

For Information

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PANEL ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Energy Saving Plan for Hong Kong's Built Environment 2015~2025+

Purpose

Following the meeting held on 22 June 2015 to discuss the Energy Saving Plan for Hong Kong's Built Environment 2015~2025+ (Energy Saving Plan), the Government would like to provide the following information as requested by Members –

- (a) the assessment criteria of the Building Environmental Assessment Method (BEAM) Plus certification of the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC);
- (b) the Youth Energy Saving Award; and
- (c) the "New Energy New Generation" Solar Car Competition.

Background

2. The Environment Bureau published on 14 May 2015 the Energy Saving Plan which is the first-ever energy saving blueprint for Hong Kong. We briefed Members on the content of the Energy Saving Plan at the meeting on 22 June 2015.

3. As part of the efforts to achieve the new target of reducing 40% energy intensity in Hong Kong by 2025 as set out in the Energy Saving Plan, the Environment Bureau and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) jointly launched the "Energy Saving for All" Campaign to promote energy saving and enhance energy efficiency in May 2015. The Campaign comprises, among others, the New Energy New Generation Solar Car Competition and the Youth Energy Saving Award.

Youth Energy Saving Award

4. Public engagement is critical to the promotion of energy saving in every sector of the community. As such, the Government has launched the Youth Energy Saving Award to encourage young people to form teams to plan for and implement measures to save energy and reduce carbon emission. The participating teams are required to design and implement energy saving measures at their selected venues and come up with innovative suggestions to promote the use of renewable energy and measures to save energy. Each winning team will be granted a cash reward to be given out by the winning team to a non-government organisation for youth services of their choice, so that the organisation can help the needy to improve their living conditions. This initiative carries both environmental and social values, and can help promote energy saving as well as a harmonious and caring culture. Details of the Award scheme are at EMSD's webpage:

<http://www.energysaving.gov.hk/en/events/yep_youth.html>

“New Energy New Generation” Solar Car Competition

5. The Government has launched the “New Energy New Generation” Solar Car Competition to promote the interest of undergraduates and secondary school students in renewable energy and its application, as well as the general public's understanding of renewable energy and its effectiveness. The competition which comprises the elements of environmental technology and innovation will enhance the public's interest and knowledge in renewable energy applications. Details of the Solar Car Competition are at EMSD's webpage:

<http://www.energysaving.gov.hk/en/events/yep_car.html>

BEAM Plus Assessment Scheme

6. HKGBC strives to promote the standards and developments of sustainable buildings in Hong Kong. It issues ratings to projects according to BEAM Plus which is a comprehensive environmental assessment scheme for new and existing buildings.

7. BEAM Plus sets out criteria on how buildings should be designed, constructed, operated, etc. to increase the overall building sustainability. The assessment includes the following six aspects of a project:

- (a) Site Aspects
- (b) Energy Use
- (c) Indoor Environmental Quality
- (d) Materials Aspects
- (e) Water Use
- (f) Innovations and Additions

8. HKGBC would issue a rating to the project according to the scoring after Provisional Assessment or Final Assessment:

- (a) Platinum
- (b) Gold
- (c) Silver
- (d) Bronze
- (e) Unclassified

9. BEAM Plus is owned and operated by the BEAM Society Limited which would update the assessment criteria from time to time in accordance with local and international best practices. Details of the BEAM Plus Assessment Scheme can be found at HKGBC's webpage:

<https://www.hkgbc.org.hk/eng/BEAMPlus_NBEB.aspx>

10. As a policy to foster a quality and sustainable built environment and an effective measure to promote green buildings in Hong Kong, certification by BEAM Plus is one of the prerequisites for the granting of gross floor area (GFA) concessions for certain green and amenity features in development projects. The concession available, having met this and other requirements, is capped at a 10%. For buildings in the Government sector, all new government buildings of Construction Floor Area (CFA) above 10 000 m², or above 5 000m² with central air-conditioning, should aim to obtain the second highest grade or above under the BEAM Plus.

Environment Bureau
October 2015