

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(1)429/12-13
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by the Administration)

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Panel on Development

Minutes of meeting
held on Tuesday, 27 November 2012, at 2:30 pm
in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yeet, GBS, JP
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon CHAN Han-pan
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok
Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, BBS, MH, JP

Members attending : Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung

Members absent : Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon Kenneth LEUNG

Public officers attending : **Agenda item III**

Ms Joyce HO Kwok-shan
Principal Assistant Secretary (Treasury) (Works)
Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau

Mr John KWONG
Chief Assistant Secretary (Works)1
Development Bureau

Ms Joyce NG Suet-yee
Chief Estate Surveyor (Acquisition)
Lands Department

Mr CHAN Ho-yin
Assistant Director (Property Services) (Acting)
Architectural Services Department

Mr CHAN Chi-chiu, JP
Director of Drainage Services

Mr HON Chi-keung, JP
Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Dr Ellen CHAN Ying-lung JP
Assistant Director (Environmental Infrastructure)
Environmental Protection Department

Mr Kevin LUK, JP
Deputy Director of Highways
Highways Department

Mrs Joanna KWOK
Project Manager (Major Works)
Highways Department

Mr Raymond KONG
Chief Engineer (1) (Major Works)
Highways Department

Mr Eric HUI, JP
Assistant Director (2)
Home Affairs Department

Mr Frankie CHOU
Chief Engineer (Works),
Home Affairs Department

Ms Eva YAM
Deputy Secretary-General (1)
University Grants Committee Secretariat

Ms Angela LEE
Principal Assistant Secretary (Health)2
Food and Health Bureau

Mr Donald LI
Chief Manager (Capital Planning)
Hospital Authority

Ms Wendy CHUNG
Principal Assistant Secretary
(Infrastructure and Research Support)
Education Bureau

Mr KOK Che-leung
Assistant Director (Subventions)
Social Welfare Department

Mr MA Lee-tak, JP
Director of Water Supplies

Mr Kenneth WONG Hung-keung,
Chief Civil Engineer
Transport and Housing Bureau

Agenda items IV and V

Ms Winnie SO Chui-ying
Principal Assistant Secretary for Development
(Planning & Lands)⁴

Mr Norman HEUNG Yuk-sai, JP
Project Manager (Kowloon)
Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr Janson WONG Chi-sing
Chief Engineer/Kowloon 2
Civil Engineering and Development Department

Dr Amy CHIU Pui-yin, JP
Assistant Director (Health Administration and Planning)
Department of Health

Dr Mandy HO Mang-ye, JP
Occupational Health Consultant (2)
Labour Department

Dr David CHAO
Chief of Service (Family Medicine & Primary Health Care)
Hospital Authority

Agenda item VI

Mr Jimmy CHAN Pai-ming
Principal Assistant Secretary (Works) 3
Development Bureau

Mr LEUNG Wing-lim
Assistant Director / New Works
Water Supplies Department

Mr CHUNG Tat-kong
Chief Engineer / Consultants Management
Water Supplies Department

Agenda item VII

Mr WAI Chi-sing, JP
Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Ms Grace LUI Kit-yuk, JP
Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1

Miss Vivian KO Wai-kwan
Commissioner for Heritage
Development Bureau

Mr NG Tak-wing
Chief Engineer/Railway Development 1-1
Highways Department

Mr Tom MING Kay-chuen
Executive Secretary (Antiquities and Monuments)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

**Attendance by
Invitation**

: Agenda item III

Dr LEE Kin-wang
Head (Estates, Health and Safety Division)
Vocational Training Council

Agenda item VII

Mr Richard KWAN
Environment Manager
MTR Corporation Limited

Mr Alan BODEN
Construction Manager - South Island Line (East)
MTR Corporation Limited

Ms Julie VAN DEN BERGH
Director
Archaeological Assessments Ltd

Clerk in attendance : Ms Sharon CHUNG
Chief Council Secretary (1)6

Staff in attendance : Mr Anthony CHU
Senior Council Secretary (1)6

Mr Fred PANG
Council Secretary (1)6

Ms Christina SHIU
Legislative Assistant (1)6

Action

I Information papers issued since the last meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(1)93/12-13(01) -- Letter dated 8 October 2012 from a member of the public to the Chief Executive about the sub-division of a residential unit in Kowloon City

LC Paper No. CB(1)180/12-13(01) -- Administration's response to the letter dated 24 October 2012 from Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok regarding country park enclaves [LC Paper No. CB(1)73/12-13(01)]

LC Paper No. CB(1)181/12-13(01) -- Administration's response to the letter dated 17 October 2012 from the Housing and

Building Management
Committee of the Yau Tsim
Mong District Council
regarding safety issues
arising from sub-division of
flats [LC Paper No.
CB(1)63/12-13(01)]

Members noted that the above information papers had been issued since the last meeting.

II Items for discussion at the next meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(1)197/12-13(01) -- List of outstanding items for discussion

LC Paper No. CB(1)197/12-13(02) -- List of follow-up actions)

2. Members agreed that the following items would be discussed at the regular meeting scheduled for 17 December 2012 at 8:30 am and the meeting would be extended for 30 minutes to end at 11:00 am.

- (a) Energizing Kowloon East;
- (b) PWP Item No. 731CL -- Infrastructure works for housing sites adjacent to Lung Ping Road at Tai Wo Ping, Shek Kip Mei; and
- (c) Legislative amendments for the introduction of the signboard control system.

(Post-meeting note: At the request of some members, the agenda for the meeting on 17 December 2012 has been revised to add an item, i.e. "Enforcement strategy in relation to recent unauthorized building works cases with major public concerns". The meeting has been extended to end at 12:45 pm. Members were informed of the aforesaid arrangements on 6 December 2012 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)273/12-13).

3. The Chairman reminded members that the Panel would hold a special meeting on Saturday, 8 December 2012 from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm to receive public views on the North East New Territories New Development Areas Planning and Engineering Study ("the Study"). He suggested that, due to the large number of requests from deputations and members of the public for

giving oral presentation of views on the Study to the Panel, a second public hearing would be held on Saturday, 15 December 2012. Members agreed to the proposed arrangement.

