Panel on Development

List of outstanding items for discussion

(Position as at 20 May 2016)

Proposed timing for discussion/ Remarks

1. Work of the Urban Renewal Authority

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should discuss with the Administration a review of the Urban Renewal Strategy, the functions of the Urban Renewal Authority and its work.

28 June 2016

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on progress of the work of the Urban Renewal Authority and the plan for the next financial year.

2. Progress report on heritage conservation initiatives

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the progress made on various heritage conservation initiatives, and invite the Panel's views on its future work.

28 June 2016

3. Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the latest progress of updating the territorial development strategy under the "Hong Kong 2030+: Towards a Planning Vision and Strategy Transcending 2030".

4. Proposed "Construction Industry Security of Payment Legislation"

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the legislative framework of the proposed "Construction Industry Security of Payment Legislation" and results of the public consultation.

To be decided

5. PWP Item No. 7213CL -- Engineering works for Ha Mei San Tsuen Village Expansion Area; and PWP Item No. 7394CL -- Sha Tin New Town -- Stage 2 -- servicing and extension of Pai Tau Village in Area 6A

The Administration intends to seek the Panel's support for carrying out engineering works in the above two village expansion areas.

To be decided

6. Tender prices for capital works projects

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon Albert CHAN suggested that the Administration should update the Panel on the current trend of tender prices for the projects under the Capital Works Programme and the projected capital works expenditures for the current and the next financial years.

To be decided

7. Safety of drinking water

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that in view of the widespread concern over excess lead found in drinking water, the Administration including the Water Supplies Department, and the Advisory Committee on Water Resources and Quality of Water Supplies should be invited to discuss with the Panel a review of the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102) and introduction of legislation for safety of drinking water. Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki opined that the Panel

should invite deputations including academics to express views on the subject.

8. Quality of Dongjiang water

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Administration should brief the Panel on the control over the quality of Dongjiang water at source and the measures to deal with excessive lead content in drinking water.

To be decided

On 11 December 2015, upon reported discovery of perfluorinated chemicals in five reservoirs. Dr Hon Helena WONG wrote to the Panel Chairman requesting an early discussion on the subject. Dr WONG's letter was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)305/15-16(01). In her letter to the Panel Chairman dated 11 December 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that a visit of the Panel to Dongjiang be arranged. Dr WONG's suggestion was discussed at the meeting on 23 February 2016. The Administration's reply to the Chairman on the proposed visit (LC Paper No. CB(1)798/15-16(01)) (Chinese version only) was circulated to members on 14 April 2016, and discussed at the meeting on 26 April 2016.

Panel members agreed at the meeting held on 26 April 2016 that the Clerk should coordinate among members proposed dates (within the current legislative session) for the visit for Administration to follow up. Based on the returns from members in response to the relevant circular (LC Paper No. CB(1)859/15-16, issued 28 April 2016), the Chairman has instructed the Clerk to propose two options, i.e. (a) 18 and 19 June, and (b) 12 and 13 June, to the Administration for arranging the proposed visit.

9. Harbourfront planning and development

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should follow up with the Administration its harbourfront enhancement initiatives. Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN said that the Administration should brief the Panel on the principles and approaches for planning and developing the waterfront areas in the western part of the Hong Kong Island and those outside Victoria Harbour. Hon Albert CHAN suggested that the Harbourfront Commission should be invited to discuss with the Panel the matters raised by Dr Kenneth CHAN.

To be decided

At the same meeting, Hon Albert CHAN opined that the Administration should brief the Panel on the arrangements for the management of harbourfront sites (similar to that of the Avenue of Stars at Tsim Sha Tsui) which involved the participation of private developers.

10. Flooding problems in the rural areas

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon LEUNG Che-cheung suggested that the Administration should discuss with the Panel the measures to prevent flooding in the rural areas, including how to deal with the problems involving private land ownership.

To be decided

11. Review of the policies on compensation and rehousing for people affected by land resumption

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon LEUNG Che-cheung opined that the Administration should conduct a review on its existing policies on compensation and rehousing for those affected by resumption of land, and should discuss the matter with the Panel.

12. Unauthorized building works in New Territories Exempted Houses

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki suggested that the Administration should update the Panel on the enforcement actions that had been taken against unauthorized building works in New Territories Exempted Houses and the way forward for dealing with these unauthorized works.

