# 立法會 Legislative Council

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# Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> meeting held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Saturday, 11 June 2016, at 9:00 am

#### **Members present:**

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

Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Hon James TO Kun-sun

Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP

Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP

Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP

Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP

Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP

Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung

Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Hon Claudia MO

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS

Hon WU Chi-wai, MH

Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

Hon KWOK Wai-keung

Hon Dennis KWOK

Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP

Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP

Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

#### **Members attending:**

Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai Hon IP Kin-yuen

#### **Members absent:**

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu

# **Public officers attending:**

Mr Raistlin LAU Chun, JP

Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and

the Treasury (Treasury)3

Mr HON Chi-keung, JP Permanent Secretary for Development

(Works)

Mr Michael WONG Wai-lun, JP Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands) (Session One) Ms Selene TSOI Sze-long Deputy Secretary for Development (Session Two) (Planning and Lands)3 Miss Amy YUEN Wai-yin Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (1)(Acting) Ms Jasmine CHOI Suet-yung Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works) Miss Charmaine WONG Assistant Director of Home Affairs (2) Hoi-wan, JP Mr Martin KWAN Wai-cheong Chief Engineer (Works) Home Affairs Department Ms Maureen SIU Mo-lin, JP District Officer (Sai Kung) Home Affairs Department Ms Dawn LEONG Shok-fun Project Manager (Architect) (Sai Kung) Home Affairs Department Mr Francis LEE Man-chow Chief Engineer (Port Works) Civil Engineering and Development Department Mr Raymond CHENG Kin-man Senior Engineer (Projects)1 Civil Engineering and Development Department **Under Secretary for Education** Mr Kevin YEUNG Yun-hung, JP Mrs Elina CHAN Principal Assistant Secretary for Education

(Infrastructure and Research Support)

Mrs Gloria LI HO Suk-wa Principal Inspector (Special Education

Support )1

**Education Bureau** 

Mr LEUNG Koon-kee, JP Director of Architectural Services

Mr Frank WONG Tak-choi Project Director (1)

Architectural Services Department

Mr Peter NG Ka-him Assistant Director (Youth and Corrections)

Social Welfare Department

Mr Edwin WONG Kuo-yang Chief Assistant Secretary for Development

(Works)7

Ms Cynthia LO Siu-han Departmental Secretary

Electrical and Mechanical Services

Department

Mr SZETO Wing-sum Senior Engineer (Project )7

Electrical and Mechanical Services

Department

Mr LO Kwok-kong Chief Civil Engineer (Public Works

Programme)

Transport and Housing Bureau

Mr Daniel CHUNG Kum-wah,

JP

Director of Civil Engineering and

Development

Mr Norman HEUNG Yuk-sai,

JP

Project Manager (Kowloon)

Civil Engineering and Development

Department

Mr Janson WONG Chi-sing Deputy Project Manager (Kowloon)

(Acting)

Civil Engineering and Development

Department

Mr SUEN Wai-man Chief Architect (7) (Acting)

Housing Department

Mr HO Hin-leung Chief Civil Engineer (1)

Housing Department

Ms Angela LEE Chung-yan	Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)
Ms Sandy CHEUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Culture)2
Mrs Alice YU NG Ka-chun	Project Director (3) Architectural Services Department
Mr LAM Wing-hong	Assistant Director (Operations)2 of Food and Environmental Hygiene
Mr FUNG Man-chung	Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Family and Child Welfare)
Mrs Clara LEUNG SO Yu-bik	Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Administration)
Mr Michael CHIU Yat-on	Chief Executive Officer (Planning)1 Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Edwin TONG Ka-hung, JP	Director of Drainage Services
Mr KWOK Ping-keung	Chief Engineer (Consultants Management) Drainage Services Department
Mr Alan SIU Yu-bun, JP	Director of Administration and Development Department of Justice
Mr Wesley WONG Wai-chung, SC	Solicitor General Department of Justice
Mrs Apollonia LIU LEE Ho-kei, JP	Deputy Director (Special Duty) Department of Justice
Ms Josephine CHEUNG Pui-lin	Principal Executive Officer (Special Duty) Department of Justice
Mr Enoch LAM Tin-sing, JP	Director of Water Supplies

Works)

Assistant Director of Water Supplies (New

Mr LEUNG Wing-lim, JP

Mr Ringo MOK Wing-cheong Chief Engineer (Kowloon)5

Civil Engineering and Development

Department

#### **Attendance by invitation:**

Mr Francis CHAU Yin-ming,

BBS, MH

Chairman of the Signature Project Scheme

Committee

Sai Kung District Council

#### Clerk in attendance:

Ms Sharon CHUNG Chief Council Secretary (1)2

#### **Staff in attendance:**

Mr Fred PANG Senior Council Secretary (1)2 Mr Raymond CHOW Senior Council Secretary (1)6

Ms Maggie LAU Council Secretary (1)2

Ms Alice CHEUNG Senior Legislative Assistant (1)1

Ms Clara LO

Ms Haley CHEUNG

Legislative Assistant (1)8

Legislative Assistant (1)9

#### **Action**

The Deputy Chairman advised that there were 12 funding proposals on the agenda for the meeting. Eight of them were items carried over from the previous meeting of the Subcommittee. He said that the meeting would be conducted in two sessions with the first one lasting from 9:00 am to 12:45 pm, and the second one lasting from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. There would be a break between the two sessions.

2. The Deputy 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 funding proposals under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the proposals. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

[At the start, the meeting was chaired by the Deputy Chairman; the Chairman took over the chair at 11:16 am.]

