ITEM FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

HEAD 703 - BUILDINGS Education - Secondary 232ES - Secondary school in Area 20, Tung Chung 233ES - Secondary school in Area 40, Tung Chung 240ES - Second secondary school in Area 40, Tung Chung

Education - Primary 279EP - Primary school in Area 20, Tung Chung

Members are invited to recommend to Finance Committee the upgrading of 232ES, 233ES, 240ES and 279EP to Category A at an estimated cost of \$113.0 million, \$101.0 million, \$101.0 million and \$95.6 million respectively in money-of-the-day prices for the construction of three secondary schools and one 30-classroom primary school in Tung Chung.

PROBLEM

We do not have enough secondary schools to meet the increase in demand for new school places by the school year 2003/04. We also need to provide additional primary schools to implement the whole-day primary schooling policy.

PROPOSAL

2. The Director of Architectural Services (D Arch S), with the support of the Secretary for Education and Manpower, proposes to upgrade the following projects to Category A at an estimated total cost of \$410.6 million in money-of- the-day (MOD) prices -

	Project estimate \$ million (MOD)
(a) 232ES - Secondary school in Area 20, Tung Chung	113.0
(b) 233ES - Secondary school in Area 40, Tung Chung	101.0
(c) 240ES - Second secondary school in Area 40, Tung Chung	101.0
(d) 279EP - Primary school in Area 20, Tung Chung	95.6
Total	410.6

PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE

3. The four proposed schools, which will all adopt standard designs, are located in Tung Chung. The facilities for the four schools will include -

		(Sec	(Primary school)		
		232ES	233ES	240ES	279EP
(a)	classrooms;	30	30	30	30
(b)	special rooms, including a computer-assisted learning room and a language room;	16	16	16	6
(c)	small group teaching rooms;	3	3	3	4

/Shared

		(Secondary schools)			(Primary school)
		232ES	233ES	240ES	279EP
(d)	guidance activity room;	1	1	1	1
(e)	interview rooms;	2	2	2	2
(f)	staff room;	1	1	1	1
(g)	staff common room;	1	1	1	1
(h)	student activity centre;	1	1	1	1
(i)	conference room;	1	1	1	1
(j)	library;	1	1	1	1
(k)	assembly hall (which, together with the roof of the assembly hall block, can also be used for a wide range of physical activities such as badminton, gymnastics and table-tennis);	1	1	1	1
(1)	multi-purpose area;	1	1	1	1
(m)	basketball courts (including one on ground level and one at the rooftop of the assembly block);	2	2	2	2
(n)	green corner ¹ ;	1	1	1	1
(0)	ancillary accommodation including a lift and relevant facilities for the handicapped;	Available	Available	Available	Available

The green corner is a designated area inside the campus to enable students to develop an interest in horticulture and natural environment. The green corner may include a green house, a weather station and planting beds.

Shared facilities

- (p) running track and sandpit;
- (q) a mini-soccer pitch cum sports field and a spectator stand;
- (r) carparking facilities; and
- (s) volley ball court.

Items (p) to (r) above will be shared between 232ES and 279EP, and between 233ES and 240ES. Item (s) above will be shared between 233ES and 240ES. The common facilities provided for 233ES and 240ES will also be shared by the adjacent primary school which is still under planning. These schools will all meet the planning target of providing two square metres of open space per student.

4. A site plan for **232ES** and **279EP** is at Enclosure 1 and that for **233ES** and **240ES** at Enclosure 2. D Arch S plans to start construction works for the four projects in December 2001 for completion in July 2003.

JUSTIFICATION

232ES - Secondary school in Area 20, Tung Chung 233ES - Secondary school in Area 40, Tung Chung 240ES - Second secondary school in Area 40, Tung Chung

5. The Director of Education (D of E) forecasts that 290 additional secondary school classes will still be required in the territory by the school year 2003/04 to meet the increase in demand for new places. 232ES, 233ES and 240ES, together with 239ES, 241ES and 242ES, to be considered by Members at this meeting (see papers referenced PWSC(2001-02)59 and PWSC(2001-02)57) will provide a total of 240 classrooms. We plan to meet the projected shortfall in future through further school construction projects.

