

For information

**Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs
Sports Centre in Area 28A, Fanling/Sheung Shui**

Purpose

This paper informs Members of a proposed capital works project (the Project) to construct a Sports Centre in Area 28A, Fanling/Sheung Shui in the North District that we plan to submit to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) for consideration at its meeting on 20 February 2008. If Members of the Panel on Home Affairs would like to discuss the Project, we would make arrangement with the Secretariat for it to be discussed at a meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs before it is submitted to the PWSC.

Background

2. The Project is an ex-Municipal Council project and is one of the 25 priority projects announced in the January 2005 Policy Address.

Location of the Project Site

3. The project site, with a total area of about 0.7 hectare, is located in Area 28A, Fanling/Sheung Shui. The project site is currently being used as a temporary public car park under a short term tenancy. A site plan is at the **Enclosure**.

Project Scope

4. The proposed scope of the project includes –
- a) a multi-purpose main arena with two basketball courts or two volleyball courts or eight badminton courts and a seating capacity of 1,200 spectators including 800 fixed seats and retractable bleacher for 400 persons;
 - b) a multi-purpose activity room;
 - c) a table-tennis room;
 - d) a fitness room;
 - e) a children play room;
 - f) an indoor running track;
 - g) an outdoor climbing wall and landscaped areas; and

- h) a management office and ancillary facilities including booking office, changing rooms, toilets, first aid room, conference room, equipment store room, car parking spaces, etc.

Justifications

5. The North District has a population of about 303,200 which is expected to increase by about 9.1% to 330,800 by 2015. As a reference, the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines suggest a provision of five sports centres for the population in 2015. At present, there are four sports centres in the North District, and their existing utilization rate is high. The Project will help improve the provision of sports centres in the district.

6. There are a number of public housing estates in the vicinity of the project site, namely, Tai Ping Estate, Tin Ping Estate, Choi Yuen Estate, Choi Po Court, Yuk Po Court; and nine secondary/primary schools. The total population of these estates is over 50,000. In addition, the Fanling and Sheung Shui new towns are geographically bisected by the Kowloon-Canton Railway. The majority of the existing recreational facilities are provided on the eastern side of the railway. Only one of the four existing sports centres, namely Wo Hing Sports Centre is on the western side of the railway, and is not within walking distance from the project site. It is expected that the Project will become a popular recreational facility for the local residents.

Project Estimate and Implementation Plan

7. The estimated cost of the project is \$220 million in September 2007 prices.

8. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, the construction is expected to commence in September 2008 for completion in February 2011.

Public Consultation

9. We consulted the Recreation and Culture Committee (RCC) of North District Council on the scope of the Project on 3 November 2005. Members supported the Project.

10. We consulted the RCC on the conceptual layout of the Project on 5 July 2007. Members strongly supported the Project and urged for its early implementation.

Way Forward

11. We intend to submit the Project to the Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee for consideration at its meeting on 20 February 2008.

Advice Sought

11. Members are invited to support the implementation of the Project.

Home Affairs Bureau
January 2008

