立法會 Legislative Council

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Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 7th meeting held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Wednesday, 29 January 2014, at 8:30 am

Members present:

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, BBS, MH, JP (Chairman)

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP

Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai

Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP

Hon Charles Peter MOK

Hon CHAN Han-pan

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen

Member attending:

Hon IP Kin-yuen

Members absent:

Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Public officers attending:

Mr YEUNG Tak-keung Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and

the Treasury (Treasury)3

Mr CHAN Chi-ming Deputy Secretary for Development (Works)2

Mr Thomas CHOW Tat-ming Permanent Secretary for Development

(Planning and Lands)

Mr TSE Chin-wan, JP Deputy Director (1)

Environmental Protection Department

Ms Jasmine CHOI Suet-yung Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial

Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)

Mrs Avia LAI WONG Deputy Secretary (3)

Shuk-han, JP Home Affairs Bureau

Miss WONG Yuet-wah Principal Assistant Secretary (Culture)2

Home Affairs Bureau

Mr LEUNG Koon-kee, JP Director of Architectural Services

Mrs Alice YU NG Ka-chun Project Director (3)

Architectural Services Department

Mr FUNG Man-chung Assistant Director (Family and Child Welfare)

Social Welfare Department

Mr FAN Yung-kai Assistant Director (Operations)2

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Ms Winsome CHOW Assistant Director (Performing Arts)

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Kevin YEUNG Yun-hung Under Secretary for Education

Miss Wendy CHUNG Principal Assistant Secretary (Infrastructure

and Research Support)

Education Bureau

Mr LEUNG Kam-pui Chief Technical Adviser (Subvented Projects)

Architectural Services Department

Ms Esther CHOW Yuen-sai Group Director

P&T Architects and Engineers

Mr Ringo LUI Director (Quantity Surveyors and Construction

Cost Consultants)

WT Partnership (HK) Limited

Clerk in attendance:

Mr Derek LO Chief Council Secretary (1)5

Staff in attendance:

Mr Andy LAU

Ms Sharon CHUNG

Ms Connie HO

Mr Frankie WOO

Assistant Secretary General 1

Chief Council Secretary (1)6

Senior Council Secretary (1)3

Senior Legislative Assistant (1)3

Ms Christy YAU Legislative Assistant (1)7

Action

The Chairman reported that seven Capital Works Reserve Fund items of \$33,679.7 million had been endorsed by the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") in the 2013-2014 session so far, of which \$29,928.8 million was related to capital works projects. He further advised that two items were on the agenda for the meeting, including one item carried over from the meeting of 22 January 2014. The two items, if endorsed, would involve a total funding allocation of \$386.0 million. If these two funding proposals were approved, the cumulative number of items approved by PWSC in the 2013-2014 session would be nine while the total amount of funding approved would be \$34,065.7 million, of which \$30,314.8 million was related to capital works projects.

2. <u>The Chairman</u> then 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 funding proposals under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the item. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting or withdrawal in case of direct pecuniary interest.

Head 703 – Buildings PWSC(2013-14)35 183GK Reprov collection

183GK Reprovisioning of Shanghai Street refuse collection point and street sleepers' services units to the site at Hau Cheung Street, Yau Ma Tei for the phase II development of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre project

3. The Chairman advised that the proposal was to upgrade 183GK to Category A at an estimated cost of \$165.3 million in money-of-the-day prices for the re-provisioning of Shanghai Street refuse collection point ("RCP") and street sleepers' services units ("SSSU") to a site at Hau Cheung Street, Yau Ma Tei to vacate the original site for the Phase II development of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre ("YMTT") project. He informed members that the item was carried over from the previous meeting on 22 January 2014.