(Post-meeting note: To accommodate the large number of requests for making oral presentation of views to the Panel, the special meeting on 8 December 2012 had been extended to end at 6:30 pm. Members were notified of the relevant arrangements on 30 November 2012 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)243/12-13. The second public hearing was held on 15 December 2012 from 9:00 am to 6:30 pm. Members were informed of the relevant arrangements on 29 November 2012 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)238/12-13.)

III Capital Works Reserve Fund Block Allocations for 2013-2014

(LC Paper No. CB(1)177/12-13(01) -- Administration's paper on Capital Works Reserve Fund Block Allocations for 2013-2014)

4. Principal Assistant Secretary (Treasury) (Works)/ Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau briefed members on the proposed funding submission to the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") and Finance Committee ("FC") for the Capital Works Reserve Fund block allocations for 2013-2014. She highlighted that the Administration proposed to seek the approval of PWSC and FC for: (a) the creation of a new block allocation Subhead 6101TX under Head 706 for implementation of the Universal Accessibility Programme ("UAP"); and (b) technical revisions to the ambit of Subhead 8001SX under Head 708 as detailed in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the draft PWSC submission provided to members. She added that UAP was aimed at expanding the scope of the Administration's existing programme to retrofit barrier-free access facilities to public walkways and the Panel on Transport had been consulted on UAP on 16 November 2012. A total allocation of \$12,391.8 million for 2013-2014 was sought for existing block allocations and the proposed new Subhead 6101TX.

5. The Chairman reminded members that in accordance with rule 83A of Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of LegCo, they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the subjects under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the subjects. Under Rule 84 of RoP of LegCo, a member should not vote upon any question in which he had a direct

pecuniary interest except under certain circumstances as provided for in Rule 84.

6. Miss CHAN Yuen-han welcomed the implementation of UAP. Taking into account that Hong Kong had a hilly terrain, she queried whether the proposed funding under Subhead 6101TX would be sufficient to meet the great public demand for installation of more barrier-free access facilities in various districts. She said that Wong Tai Sin District Council had all along expressed grave concern about insufficient barrier-free access facilities in the district and had proposed a number of projects for installing such facilities, in addition to those under the Administration's plan. Noting that some barrier-free access facilities projects, such as the one at Sha Tin Pass Estate, were not to be funded under Subhead 6101TX but other sources, she sought clarification on the details of allocation of funds for installing such facilities, including the setting of priorities and quota, if any, in each district.

7. Project Manager (Major Works)/Highways Department advised that the Administration had not set a quota for barrier-free access facilities projects to be carried out in each district under UAP. The number of projects for each year would be determined largely with regard to public views, feasibility of individual projects, as well as available manpower resources in the market and within Government departments. She said that the Administration had so far received over 2 600 proposals which involved about 250 public walkways. The concerned departments were analyzing these proposals. After obtaining funding approval from FC, the Administration would immediately start consulting the relevant District Councils to determine the priorities for these projects. Once a project was supported by the district and confirmed to be technically feasible, the Administration would commence the design and construction works as soon as possible according to its priority. For 2012-2013, the Administration proposed an allocation of \$2.449 million to commence the construction works of 24 barrier-free access retrofitting projects. For 2013-2014, an allocation of \$187.272 million was proposed. The fund would be used on the barrier-free access facilities retrofitting works of the year, for commencing the feasibility study and design for about 60 projects and the construction of about 60 facilities. It was estimated that the annual provision for the Subhead would gradually increase to over \$1,000 million in subsequent years.

8. In concluding the discussion on the item, the Chairman said that members in general supported the Administration's proposal to submit the

funding proposal for the Capital Works Reserve Fund block allocations 2013-2014 for the consideration of PWSC.

(As the proceeding of the meeting was well ahead of schedule and the public officers for the next discussion item had not yet arrived, the Chairman suspended the meeting at 2:53 pm.

The meeting was resumed at 3:20 pm.)

IV PWP Item No. 111KA -- Government, institution or community facilities in the Kwun Tong Town Centre redevelopment -- additional medical and health facilities

(LC Paper No. CB(1)197/12-13(03) -- Administration's paper on PWP Item No. 111KA -- Government, institution or community facilities in the Kwun Tong Town Centre Redevelopment -- additional medical and health facilities)

V PWP Item No. 163TB (part) -- Kwun Tong Town Centre redevelopment -- provision of grade-separated pedestrian linkages (Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage)

(LC Paper No. CB(1)197/12-13(04) -- Administration's paper on PWP Item No. 163TB (part) -- Kwun Tong Town Centre redevelopment -- provision of grade-separated pedestrian linkages (Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage)

9. The Chairman suggested and the meeting agreed that discussions on items IV and V be merged.

10. Principal Assistant Secretary for Development (Planning & Lands) 4 ("PAS/DEV(P&L)4") advised that the construction works associated with the two funding proposals to upgrade public works projects ("PWP") 111KA and part-upgrade PWP 163TB respectively to Category A would take place in Kwun Tong Town Centre ("KTTC"). The proposed works complemented the KTTC Redevelopment Project undertaken by the Urban Renewal

Authority ("URA") but were not part of it. To tie in with the KTTC redevelopment plan, the land currently occupied by the Kwun Tong Jockey Club Health Centre ("KTJCHC") had to be vacated. URA had committed to reprovisioning the existing medical and health facilities of KTJCHC on a one-for-one basis to two sites, namely, the Yuet Wah Street site of the KTTC redevelopment and a site at the Kwun Tong Road/Hoi Yuen Road roundabout. In anticipation of the increasing demand for medical services in Kwun Tong District including services on occupational safety, the Administration had taken the opportunity of the redevelopment to seek to provide additional floor areas on top of the one-for-one reprovisioning to enhance the existing services provided by the relevant government departments. Subject to the funding approval of the Finance Committee for upgrading PWP 111KA at an estimated cost of \$105 million, the Administration would reimburse URA with the construction cost of the additional floor space. PAS/DEV(P&L)4 continued that, to enhance the connectivity of the KTTC redevelopment with its neighbourhood, the Administration proposed to construct the Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage under PWP 163TB at an estimated cost of \$95 million. The Pedestrian Linkage would provide a barrier-free access between Yuet Wah Street and Kwun Tong Road/Kwun Tong MTR Station for local residents as well as patrons of the medical and health facilities to be reprovisioned at the Yuet Wah Street site.