279EP - Primary school in Area 20, Tung Chung

6. The Government's interim target is to enable 60% of our primary school students to study in whole-day schools by the 2002/03 school year. To achieve this target, 78 new primary schools are required between the 1998/99 and the 2002/03 school years. To date, 52 schools have already been completed, and a further 26 are at various stages of construction.

- 7. The Government is further committed to enabling virtually all primary school students to study in whole-day schools by the 2007/08 school year. To this end, D of E plans to construct another 46 new schools between the 2003/04 and the 2007/08 school years. To date, nine projects have been upgraded to Category A. 279EP will help achieve this policy target. Another three schools, covered in 284EP, 292EP and 293EP, will also be considered by Members at this meeting (see papers referenced PWSC(2001-02)59 and PWSC(2001-02)60).
- 8. The Islands District, in which **279EP** is located, currently has 24 public sector primary schools providing 246 classrooms. D of E forecasts that an additional 50 classrooms will be required for full implementation of whole-day primary schooling by the school year 2007/08. **279EP** will help reduce the shortfall by 30 classrooms to 20 classrooms in this district. We plan to meet the projected shortfall in this district through another school construction project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. We estimate the capital cost of **232ES**, **233ES**, **240ES** and **279EP** to be \$113.0 million, \$101.0 million, \$101.0 million and \$95.6 million respectively in MOD prices (see paragraph 11 below), made up as follows -

		\$ million				
		232ES	233ES	240ES	279EP	
(a)	Piling	18.8	11.8	11.8	16.5	
(b)	Building	54.9	54.9	54.9	45.3	
(c)	Building services	18.3	14.3	14.3	15.3	
(d)	Drainage and external works	10.5	10.5	10.5	9.5	
(e)	Contingencies	10.3	9.2	9.2	8.7	
	Sub-total	112.8	100.7	100.7	95.3	(in September 2001 prices)
(f)	Provision for price adjustment	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	
	Total	113.0	101.0	101.0	95.6	(in MOD prices)

10. The respective estimated construction unit costs for **232ES**, **233ES**, **240ES** and **279EP** in September 2001 prices, represented by building and building services costs, are as follows -

Project no.	Construction floor area (CFA) m ²	Estimated construction unit cost per m ² of CFA \$
232ES	12 238	5,981
233ES	12 238	5,655
240ES	12 238	5,655
279EP	10 727	5,649

D Arch S considers the estimated construction unit costs comparable to similar school projects built by the Government. A comparison of the reference cost for a secondary school based on an uncomplicated site with no unusual environmental or geotechnical constraints with the estimated costs for 232ES, 233ES and 240ES is at Enclosure 3. A similar comparison between a 30-classroom primary school and 279EP is at Enclosure 4.

11. Subject to approval, we will phase the expenditure as follows -

Year		\$ million (September 2001)			Price adjustment factor	\$ million (MOD)				
		232ES	233ES	240ES	279EP		232ES	233ES	240ES	279EP
	2001 - 02	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.00000	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0
	2002 - 03	51.5	45.4	45.4	42.5	0.99700	51.3	45.3	45.3	42.4
	2003 - 04	47.3	41.7	41.7	40.4	1.00398	47.5	41.9	41.9	40.6
	2004 - 05	8.0	7.6	7.6	7.4	1.01101	8.1	7.7	7.7	7.5
	2005 - 06	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	1.01808	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
		112.8	100.7	100.7	95.3		113.0	101.0	101.0	95.6

