



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau

Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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Clerk to Finance Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn.: Ms Anita Sit)

Dear Ms Sit,

**Follow-up to
meeting of the Legislative Council Finance Committee
held on 26 January 2018**

In response to Members' request for supplementary information related to the discussion on The University of Hong Kong's Academic Building at No.3 Sassoon Road at the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 26 January 2018, our response is set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

Consultation services by the School of Chinese Medicine and the consultation fee

According to The University of Hong Kong (HKU), provision of Chinese Medicine consultation services by its School of Chinese Medicine is overseen by the "HKU Health System". "HKU Health System" is an executive arm established by the Faculty of Medicine to exercise effective oversight of its clinical services and assure robust clinical governance of its clinical services. The consultation fee is determined by a set of factors including the service costs, level of fees of other post-secondary institutions, prevailing market rate and patients' affordability, with appropriate adjustments to be made as necessary. All clinical incomes generated by the School of Chinese Medicine will be transferred to the account of the University and the attending teaching staff will not be entitled to any additional income.

Efficiency of the photovoltaic system to be used in the project

In line with the government's policy on green buildings and combating climate change, government buildings, premises and community facilities will be installed with renewable energy (RE) systems where practicable.

Consideration of payback period is only relevant to energy-efficient (EE) building installations as the primary objective of the latter is to reduce energy consumption. The payback period is not the sole benchmark for measuring the benefits of RE systems, because some values are difficult to quantify and there is currently no systematic method to calculate them. These values include reduced reliance on electricity generated from fossil fuels, reduced environmental pollution due to fossil fuels and reduced social costs arising from pollution. An RE system also sets an example for the community and raises environmental awareness of the general public. Thus, the payback period cannot accurately reflect the true benefits of an RE system.

Moreover, the energy generated by a photovoltaic system will vary depending on the weather, solar irradiance level, installation details (such as panel inclination angle, etc.), whereas the savings in electricity charges will hinge on the exact mode of use and operation of the building. All these factors affect the estimation of the payback period. Nonetheless, the Government believes that the installation of RE and EE features will promote low-carbon development. As the Government considers promoting the adoption of RE and EE features by different sectors of the community as one of its key tasks in mitigating climate change, it will lead by example to encourage the community and private organisations to install RE facilities.

Information on shortfall in academic space in the eight University Grants Committee-funded universities

The University Grants Committee (UGC) calculates the space requirement of individual university in accordance with the established mechanism with a view to supporting universities to achieve their aims of research and education. The information on academic space requirement of the eight UGC-funded universities in 2017/18 academic year is tabulated as follows:

Universities	Net Operational Floor Area (m ²)		
	Space Provision	Space Requirement	Shortfall
City University of Hong Kong	132 685	169 884	37 199
Hong Kong Baptist University	81 187	92 556	11 369
Lingnan University	27 664	28 031	367
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	221 669	262 770	41 101
The Education University of Hong Kong	53 890	64 793	10 903
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	193 531	236 785	43 254
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	137 365	145 952	8 587
The University of Hong Kong	207 329	251 560	44 231
Total	1 055 320	1 252 331	197 011

The UGC will continue to invite applications for capital grants from universities under the annual Capital Works Programme and Alterations, Additions, Repairs and Improvements Programme with a view to meeting the space requirement arising from universities' academic aims and objectives, approved student number targets, etc. The Education Bureau and the UGC will keep on working closely with the universities with a view to securing resources to meet such demand at the earliest possible time.

Yours sincerely,



(Miss Sharon Ko)
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Secretary-General, University Grants Committee
(Attn.: Ms Winnie Wong)