**Head 707 – New Towns and Urban Area Development** 

PWSC(2016-17)22 50TF Signature Project Scheme (Sai Kung District) - Reconstruction of the Sharp Island Pier

> 67RG Signature Project Scheme (Sai Kung District) - Construction of the Tseung Kwan O Heritage Hiking Trail and the Heritage Information Centre

3. The Deputy Chairman advised that the proposal was to upgrade 50TF and 67RG to Category A at estimated costs of \$48.8 million and \$45.4 million in money-of-the-day ("MOD") prices respectively to implement two projects under the Signature Project Scheme ("SPS") in Sai Kung District, namely Reconstruction of the Sharp Island Pier and Construction of the Tseung Kwan O ("TKO") Heritage Hiking Trail and the Heritage Information Centre. The Panel on Home Affairs had been consulted on the proposed project on 12 April 2016. Panel members supported the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

<u>Signature Project Scheme (Sai Kung District) - Construction of the Tseung</u> Kwan O Heritage Hiking Trail and the Heritage Information Centre

Relocation of Po Yin Temple

- 4. Mr Albert CHAN asked why the Administration had not identified a site for permanent relocation of Po Yin Temple ("the Temple") when demolishing the Tiu Keng Leng cottage area in early years, but instead only rented part of the area of the ex-Tiu Keng Leng Police Station ("the ex-TKLPS") to the Temple on a short-term tenancy. As a result, the Temple had to identify another site for relocation due to the resumption of the ex-TKLPS site for the construction of the TKO Heritage Hiking Trail and the Heritage Information Centre.
- 5. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> criticized the Administration for not having discussed the relocation arrangements with the Temple and the parties concerned prior to its decision to resume the ex-TKLPS for implementing the SPS projects. <u>Dr CHEUNG</u> pointed out that although the Administration had the legal basis to resume the land of the ex-TKLPS occupied by the

Temple, since the Temple had been operating on the site for years, it should handle the matters relating to the relocation of the Temple flexibly and with an open mind.

- 6. The Chairman of the Signature Project Scheme Committee, Sai Kung District Council ("Chairman of SPS Committee/SKDC), said that being the only building in the cottage area that survived since the 60s of last century, the ex-TKLPS had witnessed the changes of TKO for decades and was valued as part of the collective memory. It was therefore suitable for preservation and conversion into an information centre. The Temple had rented part of the area of the ex-TKLPS for religious purposes on a short-term tenancy only since 1999 after the demolition of the Tiu Keng Leng cottage area. The tenancy, which was granted for a period of two years, was subject to renewal on a quarterly basis at an annual rent of \$1. Both sides, namely the Administration and the Temple, could terminate the tenancy at any time by giving three months' notice. For over a decade since then, the Temple had not submitted any application for land allocation or redevelopment.
- 7. <u>Chairman of SPS Committee/SKDC</u> further said that after deciding on the site of the information centre, the Sai Kung District Council ("SKDC") had, together with representatives of relevant government departments and the Temple, set up a liaison group by which various meetings were held to explain the relevant arrangements and provide assistance to the Temple. Information on at least 11 pieces of vacant government land was also provided to the Temple for consideration of relocation. But the Temple wished to continue its operation at the ex-TKLPS and refused to move out. <u>Chairman of SPS Committee/SKDC</u> stressed that both SKDC and the Administration were willing to continue to provide assistance to the parties concerned in connection with the site selection for the relocation of the Temple.
- 8. Mr Gary FAN declared that he was a member of the SKDC. He pointed out that the SPS project on "Construction of the Tseung Kwan O Heritage Hiking Trail and the Heritage Information Centre" had been approved by a majority vote of members of SKDC. In considering the project concerned, SKDC had conducted extensive district consultation especially among the former residents of Tiu Keng Leng. The consultation outcome showed that residents in general supported the establishment of an information centre at the ex-TKLPS, a structure that had borne witness to the history of Tiu Keng Leng, to exhibit the historic setting of Tiu Keng Leng. SKDC had also set up a liaison group jointly with the Sai Kung District Office ("SKDO") and the Sai Kung District Lands Office to help with the relocation of the Temple. According to the information search conducted by

the residents, there had once been a long period during which the Temple was not open for worship by the public. Mr FAN pointed out that a case conference had been arranged by the Public Complaints Office of the LegCo Secretariat to follow up on the issues concerning the Administration's compensation for the Temple and the arrangements for site selection for its relocation back then.

9. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether the Temple would be required to submit an application on its own to the government department concerned for change of land use if it had chosen a site among the 11 pieces of land offered by the Government for relocation purposes. Mr Tony TSE expressed support for the proposed SPS project. He asked how the Administration gauged the area of land required for relocating the Temple. District Officer (Sai Kung) ("DO(SK)") said that the Administration would, if necessary, provide appropriate assistance to the Temple regarding the application. As to the area of land sought for relocation of the Temple, it must be comparable to the area of the site previously occupied by the Temple.

#### Rental arrangements after relocation of the Temple

- 10. <u>Mr WU Chi-wai</u> enquired whether the Administration had, at the time of the demolition of the Tiu Keng Leng cottage area, promised the Temple that it would continue to be charged an annual rent of \$1 if it had to be relocated in future. <u>Mr WU</u> was of the view that such an arrangement should continue without requiring the Temple to submit an application afresh.
- 11. <u>DO(SK)</u> responded that at the time of the demolition of the Tiu Keng Leng cottage area, the Administration had already compensated all affected residents and organizations under the prevailing policy, including the Temple and the relevant parties. A vast majority of these organizations had used the compensation to identify new sites for reprovisioning. If the Temple made an application for relocation, the Administration would handle the future tenancy arrangement in accordance with established procedures, depending on the information submitted by the Temple (e.g. whether the Temple was a temple under the Chinese Temples Committee and was registered as a charity).

# Compensation for the Temple

12. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> opined that the Administration should, by drawing reference from the arrangements made for the Choi Yuen Tsuen villagers affected by the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link project and for residents affected by the North East New Territories Development project, make "special arrangement for special case"

so as to provide special compensation to the Temple affected by the SPS project to facilitate its relocation. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> expressed a similar view.