- 12. We derived the MOD estimates on the basis of Government's latest forecast of trend labour and construction prices for the period 2001 to 2006. We will deliver the works through a fixed-price lump-sum contract because the contract period will be less than 21 months and we can clearly define the scope of works in advance, leaving little room for uncertainty.
- 13. The cost of furniture and equipment², estimated to be \$9.4 million each for **232ES**, **233ES** and **240ES** and \$4.5 million for **279EP**, will be borne by the school sponsors as the schools will be allocated to meet increase in demand for school places. This is in line with existing policy.
- We estimate the annual recurrent expenditure for **232ES**, **233ES** and **240ES** to be \$40.9 million each and that for **279EP** to be \$22.2 million.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

15. We consulted the Islands Provisional District Board on **232ES**, **233ES** and **279EP** in August 1999. Members raised no objection to the projects. We consulted the Islands District Council on **240ES** in April 2001. Members also supported the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

16. We engaged consultants to conduct Preliminary Environment Reviews (PERs) for 232ES and 279EP in November 1998, 233ES in June 1999 and 240ES in January 2001. The PERs concluded that 233ES and 240ES would not be subject to adverse environmental impacts. For 232ES and 279EP, it was concluded that the schools would not be subject to adverse environmental impacts provided that we implement the following environmental mitigation measures to keep the road traffic noise impact within the limits recommended in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines -

/232ES

Based on the standard furniture and equipment lists prepared by Education Department for "Year 2000 design" schools.

Project no.	Mitigation measures	Estimated cost \$ million (in Sept 2001 prices)
232ES	(a) Provision of insulated windows and air-conditioning to 30 classrooms and one small group teaching room from 1/F to 6/F at the northern façade of the classroom block; ten special rooms from 1/F to 6/F at the eastern, southern and western façades of the special room block; as well as one special room and one small group teaching room on 1/F at the southern and western façades of the assembly hall block	4.0
279EP	(b) Provision of insulated windows and air-conditioning to 30 classrooms and four small group teaching rooms from 1/F to 6/F at the southern and northern façades of the classroom block; as well as four special rooms on 2/F and 3/F at the eastern façade of the special room block	3.4

We have included the cost of these mitigation measures as part of the building services works in the project estimates for the schools concerned.

- During construction, we will control noise, dust and site run-off nuisances to within established standards and guidelines through the implementation of mitigation measures in the relevant contracts. These include the use of silencers, mufflers, acoustic lining or shields for noisy construction activities, frequent cleaning and watering of the site, and the provision of wheel-washing facilities.
- 18. At the planning and design stages, we have considered measures to reduce the generation of construction and demolition (C&D) materials. D Arch S has introduced more prefabricated building elements into the school designs to reduce temporary formwork and construction waste. These include dry-wall partitioning and proprietary fittings and fixtures. We will use suitable excavated materials for filling within the site to minimise off-site disposal. In addition, we will require the contractors to use metal site hoardings and signboards so that these materials can be recycled or reused in other projects.

19. D Arch S will require the contractors to submit waste management plans (WMPs) for approval. The WMPs will include appropriate mitigation measures to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle C&D materials. D Arch S will ensure that the day-to-day operations on site comply with the approved WMPs. D Arch S will control the disposal of public fill and C&D waste to designated public filling facilities and landfills respectively through a trip-ticket system. The contractors will be required to separate public fill from C&D waste for disposal at appropriate facilities. We will record the disposal, reuse and recycling of C&D materials for monitoring purposes. We estimate that the volume of C&D materials to be generated by each proposed project to be as follows -

Project no.	Total C&D materials generated	C&D materials reused/recycled at site		used/recycled public filling		Organic materials to landfills	
	m³	m³	%	m³	%	m³	%
232ES	3 250	2 100	64.6	650	20.0	500	15.4
233ES	3 250	2 100	64.6	650	20.0	500	15.4
240ES	3 250	2 100	64.6	650	20.0	500	15.4
279EP	2 900	1 850	63.8	600	20.7	450	15.5

The notional cost of accommodating C&D waste at landfill sites is estimated to be \$62,500 each for **232ES**, **233ES** and **240ES** and \$56,250 for **279EP** (based on a notional unit cost⁴ of \$125/m³).

