

**Reply by Home Affairs Bureau to questions from Hon. Choy So-yuk JP and Hon.
Emily Lau Wai-hing JP at Panel on Home Affairs dated June 13, 2008**

A. Hon. Emily Lau Wai-hing JP asked why the leisure parks at Shatin District are all in renovation progress and cause nuisances to local residents

1. It is found that there is no major maintenance or renovation works at parks and recreation areas in the Shatin District in recent months as advised by Leisure, Cultural Services Department (LCSD). However, the Shatin Town Hall Plaza is now undergoing a beautification project since November 2007 and expected to be completed in this July.

2. The scope of works includes the renovation of parts of the plaza area which are over 20 years old, installation of sculptures and public art works, enhancing the soft landscape, the extension of activities space and improving the access for pedestrians and the disabled. The project will also cover the conversion of the open-air sitting-out area in front of the Royal Park Hotel into a Flag Plaza for the Olympic Games Village. The aims of the project are to improve the public recreation facilities and promote public art in the community in the area.

3. Certainly, LCSD has kept the Cultural, Sports and District Development Committee of Shatin District Council informed of the project by reporting progress at

its meetings held on 30 August 2007 and 28 February 2008. Members supported the project and endorsed the progress reports with the assurance to maintain proper access for pedestrians and emergency vehicles in the Plaza area as well as minimize disturbance to the public during the construction period. Doubtless, LCSD will continue to monitor the construction works closely and ensure timely completion of the project.

B. Hon Choi So-yuk JP enquired the number of police officers to be deployed during the Equestrian Events period

1. According to Hong Kong Police Force, about 4000 police officers will be mobilized during the period to ensure said events will be held safely and peacefully.

June 30 2008
Home Affairs Bureau