13. <u>DO(SK)</u> clarified that unlike the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link project or the North East New Territories Development project, resumption of the ex-TKLPS site occupied by the Temple did not involve demolition of buildings. She reiterated that when demolishing the Tiu Keng Leng cottage area years ago, the Government had provided compensation for the persons and organizations affected, including the Temple. Those affected persons and organizations were required to find other sites for relocating themselves. The Administration had also offered additional assistance to the Temple by leasing part of the area of the ex-TKLPS to it since 1999 as an interim relocation arrangement. It had been clearly set out in the documents issued by the Government to the Temple then as well as the relevant documents of the Ombudsman that this was a short-term tenancy arrangement.

#### Handling of items of the Temple

14. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen noted that the Administration had taken land control action in June 2015 to resume the ex-TKLPS site. Given that the people from the Temple alleged that the authorities had seized certain items from the Temple during the operation, Mr CHAN enquired about the current whereabouts of such items. DO(SK) responded that after the land control action, the items of the Temple and personal items of the relevant persons had all along been in the custody of the authorities. The authorities had repeatedly contacted the relevant persons of the Temple by telephone, email, letter, etc., urging them to reclaim the items as soon as possible, but no response had been received. Such items were currently stored in government premises.

# Voting on PWSC(2016-17)22

- 15. There being no further questions from members on the item, the Deputy Chairman put the item to vote.
- 16. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant meeting of the Finance Committee ("FC"). No member made such a request.

# Head 703 – Buildings PWSC(2016-17)25 109ET A school for social development for boys in Area 2B, Tuen Mun

17. The Deputy Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2016-17)25, was to upgrade 109ET to Category A at an estimated cost of \$408.5 million in MOD prices for building a school for social development for boys-cum-residential home in Area 2B, Tuen Mun, for the reprovisioning of Tung Wan Mok Law Shui Wah School cum Island Hostel ("MLSWS"). The Panel on Education had been consulted on the proposal on 9 May 2016. Panel Members supported the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. The gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

# Views of the Tuen Mun community on the proposed reprovisioning project

- 18. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen supported the proposed reprovisioning project. He noted that some members of the Tuen Mun District Council ("TMDC") had made a joint submission to the Panel on Education in objection to the proposed reprovisioning project. He urged the Administration to have further communications with those TMDC members to avoid discrimination or negative emotions from the local community towards the school, which might affect its operation.
- 19. In response, <u>Under Secretary for Education</u> ("US(Ed)") said that the Administration had taken note of some TMDC members' concerns about and objections to the proposed reprovisioning project. At the meeting of the Panel on Education on 9 May 2016, Panel members belonging to different political groups had fully expressed their views and supported the submission of the proposed reprovisioning project to the Subcommittee for consideration. <u>US(Ed)</u> further said that the Administration had also communicated with schools within the district to help them understand the operation of MLSWS and their feedback was positive in general. Upon approval of the funding proposal for the reprovisioning project by FC, the Education Bureau ("EDB"), together with Tuen Mun District Office, would continue to assist MLSWS in communicating with different local stakeholders and building a good relationship with the local community.
- 20. Mr IP Kin-yuen said that in view of the undesirable physical condition and facilities of MLSWS's existing premises, he supported the proposed reprovisioning project. He also pointed out that there were many other schools for social development and special schools whose physical conditions and facilities were undesirable. He hoped that the Administration would expeditiously improve the teaching environment of such schools so as to

benefit both the students and parents concerned. The Administration took note of his views.

#### Problem of traffic noise

- 21. Pointing out that the traffic of Ming Kum Road adjacent to the new premises of MLSWS was busy and frequented by large vehicles, <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> asked whether the Administration had assessed the impacts of traffic noise on the school.
- 22. <u>US(Ed)</u> replied that the Administration intended to erect 2.5-metre high solid boundary walls on the eastern site boundary (i.e. the side near Ming Kum Road) to mitigate the traffic noise, together with window insulation and air-conditioning for classrooms and teaching rooms being exposed to traffic noise exceeding the established standards.
- 23. Mr Albert CHAN said that it was undesirable to keep windows of classrooms and teaching rooms closed for most of the time during classes or activities in order to insulate noise from outside. He was of the view that compared with window insulation and air conditioning for classrooms and teaching rooms, installation of noise barriers along Ming Kum Road would be more appropriate for mitigating traffic noise. The Administration took note of his views.

# Voting on PWSC(2016-17)25

- 24. There being no further questions from members on the item, <u>the Deputy Chairman</u> put the item to vote.
- 25. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

# Head 703 – Buildings PWSC(2016-17)26 353EP A 30-classroom primary school at Site KT2b, Development at Anderson Road, Kwun Tong

26. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> advised that the proposal was to upgrade 353EP to Category A at an estimated cost of \$351.1 million in MOD prices for the construction of premises of a primary school at the Development at Anderson Road, Kwun Tong ("the proposed school premises"), for reprovisioning S.K.H. St. John's Primary School ("SJPS") in Kwun Tong.

