

## 財經事務及庫務局 (庫務科)

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# FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE TREASURY BUREAU (The Treasury Prench)

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6 October 2020

Ms Anita Sit Clerk to Finance Committee Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Ms Sit,

## Follow up to Finance Committee meeting held on 14 July 2020

During the discussion of the item "125KA Joint-user Government Office Building in Area 67, Tseung Kwan O" (FCR(2020-21)51) at the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 14 July 2020, Members requested for supplementary information. The supplementary information provided by the Government is attached at the **Annex** for Members' reference please.

Yours sincerely,

Jarry Chan

(Tony Chan)

for Secretary for Financial Services

and the Treasury

### c.c.

Secretary for Development
Secretary for Food and Health
Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Director of Health
Government Property Administrator
Director of Social Welfare
Commissioner for Transport

Annex

## Follow-up items to the meeting of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council on 14 July 2020

At its meeting on 14 July 2020, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council discussed the item "Joint-user Government Office Building in Area 67, Tseung Kwan O" (FCR(2020-21)51). Members requested the Government to provide information including:

- (a) the guidelines for establishing government families clinics and government dental clinics for civil servants, for example, whether they are established on the basis of district or the number of service recipients;
- (b) the number of government dental clinics for civil servants in Hong Kong at present; and the total number of government dental clinics there would be, upon the completion of the proposed one in Tseung Kwan O Government Offices ("TKOGO");
- (c) the overall utilisation rate of government dental clinics for civil servants in Hong Kong; and whether the dental clinic to be established in the proposed TKOGO would be open for public use;
- (d) the Government's planning of community services in Tseung Kwan O, including community health centres, elderly health centres, child assessment centres and integrated community centres for mental wellness, and how such planning would be implemented;
- (e) when the Government reviews the effectiveness of the child care centre in the proposed TKOGO, it should also consider whether private developers should be required to assign designated areas in commercial buildings for the provision of community services (including child care centres, elderly service facilities, public outpatient clinics and public dental clinics) through land grant provisions/land lease conditions; if negative, the reasons; the outcome of the review should also be provided upon completion; and
- (f) the Government's measures to increase the provision of child care centres, public dental clinic services and public parking spaces in Tseung Kwan O.

2. Having consulted Development Bureau, Food and Health Bureau, Labour and Welfare Bureau, Department of Health ("DH"), Social Welfare Department ("SWD") and Transport Department ("TD"), our consolidated reply is as follows.

## Families clinics and government dental clinics for civil servants and eligible persons

- 3. At present, there are 43 government dental clinics under DH that provide dental services for civil service eligible persons ("CSEPs"). The dental clinic at TKOGO would be the 44<sup>th</sup> of such dental clinics. The Government will take into account various factors in planning the establishment of families clinics and government dental clinics, such as the availability of suitable sites and transport facilities.
- 4. Government dental clinics under DH are set up mainly to fulfil the terms of employment with civil servants of providing dental benefits to CSEPs. Therefore, these dental clinics essentially serve civil servants / pensioners and their eligible dependents. The utilisation rates of all service sessions available at government dental clinics providing dental services to CSEPs are close to 100%.
- 5. As regards the Government's provision of dental services for the public (for example, general public sessions), please refer to paragraphs 14 to 16 below.

## Planning for community services in Tseung Kwan O

### Community health centre

6. To address the longer-term demand for healthcare services in Tseung Kwan O, a general out-patient clinic will be established in TKOGO under the management of the Hospital Authority; the Government has also reserved space in the proposed joint-user complex at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street in Area 67, Tseung Kwan O for a clinic / community health centre.

#### Elderly health centre

7. Elders residing in Tseung Kwan O may receive services from the elderly health centre located in the Tseung Kwan O Jockey Club Clinic at Po Lam Road North, Tseung Kwan O.

#### Child assessment centre

8. Children residing in Tseung Kwan O may receive services from the Pamela Youde Child Assessment Centre located at 79 Cha Kwo Ling Road, Kwun Tong. In view of the rising demand for child assessment services, DH is planning to set up a new child assessment centre in the proposed joint-user complex at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street in Area 67, Tseung Kwan O, to serve children in need of assessment and to handle the increasing number of referral cases.

### Integrated community centres for mental wellness

9. SWD has engaged the Stewards and the Christian Family Service Centre to operate the integrated community centres for mental wellness at Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O (North), and Tseung Kwan O (South) districts respectively.