11. With the aid of a powerpoint presentation, Project Manager (Kowloon), Civil Engineering and Development Department ("PM(Kowloon)/CEDD") briefed members on the details of the two works projects.

(Post-meeting note: A soft copy of the powerpoint presentation materials (LC Paper Nos. CB(1)237/12-13(01) and (02)) was circulated to members by email on 28 November 2012.)

12. The Chairman reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"), they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the subjects under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the subjects. Under Rule 84 of RoP of LegCo, a member should not vote upon any question in which he had a direct pecuniary interest except under certain circumstances as provided for in Rule 84.

13. Mr James TO declared that he was a non-executive director of URA. Mr CHAN Kin-por declared that he was a director and consultant of a Hong

Kong office of an international reinsurance company which might be involved in providing reinsurance cover for works projects in Hong Kong. Mr CHAN said that, though he had no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the funding proposals, he made the declaration for the sake of prudence. He considered that his declaration this time should apply to other discussion items of the Panel in future.

Kwun Tong Town Centre redevelopment

14. Miss CHAN Yuen-han enquired about the future land use of the main site of the KTTC Redevelopment Project. PAS/DEV(P&L)4 replied that the area previously occupied by the Kwun Tong District Branch Offices Building was already cleared. It would be used to accommodate interim facilities, including a hawker bazaar to be constructed, to facilitate the first-phase redevelopment of KTTC. According to the approved Master Layout Plan for the KTTC main site redevelopment, the site currently occupied by KTJCHC would be Development Area 4, where a hotel and office buildings would be constructed.

15. Miss CHAN Yuen-han was concerned that the temporary hawker bazaar would be affected by the emission of dust caused by the demolition works at Development Area 4, given that the two areas were close to each other. She cautioned that the construction works in KTTC might turn the bustling streets for shopping and dining at present like Yue Man Square into dead areas. She enquired whether such works would be carried out in phases.

16. In reply, PAS/DEV(P&L)4 confirmed that the KTTC Redevelopment Project would be implemented in phases. Construction works for Development Area 1, i.e. the Yuet Wah Street site, where the existing medical and health facilities of KTJCHC would be reprovisioned, had already commenced and were expected to complete by 2013/2014. Development Areas 2 and 3, where the Hip Wo Street Hawker Bazaar was currently located, would be vacated by 2013 to be developed into a public transport interchange as well as residential blocks. The construction works for these two areas were expected to complete by 2018. For Development Area 4, where KTJCHC was located, works would start in 2017.

Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage

Prioritization of construction of escalator links and elevator systems

17. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung supported the construction of the Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage. He recalled that the Administration had earlier prioritized 20 proposed hillside escalator links and elevator systems over the territory, including one at Yuet Wah Street, for conducting feasibility studies. According to the Administration, the proposed system at Yuet Wah Street was ranked 13 and had a lower priority than a number of proposed pedestrian walkway systems in Kwai Tsing. Noting that the Administration planned to take forward the project of the Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage, Mr LEUNG enquired how the priority of different projects was determined.

18. Giving background information about the proposed Pedestrian Linkage project, PM(Kowloon)/CEDD advised that as early as in 2007, URA had conducted a preliminary engineering feasibility study which recommended that the Government should build, among others, the proposed Pedestrian Linkage in tandem with the KTTC redevelopment. In December 2008, the Administration upgraded the proposed Pedestrian Linkage to Category B. Following a design competition, consultants were engaged in June 2010 to undertake the detailed design for the proposed works at an estimated cost of about \$1.3 million. The Administration had also gazetted the proposed works under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) in 2011. He said that the project so far had been implemented according to schedule. In response to Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung's further enquiry on whether the implementation of a URA project in the concerned area would advance the works of a hillside escalator links and elevator system, PM(Kowloon)/CEDD replied that it was the plan of the Administration to construct three linkages, including the proposed Pedestrian Linkage, in phases to tie in with the KTTC Redevelopment Project undertaken by URA.

Distance between the Pedestrian Linkage and residential buildings

19. Miss CHAN Yuen-han noted that the proposed Pedestrian Linkage included an elevated footbridge alongside an existing long staircase connecting Yuet Wah Street and the Kwun Tong MTR Station. She pointed out that, similar to the Tsing Fung Street Flyover, the proposed Linkage would be in close proximity to residential units. She opined that the Administration should consider whether the provision of a pedestrian

subway was a better option than a footbridge. PM(Kowloon)/CEDD replied that there was a distance of about two metres between the elevated footbridge and the residential buildings along it. Frosted glass panels would be installed at appropriate locations alongside the footbridge to protect the privacy of the residents living in nearby buildings. He said the construction of the proposed Pedestrian Linkage was supported by the Kwun Tong District Council to meet community aspirations for a barrier-free access for wheelchair users, elderly people with limited mobility as well as the pedestrians who currently had to climb the staircase with over 180 steps to commute between Yuet Wah Street and Kwun Tong Road/Kwun Tong MTR Station. Miss CHAN Yuen-han disagreed that the proposed Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage was the only solution to provide barrier-access for these commuters. She held the view that the Administration should explore other options that would cause less intrusion on the privacy of the residents.

Improvement to the existing staircase

20. Mr CHAN Kam-lam welcomed the construction of the Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage, which would greatly facilitate the commuters between Yuet Wah Street and the Kwun Tong MTR Station/Kwun Tong Road. Noting that the existing open-air staircase connecting Yuet Wah Street and Kwun Tong Road would be retained after the commissioning of the proposed Pedestrian Linkage, Mr CHAN said that some residents might still need to use the staircase, in particular the residents of Tin Sing Court, which had an entrance/exit directly connected to the staircase. He enquired whether the Administration would allocate any resources to build a cover over part of the staircase, and how the entrance/exit of Tin Sing Court would be connected to the proposed Pedestrian Linkage.