LAND ACQUISITION

20. All the four projects do not require land acquisition.

/BACKGROUND

A public filling area is a designated part of a development project that accepts public fill for reclamation purposes. Disposal of public fill in a public filling area requires a licence issued by the Director of Civil Engineering.

This estimate has taken into account the cost for developing, operating and restoring the landfill after they are filled and the aftercare required. It does not include the land opportunity cost for existing landfill sites (which is estimated at \$90/m³), nor the cost to provide new landfills (which are likely to be more expensive) when the existing ones are filled. The notional cost estimate is for reference only and does not form part of this project estimate.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

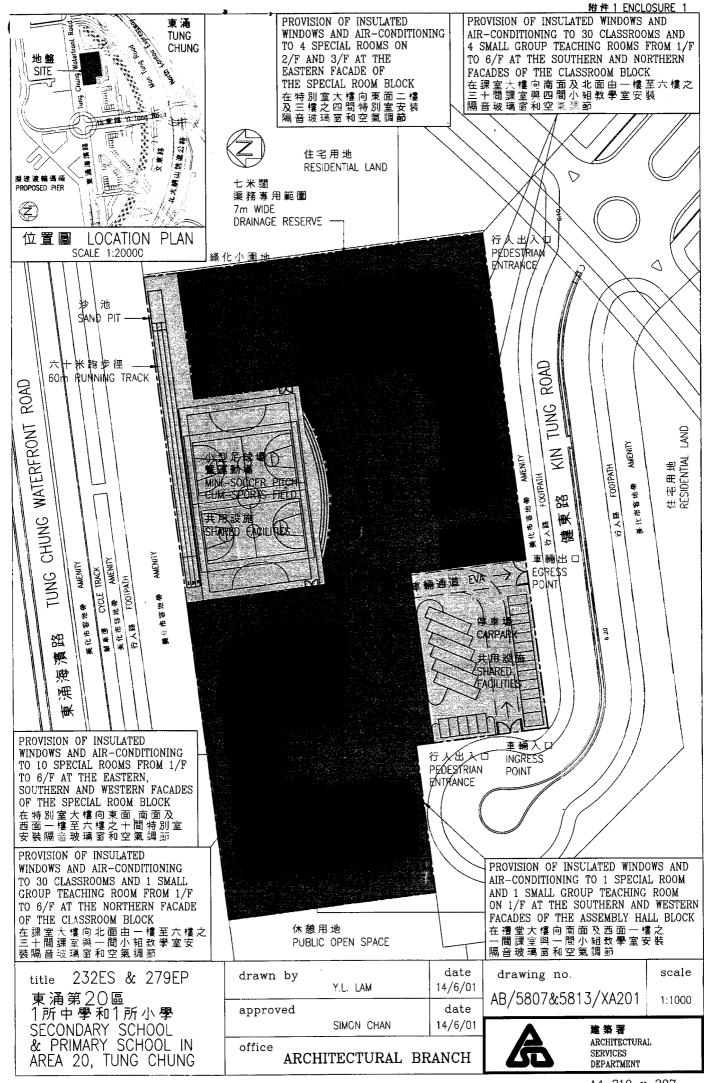
We upgraded **232ES**, **233ES** and **279EP** to Category B in September 2000 and **240ES** in May 2001. We engaged consultants to carry out PERs and topographical surveys and employed term contractors to carry out site investigations for the four projects at the following dates and costs -