To be decided

13. Developing the New Territories North

The Administration intends to brief the Panel on the initial findings of the Preliminary Feasibility Study on Developing the New Territories North.

To be decided

At the meeting with Legislative Council Members on 22 May 2014, North District Council members suggested that the Administration should further open up the Sha Tau Kok Frontier Closed Area (including Sha Tau Kok public pier and Sha Tau Kok Town). They considered that apart from bringing economic and other benefits to the community, the suggestion would release land to alleviate the shortage of housing land in Hong Kong.

Legislative Council Members attending the meeting agreed that apart from referring the issue to the Panel on Security and the Panel on Economic Development for follow-up, the issue should also be referred to the Panel on Development for consideration. The referral memorandum has been circulated to Panel members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)747/14-15(01).

Panel members agreed at the meeting on 28 April 2015 that the subject matter be included in the Panel's "list of outstanding items for discussion", and wished to be briefed on the Administration's latest position on the issue.

14. Fresh water supply at remote villages

This issue was raised by Hon Alice MAK and Hon TANG Ka-piu in December 2013. Miss MAK and Mr TANG expressed their concerns on the lack of fresh water supply at remote villages in their two joint letters to the Panel Chairman (LC Papers Nos. CB(1)605/13-14(01) and 879/13-14(01)). The Administration's written response has been circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)732/13-14(01).

To be decided

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon Alice MAK urged that the Administration should discuss the subject with the Panel as soon as possible.

15. Problems arising from sub-divisions of flat units and measures to tackle the problems

meeting between Legislative Council At the Members and Yau Tsim Mong District Council members on 29 January 2015, the problems arising from sub-divisions of flat units (commonly known as "sub-divided units") and measures to tackle the problems were discussed. Yau Tsim Mong District Council members considered it important for the Administration to step up regulation of "sub-divided units" and suggested that, to enable the Buildings Department and other law enforcement authorities to effective enforcement actions irregularities, the Administration should draw up clear definitions in the relevant legislations (such as the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123) and the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344)) to differentiate "sub-divided units" from "cubicle apartments" and other accommodations.

Legislative Council Members attending the meeting agreed that the issues should be referred to the Panel

on Development for consideration and follow-up. The referral memorandum has been circulated to Panel members vide LC Paper No. CB(1)704/14-15(01).

Panel members agreed at the meeting on 28 April 2015 that the subject matter be included in the Panel's "list of outstanding items for discussion", and wished to be briefed on the Administration's latest position on the issues.

16. PWP Item No. 5290RS -- Expansion of mountain bike trail networks in Mui Wo and Chi Ma Wan, South Lantau

The Administration intends to seek the Panel's support for upgrading the above project to Category A for expansion of the mountain bike trail networks including associated facilities at Mui Wo and Chi Ma Wan, South Lantau.

To be decided (Note)

Note: The item will be brought forward for discussion in the next legislative session.

17. Cycle track sections at Sham Tseng

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon Michael TIEN suggested that the Administration should update the Panel on the way forward of the planning of the proposed cycle track sections at Sham Tseng.

To be decided (Note)

Note: The Administration has advised that different options of the cycle track alignment and associated details are being reviewed to address the concerns of residents of Sham Tseng. The review is anticipated to be completed in mid-2016. Upon completion of the review, meetings with the residents and concerned District Council members will be arranged. Consultation with Tsuen Wan and Tuen

Mun District Councils will also be made. As such, according to the Administration, the timing for discussion for this item is yet to be decided.

18. Review of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines

At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, Hon Helena WONG proposed Administration should discuss with the Panel a review of the above guidelines. On 3 March and 11 April 2016. Hon Alice **MAK** Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT wrote to the Chairman respectively urging for an early discussion on the subject (LC Paper Nos. CB(1)648/15-16(01) and CB(1)828/15-16(01)).

To be decided (Note)

At the meeting on 26 April 2016, in view of the wide range of land uses and facilities covered by the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines ("HKPSG"), the Chairman invited Panel members to inform him about the areas of their concerns/interest regarding HKPSG to facilitate his arrangement for a discussion.

