

Information Paper

School Improvement Programme

Purpose

This paper reports on the progress of the School Improvement Programme (SIP).

Background

2. The SIP aims at progressively upgrading the teaching and learning environment of schools by providing additional space and facilities for teaching, out-of-class activities and supporting services for teachers and students. Our target is to complete improvement works by 2004 for all public sector schools which are feasible for SIP. The SIP involves over 900 school premises and is carried out in eight phases.

Present Position

3. As at 1 December 1999, improvement works have been completed in 294 school premises under phases 1 to 3, including 165 primary school premises and 129 secondary school premises. Improvement works in another 86 school premises (41 primary school premises and 45 secondary school premises) are progressing. As for phase 4, feasibility studies for 114 school premises have been completed. There is also a phase 2A which comprises 42 school premises; these premises originally belonged to phases 1 and 2 but have

subsequently been taken out of the two phases when study shows that their scope for improvement is limited. Detailed feasibility studies for these premises have also been completed.

Review on Cost-effectiveness

4. The cost of SIP has been increasing in the last few years. The average cost per school premises in phase 1 is \$11 million; this has increased to \$18 million and \$28 million in phases 2 and 3 respectively. The average improvement cost per school premises in phases 2A and 4 is estimated to be \$36 million. There are over 50 school premises which exceed this average cost, with the highest improvement cost estimated to be \$82.5 million. Part of the reason for the increases over the years is that we have expanded the scope of works to provide more improvement items. For example, starting from phase 2, access for disabled persons is provided wherever feasible, in compliance with the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Ordinance. Beginning from phase 4, the scope of works has been further expanded so that the standards of existing schools can be upgraded to fall in line with the latest schedule of accommodation for new schools to be completed from the year 2000. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that some of the increases are related to other factors. In view of this, Government considers it necessary to review the present steps and procedures of implementing SIP to assess whether there are more cost-effective ways of carrying out SIP to ensure that public money is properly spent. We have already commissioned a consultant to undertake the review and the consultant is asked to submit the review report by April 2000. Government will, on the basis of the findings of the review, examine the need to revise the methodology and the time-table for delivering SIP.

On-going Works Programme

5. During the above-mentioned review, improvement works which have already commenced under phases 1 to 3 will continue and will not be affected. As regards the 156 school premises in phases 2A and 4, 47 school premises are selected for improvement works. In selecting these 47 school premises, our basic yardstick is that the number of improvement items to be provided in the school premises should not be too few, and that the estimated cost for the improvement works should not exceed one-third of the construction cost of a new school, i.e. the improvement works should cost no more than about \$32 million for a primary school and about \$36 million for a secondary school. There are 19 school premises which meet this criterion, as listed at Annex A. As for the other 28 school premises, the estimated cost of their improvement works will exceed the cost threshold. Nevertheless, priority has to be given to carrying out these works because according to ED's assessment improved facilities are needed quickly to implement such education initiatives as curriculum reform, abolition of floating classes, whole day primary schooling, etc. We will also proceed with improvement works for these school premises but will discuss with the schools concerned some adjustments to the scope of works. A preliminary list of these 28 schools is at Annex B. We will seek funding support from the Finance Committee shortly to proceed with improvement works for the 47 school premises.

Short-term Improvements

6. As regards the remaining 109 school premises, we will continue to liaise with the schools and, if individual schools request for certain pressing and small scale improvement items, we will, having regard to the conditions of the

schools concerned and the financial resources required, consider the feasibility of undertaking short-term improvement measures. As for longer-term improvements, we will have to await the consultant's report before coming to a decision on whether these school premises should go through SIP or adopt other improvement options, including in-situ redevelopment or reprovisioning.

