## 政府總部 發展局 工務科 香港花園道美利大廈



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10 February 2012

Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong. (Attn: Mr. Derek LO)

Dear Mr. LO,

Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) Follow-up to meeting on 8 February 2012

Item 3 - PWSC(2011-12)47 16QW - Revitalisation Scheme- Revitalisation of the Blue House Cluster into Viva Blue House

In relation to the question raised by Hon Albert CHAN on the provision of barrier free access in project 16QW "Revitalisation Scheme- Revitalisation of the Blue House Cluster into Viva Blue House" ("the Project") at the captioned meeting, you may wish to note that pursuant to section 84 of the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Buildings Department has promulgated the "Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008" ("the Design Manual") which sets out the design requirements of providing access to and appropriate facilities in a building for use by persons with a disability. The Design Manual applies to the design and construction of new buildings or alterations and additions to existing buildings. Various stakeholders, including some 100 organisations of people with disabilities were consulted during a 6-month public consultation period when preparing the Design Manual. The comments received had been taken into account in finalizing the Design Manual and the implementation of the Design Manual

was supported in the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services in 2007.

In drawing up the design for the Project, which was presented in Legislative Council Paper No. PWSC(2011-12)47, the selected non-profit making organisation for the revitalisation of the Blue House Cluster (i.e. St. James' Settlement ("SJS")) and its consultants have taken into account the requirements of the Design Manual.

Through the project consultant's design based on the Design Manual, and the building control mechanism under the Buildings Ordinance, we believe that Members' concern on the provision of barrier free access in the Project is addressed and it is not necessary to further seek the advice from the Equal Opportunities Commission.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms. Alice PANG)

for Secretary for Development