

Legislative Council Panel on Development

PWP Item No. 399DS – Relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to caverns

Regarding the following question about the captioned from Hon. Tony Tse to the Chairman of the Panel on Development on 29 October 2020:

The relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works to cavern project is mainly to increase the land supply and the project cost is over \$40 billion. Does the Government plan to speed up the release of the site to alleviate the current acute shortage of land?

The response from the Administration is as follows:

2. The Drainage Services Department (DSD) is currently implementing the "Relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works (STSTW) to caverns" (the Project) in full swing. The Project is the largest on-going cavern development project in Hong Kong, involving construction of a main caverns complex of about 14 hectares (total volume of 2.3 million cubic metres) for the reprovisioning of the existing STSTW in Nui Po Shan, Sha Tin, and releasing of about 28 hectares of the site of existing STSTW for residential and other beneficial uses.

3. The Project is mega in scale and complex, covering various professional disciplines and works nature, including site formation, construction of access tunnels, main cavern complex and related building services and fire services engineering works, upstream sewerage works, installation of sewage treatment facilities in the caverns complex, environmental protection works and electrical and mechanical works, as well as the demolition of the existing STSTW. These diverse works components have close interfaces and their implementation has to be in stages, and in proper and timely paces.

4. To strive for fast-tracking the implementation of the Project, the DSD has packaged the diverse works components, according to their implementation sequences, into three stages of construction. There are also high degree of overlapping among these construction stages, proceeding in the way that once the site conditions of the preceding construction stage permit, the works of its subsequent stage will promptly commence, thereby shortening the overall delivery period of the Project. Besides that, the DSD has deployed multiple effective means to further

shorten the project delivery time, such as inviting tenders in parallel with the funding applications for various stages of construction works, using New Engineering Contract to collaborate with the contractors in better managing programme risk, and adopting safe and advanced drill and blast technologies to form caverns and tunnels. **Enclosure 1** provides a chart illustrating the implementation programme of the three construction stages of the Project.

5. The Stage 1 Works of the Project commenced in 2019 and the progress is good. Upon approval of funding from the Finance Committee, the DSD will proceed with the proposed Stage 2 Works at the soonest, and target to complete the construction of main caverns complex in 2026 for timely accommodation of the sewage treatment facilities to be installed under the remaining stage of the Project, striving to commission the cavern STSTW in 2029. The demolition of the existing STSTW will be carried out in tandem, with a view to releasing the concerned site by 2031.

6. In parallel with implementing the Project, the Government will conduct in good time a planning and engineering study for the 28-hectare released site. We will take into account the overall planning and latest development needs of the district and community at large, consult the public and stakeholders, and carry out relevant technical assessments and statutory procedures, so as to formulate appropriate planning scheme on the land uses, with a goal to enable the earliest development of the released site for residential and other beneficial uses.

**Development Bureau
Drainage Services Department
November 2020**

「搬遷沙田污水處理廠往岩洞計劃」的實施時間表

Implementation Programme of Relocation of Sha Tin Sewage Treatment Works (STSTW) to Caverns

