

For information

**Legislative Council
Panel on Planning, Lands and Works**

Hong Kong 2030 (HK2030) : Planning Vision & Strategy

Background and Purpose

In response to the letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Clerk to the Legislative Council Panel on Planning, Lands and Work, the Administration provides in this paper additional information on the inter-relation between the different stages of the HK2030 Study and the major changes that have been made in response to the views and suggestions received during the first two stages of the Study.

Different Stages of the HK2030 Study

2. The HK2030 Study is divided into four stages. They are :
 - (i) Stage One: defining planning objectives and setting the agenda, reviewing baseline situation and identifying key study areas;
 - (ii) Stage Two: examining key planning issues and evaluation criteria;
 - (iii) Stage Three: formulating reference scenario and “what if” scenarios, evaluating development options; and
 - (iv) Stage Four: drawing up long term development strategy and formulating the response plans for “what if” scenarios.

3. The overall scope of the study and the interrelation between its different stages is described in detail in the Inception Report of HK2030 Study which is available on the HK2030 Study website at <http://www.info.gov.hk2030>.

4. In each stage, public consultation is conducted to collect public views. The public consultation reports can also be found on the HK2030 study website.

Response to Public Views received from the Public Consultation

5. The Stage One Public Consultation aimed at soliciting public views and comments on the long term planning objectives of Hong Kong and the key study areas. The public are, in general, supportive of the proposed planning objectives. In view of some suggestions from the public, we have modified the planning objectives, especially to adopt the sustainable development concept as a guiding principle of the HK2030 Study to highlight its importance. The conservation of natural landscape and cultural heritage was also included as one of the planning objectives in the light of public views.

6. In Stage Two Public Consultation, we consulted the public on the key planning issues¹ and the evaluation criteria for the development options. Most of the views collected were related to the key planning issues. Suggestions relating to the evaluation criteria were relatively few.

7. Among the key planning issues put forward in the Stage Two Public Consultation, the issue “Closer Link with the Mainland” was most widely discussed. The public generally supported the enhancement of cross-boundary transport network and strengthening our link with the Mainland. Many commented that economic integration with the Mainland would be the future direction of Hong Kong’s economic development, and there was a need to promote communication between the two places. Many people agreed that the Government should conduct more studies to collect information of the mobile population in order to assess the impact of the mobile population on the planning of

¹ The issues include closer links with the Mainland, frontier development, special land requirements, sustainable use of industrial buildings, new development opportunities, more jobs close to home, facilitating business of tomorrow, better planning for waterfront uses and more choices for recreation and sports.

various facilities. In recognition of the above views, we have included “Closer Links with the Mainland” as one of the three major development directions in Stage Three of the Study.

8. Other key planning issues including “Better Planning for Waterfront Uses” and “Development of Frontier Closed Area” were also widely discussed. There were comments from the public that before determining the use and development of these areas, the need for development and the potential impact of development should first be examined. In view of the above, we have included in the Stage Three Public Consultation topics about the general approach towards reclamation, the broad options for port development and the development of the Frontier Closed Area.

9. We have just completed Stage Three of the Study. Apart from the views mentioned above, we have consulted the public regarding the development intensity of future new development areas in the New Territories. Most respondents were of the view that the current plot ratio of 8.0 should be reduced to 6.5. On the other hand, some were of the view that the more important factor which determined the quality of living environment was planning and design, instead of development intensity. We have also performed a case study to further examine the possibility of improving urban living environment through reducing development intensity. The aspiration for high quality living was identified as one of the major directions in future planning and development.

10. Many of the concerns raised by the public on the key planning issues in the Stage Two Public Consultation were further articulated in the Stage Three Study. The Administration is consolidating the views received from the public and will inform Members the details later this year.

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