21. Mr WU Chi-wai was concerned whether pedestrians could access the proposed Lift Tower 1, which would be installed midway of the Pedestrian Linkage, from the existing staircase. As regards the cover proposed by Mr CHAN Kam-lam over the existing staircase, Mr WU considered that, by suitably amending the cover of the proposed elevated footbridge of the Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage, a rain shelter could be formed for the commuters using most parts of the staircase lying underneath.

22. Mr Paul TSE was concerned that the capacities of the three proposed lifts at two different locations along the proposed Pedestrian Linkage might not be adequate to accommodate the pedestrian flow during the peak hours. He supported the provision of a cover over the existing staircase in case a

considerable proportion of pedestrians would still have to use the staircase after the proposed Pedestrian Linkage was opened.

23. In response, PM(Kowloon)/CEDD advised that according to the results of a consultancy study, majority of the residents would make use of the proposed Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage, including the elevated footbridge and the lifts, instead of the existing staircase when the Pedestrian Linkage was commissioned. As for the capacities of the lifts in handling peak-hour demand, he said that the designed capacities of the lifts could cater for the demand of pedestrians up to 2026. On members' suggestion to build a cover over the existing staircase, the Administration would consider it in light of the actual utilization of the staircase after the commissioning of the proposed Pedestrian Linkage. He added that a new staircase would be built to connect the existing staircase and the proposed Pedestrian Linkage.

Removal of trees

24. Noting that the proposed works associated with the Yuet Wah Street Pedestrian Linkage project would involve the removal of 11 trees, but the planting proposals of the project only included three trees, Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed concern about the number of trees to remain in-situ after the completion of the project. PM(Kowloon)/CEDD explained that out of the 11 trees to be removed, only two trees would be felled and nine trees would be transplanted off-site. In response to Dr KWOK's further enquiry as to whether the Administration would plant more trees in the area, PM(Kowloon)/CEDD advised that the Administration had proposed to plant some more trees along Kwun Tong Road, but the proposal was not supported by the Kwun Tong District Council. However, as part of the project, the Administration would adopt greening measures for the proposed Pedestrian Linkage.

Additional medical and health facilities

Adequacy of capacity of medical facilities to meet growing demand

25. Mr CHAN Kin-por noted that the Administration proposed the construction of additional floor areas to enhance the reprovisioning of the existing medical and health facilities of KTJCHC including the Hospital Authority's General Out-patient Clinic and the Department of Health's Maternal & Child Health Centre ("MCHC") in anticipation of the population growth in Kwun Tong District from 622 200 in 2011 by 7.2% to 666 900 in 2019. Having regard to some observations that a large number of new

arrivals tended to reside in Kwun Tong District, Mr CHAN expressed concern on whether the population estimates had taken into account the effect of the recent upsurge in Mainland women giving birth in Hong Kong. He enquired about the basis on which the population projections had been worked out.

26. PAS/DEV(P&L)4 replied that in preparing projections of geographical distribution of population over a ten-year period from 2010 to 2019, the Working Group on Population Distribution Projections of the Planning Department had adopted the Census and Statistics Department's territorial population projections released in 2010. She admitted that the relevant data showing the changes after 2010 was not available at the time when the projections were worked out.

27. Mr CHAN Kin-por cautioned that any excessive demand for medical and health services would put the health care system of both Kwun Tong District as well as other parts of Hong Kong under strain. He enquired about the Administration's plans in the event that the demand for the MCHCs' services in Kwun Tong District exceeded its designed capacity. Mr Paul TSE and Mr WU Chi-wai stressed the importance for the Administration to take the opportunity of the redeveloping KTTC to increase the capacity of the medical and health facilities in Kwun Tong District to meet long-term demand. Noting that the proposed additional net operational floor area to enhance the reprovisioning of the existing medical and health facilities of KTJCHC was limited to 1 087 square metres only, Mr TSE was concerned whether there would be adequate capacity to cater for the growth of demand in future.

28. Assistant Director (Health Administration and Planning), Department of Health ("AD(HA&P)/DH") replied that the Administration had been closely monitoring the utilization of MCHCs. Owing to reduced attendances at MCHCs, the Administration had merged some MCHCs including the Kwun Tong MCHC and the Ngau Tau Kok MCHC in 2005. The Administration later noted that from 2007 to 2011, there was a 17% increase in the number of new child-health cases received by the above combined MCHC in Kwun Tong District. Although such increase was not particularly high compared with the about 25% increase of new child-health cases in the territory during the same period, the Administration decided to take the opportunity of the reprovisioning of KTJCHC to enhance maternal and child health services in Kwun Tong District. If there was a significant increase in the demand for such services in future and additional resources could be

secured, the Administration would consider re-opening the Ngau Tau Kok MCHC.

29. Mr Paul TSE pointed out that the demand for maternal and child health services fluctuated vigorously in recent years. Moreover, when the expansion works of the United Christian Hospital started in the near future, some of its services might be affected and there might be a greater demand for the MCHCs' services in Kwun Tong District. In this connection, he enquired about the Administration's measures to maintain adequate health care services in the district. AD(HA&P)/DH assured members that the Administration would continue to take note of the changing demand for health care services in Kwun Tong District. She advised that since the merging of Ngau Tau Kok MCHC and Kwun Tong MCHC in 2005, the demand for maternal and child health services in Kwun Tong District had been stable and only a moderate increase in the demand for antenatal check-up services had been noted.

30. Miss CHAN Yuen-han considered that the medical and health facilities to be provided at the reprovisioned sites would play a key role in delivering primary health care services in Kwun Tong District, in particular for the low-income households and the aged people.

31. Dr KWOK Ka-ki pointed out that a lot of low-income families and senior citizens were living in Kowloon East and there was currently a long waiting list for services offered by General Out-patient Clinics and Elderly Health Centres ("EHCs") in the district. He enquired whether the Department of Health had grasped the opportunity of the reprovisioning exercise to obtain additional resources to expand medical and health services to the elderly to cater for the existing high demand as well as its future growth. AD(HA&P)/DH replied that it was the Administration's policy to put in place one EHC in each district. The EHC in Tak Tin Estate, Lam Tin had been opened for a relatively short time and hence there was no plan at the moment to set up another EHC in Kwun Tong District.