<u>In-situ re-provisioning of SSSU</u>

- 4. <u>Ms Emily LAU</u> said that she was not opposed to the proposed development of YMTT. However, she considered the proposed co-location arrangement of the re-provisioned RCP and SSSU in the new building to be constructed at the site at Hau Cheung Street unacceptable. In her view, the separation of the two facilities was the fundamental principle that the Administration should observe when planning for their re-provisioning. <u>Ms LAU</u> urged the Administration to explore other feasible arrangements to separate the two facilities, such as to re-provision the SSSU in-situ at Shanghai Street by incorporating it into the phase II development of YMTT, to preserve the dignity of SSSU's service users. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> expressed a similar view. She requested the Administration to provide detailed justifications for not adopting the aforesaid proposal.
- 5. Deputy Secretary (3), Home Affairs Bureau response, ("DS(3)/HAB"), advised that in order not to delay the implementation of the re-provisioning project, the Administration had strived to address comments of members of Panel on Home Affairs ("HA Panel") raised at the meetings on 15 April and 13 December 2013 by refining the design of the building to be built at the site at Hau Cheung Street for the re-provisioning of RCP and SSSU as much as possible. She said that in the latest design, the entrances of RCP and SSSU would be kept as far apart as possible. The entrance on the side of RCP facing the pavement would adopt a recessed and inconspicuous design, and planters would be installed. To mitigate the impact of the exhaust air from RCP, apart from treating the air of RCP by enhanced deodorized and filtering system, mechanical ventilation would also be installed at the windows facing Hau Cheung Street on 1/F and 2/F of

- SSSU. Meanwhile, the exhaust air duct of RCP would be located far away from the windows of SSSU and built at the highest possible level. More greening would be provided on the flat roof next to the windows of the dormitory at Hau Cheung Street to further improve the environment of SSSU. Furthermore, the Administration had modified the floor plan to allow flexibility for alteration of the orientation of the main entrance of the SSSU to the north such that it would not be located on the same side with that of RCP. Such a proposal could be implemented if the issue regarding the availability of a right of way to the north of the project site could be resolved.
- 6. DS(3)/HAB added that the Administration had given consideration to the suggestion of in-situ re-provisioning of SSSU by incorporating it into the phase II development of YMTT. However, the site adjacent to YMTT at Shanghai Street, with an area of just 500 m², was relatively small. Under such a proposal, the ancillary facilities of SSSU, including lifts, staircases, the entrance lobby and circulation spaces, would take up the central portion of the site. This would seriously affect the basic features, including the proposed expansion of the foyer, backstage facilities and access linkage, of YMTT phase II project. The proposal was therefore technically infeasible. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> considered the Administration's explanation unacceptable and urged the Administration to explore if a basement could be built at the project site for the phase II development of YMTT for the re-provisioning of SSSU. She said that members belonging to the Democratic Party would not support the funding proposal for the re-provisioning of RCP and SSSU if no improvement was made.

Alteration of the orientation of SSSU's entrance

- 7. Noting that the Administration had modified the floor plan to allow flexibility for alteration of the orientation of the main entrance of the SSSU to the north but the implementation of such a proposal was subject to whether the issue regarding the availability of a right of way to the north of the project site could be resolved, Mr WU Chi-wai enquired if the Administration could assure LegCo members that the proposal could be implemented. He expressed concern that the Administration merely used such a proposal for soliciting members' support for the funding proposal and would not implement it eventually.
- 8. <u>DS(3)/HAB</u> responded that to facilitate the implementation of the proposal, the Lands Department would need to follow up the demarcation and use of the land at the proposed north entrance, which was currently the storage area of the Yau Ma Tei Wholesale Fruit Market ("YMTWFM") under short-term tenancy. More importantly, the relevant Government department to undertake the management of the access road to the proposed north

entrance had to be identified.

9. Mr WU Chi-wai cast doubt on the Administration's determination in taking forward such a proposal. He was of the view that the issue regarding the availability of a right of way to the proposed north entrance of SSSU should not be difficult to resolve. The Highways Department ("HyD") should take up the management responsibility of the new access road to the proposed north entrance. Mr WU opined that the Administration should re-submit the funding proposal to the Subcommittee only when it had a more concrete plan to implement the aforesaid proposal.