The Panel on Education had been consulted on the proposed project on 9 May 2016 and its members supported the project. The gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

Provision of primary school places for On Tat Estate and the Kwun Tong district

- Mr Albert CHAN opined that in planning for the new school premises 27. for primary schools, it was necessary for the Administration to take into consideration the total number of students in a district and flexibly adjust the demarcation of school nets if necessary, so as to avoid "closure of schools" with insufficient student intake in individual school nets within a district while a new school was being built in the same district. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that On Tat Estate, which was close to the proposed school premises, would soon be ready for occupation, but the new school premises would not be completed until the end of 2018. Mr WU enquired about how the Administration would cope with the demand of school-age children of On Tat Estate for primary school places before the inauguration of the school As the Housing Department ("HD") had already finished premises. allocating units of On Tat Estate to households, he urged EDB to seek relevant information from HD in order to gain a better understanding of information such as the number of school-age children who would reside in On Tat Estate and who would be enrolled in primary schools.
- 28. US(Ed) said that in planning the School Building Programme, the Administration would give due regard to the projected school-age population The proposed school premises did not mean to serve only the school-age children of On Tat Estate. The overall supply of and demand for primary school places in the district would not be affected because the new school premises would be used for reprovisioning SJPS and not for operating Currently, taking into account the places in the two a new school. time-limited aided primary schools (which were located in the ex-premises of Five Districts Business Welfare Association Yan Kow School and the ex-premises of Grantham College of Education Past Students' Association Kwun Tong Primary School) in Kwun Tong, together with places borrowed from neighbouring school nets, there would be sufficient primary school places in the district altogether to meet the future demand of local school-age EDB would issue, in collaboration with HD, questionnaires to new tenants of the housing estates in the Development at Anderson Road to gather information on school children switching to schools in Kwun Tong for making a forecast on the demand for school places in the district.

#### School equipment

#### Basketball court and running track

Mr SIN Chung-kai noted that two basketball courts and one running track were included in the design of the proposed school premises. He opined that converting the two basketball courts into one football pitch would better serve primary school students' interests. <u>US(Ed)</u> said that the design of the school premises had been finalized after discussions with the sponsoring body of the school during which students' needs and interests had been taken into account. At the request of Mr SIN, the Administration agreed to consult the sponsoring body again on the current school design with two basketball courts, including whether an additional non-standard football pitch should be marked out within the area of the basketball courts.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC274/15-16(01)</u> on 22 June 2016.)

30. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> asked whether the length of the running track in the proposed primary school met the required standards. <u>US(Ed)</u> advised that the lengths of running tracks would differ subject to spatial and physical constraints of individual school premises. The Administration would provide longer running tracks for schools as far as practicable.

# Load-bearing capacity of the foundation

31. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether spare load-bearing capacity would be reserved in the foundation of the proposed school premises to facilitate addition of more storeys in future if necessary. He believed that the reservation would not incur much expenditure. Director of Architectural Services ("DArchS") said that the number of storeys of the proposed school premises was designed in accordance with the current standards for new school premises. If more storeys were to be built for the school premises, apart from the load-bearing capacity of the foundation to be increased, the uses of the additional storeys as well as the additional fire escapes and electrical and mechanical facilities thus required must be considered in detail.

# Greening of school premises

#### Greening standards and resources

32. Noting the differences between the proposed school and the school in PWSC(2016-17)25 (i.e. a school for social development for boys in Area 2B,

- Tuen Mun) in terms of their scopes of greening works and designs, <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> enquired about the greening policy or standards for new school premises. <u>Mr WU Chi-wai</u> enquired whether the maintenance and repair costs of the greening facilities of schools would be borne by EDB.
- 33. <u>DArchS</u> advised that the ratios of greening areas of the proposed school and the school for social development for boys in Area 2B, Tuen Mun, approximately accounted for 20% and 21% of their respective site area, meaning that the two were broadly comparable. <u>US(Ed)</u> indicated that according to the Government's general greening policy directions, greening would take place in appropriate locations in new school premises. As to the maintenance and repair expenses for greening facilities, they would be borne by the Government in principle. For minor repairs (i.e. repair works costing less than HK\$3,000 (primary schools and special schools)/HK\$8,000 (secondary schools)), the costs could be absorbed by the Operating Expenses Block Grant provided by the Government. As regards the recurrent expenses incurred by the day-to-day management and maintenance of the greening facilities, they would be covered by the school's Operating Expenses Block Grant.
- 34. At the request of Dr Kenneth CHAN, the Administration would explain to the school sponsoring bodies concerned the arrangements for greening facilities and tree planting in the three new school premises mentioned in PWSC(2016-17)25-27, including the guidelines and resources available for management of such facilities and the responsibilities of schools, and identify the difficulties, if any, encountered by the school sponsoring bodies in these regards.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC274/15-16(01)</u> on 22 June 2016.)

Structural safety of green roofs

35. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen was concerned whether the Administration would review afresh the safety of the green roofs of school premises in the territory in the light of the recent incident of the collapse of a green roof of a building in the City University of Hong Kong ("incident of green roof collapse"). Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether the load-bearing capacity required for the conduct of rooftop activities had been reserved in the green roofs of schools constructed by the Architectural Services Department ("ASD"). Miss CHAN Yuen-han remarked that the Administration should exercise extra vigilance in designing green roofs for schools in the light of the incident of green roof collapse. The Deputy Chairman suggested that those

schools with green roofs should be required to report to EDB as to whether the relevant works were conducted by ASD or by contractors engaged by the schools themselves; if it was the latter case, the schools concerned must confirm if their green roofs had been inspected by professionals to ensure safety.

36. Noting members' concerns and views, US(Ed) said that for green roofs at new school premises constructed by ASD, the roof greening equipment (including the plants, soil and drainage layers) as well as the load-bearing capacity required for the conduct of rooftop activities had already been taken into account during the design stage to ensure structural safety and reserve rooftops that could be opened up for use by teachers and Regarding those green roofs added after the completion of the school premises, there would normally be no structural safety problem provided that they were assessed by professionals as having complied with the load-bearing capacity and other relevant requirements and proper routine maintenance and repair were carried out for them. EDB had already issued a letter to all schools, reminding them of the points to note with regard to Should there be any queries concerning the green roof installations. structural safety of their green roofs, the schools should seek professional advice from an authorized person or registered structural engineer as soon as possible. EDB would also render assistance to schools if necessary.