32. Dr KWOK Ka-ki disagreed to the policy of providing only one EHC in each district. He considered it unreasonable to require the elderly living in the areas near Yuet Wah Street to travel a long distance to the EHC in Tak Tin Estate to receive health care services. Dr KWOK suggested that, to provide more choices for the elderly in Kwun Tong District, the Administration should set up an additional EHC. AD(HA&P)/DH advised that EHCs were not the only providers of health services for the elderly. Senior citizens in Kwun Tong District suffering from long-term illnesses

could make use of the services provided by the Hospital Authority's General Out-patient Clinic in KTTC, which would be reprovisioned and expanded.

Funding responsibility of the Urban Renewal Authority

Admin 33. Ms Cyd HO noted that URA was responsible for funding the reprovisioning of the existing medical and health facilities at KTJCHC on a one-for-one basis and the Administration had to reimburse URA with the construction costs for the additional floor space through PWP 111KA. She requested the Administration to provide information on whether there was an existing policy on the aforesaid arrangement and to give details about the consultation process in relation to the policy.

34. PAS/DEV(P&L)4 advised that the KTTC Redevelopment Project was the first URA redevelopment project which affected a large site of Government, Institution or Community ("GIC") use. The one-for-one reprovisioning arrangement, which was a more straightforward arrangement, had been agreed between URA and the Administration.

Admin 35. Ms Cyd HO noted that compared with the compensation made by URA to shop owners affected by its redevelopment projects, the one-for-one reprovisioning arrangement for GIC facilities was a much more favourable compensation. She asked the Administration to provide a comparison between URA's reprovisioning arrangements for relocating GIC facilities and its compensation to shop owners under the KTTC Redevelopment Project. She also enquired whether the Administration would review the URA Ordinance (Cap. 563) in respect of the compensation for shop owners, so that they would be entitled to compensation on a par with that for reprovisioning GIC facilities.

36. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that the site currently used by KTJCHC and another site, previously used as the Kwun Tong District Branch Offices Building ("KTDBOB"), both being redevelopment areas of the KTTC Redevelopment Project, were at excellent locations, given that they were in close proximity to the Kwun Tong MTR station. The potential development value of these sites should far exceed the reprovisioning costs to be borne by URA on a one-for-one basis. Taking into account that under the current funding proposal, the Administration would not only reimburse URA with the construction costs for the additional floor areas but also give up the two premium sites, Mr WU held the view that the proposed arrangements appeared to be working in favour of URA. He was concerned that such arrangements would set a precedent for future projects involving URA's or

private developers' acquisition of land with existing GIC facilities. Mr WU said that it was not rare for the Administration to require private developers to provide additional public facilities free of charge, together with new developments, on a site previously used as GIC facilities. He queried why the Administration had not required URA to bear the construction costs for the additional floor space at the reprovisioned sites during its negotiation with the latter.

Admin

37. The Deputy Chairman concurred with Mr WU. He said that the sites concerned were premium ones that URA could hardly afford to miss out in the KTTC Redevelopment Project and hence the Administration should have asked for more in exchange during the negotiation. Referring to the huge profits that URA had made from redevelopment projects, Ms Cyd HO strongly supported the view that the Administration should have required URA to bear the construction costs for the additional floor areas at the reprovisioned medical facilities. She asked the Administration to provide information about the potential profits that URA would make by developing the site previously used as KTDBOB and the site currently used by KTJCHC.

38. PAS/DEV(P&L)4 replied that the provision of additional floor space at the reprovisioned sites followed the requests made by the relevant bureaux/departments. She said that in ordinary situations where additional departmental provision was required, the Administration would have to make funding requests to LegCo. As regards the worry that the Administration might have set an undesirable precedent in reimbursing URA with the construction costs for the additional floor areas of these GIC facilities in future cases involving private developers, PAS/DEV(P&L)4 said that her understanding was that if GIC facilities were required in private development sites, the requirement would be laid down in the land sale conditions. On the query over the Administration having failed in the negotiation with URA as a result of which two premium sites were lost to URA without getting more in return, PAS/DEV(P&L)4 said that this actually boiled down to the operating model of URA. Citing Operation Building Bright, a programme through which financial and technical assistance was provided to property owners in rehabilitating aged buildings, as an example, PAS/DEV(P&L)4 said that URA also undertook non-revenue generating tasks, which were supported with the profits from redevelopment projects. She said that URA briefed the Panel on Development periodically on the progress of its work including the financial information about the redevelopment projects. To illustrate the reprovisioning commitment of URA in the KTTC redevelopment, PAS/DEV(P&L)4 added that URA was

not only required to bear the costs for the reprovisioning of KTJCHC but also for the reprovisioning of offices in KTDBOB. As the permanent offices for the displaced KTDBOB would not be built until in the later phase of the KTTC redevelopment, URA had to pay for both the interim and permanent reprovisioning of the concerned offices. This included paying the rental charges for the interim offices of the Government departments affected by the demolition of KTDBOB as well as the related removal costs.

Other issues

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39. Noting that the additional Net Operational Floor Area ("NOFA") to be constructed by URA at the reprovisioned medical and health facilities would be 1 087 square metres, Ms Cyd HO asked the Administration to provide information about the construction cost per unit floor area it would reimburse URA. PAS/DEV(P&L)4 explained that the measurement of NOFA was different from that of gross floor area ("GFA"). She cited the corresponding measurement of the additional floor area involved in terms of GFA, based on which the unit cost at which URA would be reimbursed should work out to be a lower figure when compared with the unit cost on an NOFA basis.

40. The Deputy Chairman enquired whether the proposed funding would cover the costs for fitting-out works, furniture and equipment to be provided in the additional floor areas, and whether the one-for-one reprovisioning by URA included such costs. PAS/DEV(P&L)4 advised in the positive. As for the additional floor areas, the costs for the fitting-out works, furniture and equipment would be covered by the funds to be approved under PWP 111KA. PM(Kowloon)/CEDD added that according to the Architectural Services Department, the unit construction cost for the additional floor space under this project was comparable to that of other similar projects involving public medical and health facilities.