Constructing two separate buildings at Hau Cheung Street

- 10. <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> considered the present arrangement of co-locating the RCP and SSSU under one roof undesirable. <u>Miss CHAN</u> said that as the Administration had not taken heed of LegCo members' views that the two facilities should be reprovisioned to separate locations and failed to come up with a revised proposal to address members' concerns in this regard, the phase II development of YMTT had been substantially delayed as a result. <u>Miss CHAN</u> enquired whether it was due to cost consideration that the proposed construction of two separate buildings for the re-provisioning of RCP and SSSU at the site at Hau Cheung Street as proposed by some members of HA Panel was considered not feasible by the Administration.
- DS(3)/HAB responded that cost was not a major concern of the 11. Administration in its consideration of the above proposal. She explained that the site at Hau Cheung Street was too small to be provided with sufficient means of escape and means of access for firefighting and rescue if RCP and SSSU were to be constructed as two completely separate buildings on the site. Even if a portion of the adjacent site currently used as the HyD's material store was included in the re-provisioning project, the two blocks would have to be built adjoining each other and this would not bring any Moreover, the proposal would concrete benefits to the service users. necessitate going through the planning process again and that would cause substantial delay to the project for at least 18 months. In the light of the above and the view expressed by Yau Tsim Mong District Council that the re-provisioning project should be implemented as soon as possible, the Administration therefore did not recommend pursuing this proposal further.

Constructing additional storeys in the new building

12. <u>Mr Frankie YICK</u> said that the Liberal Party would consider accepting the Administration's proposal if no alternative site could be identified for the re-provisioning of SSSU. Noting that the site at Hau

Cheung Street was not subject to specific height restriction, Mr YICK urged the Administration to seriously consider Mr Tony TSE's suggestion, which was made at the HA Panel meeting on 13 December 2013 regarding the construction of additional storeys in the new building despite the possible delay that might be caused to the re-provisioning project. He said that such a proposal would not only provide storage areas for Government departments to optimize the use of the site, but would also maximize the vertical distance between RCP and SSSU to mitigate the impact of the odour nuisance generated by RCP on service users of SSSU.

- 13. <u>DS(3)/HAB</u> responded that under the aforesaid proposal, the Administration would need to conduct internal consultation on the use of the proposed storage areas and draw up the relevant building specifications in accordance with user department's requirements. Also, another round of detailed technical feasibility study would need to be conducted in order to determine the viability of the proposal of adding more storeys to the building. <u>DS(3)/HAB</u> said that this would lead to further delay in the implementation of the re-provisioning project and hence the Administration did not recommend pursuing this proposal. She solicited members' support for the refined design proposed by the Administration as presented in the paper.
- 14. Mr MA Fung-kwok said that the funding proposal had put him in a dilemma. While the Administration's proposal of housing RCP and SSSU under one roof was considered undesirable from both the planning and political perspectives, the Cantonese opera sector had urged for early implementation of the re-provisioning project in order not to cause further delay to the phase II development of YMTT. Mr MA called on the Administration to strive to further improve the relevant facilities of the building as well as to maximize the horizontal and vertical distance between the two facilities to mitigate the adverse impact of the exhaust air of RCP on service users of SSSU should the funding proposal be approved. DS(3)/HAB undertook to study with relevant Government departments if further improvement measures could be implemented in the building in the light of Mr MA's request.

The co-location arrangement

15. <u>Mr Michael TIEN</u> enquired if the co-location of RCP and residential units in the same building was a design peculiar to the project in question. He was of the view that the proposed co-location arrangement of RCP and SSSU might not be regarded as "inhuman" to street sleepers if such a design was also adopted elsewhere in the territory. <u>DS(3)/HAB</u> responded that at present, eight RCPs under the management of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department were located on the ground floors of private residential

buildings, including one located at Grandeur Garden in Tai Wai and the other at The Castello in Siu Lek Yuen. Similar to the design of the project under discussion, there was only one floor between the RCP and the upper residential floors in the aforesaid private housing estates. The distance between the exhaust air outlet of RCP and residential units was just 6 metres, while that in the project under discussion was 9.6 to 21.4 metres.