#### Other issues

#### Opening up facilities in school premises

- 37. Mr WU Chi-wai enquired whether the facilities in the proposed school premises (e.g. the basketball courts) would be opened up for use by the public during public holidays in future. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan expressed support for the proposed project. She urged EDB to explore the feasibility of opening up the school premises for use by the public during holidays or night time. She suggested that the major facilities in the school premises and those facilities available for use on loan basis by outsiders be segregated through the use of security equipment or other arrangements to facilitate management of the facilities on loan by the school.
- 38. <u>US(Ed)</u> said that the Administration had always encouraged schools to open up their facilities for use by outsiders, having regard also to their management and security concerns. Individual organizations might discuss with the schools the arrangements for booking venues inside the schools for organizing activities. Under the design of the proposed school premises, facilities available for use by outsiders (e.g. the assembly hall, parents resource centre and conference room) were all situated either on the ground

floor or the first floor so as to facilitate management of those facilities by the school on the one hand and booking by outsiders on the other.

Primary schools with attached kindergartens and provision of after-school care service

- 39. <u>Mr LEE Cheuk-yan</u> enquired whether the Administration would provide primary schools with attached kindergartens in its future planning for the implementation of its 15-year free education plan. <u>US(Ed)</u> said that for medium- to long-term planning, the Administration had considered providing primary schools with attached kindergartens. Nevertheless, owing to space constraints, it was not possible for the proposed primary school to include a kindergarten under this project.
- 40. Mr LEE Cheuk-yan enquired whether the Administration would formulate policies for introducing to primary schools after-school care service provided by non-profit-making organizations. Mr LEE was of the view that such a policy not only could address the problem of insufficient after-school care service but could also provide employment opportunities for women to tie in with the Government's population policy. US(Ed) advised that primary schools in general were currently providing after-school activities or after-school support services, of which some were provided by non-governmental or non-profit-making organizations engaged by the schools. Schools would be encouraged to explore jointly with their parent-teacher associations ways to provide after-school care service or extend the service hours.

Arrangements for vacant school premises

41. To optimize the use of resources, Mr Albert CHAN opined that the Administration should consider converting vacant old school premises (including the old school premises of SJPS to be vacated upon its reprovisioning) into welfare uses (e.g. residential care home for the elderly) as early as possible. US(Ed) advised that vacant school premises would be handled under the established mechanism. EDB would examine the existing school premises to see if they were suitable for educational uses or needed to be re-allocated for school or other educational uses based on the floor area of the premises, their locations and physical conditions. If EDB had confirmed that the school premises needed not be re-allocated for school or other educational uses, they would be referred to the Planning Department ("PlanD") for consideration of other appropriate uses under the central clearing house mechanism.

#### Reprovisioning of school premises in undesirable conditions

- 42. Mr IP Kin-yuen pointed out that there were currently around 30 public primary schools still operating in matchbox-style premises. He sought the list of such schools, the number of such schools that had been reprovisioned in the past decade as well as the Administration's plans for the future reprovisioning of such schools. The Deputy Chairman and Miss CHAN Yuen-han were also concerned whether schools operating in matchbox-style premises or premises in undesirable conditions would be given priority in reprovisioning. Dr Kenneth CHAN suggested that the mechanism be improved and additional resources be provided for handling independently the reprovisioning of such schools.
- 43. <u>US(Ed)</u> advised that the current list of primary schools still operating in the so-called "matchbox-style premises" had already been submitted to the Panel on Education earlier on but the list was not complete as certain schools did not wish to make public the information about them. In the past five years, two primary schools operating in "matchbox-style premises" had been reprovisioned and the EDB had all along been helping those schools whose premises were in undesirable conditions to undertake maintenance and repair works or improve their school equipment. On the other hand, EDB would handle schools' applications for allocation of school sites/premises in an open and fair manner. In vetting such applications, EDB would take into account all relevant factors, including the quality of education of the school, its future school plan, the years of age and physical conditions of its existing premises, Under no particular policy or mechanism would any type of schools be given priority in reprovisioning.
- 44. <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> pointed out that the safety of users of the premises of Lee Kau Yan Memorial School in Wong Tai Sin was adversely affected by the petrol filling station adjacent to it. She enquired whether the Administration had any plans for reprovisioning the school. <u>US(Ed)</u> responded that EDB had sought advice from the Fire Services Department ("FSD") regarding this case. FSD was of the view that the petrol filling station posed no immediate danger to the school in question. He reiterated that new school premises would be allocated under a fair mechanism for the purposes of reprovisioning schools or operating new schools.

# Voting on PWSC(2016-17)26

45. There being no further questions from members on the item, the Deputy Chairman put the item to vote.

46. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

Head 703 – Buildings PWSC(2016-17)27 271ES A 30-classroom secondary school at Site 1A-2, Kai Tak development

[The Chairman took over the chair at 11:16 am.]

47. The Chairman advised that the proposal (i.e. PWSC(2016-17)27) was to upgrade 271ES to Category A at an estimated cost of \$446.7 million in MOD prices for the construction of secondary school premises in Kai Tak development for reprovisioning Cognitio College (Kowloon) ("CCK"). The Panel on Education had been consulted on the proposal on 11 April 2016. Panel members supported the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

<u>Impact of the reprovisioning project on secondary school places in the Wong Tai Sin district and the Kowloon City district</u>

- 48. Mr WU Chi-wai and Miss CHAN Yuen-han were concerned about the impact of reprovisioning of CCK from Wong Tai Sin District to Kowloon City District on the secondary school places in the two districts, particularly whether Secondary One school choices for students in Wong Tai Sin District would be affected.
- 49. In response, <u>US(Ed)</u> said that abundant secondary school places were currently available in the Wong Tai Sin district, including four Secondary One classes operated by CCK providing about 120 Secondary One places annually. The Administration estimated that the annual enrolment of Secondary One students in Wong Tai Sin would remain stable at about 2 800 to 2 900 in the next few years. On the other hand, it was anticipated that the annual enrolment of Secondary One students in Kowloon City would rise from about 2 800 at present to more than 3 000 in the next few years. Based on this, it was projected that even after CCK was reprovisioned in Kowloon City, the school places in Wong Tai Sin and Kowloon City could still meet the respective demands. Moreover, students of Wong Tai Sin could still choose the reprovisioned CCK outside their school net under the first phase of the allocation system for Secondary One places in future.

