

NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Supplementary information on 194CL – Peng Chau development, package 3, stage 2 engineering works

INTRODUCTION

When Members discussed paper PWSC(98-99)38 on **194CL – Peng Chau development, package 3, stage 2 engineering works** at the Public Works Subcommittee meeting on 11 November 1998, Members asked the Administration to consider upgrading the beach at Tung Wan to a gazetted beach so that proper management and facilities would be provided to match the landscaped promenade to be constructed along the beach.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE

2. The Director of Territory Development has consulted Environmental Protection Department, Islands District Office and Regional Services Department on the above proposal. Based on this consultation, the Administration has concluded that it would be both difficult and costly to upgrade the beach. First, the configuration of the beach offers limited scope for upgrading, as it is narrow and has no hinterland in which to build ancillary facilities such as changing rooms, public showers and public toilets. Second, the shallow and rocky beach profile would require extensive sand replenishment and construction of sand retaining structures at a rough order of cost of around \$53 million. Third, to upgrade the beach at Tung Wan to a gazetted beach, the existing four storm water outlets discharging into Tung Wan would need to be diverted away from the beach so as to comply with the water quality requirements of the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. The diversion of these storm water drain pipes requires substantial engineering works and could involve private land resumption and clearance. For these reasons, we do not consider the proposal to upgrade Tung Wan beach to a gazetted beach to be practicable or justifiable on grounds of cost.

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3. Members' proposal to upgrade Tung Wan beach may have been prompted in part by the beach's unsightly condition resulting from rubbish being left unattended and accumulating on the beach. Members may wish to note that, since January this year, the Director of Regional Services has stepped up refuse collection and cleaning activities on the beach. As a result, the condition of the beach has greatly improved. The Administration will continue its efforts to maintain a generally pleasant environment in the area to match the landscaped promenade to be constructed along the beach.

Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau
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