

**Bills Committee on Town Planning (Amendment) Bill 2003**

**Major issues raised at the meeting on 23 October 2003**

The Administration was requested to -

- (a) provide a breakdown of the number of official and non-officials members attending each meeting of the Town Planning Board (TPB) in 2002/03;
- (b) advise on the number of items on which voting by TPB members was held in 2002/03 and the number of members who voted for and against and abstained on each occasion;
- (c) advise on the sanctions, if any, on TPB members for breaching rules concerning declaration of interests;
- (d) advise on the liability of and sanctions on TPB members, if any, for disclosing contents of restricted or confidential documents;
- (e) in connection with (d) above, to advise whether TPB members were required to sign an undertaking for non-disclosure of restricted or confidential information obtained in the course of performing functions of the TPB;
- (f) provide a copy of the practice and procedure governing the operation of the TPB;
- (g) provide the report of the review on guidelines for declaration of interests by TPB members carried out in 2001;
- (h) advise on the legislative intent of section 9 of the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO) when the TPO was enacted. Members were concerned whether the proposed amendment to section 9 would change the role of the Chief Executive in Council (CE in C) in the town planning process and the legislative intent of the existing section; and
- (i) review the proposed section 9(1A) to confine the power of the CE in C to amend the draft plan in minor technical aspects only.