50. <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> expressed support for the reprovisioning of CCK. She pointed out that consideration should be given to promptly reprovisioning Lee Kau Yan Memorial School, which was located next to a petrol filling station in Wong Tai Sin and thus susceptible to fire risks. <u>The Administration noted Miss CHAN's views.</u>

#### Project scope

- 51. Given the limited land resources in Hong Kong, Mr WU Chi-wai suggested that consideration should be given to increasing the load-bearing capacity of the foundation of the new school premises of CCK in preparation for future addition of one or two storeys to cope with the additional demand for teaching and learning spaces due to the rising number of students or changes in the mode of teaching. Mr WU enquired about the additional costs of the piling and foundation works involved if space capacity was to be reserved for adding one or two storeys to the school building. Ms Claudia MO asked whether there were any environmental factors, such as ventilation, that had limited the new school building of CCK to only five storeys, and whether an addition of one or two storeys was feasible.
- 52. In response, <u>US(Ed)</u> said that, in determining the construction floor area of the new premises of a school and the number of classes, a number of factors had to be considered, including the size and environment of the site, the operational arrangement of the school, the student population in the district and the situation of other schools in the same district. On balance of all the relevant factors, it was considered that the five-storey and 30-classroom design of the new school premises could already be able to cope with the future class structure and development of the school. The height of the new school building was not determined by any environmental factors. If there was a need in the future for additional secondary school places in the Kowloon City district, the Administration could construct new schools on other sites earmarked in the district.
- 53. <u>DArchS</u> added that geotechnical investigation would be conducted before designing a new school premises in order to calculate the necessary load-bearing capacity of the foundation and decide on the piling method. Therefore, the Administration was not able to provide a general estimate on the extra construction costs that would be incurred for adding one or two storeys to the school building.

# <u>District Cooling System</u>

54. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> and <u>Mr IP Kin-yuen</u> noted that as the new premises of CCK would be connected to the District Cooling System ("DCS")

at the Kai Tak development for air conditioning services, relevant facilities had to be installed in the school premises for this specific purpose. They asked whether the Administration had consulted CCK on this arrangement. They were also concerned about whether the installation of such facilities would affect the construction time of the school premises and who would be responsible for future maintenance and repair of such facilities.

55. <u>US(Ed)</u> replied that CCK had agreed to the connection of the new school premises to DCS. This arrangement did not have any impact on the construction time of the project. The authorities would bear the maintenance and repair costs of the facilities related to DCS in the new school premises in accordance with the existing mechanism.

# Capital cost

- Mr Abraham SHEK expressed support for the reprovisioning of CCK and noted that the construction unit cost of the construction floor area of the project was \$17,722 per square metre ("m²"), and the capital cost of the whole project was more than \$446 million. Given that public works experienced cost overruns from time to time in recent years, Mr SHEK and Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung asked whether the proposed project would run a risk of cost overruns. Mr SHEK was also concerned whether the construction period was excessively long as the new school premises would not be completed until early 2019.
- 57. DArchS replied that as reference had been made to the tender return prices for recent public works contracts in the estimation of the construction cost of the new premises of CCK, and the detailed design of the new school premises had been completed, it was believed that the estimated construction cost should be adequate. DArchS said that, subject to the funding approval of FC, tender exercise could be conducted at the end of June, and construction works were planned to commence in late 2016 for completion in early 2019. The duration of the proposed works was 25 months, which was comparable to the reference construction time for the premises of a standard 30-classroom secondary school. Given that there were two primary schools and a public rental housing estate near the site of the proposed works, DArchS further explained that in order to reduce the impact of the works on the students and residents nearby, certain restrictions would be imposed on the times for the contractor to carry out piling works, but such restrictions would neither lead to extra construction costs nor prolong the construction period.

## Handling of the existing premises of Cognitio College (Kowloon)

- 58. Mr Abraham SHEK pointed out that the Public Accounts Committee had criticized EDB earlier for its unsatisfactory work in handling or using vacant school premises. He was dissatisfied that decisions had yet to be made on the use of the existing premises of CCK after they were vacated.
- 59. <u>US(Ed)</u> replied it was anticipated that CCK would not move into the new school premises until about three years later. During this period, EDB would consider factors including the size, location and physical conditions, etc. of the existing premises to assess the premises' suitability for educational use or whether the premises needed to be re-allocated for school or other educational use. Once EDB confirmed that the premises were no longer required for school or other educational uses, it would refer them to PlanD for consideration of suitable alternative uses in accordance with the central clearing house mechanism.
- 60. Mr Abraham SHEK opined that given the scarcity of land resources in Hong Kong, EDB should make long-term planning as early as possible instead of deciding on how the school premises should be handled only after they were vacated. The Administration noted his views.

