民政事務總署

香港灣仔軒尼詩道一百三十號 修頓中心二十九及三十樓



HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

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20 December 2006

Clerk to the Public Accounts Committee Legislative Council Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central Hong Kong

(Attn: Ms Serena Chu)

Dear Ms Chu,

The Director of Audit's Report on the results of value for money audits (Report No. 47)

Chapter 7: Implementation of minor works projects
By the Home Affairs Department

I refer to your letter dated 6 December 2006 on the above.

The latest progress of the follow up actions taken are set out below please:

(a) Paragraphs 2.24(c) and (d) and 2.25(c) of the Audit Report
- Construction of a footpath at Peng Chau

The Audit Report has recommended that Home Affairs Department (HAD) should keep the District Working Groups (DWGs) and Steering Committees (SCs) informed of any significant project cost increase and the reasons thereof and provide full, relevant and significant information to DWGs and SCs when submitting project proposals for their consideration. In this respect, we are revising the format of progress reports to DWGs and SCs to provide the relevant information.

For projects such as footpaths, access roads and piers, DOs will provide information on the expected utilization of the proposed facilities and the availability of similar facilities in the vicinity for DWG members' reference.

(b) Paragraph 3.25 of the Audit Report

- Improvement to a pier in Sham Tseng

On 14 November 2006, HAD held a meeting with representatives from Transport Department, Marine Department and Civil Engineering and Development Department to review the existence of the two piers at Anglers' Beach. The meeting decided to further assess the cost effectiveness, amongst other relevant factors, of retaining the old pier. Regarding the new pier, Marine Department will conduct regular sounding survey and, if necessary, dredging work will be carried out to maintain the required water depth around the pier.

We will remind DOs that water depth and siltation should be assessed when designing new pier projects. Expert advice from Marine Department and Civil Engineering and Development Department would be obtained to ensure that the selected site is suitable for the purpose. Commissioner for Transport would also be consulted on the anticipated future traffic or other planned transport services in the area.

(c) Paragraphs 5.14(c) and 5.15(c) of the Audit Report

- Construction of a footpath on Lamma Island

Islands District Office last removed the sand deposits on the concerned footpath in October 2006. It will continue to monitor the condition of the footpath and remove sand deposits as and when required.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Margaret Hsia)

for Director of Home Affairs

c.c. Director of Audit
Director of Civil Engineering and Development
Commissioner for Transport
Director of Marine