

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE
Meeting on 29 June 2016**

**Follow-up Actions by the Government before the Finance Committee
Meeting**

**Item No. PWSC (2016-17)32
417RO – Improvement works at Tai O**

1. In response to the request from Hon. Kenneth Chan, the Government should provide supplementary information to elaborate on the following:

(a) Whether the Home Affairs Department has any plan to place iconic structure in the proposed public open space upon its commissioning?

The Government's response:

The Islands District Office / Home Affairs Department (HAD) has no plan to place any iconic structure or landmark in the proposed public open space.

(b) In case there are suggestions from individuals/organisations for placing iconic structure in the concerned public open space in future, how will the Government departments handle these opinions?

The Government's response:

In case a proposal to place an iconic structure in the public open space is received, the relevant departments, including the HAD and the Lands Department, etc., would review the suggestion and consult the local communities and the Islands District Council.

(c) What are the current views of Mr. LOU Cheuk-wing (incumbent Chairman of Tai O Rural Committee) and Mr. Randy YU (Islands

District Councillor) on the placing of iconic structure in the proposed public open space? Will they suggest placing iconic structure in the proposed public open space again?

The Government's response:

The HAD has contacted Mr. LOU Cheuk-wing (incumbent Chairman of Tai O Rural Committee) and Mr. Randy YU (Islands District Council member). They both hoped that the Improvement Works at Tai O could be implemented as soon as possible to improve the local traffic and alleviate the overcrowded conditions and vehicle-pedestrian conflicts during public holidays in Tai O. In view of the comments from the Legislative Council, they have indicated that they would not suggest or request the Government to place or allow the placing of any iconic structure or landmark in the proposed public open space.

2. In response to the request from Hon. Helena WONG, the Government should provide supplementary information to elaborate on the following:
- (a) How many numbers of water closet compartments in the male and female toilets and urinals in the male toilet are there at the entrance of Tai O town centre?

The Government's response:

The current facilities in the public toilet at Tai O Road are:

Water closet compartments in male toilet:	4 numbers
Urinals in male toilet:	4 numbers
Water closet compartments in female toilet:	5 numbers

- (b) What is the estimated number of visitors to Tai O in weekend and holiday upon the completion of the Improvement Works at Tai O, Phase 2 Stage 1? Can the above-mentioned public toilet meet the future demand from visitors?

The Government's response:

The Improvement Works at Tai O Phase 2 Stage 1 aim at improving the existing problems of vehicle-pedestrian conflicts and illegal parkings at the western end of Tai O Road. It is expected that this project upon its completion would not attract additional visitors to Tai O and therefore will not increase the usage demand of the concerned public toilet. Based on the observation from the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), the concerned public toilet can meet the current demand.

- (c) Whether the Government would increase the number of water closet compartments and urinals in the above-mentioned public toilet as soon as possible to comply with the latest requirements of the relevant regulation? If yes, when will the works commence? If no, what is the reason? and
- (d) When will the construction of the "Improvement Works at Tai O, Phase 2 Stage 2" commence? Will the improvement works of the above-mentioned public toilet be included in the "Improvement Works at Tai O, Phase 2 Stage 2"?

The Government's response:

The "Improvement Works at Tai O, Phase 2 Stage 2" aim to improve local connectivity and facilities for preserving the heritage of Tai O.

Although the existing public toilets are not governed by the Buildings Ordinance, the FEHD has increased the ratio of male-to-female (M/F) toilet compartments to 1:2 in planning for new public toilets, reprovisioning or refurbishment of existing public toilets as far as practicable since 2004. The actual number of toilet compartments that can be installed in each public toilet is also subject to various factors including site condition, space availability, usage pattern and operational need, etc. In response to the LegCo Member's view, the FEHD and the Civil Engineering and Development Department will follow-up to explore the feasibility of increasing the number of water

closet compartments in the concerned public toilet and discuss proactively with relevant bureaux/departments for early implementation of the above-mentioned improvement works to the public toilet. We would strive to complete the improvement works of the concerned public toilet at the same time as the “Improvement Works at Tai O, Phase 2 Stage 1” (i.e. this PWP item).

Development Bureau
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