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41. To address Ms Cyd HO's concern about the adequacy of no-barrier access facilities at the medical and health centres to be installed at the reprovisioned sites, the Administration undertook to provide the layout plans/drawings of these facilities before PWP 111KA was discussed at the meeting of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC").

Submission of the proposals to the Public Works Subcommittee

Admin

42. Ms Cyd HO said that she did not object to the two proposals but reiterated her concern about the Administration receiving much better compensation from URA for relocating GIC facilities than the shop-owners affected by redevelopment projects. She requested the Administration to give an explanation on the different approaches.

43. In concluding the discussion on the items, the Chairman said that members in general supported the Administration's proposal to seek the endorsement of PWSC for the upgrading of 111KA and part-upgrading of 163TB to Category A.

VI PWP Item No. 334WF -- Expansion of Tai Po water treatment works and ancillary raw water and fresh water transfer facilities -- part 2 works

(LC Paper No. CB(1)168/12-13(01) -- Administration's paper on PWP Item No. 334WF -- Expansion of Tai Po water treatment works and ancillary raw water and fresh water transfer facilities -- part 2 works)

44. Principal Assistant Secretary (Works) 3, Development Bureau ("PAS(W)3/DEVB") briefed members on the Administration's proposal to upgrade PWP Item No. 334WF - "Expansion of Tai Po water treatment works ("WTW") and ancillary raw water and fresh water transfer facilities - part 2 works" to Category A at an estimated cost of \$6,176.7 million in money-of-the-day prices. He highlighted that the scope of the works project comprised (a) increasing the output capacity of Tai Po WTW from 400 million litres per day ("Mld") to 800 Mld, (b) upgrading the capacities of two pumping stations serving the Tai Po WTW, (c) expanding the storage capacity of a fresh water service reservoir, and (d) laying water mains in Sham Shui Po and Kowloon City. He explained that the works were necessary for Tai Po WTW to take up part of the loading of Sha Tin WTW so that Sha Tin WTW, which had been put into service since 1964, could be partially shut down for in-situ reprovisioning works to be undertaken in stages. Currently, the total quantity of fresh water supplied by Sha Tin WTW and Tai Po WTW met about 56% of the total demand of fresh water in Hong Kong.

45. The Chairman reminded members that in accordance with rule 83A of RoP of LegCo, they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the subjects under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the subjects. Under Rule 84 of RoP of LegCo, a member should not vote upon any question in which he had a direct pecuniary interest except under certain circumstances as provided for in Rule 84.

Cost-effectiveness of reprovioning the Sha Tin water treatment works

46. While expressing support for the project, Dr KWOK Ka-ki asked whether the full loading of Sha Tin WTW could be taken up by Tai Po WTW so that the site of the former could be released for housing development to meet the pressing housing need of the public. He considered it more cost-effective and less disturbing to the public if any works projects to increase the output capacity of Tai Po WTW to take up any part of the loading of Sha Tin WTW could be implemented in one go. He also enquired about the progress of the in-situ reprovioning works of Sha Tin WTW.

47. Noting the Administration's plan to relocate some existing government facilities to rock caverns, Mr WU Chi-wai asked whether Sha Tin WTW had been identified as one of such facilities. He opined that, to make proper use of public monies, the Administration should compare the costs and the effectiveness for relocating Sha Tin WTW to rock caverns and expanding Tai Po WTW to take up the full loading of Sha Tin WTW in one go. If the latter option was more cost-effective, there might be no need to relocate Sha Tin WTW to caverns.

48. PAS(W)3/DEVB said that due to space constraints and in order to maintain a reliable round-the-clock supply of fresh water during the reprovioning of Sha Tin WTW, the proposed reprovioning works would be undertaken in two stages. Sha Tin WTW comprised the South Works and the North Works. In the first stage, reprovioning works would only be carried out at the South Works which had been in use since 1964 and had already approached the end of their service life. The proposal to increase the capacity of Tai Po WTW to 800Mld was a step to prepare for the closure of the South Works for in-situ reprovioning. Funding had been approved by FC in 2010 for the Administration to engage consultants to carry out the design and site investigation for the first-stage reprovioning works. The Administration would consider the need for reprovioning the North Works after completing the reprovioning of South Works, taking into account the

forecast increase in future demand for fresh water. As regards the relocation of government facilities to rock caverns, PAS(W)3/DEVB advised that the Administration was conducting a feasibility study on the relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works to caverns and there was no plan for relocating Sha Tin WTW to caverns at the moment.

49. Dr KWOK Ka-ki further enquired whether the output capacity of Tai Po WTW could be further increased to take up the loading of not only the South Works of Sha Tin WTW, but also the North Works. PAS(W)3/DEVB replied that the Administration considered it not necessary to do so as the output capacity of Tai Po WTW, when increased to 800 Mld as proposed, together with that of the North Works of Sha Tin WTW, could well meet the current demand. Assistant Director/New Works, Water Supplies Department ("AD(NW)/WSD") added that, when considering whether to further uprate the output capacity of water treatment works, the Administration had to take into account a range of factors, including the costs for constructing additional water treatment components, raw water collection and fresh water distribution networks, and laying the associated water mains.

50. At the request of Dr KWOK Ka-ki, the Administration undertook to provide --

(a) the costs for the following two options --

Option 1 - To uprate the water treatment facilities at Tai Po WTW as proposed and to reprovision Sha Tin WTW;

Option 2 - To uprate the water treatment facilities at Tai Po WTW to increase its output capacity (currently at 400 Mld) to the extent that it could take up the full loading of Sha Tin WTW, which would then have no need for reprovisioning; and

(b) a comparison between the cost-effectiveness of Options 1 and 2, taking into account the potential value of the land to be released from the complete closure of Sha Tin WTW.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's supplementary information was circulated to members on 11 December 2012 vide LC Paper No. CB(1)289/12-13(01).)