## Requiring private developers to assign designated areas in commercial buildings for the provision of community services

- 10. The Government adopts a multi-pronged approach to increase the provision of welfare facilities to meet community needs. In addition to developing such facilities on "Government, Institution or Community" sites, SWD will also continue to liaise closely with relevant policy bureaux and departments to identify suitable development projects, such as public housing development projects, development projects of the Urban Renewal Authority, and private development projects, etc. for provision of the required welfare facilities.
- 11. In respect of private development projects, the Government incorporates land sale conditions in the suitable sites (including commercial sites) of the land sale programme, under which developers will be required to design and construct bare-shell premises for proposed welfare facilities according to the specifications of SWD, with the construction cost funded by the Lotteries Fund. Upon completion of the

construction works, SWD will take over the facilities and select a suitable service operator through a competitive process.

12. As regards healthcare facilities, the Government has been meeting demands through earmarking space for various kinds of healthcare facilities in government projects. If necessary, the Government may also consider adopting other appropriate arrangements to develop / provide the required healthcare facilities.

## Measures on the provision of additional child care centres, public dental clinic services and public parking spaces in Tseung Kwan O

#### Child care centres

13. The Financial Secretary announced in the 2019-20 Budget that \$20 billion would be allocated for the Government to purchase suitable premises over about three years for provision of various types of welfare facilities, so as to address the shortage of premises concerned. This includes the setting up of child care centres in Sai Kung District. The funding allocation was approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council on 30 June 2020. SWD is now following up with Government Property Agency on purchase of premises for such purpose. SWD will also continue to closely monitor the need for child care services in Sai Kung District and, in consultation with relevant government departments, assess the feasibility of increasing service places at suitable housing development projects in the district.

#### Public dental clinic services

- 14. The Government's policy on dental care is to raise public awareness of oral hygiene and oral health and encourage the public to develop proper oral health habits through promotion and education. Curative dental services are mainly provided by the private sector and non-governmental organisations.
- 15. For services provided to the public, the Government's policy has been to focus on the provision of emergency dental services for the public and dental care for people with special needs. To this end, DH provides free emergency dental treatments for the public through designated sessions (i.e. general public sessions) in 11 government dental clinics. These dental services include treatment of acute dental diseases, prescription for pain relief, treatment of oral abscess and teeth extraction.

Professional advice is also given by dentists to patients with regard to their individual needs.

16. To provide dental care support services for persons of low income and those with special needs, the Government has launched a series of initiatives in recent years, including the Outreach Dental Care Programme for the Elderly, the Healthy Teeth Collaboration and the Community Care Fund Elderly Dental Assistance Programme. Besides, the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme also allows eligible elders using the vouchers to receive private dental services. As for people with financial difficulties, the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme provides a dental grant for its recipients who are aged, disabled or medically certified to be in ill-health to pay for dental treatment services.

### Public parking spaces

- 17. The Government's policy on the provision of parking spaces is to accord priority to considering and meeting the parking demand of commercial vehicles ("CVs") and to provide an appropriate number of private car ("PC") parking spaces if the overall development permits, but at the same time not to attract passengers to opt for PCs in lieu of public transport, so as to avoid aggravating the road traffic. The Government has been closely monitoring the supply of, and demand for, parking spaces, and understands that the shortage of parking spaces and the issue of illegal parking are matters of concern to the general public. As such, the Government will continue to pursue a host of short and medium- to long-term measures to increase the provision of parking spaces.
- 18. TD has substantially completed the review of the standards for parking and loading / unloading facilities in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines ("HKPSG"). The proposed revisions to the parking standards will increase the provision of PC parking spaces in the future private and subsidised housing developments as well as the provision of CV parking spaces in subsidised housing developments. TD, after consulting relevant stakeholders, anticipates the revised parking standards will be promulgated within 2020. Prior to that, TD will also continue to require developers to provide parking spaces at the higher end of the current parking standards under HKPSG for new developments as far as practicable.
- 19. As announced in the 2018 Policy Address, the Government will follow the principle of "single site, multiple uses" to provide public parking spaces in suitable "Government, Institution or Community" facilities and

public open space development projects. In addition to providing over 300 public parking spaces in TKOGO upon its completion, TD is also planning to take forward other projects with a view to addressing parking demand in Tseung Kwan O while providing public open space for public use. Furthermore, TD plans to incorporate public parking spaces in the proposed joint-user complex at the junction of Po Yap Road and Tong Yin Street in Area 67, Tseung Kwan O. TD will continue to monitor parking needs in different districts and take forward measures to increase the provision of parking spaces.

Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau Government Property Agency October 2020