fountains; if so, the details of the plan.

## **GOVERNMENT RESPONSES**

2. Please find below the Government's responses to the matters set out in paragraph 1 above –

- (a) North West Kowloon Reclamation Site 6 (NWKR Site 6) is zoned “Comprehensive Development Area” (CDA) on the Approved South West Kowloon Outline Zoning Plan No. S/K20/30. The planning brief of NWKR Site 6 was based on the planning intention for the CDA zone and the development restrictions on the Outline Zoning Plan having regard to topography, surrounding land uses and comments received from the public. The proposed facilities therein were planned in accordance with the “Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines”. During that time, Planning Department had circulated the above planning brief to relevant government departments, and the master layout of the comprehensive development was approved by the Town Planning Board in July 2015.

Regarding the elderly health centre facilities, we have recently communicated with Food and Health Bureau and noted that according to the current health care policy, there is one Elderly Health Centre (EHC) provided in each of the 18 districts in Hong Kong. However, the Department of Health (DH) has implemented a number of improvement measures in EHCs in order to cope with the increasing demand for primary health care services for the elderly. These measures include conducting extra health assessments at EHCs with lower attendance for curative treatment, increasing quota to elders awaiting enrolment as

EHC member in all EHCs, etc. The DH has also created two new clinical teams to increase service capacity. Indeed, EHCs are not the only providers of primary health care services for elders. The DH, Hospital Authority (HA), community service organisations and private health care providers also provide similar services. As regards out-patient services, the general outpatient clinics under HA provide general outpatient services to the citizens, including the elderly. Elders can also receive health care services offered by non-government organisations. Furthermore, eligible elders can, by using vouchers, choose private primary health care services that best suit their needs under the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme.

- (b) The SWF block, adjacent to the proposed item, is situated at NWKR Site 6 and it will provide various facilities which are all planned in accordance with “Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines” and having regard to population feature, geographical factors and service demand etc. Regarding elderly services, we will provide a 100-place residential care home for the elderly at the SWF block to cater for the community demand for elderly services. For children services, apart from having an early education and training centre, and a special child care centre to take care of children with special needs, the SWF block also includes an integrated children and youth services centre to provide a wide range of services to meet the multifarious needs of children and youth aged 6-24.

As for the child care services, the Government has planned for an aided 100-place standalone child care centre at the nearby proposed Joint-user Government Office Building at Cheung Sha Wan (Treasury Building) to provide child care centre service to children from birth to aged under 3, serving the population from nearby new developments such as NWKR Site 6. The Social Welfare Department will continue to closely monitor the local demand for various welfare services and, when necessary, provide various kinds

of welfare services within the district to meet the community needs for welfare services.

- (c)(i)&(ii) Facilities to be provided under the project include a reserve stack and a standard district library, in which there will be a children's library, an adult library, a quick reference section, a multimedia library, a newspapers and periodicals section, a computer and information centre, an extension activities room and a students' study room.

The provision of an established stack will help support and promote the further development of the Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL) and the public library system as a whole. The HKCL, having a comprehensive collection of 2.2 million books and 1.1 million items of newspapers and periodicals, is the core of the public library system and an important cultural information centre in the territory. Given the space constraints, the HKCL in Causeway Bay can only accommodate about half of its collection, with the remaining materials being stored at its stack and other storage spaces, or in other library venues in a dispersed manner. The materials stored at other locations are sent back to the HKCL for reading or borrowing by readers when required. The storage spaces outside the HKCL, which are not humidity and temperature controlled, fail to provide an appropriate environment for storing library materials requiring permanent preservation. The proposed reserve stack, which will be equipped with electrical compact shelves and humidity and temperature controlled, can help preserve the library materials of the HKCL and cater for the future expansion of its collection.

Apart from the storage function, the stack will also provide reading service. The proposed public library facilities, conveniently located in Kowloon, will provide the public in all districts of Hong Kong with easy access to library materials. Subject to approval for the project, central storage of the collection will be available within the HKCL

and the new library/stack in Sham Shui Po, offering convenience to readers from various districts when they wish to borrow or use the materials. Residents of Sham Shui Po District will also enjoy easy access to the materials in the stack due to the locational advantage of the district.

Having considered the views of the PWSC, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) plans to make the following enhancements to the use of the proposed stack and the district library:

- (a) Measuring approximately 710 square metres (m<sup>2</sup>) of Net Operating Floor Area (NOFA), the stack area on the first floor of the complex occupies about 10% of the entire stack area. After adjusting the layout design, about 650 m<sup>2</sup> of NOFA will become a Multipurpose Service Area, which serves as an extended reading room for the stack. Apart from being used as an exhibition/display area for thematic displays of books and historical documents, the service area will also provide facilities to encourage reading among the elderly and a leisure reading area for all readers. A variety of user education sessions and extension activities will be held in the area to provide access for the public (especially the residents and students in Sham Shui Po) to appreciate the valuable collection of the HKCL, with a view to enhancing their knowledge of history and culture. The area will adopt a flexible design to cater for different needs. For instance, part of the area, which is used for reading or exhibition purpose, can be allocated to provide additional capacity for study room facilities according to demand during examination seasons.
- (b) A total of some 100 m<sup>2</sup> NOFA of space on the ground and first floor of the stack will be released to the district library for providing more space on the ground and first floors for its facilities. The additional space will be allocated to provide a family reading corner to promote cross-generational reading and the Create • Info Zone targeted to young people.