Waste generated from water treatment process

51. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired about the handling of the waste generated from the water treatment process. In response, AD(NW)/WSD advised that the waste water generated from the treatment process would be mixed with the raw water for undergoing another treatment cycle, while the solid waste produced would be compressed into sludge cakes to reduce its volume before they were disposed of at the landfills. He assured members that appropriate measures were implemented to minimize the impact of waste handling on the environment and no adverse comments had been received.

Traffic impact of water mains laying works

52. Mr WU Chi-wai noted that fresh water mains with diameters ranging from 1 200 millimetres ("mm") to 1 800 mm would be laid in Sham Shui Po and Kowloon City as part of the proposed works. He expressed concern that such works would cause disruption to the traffic in the vicinity of the work sites and enquired about the Administration's measures to minimize the impact of the works on local traffic. AD(NW)/WSD said that the Administration had completed a traffic impact assessment ("TIA") for the proposed works. While any road work in the urban areas would affect local traffic to some extent, the TIA concluded that the proposed works would not cause significant impact on the local traffic network. Where necessary, appropriate temporary road diversion measures would be implemented in consultation with the Transport Department, the Police and the concerned District Councils.

53. Mr WU Chi-wai further suggested that, to minimize the inconvenience caused to the public and to facilitate utility installation work, the Administration should make use of the common utility trough concept to accommodate underground utilities, instead of opening the road to lay the utilities. PAS(W)3/DEVB advised that the Administration considered the suggestion not so feasible in old districts where the underground space was almost fully occupied by existing utilities. AD(NW)/WSD supplemented that in order to minimize the impact of the proposed works on the local traffic, consideration would be given to using trenchless method where desirable, i.e. to install an underground pipe from a "launching pit" to a "receiving pit" without opening up the road surface for the laying of pipes between these two pits. Despite that the cost for the trenchless method was much higher than the conventional one, the Administration would adopt the former as far as practicable.

54. In concluding the discussion on the item, the Chairman said that members in general supported the Administration's proposal to seek the endorsement of PWSC for the upgrading of 334WF to Category A, and that he would report members' views on the project to PWSC.

VII Policy and matters relating to preservation of historical remains discovered at works sites

(LC Paper No. CB(1)197/12-13(05) -- Administration's paper on policy and matters relating to preservation of historical remains discovered at works sites

LC Paper No. FS14/12-13 -- Paper on concerns raised by various sectors of the community regarding the discovery of historical remains at the construction site at Harcourt Garden in Admiralty prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat (Fact sheet))

Other relevant papers previously issued

(LC Paper No. CB(1)101/12-13(01) -- Letter dated 29 October 2012 from Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok on a media report about discovery of historical remains at the construction site of the MTR Corporation Limited at Harcourt Garden

LC Paper No. CB(1)108/12-13(01) -- Letter from Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki on a media report about discovery of historical remains at the construction site of the MTR Corporation Limited at Harcourt Garden

LC Paper No. CB(1)121/12-13(01) -- Administration's response to the letter dated 29 October 2012 from Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok on a media

report about discovery of historical remains at the construction site of the MTR Corporation Limited at Harcourt Garden as set out in LC Paper No. CB(1)101/12-13(01))

55. With the aid of a powerpoint presentation, Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1 ("DS/DEV(W)1") highlighted the existing administrative and statutory measures for the preservation of archaeological heritage in Hong Kong and introduced the enhanced notification system to be introduced for early announcement of archaeological discoveries during the construction phase. Executive Secretary (Antiquities and Monuments), Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("ES(A&M)/LCSD") briefed members on the discovery of historical remains at the works site of the MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL") at Harcourt Garden in Admiralty. He said that, the remains discovered were not part of the former Wellington Battery but fragments of the seawall of the mid-19th century, which had been damaged by various projects in early years, and the heritage value was relatively low. He stressed that the discovery had been handled in accordance with the established statutory and administrative procedures. The Antiquities and Monuments Office ("AMO") had agreed to MTRCL's recommendations for preserving the remains, i.e. detailed recording by photography, drawing and written description, etc., and had suggested that some of the blocks of the seawall be salvaged for reuse and appropriate interpretation in the future.

(Post-meeting note: A soft copy of the powerpoint presentation materials (LC Paper No. CB(1)237/12-13(03)) was circulated to members by email on 28 November 2012.)

Announcement of the discovery of seawall remains at Harcourt Garden

56. Dr KWOK Ka-ki pointed out that the incident of discovery of seawall remains at MTRCL's works site at Harcourt Garden served as a warning to the Administration against its handling of archaeological discoveries. He opined that the process, like a "black-box operation", was not transparent. Echoing this view, Dr Kenneth CHAN said that if not for the media reports, the public would probably continue to be kept in the dark about the existence of seawall remains at the works site until the discovery was reported at a meeting of the Antiquities Advisory Board ("AAB").

57. Mr CHAN Kin-por said while the professional views of the archaeologist engaged by MTRCL that the heritage value of the remains was relatively low should be respected, he considered it more desirable for MTRCL to announce the discovery of the remains, regardless of its heritage value, at the earliest stage to avoid arousing public suspicions. He sought clarifications on the appropriateness of MTRCL's practice in reporting the discovery.

58. Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) ("PS/DEV(W)") said that the report of the discovery had been handled according to established procedures. MTRCL's archaeologist had all along maintained communication with AMO over her archaeological search and study at the site. The archaeologist notified AMO in a timely manner in late September about the discovery of the remains, which was done in accordance with the relevant conditions in the licence granted to her for conducting archaeological search at the site. As the heritage value of the seawall remains was not high, it was not required under the existing practice for AMO to immediately inform AAB of the findings. However, under the enhanced measures to be introduced, once AMO had been notified of any archaeological discoveries and had completed a preliminary assessment on the heritage value of such discoveries, and before AMO informed the project proponent/archaeologist concerned of the agreed preservation method, AMO would report the discovery to AAB.

