LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PANEL ON WELFARE SERVICES

Subcommittee on Improving Barrier-free Access and Facilities for Persons with Disabilities

Improvement Works to be Carried Out in Government Premises and Facilities under the Retrofitting Programme

Purpose

As requested by Members at the meeting of 21 June 2011, this paper provides a summary of the improvement works to be carried out in Government premises and facilities under the retrofitting programme.

Background

2. 2,729 Government premises managed by 13 departments and maintained by the Architectural Services Department have been identified for upgrading their barrier free facilities. 2,521 out of the 2,729 premises are categorized as class A projects for which upgrading works are scheduled to be completed before 30 June 2012 and the remaining 208 premises are categorized as class B projects for which the upgrading works are due for completion before 30 June 2014.

Typical Improvement Works to be carried out in Government Premises and Facilities

3. While brief description on the improvement works to be carried out and the expected completion dates of individual premises and facilities will be incorporated in the quarterly progress report upon completion of the feasibility study and site preparation respectively, this paper provides a summary of the typical improvement works that would be carried out under the retrofitting programme according to available information. Having regard to the complexity and extent of upgrading works and the site and operational constraints, premises and facilities can be broadly categorized

into three groups, viz High, Medium and Low Level of Complexity. Details of the upgrading works and constraints regarding these three groups of premises and facilities are set out in <u>Annex A</u>, <u>Annex B</u> and <u>Annex C</u>.

Architectural Services Department July 2011

Annex A

High Complexity Premises

The High Complexity Premises include those multi-user complexes and high security premises. The improvement works usually involve major structural alterations, construction of new lift shaft, acquisition of additional land, amendment of conditions of land allocation, long delivery time for lifts or construction work in restricted hours. Law Courts Buildings, Police Stations, Community Hall, Clinics and Medical Centres, Performance Arts Venues and Museums, and Large Scale Parks and Gardens with complicated topography belong to this group.

The improvement works to be carried out include:

- 1. installation of Braille and tactile map;
- 2. provision of signage and directional signs;
- 3. introduction of tactile guide paths;
- 4. provision of ramps;
- 5. provision of accessible counters including the provision of Assistive Listening System;
- 6. additional provision of unisex accessible toilets
- 7. modification of existing staircases,
- 8. installation of new accessible lifts with new lift shafts or lift tower structure;
- 9. modification of existing lift shafts for enlargement of lift doors;
- 10. reconstruction/reprovisioning of accessible staircases;
- 11. retro-fitting of floor layout arising from widening of common corridors and enlargement of door openings;
- 12. installation of visual display boards; and
- 13. construction of earth retaining structures for provision of accessible ramps, etc.

Annex B

Medium Complexity Premises

The Medium Complexity Premises are usually the highly utilized complexes where disturbance to normal operation of the premises and public during the improvement works is foreseeable. Necessary phasing of works and segregation of working areas will be required.

This group of premises includes but is not limited to medium sized Parks and Gardens located on more complicated topography, Markets and Cooked Food Centres, Public Toilets, Sports Centres, Libraries, Offices and Government Quarters.

The improvement works to be carried out in this group of premises include:

- 1. installation of Braille and tactile map;
- 2. provision of signage and directional signs;
- 3. introduction of tactile guide paths;
- 4. provision of ramps;
- 5. modification of existing staircases,
- 6. modification of existing accessible lifts;
- 7. modification of existing accessible toilets;
- 8. provision of accessible counters including the provision of Assistive Listening System;
- 9. additional provision of unisex accessible toilets; and
- 10. retro-fitting of internal layout arising from enlargement of door openings and replacement of doors, etc.

Annex C

Low Complexity Premises

The Low Complexity Premises require only minor improvement works to upgrade the provisions.

This group of premises includes Sitting-out Areas, Parks and Gardens in a smaller scale, Playgrounds located on flat land adjoining accessible road.

The required improvement works for this group of premises in general include:

- 1. installation of Braille and tactile map;
- 2. provision of signage and directional signs;
- 3. introduction of tactile guide paths;
- 4. provision of ramps; and
- 5. modification of existing staircases, etc.