

LC Paper No. CB(2)873/15-16(03)

Ref : CB2/PL/HA

Panel on Home Affairs

Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 17 February 2016

Development of a Sports Centre, a Community Hall and Football Pitches at Area 1, Tai Po

1. According to the latest progress report on the outstanding leisure and cultural services projects of the former Municipal Councils submitted by the Administration to the Panel on Home Affairs ("the Panel") on 4 November 2015, the project of "Sports Centre, Community Hall and Football Pitches at Area 1, Tai Po" is at an advanced planning stage. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department is proceeding with the planning work.

2. The inadequate provision of community halls has been a matter of concern of the Panel. At the Panel meeting on 15 October 2015, some members expressed concern that there was over-subscription of performing venues and community halls. Members may wish to note that "Provision of cultural, recreational and sports facilities" is on the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

3. Members may also wish to note that at the meeting between Legislative Council ("LegCo") Members and North District Council members on 14 May 2015, the lack of community halls and related facilities in the North District was discussed. As agreed at the meeting, the views and concerns expressed by North District Council members and LegCo Members as well as the Administration's written response has been referred to the Panel for consideration (CB(2)737/15-16) (circulated to members only). According to the Administration, the considerations for the planning of new community halls include population size, utilization rates of existing community halls/community centres, availability of similar community facilities in the vicinity, accessibility of existing community halls/community centres as well as The District Councils concerned will be availability of suitable sites. consulted on all proposals for new community halls.

Council Business Division 2 Legislative Council Secretariat 15 February 2016