

For information

Legislative Council Panel on Planning, Lands and Works

Independent Investigation to Review the Causes of the Fish Kill Incidents occurred at Ma Wan and Cheung Sha Wan Fish Culture Zones (FCZs) in 2000

INTRODUCTION

When discussing the proposed works of PWP Project 5687CL entitled “Infrastructure for Penny’s Bay Development, Package 2” on 4 June 2001, Members requested the Government to conduct an independent investigation to review the causes of those fish kill incidents that occurred in 2000 at Ma Wan and Cheung Sha Wan FCZs in an open and transparent manner.

2. On 15 November 2002, we issued an information note to the Panel on the findings of the independent investigation and our assessed compensation amount for the part of fish-kill that may be attributed to the Penny’s Bay Stage 1 reclamation works.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

3. On 15 November 2002, we met the mariculturists’ representatives, the Hon Tam Yiu-chung and the Hon Wong Yung-kan to discuss our proposed compensation package. At the meeting, the mariculturists’ representatives suggested further refinements of the calculation on the cost of fish fry and the feeding cost as well as the fish prices.

4. After discussing with the Independent Review Panel, we revised the formula for calculating the cost of fish fry and the feeding cost. We also reviewed the prices of groupers at the Ma Wan FCZ to take account of the seasonal demand of the groupers. After these refinements, the compensation for Cheung Sha Wan FCZ and Ma Wan FCZ amounts to \$4.65 million and \$1.13 million respectively.

5. The representatives of the Cheung Sha Wan and Ma Wan FCZ expressed their acceptance of the compensation offers in full settlement of the fish-kill issue on 17 January 2003 and 24 February 2003 respectively.

6. We shall pay the compensation to the Cheung Sha Wan mariculturists on 27 February 2003 and are arranging to complete the payout of compensation to the Ma Wan mariculturists in March/April 2003.