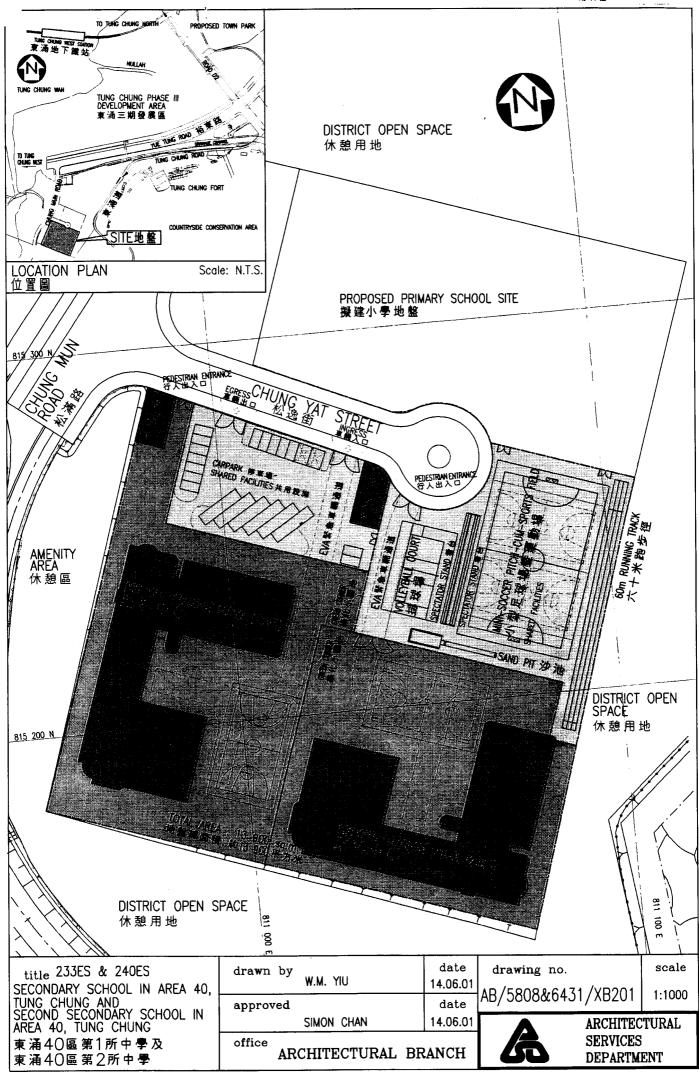
Project no.	PER	Topographical survey	Site investigation	Total cost
232ES	November 1998	April 2001	April 2001	\$973,000
233ES	June 1999	March 2001	August 1999	\$878,000
240ES	January 2001	March 2001	March 2001	\$940,000
279EP	November 1998	April 2001	April 2001	\$873,000

We charged these amounts to block allocation **Subhead 3100GX** "Project feasibility studies, minor investigations and consultants' fees for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme". The consultants and the term contractors have completed the PERs, topographical surveys and site investigations. D Arch S has completed detailed design and tender documents of the projects using in-house staff resources.

22. We estimate that the proposed works will create the following job opportunities during the construction period -

Project no.	Professional staff	Technical staff	Labourer	Total no. of staff	Total man-months
232ES	3	7	165	175	2 940
233ES	3	7	145	155	2 620
240ES	3	7	145	155	2 620
279EP	3	7	135	145	2 500





A comparison of the reference cost for a secondary school project with the estimated costs of 232ES, 233ES and 240ES

\$ million (in Sept 2001 prices)

		Reference cost*	232ES	233ES	240ES	
(a)	Piling	11.0	18.8	11.8	11.8	(See note A)
(b)	Building	54.9	54.9	54.9	54.9	
(c)	Building services	14.3	18.3	14.3	14.3	(See note B)
(d)	Drainage and external works	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	
(e)	Contingencies	9.0	10.3	9.2	9.2	
	Total	99.7	112.8	100.7	100.7	
(f)	Construction floor area	12 238m²	12 238m²	12 238m²	12 238m ²	
(g)	Construction unit cost {[(b)+(c)]÷(f)}	\$5,655/m ²	\$5,981/m ²	\$5,655/m ²	\$5,655/m ²	

* Assumptions for reference cost

- 1. The estimation is based on the assumption that the school site is uncomplicated and without unusual environmental restrictions. No allowance is reserved for specific environmental restrictions such as the provision of insulated windows, air-conditioning and solid boundary walls to mitigate noise impacts on the school.
- 2. No site formation works/geotechnical works are required as they are normally carried out by other government departments under a separate engineering vote before handing over the project site for school construction.

