

**SUB-COMMITTEE TO FOLLOW UP ON
OUTSTANDING CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS OF THE
TWO PROVISIONAL MUNICIPAL COUNCILS FOR INCLUSION
INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME**

**Provision of Leisure and Cultural Facilities
– Planning Standards**

INTRODUCTION

At the meeting on 2 May 2000, Members requested for an information paper setting out the existing provision of leisure and cultural facilities, as against the recommended provision under the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG)^{Note} and the planning standards of the two former Provisional Municipal Councils (PMCs).

PROVISION OF LEISURE AND CULTURAL FACILITIES

(A) Leisure Facilities

2. As at April 2000, Leisure and Cultural Services Department manages 873 hectares of open space, of which 472 hectares are located in the urban areas and the remaining in the New Territories.

3. In addition to parks and playgrounds, major active recreation and sporting facilities include 33 swimming pool complexes, 80 indoor games centres, 31 sports grounds and 2 outdoor stadia.

Note : The HKPSG is a document published by the Planning Department for use by relevant government departments. Such standards and guidelines are not mandatory. They are generally applied with a degree of flexibility, having regard to factors such as local requirements, site availability, the density and socio-economic structure of the population and resource available.

4. *Annex I* shows the present position on the provision of recreation and sporting facilities, as against the planning standards and guidelines set out in HKPSG and that adopted by the PMCs.

(B) Cultural Facilities

5. As at April 2000, LCSD manages 66 libraries, including 5 major libraries, 21 district libraries, 31 small libraries, one special library on Arts and 8 mobile libraries. Three more libraries are due to open by the end of this year, including the Hong Kong Central Library on Hong Kong Island, a small library in Sam Ka Tsuen and a district library in Tseung Kwan O.

6. LCSD manages 15 cultural and entertainment performing venues, which include purpose-built territory-wide venues as well as regional and district multi-purpose facilities.

7. The department also manages 10 museums. Another four major museums are due to open this year, including the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the Museum of History, the Film Archive and the Museum of Coastal Defence.

8. *Annex II* shows the present position on the provision of library facilities, cultural and performing venues and museums in the territory and the planning standards and guidelines set out in HKPSG and by the PMCs.

9. The above does not include information on facilities managed by other government departments and private developments.

NEED FOR REVIEW

10. With changes in socio-economic and demographic structure and changes in leisure habits in recent years, we intend to

review the current planning standards and guidelines to better reflect the needs of the community. Specifically, we need -

- (a) to align the different planning standards and guidelines as set out in the HKPSG and those adopted by the two former PMCs;
- (b) to take stock of the provision of leisure and cultural facilities by other government departments, non-government organizations, private developments and recreation clubs in the territory;
- (c) to revise the planning standards for activities which are declining in popularity as reflected in declining usage rate in recent years e.g. squash courts;
- (d) to set planning standards and guidelines for sports which are gaining popularity e.g. golf, fitness centres;
- (e) to review the policy on provision of public libraries in rented premises to address the needs of new towns more promptly; and
- (f) to review the provision of facilities on a territory wide basis, such as civic centres, indoor stadia and museums in the territory.

Leisure Facilities

		Planning Standards and Guidelines		
Types of Facility	Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines	PUC	Pro RC	Existing Provision*
Open Space	20 hectares per 100,000 persons	Provisional Urban Council (PUC) and Provisional Regional Council (Pro RC) made reference to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines for the provision of these facilities. The provision of these facilities would depend on local demand, availability of suitable site and resources.		873 hectares
(a) District	10 hectares per 100,000 persons			
(b) Local	10 hectares per 100,000 persons			
Indoor Games Hall/ Indoor Recreation Centre				Type A = 10 Type B = 29 Type C = 41
Type A	1 per 15,000 – 24,999			
Type B	1 per 25,000 – 49,999			
Type C	1 per 50,000 – 65,000			
Leisure Centre	1 per 50,000 persons	Incorporated into Type C IGH/IRC		
Sports Ground/ Sports Complex	1 per 200,000 – 250,000 persons	31		
Swimming Pool – standard	1m ² water per 85 persons/1 complex per 287,000 persons	34 (including 1 leisure pool facility in Homantin Leisure Centre)		
Swimming Pool – leisure	Minimum per 900m ² pool size/1 per district			
Outdoor Stadium	Territory-wide facility based on need	Funded by the Government under the Public Works Programme.		2
Indoor Stadium	Territory-wide facility based on need	Funded by the Government under the Public Works Programme.	Funded by Pro RC under its Capital Works Programme.	2 (also as cultural facilities)
Water Sports Centre	No set standard			4

* Existing provision does not include similar facilities provided by other government departments, e.g. Housing Department, private developments and other non-government organization.

Cultural Facilities

Planning Standards and Guidelines				
Facility	Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines	PUC	Pro RC	Existing Provision
Cultural Complex/ Civic Centre/ Town Hall/ Theatre	Provision to be determined on a regional basis. There is no set population/land area standard for this facility.	No set standard	A purpose designed, medium-scale civic centre should be built in each of the districts not yet provided with one.	HK – 4
				KLN – 4
				NT – 7
Library	One branch (district) library for every 200,000 persons.	(a) 1 small library for 30,000 to 50,000 persons (b) 1 district library for every 100,000 persons	(a) 1 district library for every 150,000 persons (with 10% flexibility) (b) 2 district libraries or 1 major library for 300,000 persons (with 10% flexibility)	HK – 13
				KLN – 23
				NT – 22
Museum	No set standard	No set standard	New Museum would be provided on a need basis.	HK – 3
				KLN – 5
				NT - 5