Way Forward

7. At the moment, we maintain our original target of completing the entire SIP by 2004. We will, on the basis of the findings of the consultancy review, examine whether there is a need to review the time-table of SIP. It has to be pointed out that some school premises cannot be thoroughly improved through SIP primarily because of the conditions of the school premises. For example, the school site may be too small for building an annex and the construction of a roof-top extension is structurally non-feasible. Alternatively, the school building may be too old and repair and maintenance costs are very high. In these circumstances, we will explore other improvement options, including in-situ redevelopment or reprovisioning.

Education Department

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List of schools with project cost not exceeding 1/3 of the construction cost of a new school (19 schools)

改善工程的預計費用不超過一所新校的建造費用的三分之一的學校(19 所)

Secondary Schools (9 schools)

中學(9所)

Lingnan Dr C W Kwong Memorial Sec School	嶺南鍾榮光博士紀念中學
Yu Chun Keung Memorial College	余振強紀念中學
HK Chinese Women's Club College	香港中國婦女會中學
Canossa College	嘉諾撒書院
Carmel Secondary School	迦密中學
PLK Vicwood KT Chong Sixth Form College	保良局莊啓程預科書院
Pooi Tun Secondary School	香港神託會培敦中學
TWGHs Lee Ching Dea Memorial College	東華三院李潤田紀念中學
Sing Yin Secondary School	聖言中學

Primary Schools (10 schools)

小學(10所)

FDBWA Yan Kow School	五邑甄球學校
Precious Blood Primary School (Wah Fu)	華富邨寶血小學
Sin To School	善導學校
Mong Wong Far Yok Memorial Primary School	中華基督教會香港區會蒙黃花沃紀念學校
TWGHs Lo Yu Chik Primary School	東華三院羅裕積小學
Li Cheng Uk Government Primary School	李鄭屋官立小學
Sir Ellis Kadoorie Primary School	官立嘉道理爵士小學
SKH Chu Yan Primary School	聖公會主恩小學
Wong Tai Sin Catholic Primary School	黃大仙天主教小學
Castle Peak Catholic Primary School	青山天主教小學

List of schools recommended for reduced scope of works and pending consent from schools (28 schools)

有待同意調整改善工程範圍建議的學校(28 所)

Secondary Schools (19 schools)

中學(19所)

MFC Prevocational School (Chai Wan)	馬登基金柴灣明愛職業先修中學
Caritas St Paul Prevocational School	明愛聖保祿職業先修中學
Valtorta College	恩主教書院
PLK 1984 College	保良局甲子年中學
Tsung Tsin College	崇真書院
TWGHs Kwok Yat Wai Prevocational School	東華三院郭一葦中學
Wong Shiu Chi Secondary School	王肇枝中學
YCH Tung Chi Ying Memorial Secondary School	仁濟醫院董之英紀念中學
Christian Alliance College	宣道中學
Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School	趙聿修紀念中學
Clementi Secondary School	金文泰中學
Helen Liang Memorial Secondary School- Sha Tin	梁文燕紀念中學 (沙田)
Kwun Tong Government Secondary School	觀塘官立中學
Shatin Government Secondary School	沙田官立中學
Shau Kei Wan Government School	筲箕灣官立中學
Sir Ellis Kadoorie Secondary School - Sha Tin	育才中學 (沙田)
South Tuen Mun Secondary School	南屯門官立中學
Tseung Kwan O Government Secondary School	將軍澳官立中學
Tsuen Wan Government Secondary School	荃灣官立中學

Primary Schools (9 schools)

小學(9所)

St. Joseph's Primary School	聖若瑟小學
Building Contractors' Association School	建造商會學校
St Rose of Lima's Primary School	聖羅撒學校
Apleichau St Peter's Catholic Primary School	鴨脷洲聖伯多祿天主教小學
Cheung Chau Church Kam Kong Primary School	長洲堂錦江小學
Lee Chi Tat Memorial School	李志達紀念學校
Shan Tsui Public School	山咀公立學校
STFA Ho Yat Tung Primary School	順德聯誼總會何日東小學
Yuen Kong School	元岡學校