- 16. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> opined that the present arrangement of co-locating the RCP and SSSU in the same building at Shanghai Street was undesirable. <u>Ms HO</u> criticized the Administration for not paying due respect to the dignity of street sleepers and taking the opportunity arising from the re-provisioning project to separate the two facilities to improve the living conditions of street sleepers. She indicated that she would vote against the funding proposal. <u>DS(3)/HAB</u> responded that given the small and densely populated area in Hong Kong, the co-location of RCP and residential units in the same building was not uncommon.
- 17. Mr Albert CHAN echoed Ms Cyd HO's view and expressed great dissatisfaction over the Administration's planning of the re-provisioning project. He pointed out that apart from odour nuisance, the RCP would also generate hygiene problems that affected the well-being of service users of SSSU. He criticized that the Administration had handled the project in a bureaucratic manner, ignoring the needs of street sleepers during the entire project planning process. He also cast doubt on whether the current proposal was in compliance with the prevailing guidelines on town planning.
- 18. Pointing out that service users of Shanghai Street SSSU was currently suffering from serious bed buds problems caused by the humid environment of RCP in the same building, <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> enquired whether the land in the HyD's material storage area, the temporary car park and the storage area of the YMTWFM located near the project site could be resumed for the re-provisioning of SSSU or RCP. <u>DS(3)/HAB</u> responded that in response to HA Panel's comments, the Administration had reviewed all the sites in the district and reaffirmed that there was no other site suitable for re-provisioning the RCP or SSSU.
- 19. Mr IP Kwok-him was of the view that given the scarcity of land and the high population density in Hong Kong, it was unavoidable that some residential buildings were in close proximity to waste facilities. He said that members belonging to the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong supported the funding proposal as the living environment of the existing Shanghai Street SSSU could be greatly improved upon its re-provisioning to the new site, and such an arrangement would benefit street sleepers in the district. In order to avoid further delay to the

phase II development of YMTT and to settle the issue on the re-provisioning of SSSU, Mr IP advised that the Administration should study the feasibility of members' proposed refinements to the design of the building, including the alteration of the orientation of SSSU's entrance to the north and the addition of a few storeys between RCP and SSSU.

20. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan indicated her support for the funding proposal. Pointing out that the existing Shanghai Street SSSU was in dilapidated conditions and that the two operators of SSSU supported the re-provisioning arrangement, Dr CHIANG was of the view that the project should be implemented as soon as possible to bring early benefits to street sleepers in In response to Dr CHIANG's enquiry about the time required the district. for the identification of an alternative site for the re-provisioning of SSSU should the funding proposal be negatived by the Subcommittee, DS(3)/HAB advised that the Administration had already reviewed all the sites in the district and confirmed that there was no other suitable site for the The Administration could not advise on the re-provisioning of SSSU. implementation time frame of the project if there was a need to identify another site for the same purpose again.

Voting results

21. There being no further questions, the Chairman put the item to vote. At the request of Ms Emily LAU, the Chairman ordered a division. Eleven members voted for and 14 members voted against the item. One member abstained from the voting. The voting results were as follows:

For:

Mr CHAN Kam-lam
Mr TAM Yiu-chung
Mr Abraham SHEK
Mr CHAN Hak-kan
Mr IP Kwok-him
Mr Michael TIEN
Mr MA Fung-kwok
Mr CHAN Han-pan
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung
Dr Elizabeth QUAT
Dr CHIANG Lai-wan

Against:

(11 members)

Mr James TO
Mr WONG Kwok-hing
Mr Alan LEONG
Mr Alan LEONG
Mr Albert CHAN
Mr WU Chi-wai
Mr Gary FAN
Mr Charles Peter MOK
Miss CHAN Yuen-han
Miss Alice MAK
Dr Fernando CHEUNG
(14 members)

Abstain Mr Frankie YICK (1 member)

22. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the item was negatived by the Subcommittee.