# Voting on PWSC(2016-17)27

- 61. There being no further questions from members on the item, <u>the Chairman</u> put the item to vote.
- 62. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

# Head 703 – Buildings PWSC(2016-17)21 775CL The demolition of existing structures on Sites A and B1 of the Sung Wong Toi Vehicle Repair and Maintenance Workshop

63. The Chairman advised that the proposal (i.e. PWSC(2016-17)21) was to upgrade 775CL to Category A at an estimated cost of \$99.3 million in MOD prices for the demolition of existing structures on Sites A and B1 of the Sung Wong Toi Vehicle Repair and Maintenance Workshop in order to release the government land concerned for more gainful use. The Panel on Development had been consulted on the proposal on 15 March 2016. Panel

members had no objection to the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

#### Asbestos Abatement Plan related to the demolition works

- 64. <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> expressed support for the proposed project and enquired about the details of the abatement of asbestos in the structures, including safety measures for workers.
- 65. In response, <u>DArchS</u> said that consultants had been engaged to undertake asbestos investigation and prepare an Asbestos Abatement Plan ("APP"). The investigation report showed that there were some asbestos-containing materials in the existing structures at the project site. Before demolition of the structures, the contractor had to remove all asbestos-containing materials in accordance with the APP.

#### Future use of Sites A and B1

- 66. Noting that Site A would be used for the development of public housing upon demolition of the existing structures, Miss CHAN Yuen-han and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the details, as well as the future use of the site of the Kowloon Animal Management Centre of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, which was currently adjoining Site A. Miss CHAN Yuen-han reminded the Administration of the need to provide adequate ancillary facilities for the future development of public housing on Site A.
- 67. Chief Assistant Secretary for Development (Works)7 ("CASD(W)7") replied that upon completion of the demolition works, Site A would be handed over to HD for public housing development to meet the pressing need for housing in society. The housing development was expected to provide 600 public housing units, each with an area of 14 m² to 35 m², for a population of about 1 700 in 2023. The site of the Kowloon Animal Management Centre would be handed over to HD in early 2023 for the provision of public space and a car park as ancillary facilities for the public housing on Site A.
- 68. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> and <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> criticized the Administration for its infill development of a public housing block on Site A, which was small in size. <u>Mr CHAN</u> asked whether there would be other public housing developments in the vicinity of Site A. <u>Mr CHAN</u> and <u>Mr LEUNG</u> also enquired about the uses of Sites B1 and B2 adjoining it.

- CASD(W)7 replied that as shown in the zoning plan for the 69. surrounding area of the proposed project provided in Enclosure 3 to the discussion paper, there was a "Residential (Group A)" site near Site A (i.e. at the bottom of the zoning plan), and there were also "Comprehensive Development Areas ("CDAs")" suitable for residential and/or commercial uses adjacent to and near Site A. Regarding Site B1, an electricity substation would be built on the part currently zoned for "Government, Institution or Community" uses, so as to tie in with the future development of West Kai Tak (including Kai Tak Multi-purpose Sports Complex) and redevelopment of the North Ngau Tau Kok district. A small portion of the site currently serving as the vehicular entrance to Site B1 and zoned as CDA would be provided with a waterfront promenade. Waterfront related commercial, cultural and leisure facilities would be developed at the remaining portion zoned for "Other Specified Use" in Site B1. Site B2, which was mainly zoned as "Open Space", would be developed as part of the Site B2 had also been handed over to the Civil Metro Park in future. Engineering and Development Department for construction of a sewage pump house.
- 70. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung took the view that as plenty of land was available for the development of ancillary facilities in the Kai Tak development area, there was no need to allocate land from the sites under the proposed project for uses related to the development of the area. MrLEUNG held that consideration should be given to also using B1 and/or Site B2 for public housing development to meet the pressing need for this type of housing in society. In response, CASD(W)7 said that the use of Site B1 had already been stipulated in the approved Kai Tak Outline Zoning Plan No. S/K22/4. The relevant planning was in line with the purpose of the future overall development of East Kowloon and had the support of the relevant District Councils and the approvel of the Town Planning Board. The relevant town planning process had already been completed.

# Voting on PWSC(2016-17)21

- 71. There being no further questions from members on the item, <u>the Chairman</u> put the item to vote.
- 72. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

<u>Action</u>

**Head 711 – Housing PWSC(2016-17)20** 

- 722CL Demolition and ground decontamination works for development at North West Kowloon Reclamation Site 1, Sham Shui Po
- 73. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2016-17)20, was to upgrade part of 722CL to Category A at an estimated cost of \$108.4 million in MOD prices for the demolition of the existing buildings and structures of the ex-Cheung Sha Wan Abattoir and the ground decontamination works for remediation of contaminated soil. The Panel on Housing had been consulted on the proposed project on 12 April 2016. Panel members supported the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.
- 74. There being no questions from members on the item, the Chairman put the item to vote.
- 75. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

Head 703 – Buildings PWSC(2016-17)23

- 183GK Reprovisioning of Shanghai Street refuse collection point and street sleepers' services units to the site on Hau Cheung Street, Yau Ma Tei for the phase II development of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre project
- The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2016-17)23, was to upgrade 183GK to Category A at an estimated cost of \$230 million in MOD prices for the reprovisioning of the Shanghai Street refuse collection point ("RCP") and street sleepers' services units ("SSSU") adjoining the Yau Ma Tei Theatre ("YMTT") ("the reprovisioning project") in order to vacate the original site for the phase II development of the YMTT project. The Panel on Home Affairs had been consulted on the proposed project on 24 March 2016. Panel members agreed to the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

- 77. The Chairman informed members that the Administration had submitted the funding proposal under PWSC(2013-14)35 for the project to the Subcommittee for discussion in January 2014. At its meeting on 29 January 2014, the Subcommittee voted down the proposal. The Administration had now revised the 2014 design of the proposed project and re-submitted the proposal (i.e. PWSC(2016-17)23) to the Subcommittee for consideration.
- 78. <u>Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (2)</u> ("DSHA(2)") advised members that the Cantonese opera sector and the operators of the Shanghai Street SSSU supported the revised reprovisioning project and looked forward to its early implementation.

