



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

本局檔號 Our Ref.: (77) in EDB(SB) 284/A/396/80 X

電話 Telephone: 3509 8504

來函檔號 Your Ref.:

傳真 Fax Line: 2573 3467

21 December 2018

Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Doris LO)

Dear Ms LO,

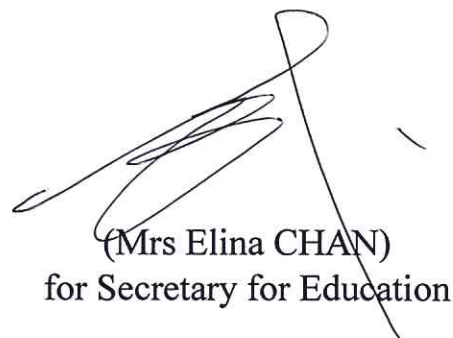
Special Public Works Subcommittee Meeting on 4 December 2018
Supplementary Information

At the special meeting of the Public Works Subcommittee of the Legislative Council on 4 December 2018, Members requested the Government to provide supplementary information on the detailed arrangements of constructing primary and secondary schools at new development areas. The information requested is set out below:

The Planning Department (PlanD) will reserve sites for school development when preparing town plans and planning large-scale residential developments having regard to the planned population intake and on the basis of the needs for community services in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines in accordance with the prevailing mechanism. In the process, the Education Bureau will be consulted.

Insofar as planning of public sector primary and secondary school building projects at those reserved sites is concerned, land is a scarce resource and construction of new school premises involves immense resources. We therefore have to consider with prudence if addition of a new operating school would commensurate with the long term sustainable development of the district concerned so as to avoid negative impacts on the steady development of the school sector as a whole. In this regard, we will take into account factors including the planned development of the area concerned, the school-age population projections which are compiled based on the population projections updated regularly by the Census and Statistics Department and the projection of population distribution released by PlanD, the actual number of existing students and school places available at various levels, the prevailing education policies, other factors which may affect the supply and demand of school places, etc., in order to decide if the planned premises should be used for operating a new school or reprovisioning an existing school, and when to kick-start the relevant school building project. Hence, the commencement date of a new school may not necessarily tie in with the population intake schedule of the nearby new housing development. We will continue to explore ways to improve the planning mechanism despite the unavoidable limitations of the population projections. To this end, we will enhance our communication with relevant departments so as to obtain timely updates on the relevant projected school-age population with reference to the latest programme and intake schedule of major housing development as far as practicable, with a view to confirming the need for setting up new schools and then kicking-start the relevant school building project in time.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs Elina CHAN)
for Secretary for Education

c.c.

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
(Attn: Ms KWONG Sin-hang, Terri)