Head 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment PWSC(2013-14)34 94EB Redevelopment of Ying Wa Girls' School at Robinson Road, Hong Kong

- 23. The Chairman advised that the proposal was to seek approval of an increase in the approved project estimate ("APE") for 94EB (the Redevelopment Project) by \$220.7 million from \$432.7 million to \$653.4 million in money-of-the-day prices to cover the additional cost arising mainly from the higher-than-expected tender prices; and subsequent increase in provision for price adjustment, contingencies, consultants' fees and remuneration for resident site staff.
- 24. The Chairman further advised that the Panel on Education had been consulted on the proposal at its meeting on 9 December 2013. Panel members in general supported the proposal. The gist of Panel's discussion was tabled at the meeting.
- 25. Pointing out that the total cost of the Redevelopment Project amounting to \$653.4 million was sufficient to build two ordinary secondary schools, Ms Emily LAU commented that the cost for redevelopment of Ying Wa Girls' School ("the School") was considerable. She asked about the criteria of the Administration in assessing the request made by schools on redevelopment and whether the School Sponsor would be able to bear part of the additional cost.
- 26. <u>Under Secretary for Education</u> ("US(Ed)") advised that the Administration would consider a number of factors including the age and size of the school premises in assessing the need for reprovisioning or redevelopment. He said that the existing site area of the School of about 4 921 m² was far below the prevailing standard site area of 6 950 m² for a 30-classroom secondary school. In order to overcome the space shortage of the School and accommodate the required facilities for a 30-classroom secondary school, another nearby site at Breezy Path was included in the Redevelopment Project. He further said that the Administration had explored the option of relocating the School to another district. However,

having considered the School's long history in servicing the Central and Western District, the established network of students in the District and the school's preference to improve the learning and teaching environment through in-situ redevelopment, the Administration eventually accepted the School's proposal to opt for in-situ redevelopment.

- 27. <u>US(Ed)</u> further said that under the Redevelopment Project, the works would be managed and contracted out by the School with Government subvention, which was capped at an amount for constructing a standard 30-classroom secondary school. The School Sponsor would, on top of Government subvention, bear the costs for additional piling works, which were required to cater for future expansion of the School. He explained that since the upsurge in the project cost was not due to the School's fault or any variation of project scope beyond the schedule of accommodation initiated by the School, the Administration was of the view that the additional cost should be met by Government subvention.
- 28. <u>Ms Emily LAU</u> noted that the School had conducted tender negotiation with the conforming tenderers and a further price reduction was achieved as a result. She asked whether it was appropriate to conduct tender negotiation with tenderers after receipt of tenders.
- 29. <u>Chief Technical Adviser (Subvented Projects)</u>, Architectural Services <u>Department</u> ("CTA(SP)/ASD") advised that the tender negotiation was conducted by the School in accordance with the terms and conditions stipulated in the tender document. He explained that since the returned tender price turned out to be much higher than the original estimate, the School conducted tender negotiation with the conforming tenderers whose tenders were clearly more advantageous with a view to minimizing the total cost of the Redevelopment Project. He added that it was not a standard practice to conduct tender negotiation but this was done by the School in this case for the aforesaid reason.
- 30. <u>Ms Emily LAU</u> considered that the Administration should strive to bargain for a further reduction in tender price. <u>CTA(SP)/ASD</u> responded that the School had already undergone several rounds of negotiation with the tenderers to secure the proposed price reduction. <u>US(Ed)</u> agreed to discuss further with the School on the feasibility of exploring further price reduction with the tenderers.
- 31. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> asked about the amount of additional cost which was due to general increase in the cost of building works and site difficulties respectively. She considered that since the site specific difficulties of the redevelopment project were known when the original APE was prepared,

there should not be a significant deviation between the original and revised cost estimates.