- 3. Piling cost is based on the use of 138 numbers of steel H-piles at an average depth of 30 metres, on the assumption that percussive piling is permissible. It also includes costs for pile caps, strap beams and testing. No allowance is reserved for the effect of negative skin friction due to fill on reclaimed land.
- 4. Cost for drainage and external works is for a secondary school site area of 6 950 square metres built on an average level site without complicated geotechnical conditions, utility diversions, etc. (i.e. a "green-field" site).
- 5. No consultancy services are required.
- 6. Furniture and equipment costs are excluded as they are usually borne by the sponsoring bodies of new schools.
- 7. The reference cost for comparison purpose is subject to review regularly. D Arch S will review, and revise if necessary, the reference cost which should be adopted for future projects.

Notes

A. For 232ES

The piling cost is higher because it is based on the use of 25 numbers of large diameter bored piles at an average depth of 42 metres instead of 138 numbers of steel H-piles at an average depth of 30 metres assumed for the reference cost. The former method, though more expensive, is appropriate for driving the piles through layers of extensive large boulders.

For 233ES and 240ES

The piling cost is higher because it is based on the use of 128 numbers of steel H-piles at an average depth of 34 metres instead of 138 numbers of steel H-piles at an average depth of 30 metres assumed for the reference cost. Longer piles are required to suit the bedrock level.

B. The building services cost for **232ES** is higher because of the provision of air-conditioning as a noise mitigation measure.

A comparison of the reference cost of a 30-classroom primary school project with the estimated cost of 279EP

\$ million (in Sept 2001 prices)

		Reference cost*	279EP	
(a)	Piling	9.0	16.5	(See note A)
(b)	Building	45.3	45.3	
(c)	Building services	11.9	15.3	(See note B)
(d)	Drainage and external works	9.5	9.5	
(e)	Contingencies	7.5	8.7	
	Total	83.2	95.3	
(f)	Construction floor area	10 727m ²	10 727m ²	
(g)	Construction unit cost $\{[(b) + (c)] \div (f)\}$	\$5,332/m ²	\$5,649/m ²	

* Assumptions for reference cost

- 1. The estimation is based on the assumption that the school site is uncomplicated and without unusual environmental restrictions. No allowance is reserved for specific environmental restrictions such as the provision of insulated windows, air-conditioning and solid boundary walls to mitigate noise impacts on the school.
- 2. No site formation works/geotechnical works are required as they are normally carried out by other government departments under a separate engineering vote before handing over the project site for school construction.

- 3. Piling cost is based on the use of 112 numbers of steel H-piles at an average depth of 30 metres, on the assumption that percussive piling is permissible. It also includes costs for pile caps, strap beams and testing. No allowance is reserved for the effect of negative skin friction due to fill on reclaimed land.
- 4. Cost for drainage and external works is for a standard 30-classroom primary school site area of 6 200 square metres built on an average level site without complicated geotechnical conditions, utility diversions, etc. (i.e. a "green-field" site).
- 5. No consultancy services are required.
- 6. Furniture and equipment costs are excluded as they are usually borne by the sponsoring bodies of new schools.
- 7. The reference cost for comparison purpose is subject to review regularly. D Arch S will review, and revise if necessary, the reference cost which should be adopted for future projects.

Notes

- A. The piling cost is higher because it is based on the use of 22 numbers of large diameter bored piles at an average depth of 42 metres instead of 112 numbers of steel H-piles at an average depth of 30 metres assumed for the reference cost. The former method, though more expensive, is appropriate for driving the piles through layers of extensive large boulders.
- B. The building services cost is higher because of the provision of air-conditioning as a noise mitigation measure.