Bills Committee on Town Planning (Amendment) Bill 2003

List of follow-up actions arising from discussion at the meeting on 13 May 2004

The Administration was requested:

Clause 8

Section 6H

(a) to review whether the English and Chinese versions of subsection (8) are consistent;

Section 6J

(b) to consider whether it is appropriate to specify under subsection (2) that the draft plan with amendments should be made available for public inspection for not less than 14 days before the Chief Executive in Council makes a decision in respect of the draft plan. Please note that members have different views on the issue:

Clause 9

Section 7

- (c) to introduce a Committee Stage amendment to subsection (2) to achieve the effect that the Town Planning Board (TPB) shall advertise amendments to a draft plan once a week in two local Chinese newspapers and one local English newspaper;
- (d) to note that members have different views on whether TPB should have an independent secretariat;

Clause 10

Section 8

(e) to provide a paper to explain how the Chief Executive in Council (CE in C) considers a draft plan. The paper should include information on whether the CE in C is divided into small groups to consider different subjects and statistics on the time taken by the CE in C in making a decision on a draft plan; and

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Clause 12

Section 12

(f) to review the merits of proposed new subsection (1A). Some members express concern that the present drafting enables the Chief Executive to delegate the power to refer any approved plan to TPB for replacement or amendment to public officers. Given that such power is substantial, the authority for referral of plan should rest with the CE in C.

Council Business Division 1 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 18 May 2004