Note: The Administration has advised that the Hong Planning Standards and Guidelines ("HKPSG") are a comprehensive and amalgamated set of standards and guidelines covering a wide and diverse range of land uses and facilities, as well as planning and land use related topics to guide reservation of sites for such purposes, cutting across various policy areas and involving vastly different considerations spanning over the purview of many bureaux and departments ("B/Ds"). According to the existing mechanism, topical reviews of specific standards and guidelines in the HKPSG are conducted by individual B/Ds as and when necessary, taking into account the concerned B/Ds' latest relevant policies development and

Opportunities would also be taken requirements. upon such topical reviews to assess the need to review relevant or related standards and guidelines, as well as the planning practices for their implementation. The Administration does not consider it necessary or practicable to conduct a review of the whole HKPSG. If revision of existing standards and guidelines or formulation of new standards and guidelines is considered necessary, it could be taken forward at the request of relevant *B/Ds* in accordance with the established mechanism. According to the Administration, if Panel members have any question about specific areas of the planning standards and guidelines, the Development Bureau and the Planning Department stand ready to coordinate with the relevant B/Ds to provide specific responses as appropriate.

19. Review of the functions of the Town Planning Board and related issues

At the meeting of the Panel on 14 October 2008, Hon Cyd HO and Hon Abraham SHEK suggested that issues related to the review of the functions of the Town Planning Board, town planning procedures, and secretariat support for the Town Planning Board should be discussed.

Panel members also requested that Administration should provide information about the details of the basis for determining the various fee items under the Town Planning Ordinance, the estimated costs incurred by the Administration in processing various types of planning applications each year, reconsider extending the fee waiver to all applications relating "public to "public purposes" or "public interest" as a matter of policy, and consult Heung Yee Kuk on the fee items applicable to Small House applications.

To be decided (Note)

On 24 November 2014, Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN wrote to the Chairman suggesting that matters related to amendments to the Town Planning Ordinance, functions of the Town Planning Board, the town planning procedure, etc. be discussed by the Panel as possible. The letter and Administration's responses were circulated to members vide LC Papers Nos. CB(1)299/14-15(01), CB(1)556/14-15(01) and CB(1)764/14-15(01).

Note: The Administration has advised that review of the Town Planning Ordinance is not a priority of the Development Bureau and it has not been factored into its current work plan.

20. Small House Policy and rural planning strategy

At the meeting of the Panel on 13 October 2011, Hon CHAN Kam-lam urged that the Administration should discuss the issues relating to the Small House Policy with the Panel. Hon Albert CHAN proposed that the discussion should also cover the Administration's rural planning strategy.

To be decided (Note)

In the Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") Report No. 61 tabled in the Council on 12 February 2014, PAC urged the Administration to expedite the review of the Small House Policy and recommended that the issue be followed up by the Panel.

Note: The Administration has advised that it was unable to set a definite timetable for completing the review of the Policy due to the complexity of the issues involved.

21. Definition under the Block Government Lease and deprivation of the right of use of agricultural land in the New Territories

The above subject was referred to the Panel for follow-up by LegCo Members attending the meeting with Heung Yee Kuk members on 12 January 2012. Heung Yee Kuk members considered that the definition of "agricultural land" under the Town Planning Ordinance had unreasonably restricted the use of agricultural land in the New Territories. The Panel agreed at the meeting on 28 February 2012 that the subject be discussed with the Administration.

To be decided (Note)

Note: The Administration has advised that there are on-going dialogues between the Development Bureau/concerned departments and Heung Yee Kuk on this subject. The Administration will keep in view the development and consider reporting the progress to the Panel at an appropriate juncture.

22. Review of the policy in drawing up Village Environs and Village-type Development Areas to resolve the difficulty of small house applications

The above subject was referred to the Panel for follow-up by LegCo Members attending the meeting with Heung Yee Kuk members on 12 January 2012. Heung Yee Kuk members held the view that the policy in drawing up Village Environs and Village-type Development Areas should be reviewed so as to increase land for village-type development.

To be decided (Note)

The Panel agreed at the meeting on 28 February 2012 that the above subject be discussed with the Administration.

Note: The Administration has advised that it has no plans to review the current practice of drawing up Village Environs which was discussed and clarified

between the Government and the Heung Yee Kuk in 1978. When drawing up Village-type Development zones in statutory town plans, the Planning Department will continue to consider the various factors with a view to striking a suitable balance in the provision of land for small house development as well as for other needs of the society.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
20 May 2016