

(6) in EMB(SB)L/M No.84/SB/2005

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20th June 2005

Clerk to the Public Works Subcommittee
(Attn: Ms Alice AU)
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms AU,

**Supplementary Information on 101ET -
Special School in Area 32 Tin Shui Wai, Yuen long**

At the Public Works Subcommittee meeting on 25 May 2005 where the Administration's proposal to build a special school in Area 32 Tin Shui Wai was discussed, the Administration undertook to provide further information as follows:

(a) Breakdown of the latest information on boarding places

The breakdown of the latest information on the number of boarding places available in special schools for severely mentally handicapped (SMH) children and the enrolment rate by four main regions in the territory is set out below:

Main Region	Boarding places available	Enrolment rate(as at April 2005)
Hong Kong	92	83.7%
Kowloon	155	96.8%
New Territories East (including sub-regions New Territories North, Sai Kung and Shatin)	100	94.0%
New Territories West (including sub-region New Territories North-west and New Territories South-west)	84	76.2%
Grand Total	431	89.3%

As there are vacant boarding places in each of the four regions, no applicants have been put on waiting lists due to supply considerations.

- (b) Future schooling arrangement for students who would be affected by the proposed reprovisioning.

At present, there are 51 students in Caritas Lok Kan School, of which 25 are boarders. Of these 51 students, 40 will still be studying in the school by the time of the relocation to the premises in Tin Shui Wai. Of these 51 students, 27 have already indicated willingness to move to the new school premises (22 of them are boarders). The rest of the students (around 10 by 2007) can be accommodated by other SMH schools in Hong Kong Region and Kowloon Region, such as Caritas Lok Yi School, Chi Yun School and Mental Health Association of Hong Kong Pak Tin Children's Centre.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms. Maisie CHAN)
for Secretary for Education and Manpower

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