Preservation of the seawall remains

59. Dr KWOK Ka-ki was disappointed that the Administration, having no regard to the history of the seawall remains of more than one century, considered them not worth preserving in-situ. He opined that, as much of Hong Kong's built heritage, such as the Queen's Pier, had been demolished, the Administration should protect archaeological remains with best efforts. However, as reflected by the incident of the discovery at Harcourt Garden, the Administration was not doing its job well in protecting Hong Kong's archaeological heritage. Although it had not yet been established that the structural remains discovered were those of the Wellington Battery, he was concerned that the ongoing works at the site might cause damage to more historical remains underground. Dr KWOK further pointed out that, while MTRCL had engaged an archaeologist to monitor the excavation at the site, the public did not have the expertise to judge whether the archaeologist was doing her work in a professional and impartial manner.

60. PS/DEV(W) advised that the archaeologist appointed by MTRCL to do archaeological search and study at the works site at Harcourt Garden had obtained a licence from the Antiquities Authority ("AA"), after AMO had assessed the application and consulted AAB. Since MTRCL's works site at Harcourt Garden was once used for military purpose with military facilities, there might be remains relating to the military aspects of the colonial period at the site. Hence, the environmental impact assessment ("EIA") report for the South Island Line (East) recommended that MTRCL should commission an archaeologist to conduct an archaeological watching brief during the construction phase to monitor the excavation works. The report had been made public. The archaeologist had specified the operational arrangement for the archaeological watching brief, including the scope and methodology of the excavation of antiquities, and would notify AMO if there was any discovery. She might request MTRCL to suspend its works if any archaeological heritage or suspected archaeological heritage was discovered in order to facilitate her study and inspection. Based on the findings of her study, the archaeologist concluded that the heritage value of the seawall, which had been damaged by other works in the early years, was relatively low and the preservation value was not high. AMO had conducted a site visit and discussed with the archaeologist her findings. Both sides agreed that the structural remains were not part of the former Wellington Battery.

61. PS/DEV(W) further said that while the public had the right to monitor the Administration's work in heritage conservation, the views of experts should be respected. He invited Ms Julie VAN DEN BERGH, Director, Archaeological Assessments Ltd, the archaeologist commissioned by MTRCL, to elaborate on her study on the seawall remains.

62. Director, Archaeological Assessments Ltd supplemented that seawalls along the coast of the Hong Kong Island could be dated as early as 1841. They served functional purposes to present a clean shore for hygienic reasons and were common in the early colonial period. Those seawall remains discovered at Harcourt Garden had no link to any historical events and had been damaged in reclamation works and other construction projects conducted many years ago. They were only fragments with heights less than three metres. She considered that the heritage value of the seawall remains was relatively low.

63. While welcoming the Administration's proposed enhanced notification system for early announcement of archaeological discoveries, Dr Kenneth CHAN enquired whether AMO or the archaeologist had requested MTRCL to cease construction works at Harcourt Garden or adjust

the works to facilitate their study and inspection between the period from 25 September 2012, when AMO had been notified of the discovery of the remains, to early November 2012, when AAB members visited the site.

64. ES(AM)/LCSD said that after AMO had been notified of the discovery of the remains, AMO's staff conducted a site visit and discussed the findings with the MTRCL's archaeologist on 26 September 2012. In the first half of October 2012, the archaeologist recommended that a detailed recording be conducted for the remains. AMO agreed to her recommendations and suggested that some of the blocks of the seawall be salvaged for reuse and interpretation. In early November, AMO arranged site visits to inspect the remains for AAB members and academics from the University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Baptist University. During this period, the archaeologist continued her archaeological search at the site and found no disturbance. As the location of the discovery of the remains was critical to the construction works, the remains had been removed to make way for consolidation works.

65. Dr Kenneth CHAN noted that under the established procedure, discoveries of archaeological heritage were only reported to AAB after the archaeological works had been completed. He was concerned that AAB was not alerted in a timely manner on the discovery of historical remains to advise on their disposal.

66. PS/DEV(W) reiterated that the seawall remains discovered at Harcourt Garden were of relatively low heritage value. Therefore, under the established procedure, the discovery would only be submitted to AAB for consideration when the archaeological works had been completed. For important heritage discoveries, they would be reported to AAB immediately. ES(AM)/LCSD added that for those important discoveries, such as the remains of Lung Tsun Stone Bridge, site visits would be arranged for AAB as soon as possible.

67. Given that in-situ preservation of the seawall was not possible, Mr CHAN Kin-por asked whether the Administration would consider exhibiting some stone blocks in the museum in the future. PS/DEV(W) said that MTRCL and AMO would consider how to display the seawall remains.

Reporting of archaeological discoveries at private construction sites to the Administration

68. In response to Ms Cyd HO's enquiry about the reporting of archaeological discoveries at private construction sites, DS/DEV(W)1 said that under the EIA Ordinance (Cap. 499), an EIA study had to be conducted for all designated projects and a cultural heritage impact assessment might form part of the study as necessary. Mitigation measures in the EIA study report would be implemented by the project proponent to minimize impact on the concerned site. In the present case, starting from May 2011, MTRCL had commissioned an archaeologist to conduct an archaeological watching brief during the construction phase of the project. According to the relevant condition in the licence for the archaeological works, the archaeologist had to monitor the excavation works at the relevant site and report any actual and suspected structural remains to AMO. PS/DEV(W) added that the EIA Ordinance applied to both works at public and private construction sites. Moreover, the A&M Ordinance regulated the discovery and excavation of antiquities in Hong Kong. Under the Ordinance, any person who discovered, or knew of the discovery of, an antiquity or supposed antiquity should report the discovery to AA or a designated person and should take all reasonable measures to protect it.

69. Pointing out that there would be a number of private development projects in the Central and Western District and the majority might not be subject to the EIA Ordinance, Ms Cyd HO expressed concern about how the Administration could ensure that the relevant provisions in the A&M Ordinance on notifying the Administration in respect of archaeological discoveries could be enforced. DS/DEV(W)1 said that subsequent to a territory-wide survey to identify sites of archaeological interest, the Administration had compiled a list of 207 such sites in Hong Kong. The list had been deposited with concerned Government departments for reference to facilitate them to make early consideration on the protection of archaeological sites at the initial planning stage of a works project or development proposal. The list was regularly updated and available on AMO's website. AMO as well as public works departments kept a close watch on any possible impact on historical remains caused by public or private works projects at these sites.

VIII Any other business

70. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 6:05 pm.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
17 January 2013