- 32. <u>CTA(SP)/ASD</u> replied that the amount of additional cost which was due to general increase in the cost of building works and site difficulties accounted for about \$75 million and \$100 million respectively. He explained that the original estimate was based on the best available data, having regard to the reference cost for constructing a standard secondary school and the additional cost which might arise from the specific site difficulties. The original estimate had already doubled the cost for constructing a standard secondary school. Unfortunately, the tender prices received were still higher than expected.
- 33. <u>CTA(SP)/ASD</u> further said that the higher-than-expected tender prices might be due to the thriving construction market. He pointed out that the Redevelopment Project required construction works on a congested steep slope with substantial level differences under a special geological zoning. In comparison to the Redevelopment Project, contractors would prefer to bid for technically more straightforward projects. He said that it was difficult for the Administration to accurately estimate the tenderers' perception on the risks involved and their evaluation on the difficulties of the project's site conditions when the Administration worked out the original project estimate.
- Mr Michael TIEN considered that the under-estimation of additional cost arising from site difficulties might be due to the Administration's failure to ascertain the tenderer's interests in bidding for the Redevelopment Project. To address the problem, he asked whether the Administration would consider conducting the tender exercise prior to seeking budget approval from the LegCo in future works projects with a view to making a more accurate project estimate.
- 35. <u>US(Ed)</u> said that the tendering of the Redevelopment Project had followed the normal procurement procedures of the Government. The existing arrangement would enable the Administration to obtain LegCo's prior consent and secure funding to take forward the Redevelopment Project based on the latest cost estimate. He noted the views of Mr TIEN and undertook that the Education Bureau would explore the appropriateness of adopting the proposed procedure for future school projects with special site conditions.
- 36. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> expressed grave concern on the huge cost overrun in redeveloping the School. In his view, the Administration should consider to shelve the Redevelopment Project if the estimated construction cost had exceeded a certain level. He said that LegCo might not have approved the

Project if it knew that the Project would entail such a high cost. He urged the Administration, in particular the Development Bureau ("DEVB"), to assess the value for money and to review its strategy in view of the escalating construction costs of public works projects when taking forward other public works projects such as the redevelopment of Wah Fu Estate.

- 37. <u>Deputy Secretary for Development (Works)2</u> ("DS(W)2/DEVB") noted the views of Mr CHAN and undertook that DEVB would revert to LegCo with an overview of the delivery of the Government's Capital Works Programme after compiling the relevant information.
- 38. <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> indicated support for the Redevelopment Project but expressed concern over the significant increase in project cost. She observed that in face of the escalating construction cost of project, the Administration had been passive in negotiating with works contractors on contract price. She considered that the Administration should address the problem seriously and requested the Chairman to convey members' concern to the Chief Secretary for Administration ("CS"). She also urged DEVB to review the matter concerned.
- 39. The Chairman said that at the PWSC meeting on 7 January 2014, members had raised concerns over the huge cost overruns of some large-scale public works projects and requested for the Administration to conduct a review on the coordination and planning of large-scale public works projects as well as the cross-departmental coordination work involved, with a view to improving the management and monitoring of such projects. Besides conveying members' concerns to CS, he had requested the Chairman of the House Committee ("HC") at the HC meeting held on 10 January 2014 to draw CS's attention to members' concerns. He said that CS's reply (LC Paper No. PWSC40/13-14(02)) had been circulated to PWSC members on 24 January 2014. The issue on overall planning and control of public works projects had been referred to the Panel on Development for follow-up.
- 40. <u>DS(W)2/DEVB</u> said that between 2009 and 2013, the labour cost of construction workers had increased by about 33% but the tender prices for works projects by about 60%. It was observed that there was indeed correlation between the thriving construction market and level of tender prices. He said that DEVB would revert to Legco on the relevant issues in due course.
- 41. The item was voted on and endorsed.
- 42. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the Administration planned to submit the funding proposal to the Finance Committee at its meeting to be held on

21 February 2014. He consulted members whether this item would require separate discussion and voting at the relevant FC meeting. Members did not raise any specific request.

Any other business

43. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:09 am.

Council Business Division 1
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
21 July 2014