The district library, with a net operating floor area of about 3,200 m<sup>2</sup>, will provide comprehensive and diversified library facilities and services, including an adult library, a children's library, a quick reference section, a newspapers and periodicals section, an extension activities room, a computer and information centre, a multimedia library and a students' study room, as well as book drops, express check-in service, library catalogue terminals, self-charging terminals, and internet & digital service workstations. The design of the reserve stack, which has a net operating floor area of about 7,000 m<sup>2</sup>, has been adjusted so that the space available to the public will be increased by about 750 m<sup>2</sup> or so in total, accounting for about a quarter of the district library area. The additional space will be used to provide the Multipurpose Service Area, the Create • Info Zone and a family reading corner, and partially allocated to cater for an exhibition/display area, public service facilities and the newspapers and periodicals section.

The floor areas and capacities of the facilities in the reserve stack and the library are detailed at Annex.

- (c)(iii) Having considered the views of the PWSC, the LCSD plans to provide drinking fountains on the ground floor, the public area on the first floor, and students' study room on the first floor of the proposed public library for the convenience of readers and students.

**Transport and Housing Bureau**  
**June 2016**

### The Floor Areas, Capacities and Use of the Facilities in the Stack and the Library

Facility	Floor Area (Before Adjustment) (m <sup>2</sup> )	Floor Area (After Adjustment) (m <sup>2</sup> )	Capacity	Use
<b>Stack</b>				
<u>Ground Floor</u>	About 2 040	About 1 980 (area for library lending materials)	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The stack area on the ground floor will be used for keeping the lending collection of the Hong Kong Central Library, which can be borrowed and returned by members of the public at the district library via the automated library system, and providing support for block loan and community library services.</li> <li>After adjustment, a space of 60m<sup>2</sup> will be allocated to the district library for expanding the space for its facilities, which includes providing a family reading corner in the children's library to promote cross-generational reading, increasing the exhibition/display area and providing sufficient space for public circulation.</li> </ul>
<u>First Floor</u>	About 710 (originally the Book collection zone)	About 650 (open to the public as a Multipurpose Service Area)	70 seats (can be increased to 120 if necessary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Multipurpose Service Area will be open to the public and used as a collection reading room, an exhibition/display area for thematic displays of collections and for holding user education sessions and extension activities. Appropriate ancillary facilities will be provided for the elderly in order to facilitate them in using the library collections and services.</li> <li>A flexible design will be adopted to cater for different needs. For instance, part of the area, which is used for reading or exhibition purpose, can be deployed to provide additional capacity for study room facilities according to demand during examination seasons.</li> </ul>

Facility	Floor Area (Before Adjustment) (m <sup>2</sup> )	Floor Area (After Adjustment) (m <sup>2</sup> )	Capacity	Use
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After adjustment, an area of 60m<sup>2</sup> is released to the district library for expanding its space for its facilities, which includes providing the Create • Info Zone in the adult library, increasing the space of the newspapers and periodicals section and exhibition/display area as well as providing sufficient space for public circulation and toilet facilities.</li> </ul>
<u>Second to Sixth Floor</u> Book collection zone Newspapers collection zone Periodicals collection zone Archival collection zone	About 4 100		-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be used for collecting and keeping books published/produced in Hong Kong and a variety of materials which are of reference value or worthy of preservation while thematic displays/exhibitions of the collection are held in the Multipurpose Service Area on the first floor of the library for public to browse the books, documents, newspapers and periodicals, etc. in the service area with a view to enhancing the public's knowledge of local history and culture.</li> </ul>
<b>District Library</b>				
<u>Ground Floor</u> Children's library <u>First Floor</u> Adult library	About 580  About 920	About 630  About 950	More than 550 seats in total	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The children's library will offer a pleasant reading environment and reading materials and magazines suitable for children, in which a picture book corner will be specially provided for young children to promote parent-child reading. In addition to the basic lending collection, the adult library will also provide a quick reference section. To meet the public demand for computer knowledge and information, a multimedia library and a computer and information centre</li> </ul>



Facility	Floor Area (Before Adjustment) (m <sup>2</sup> )	Floor Area (After Adjustment) (m <sup>2</sup> )	Capacity	Use
				<p>equipped with computer workstations are provided on the first floor, to facilitate the public in using the rich electronic resources of the library that cover diverse academic subjects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part of the stack area will be allocated to the district library so as to increase the space for district library facilities, which includes providing a family reading corner in the children's library to promote cross-generational reading, providing the Create • Info Zone in the adult library, increasing the area of the exhibition/display area and newspapers and periodicals section to promote newspaper and magazine reading among the elderly and to encourage them to attend the exhibitions/displays held in the library, and providing sufficient space for public circulation and toilet facilities.</li> </ul>
Students' study room	About 320		220 seats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A students' study room normally provides 200 seats. Having considered the views of the Sham Shui Po District Council, the number of seats has been increased from 200 to 220.</li> <li>A flexible design will be adopted for the Multipurpose Service Area of the stack so that part of the service area can be used to increase the number of seats in the study room to 250 according to demand during examination seasons.</li> </ul>