# For discussion on 13 July 2009

### **Legislative Council Panel on Health Services**

# Reprovisioning of Yaumatei Specialist Clinic at Queen Elizabeth Hospital

# **Purpose**

This paper seeks Members' support for the proposed reprovisioning of Yaumatei Specialist Clinic (YMTSC) at Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH).

#### **Problem**

2. There is a need for the Hospital Authority (HA) to reprovision its services at YMTSC since the building will be demolished to make way for the construction of the proposed Central Kowloon Route (CKR).

# **Background**

- 3. At present, YMTSC is located in Battery Street, Yau Ma Tei. It was built as an extension to the Yaumatei Jockey Club Polyclinic (YMTJCPC) in 1992. Currently, HA is providing the following services at YMTSC -
  - (a) Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Specialist Clinic (including Speech Therapy and Audiology);
  - (b) Geriatric Day Hospital (including Community Geriatric Assessment Service);
  - (c) Renal Dialysis Centre;
  - (d) Child Psychiatric Out-patient Clinic; and
  - (e) Child Psychiatric Day Hospital.

4. The construction of the proposed CKR will necessitate the demolition of YMTSC. To reprovision the services as set out above, we propose to construct a new Specialist Clinic Building at the site of the old Specialist Outpatient Clinic Building at QEH and the area around it. The old Specialist Outpatient Clinic Building is being used by the Baptist University to run a Chinese Medicine Clinic, which will be relocated to the Clinical Oncology Centre in QEH. The existing specialist clinics of QEH are accommodated in the Ambulatory Care Centre (ACC) within the hospital.

# Reprovisioning of services at YMTSC

- 5. While necessitated by the construction of the proposed CKR, the reprovisioning of the services at YMTSC also provides the opportunity to enhance the existing facilities and services for patients through provision of more space and increase in service capacity. At present, staff members of YMTSC have to go to QEH regularly for delivery of documents, laboratory specimens and meals for patients. Such delivery between the two places will no longer be necessary following the reprovisioning of the services at QEH and this will enhance the operational efficiency. Furthermore, operational costs could be reduced with the sharing of administrative support, facilities management, and security services of the reprovisioned facilities with QEH.
- 6. Details of the services to be reprovisioned at the new Specialist Clinic Building are set out below -

# (a) ENT Specialist Clinic

The number of consultation rooms will be increased from 13 to 20 upon the reprovisioning. Further enhancement will be made by providing special rooms for diagnostic tests and treatment in the clinic.

# (b) Geriatric Day Hospital

The existing 45 places in the day hospital will be maintained in a more spacious environment for better quality of service to patients.

# (c) Renal Dialysis Centre

At present, QEH operates two Renal Dialysis Centres (RDCs), one in YMTSC and the other in QEH. With the advent of transplant surgery and dialysis treatments, life expectancy of patients suffering from end-stage renal failure has been extending, resulting in increasing demand for dialysis treatment. To meet the increase in service demand, the places for renal dialysis will be increased from 17 to 25 after the reprovisioning.

# (d) Child Psychiatric Centre

The existing Child Psychiatric Centre consists of a Child Psychiatric Out-patient Clinic with eight consultation rooms and a Child Psychiatric Day Hospital with 25 places. The existing provision of the above facilities will be maintained.

#### **Provision of Linear Accelerators Suite**

7. A Linear Accelerators Suite will be set up at the new Specialist Clinic Building to accommodate two new linear accelerators with modern model to replace the existing ones at QEH.

# Expansion of ambulatory care services at QEH

8. Apart from reprovisioning the existing facilities and services in YMTSC, we also propose to re-locate some of the facilities in the existing ACC of QEH to the new Specialist Clinic Building, with a view to strengthening and re-organizing its services. The facilities that are proposed to be included in the new Specialist Clinic Building are as follows -

#### (a) Adolescent Medical Centre (AMC)

The AMC of QEH provides holistic and one-stop service for adolescents from 12 to 19 years of age through a multi-disciplinary team comprising doctors in adolescent medicine, gynaecology and psychiatry; clinical psychologist; social worker and occupational therapist, etc. Apart from maintaining the existing services on medical consultation and psychological intervention, there will be new facilities for family and group therapy, counselling, educational programmes as well as a resource library.

# (b) Special Medical Care Centre (SMCC)

Currently, the SMCC of QEH is a major facility in Hong Kong that provides comprehensive medical services to patients suffering from acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), as well as training and post-exposure prophylactics or counselling for healthcare

workers. The existing provision of facilities in SMCC will be maintained.

# (c) Diabetes and Metabolic Centre (DMC)

The Diabetes Clinic and Metabolic Clinic of QEH are presently located in separate buildings to provide specialist out-patient consultation services, education programmes, screening and tests. To provide comprehensive services to diabetic and metabolic patients and to meet the increasing service demand, it is proposed to integrate the existing Diabetes Clinic and Metabolic Clinic into a new DMC in the proposed new Specialist Clinic Building, which will provide patients with one-stop service and obviate the need for them to go to different service stations scattered in various blocks in QEH.

# (d) Multidisciplinary Pain Management Centre

At present, QEH operates a designated clinic for the provision of special treatment to patients with chronic pain problems. Since the clinic only has one consultation room, joint assessment by professionals, such as physiotherapists, occupational therapists, counsellors, etc, is difficult. Provision of highly intensive programmes, particularly those for patients with functional debilitation, is also limited due to space constraints. Following the re-location of facilities, four additional consultation rooms with enhanced space provision will be provided. Furthermore, an integrated out-patient Multidisciplinary Pain Management Centre with modern facilities will be set up to provide patients with one-stop treatment, such as injections, physiotherapy and psychological intervention by relevant specialties.

# Proposed project scope

- 9. The proposed scope of the project comprises -
  - (a) demolition of the old Specialist Outpatient Clinic Building for the construction of a new Specialist Clinic Building;
  - (b) Reprovisioning of the following services/facilities currently available at YMTSC, with enhancements as described in paragraph 6 above -

- (i) ENT Specialist Clinic Suite (including Speech Therapy and Audiology services);
- (ii) Geriatric Day Hospital and Community Geriatric Assessment Service;
- (iii) Renal Dialysis Centre; and
- (iv) Child Psychiatric Out-patient Clinic and Day Hospital;
- (c) Setting up of a Linear Accelerators Suite;
- (d) Relocation of the following ambulatory care facilities/ services currently available at the ACC of QEH to the new Specialist Clinic Building, with enhancements as described in paragraph 8 above -
  - (i) Adolescent Medical Centre;
  - (ii) Special Medical Care Centre;
  - (iii) Diabetes and Metabolic Centre;
  - (iv) Multidisciplinary Pain Management Centre; and
  - (e) Provision of ancillary facilities including link bridges, carparks, taxi and minibus loading / unloading areas and refuse collection point.
- 10. A site plan showing the proposed reprovisioning of YMCSC at QEH is at **Annex**.

# **Project implementation**

11. We plan to seek the approval of the Finance Committee (FC) in December 2009 for funding support for the project, which is expected to cost about \$1,343.3 million in money-of-the-day prices. Subject to the approval of FC, we plan to start the construction works in September 2010 and to complete the project in April 2013.

### **Public consultation**

12. HA has consulted the Community Building Committee of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council (YTMDC) on the proposed project on 14 May 2009. Members of YTMDC supported the project.

# **Advice sought**

13. Members are invited to support the proposed project as outlined in this paper.

Food and Health Bureau Hospital Authority July 2009