# Co-location of the refuse collection point and street sleepers' services units

- 79. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> expressed objection to the funding proposal. He recalled that the Panel on Home Affairs had passed a motion on 15 April 2013 requesting the Administration to reprovision the RCP and the SSSU to separate sites. However, the Administration still decided to co-locate the two facilities in the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> pointed out that the Administration had revised the original reprovisioning scheme in response to LegCo Members' concerns, and consulted the Panel on Home Affairs on the revised scheme on 24 March 2016. The Panel supported in general the revised scheme.
- 80. <u>DSHA(2)</u> said that the Administration had considered different reprovisioning schemes, including constructing two buildings on the Hau Cheung Street site to reprovision the Shanghai Street RCP and the SSSU separately. However, as the area of the Hau Cheung Street site was limited and it was technically difficult to provide it with sufficient means of escape and access for firefighting and rescue purposes, the scheme was not feasible.
- 81. Mr IP Kwok-him and Dr CHIANG Lai-wan supported the funding proposal. Mr IP pointed out that quite a number of residential flats were co-located with an RCP at the same building. He did not consider the proposed reprovisioning arrangement a discriminatory practice towards street sleepers. Dr CHIANG expressed similar views. She hoped that other members would not seek to further delay the deliberation of the funding proposal, but instead let the reprovisioning project commence as soon as possible in order to improve the living environment of street sleepers.
- 82. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u>, <u>Ms Cyd HO</u>, <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> and <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> did not agree with Mr IP Kwok-him / Dr CHIANG Lai-wan. <u>Dr CHEUNG</u> and <u>Ms HO</u> held that the Administration should

take the opportunity of the reprovisioning to relocate the two facilities to different sites instead of co-locating them in the same building. <u>Dr CHEUNG</u> pointed out that an RCP for a residential building, which served only to collect the refuse from that building, should not be confused with the RCP on Hau Cheung Street, which would be a regional RCP. <u>Mr LEUNG</u> took the view that if not for the strong objections expressed by LegCo Members in the past, the Administration would not have revised the reprovisioning scheme to reduce the impact of the Hau Cheung Street RCP on the SSSU's users living above it. Mr CHAN shared Mr LEUNG's view.

- 83. Mr KWOK Wai-keung said that quite a number of urban RCPs were close to residential buildings, causing an impact on the neighbouring residents. However, given that it was difficult for the Administration to identify other sites to reprovision the Shanghai Street SSSU, he understood that co-location of such units and the RCP in the same building on Hau Cheung Street was the only way out.
- 84. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen noted that the Administration had made its best efforts to improve the design of the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street in the revised reprovisioning scheme. Mr Alan LEONG considered that separate reprovisioning of the SSSU and the RCP was the best reprovisioning arrangement. However, due to engineering/planning constraints, the Administration was unable to make the ideal arrangement. The revised scheme as currently proposed was better than leaving the two facilities to continue operating in-situ on Shanghai Street.
- 85. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> objected to the co-location of the Shanghai Street SSSU and the RCP in the new building on Hau Cheung Street. She asked whether there were currently other co-located SSSU and RCPs in Hong Kong. <u>Dr WONG</u> requested the Administration to undertake that it would not co-locate these two types of facilities again in future.
- 86. <u>DSHA(2)</u> responded that the Administration did not have the policy of co-locating SSSU and RCPs. Co-location of both facilities on the Hau Cheung Street site was suggested only because it was unfeasible to identify two sites in Yau Ma Tei ("YMT") for reprovisioning them separately. <u>Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Family and Child Welfare)</u> ("ADSW(F&CW)") added that the co-location of the Shanghai Street SSSU and the RCP was the only example of co-locating these two types of facilities at the same location in Hong Kong.

# <u>In-situ reprovisioning of the street sleepers' services units</u>

- 87. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> pointed out that the SSSU's users living above the Shanghai Street RCP had all along been troubled by the nuisances of lice resulting from the moist environments both inside and outside the RCP. He asked whether the Administration had fully utilized the permitted development plot ratio of the original site on Shanghai Street to implement the phase II development of the YMTT project. He held that if the plot ratio of the site concerned had not been fully utilized, such units should be reprovisioned in-situ instead of being co-located with the RCP in the same building on Hau Cheung Street.
- 88. DSHA(2) explained that the Administration had considered reprovisioning the SSSU in-situ on Shanghai Street upon implementation of the phase II development of the YMTT project. However, as the area of the Shanghai Street site was only about 560 m<sup>2</sup>, and the maximum height of future buildings at that site was restricted to six storeys, that site was not adequate for co-locating the phase II development of the YMTT project and She added that given that the Shanghai Street RCP and the SSSU the SSSU. served mainly the YMT district, the Administration had tried to identify suitable sites available in YMT for reprovisioning the two facilities. However, since YMT had been fully developed, it was not possible to identify an additional site, other than the Hau Cheung Street site, for relocating the two aforesaid facilities. Compared with the Shanghai Street site, the Hau Cheung Street site was larger in size, i.e. about 999 m<sup>2</sup>, making it possible to accommodate the two facilities to be reprovisioned from Shanghai Street.
- 89. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> was not convinced of the Administration's argument that the Shanghai Street site was too small for reprovisioning the SSSU in-situ. Given that the SSSU and the RCP were currently co-located on the Shanghai Street site, he questioned why such units could not be co-located with the new development on the same site after it was used for the phase II development of the YMTT project.
- 90. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> further queried why the Administration had allowed the Urban Renewal Authority to construct a 40-storey residential building at 8 Waterloo Road near the Shanghai Street site while imposing a maximum height restriction of six storeys on future buildings at the Shanghai Street site. He requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the justifications (including statutory requirements or considerations of engineering/planning constraints) for ruling out the in-situ reprovisioning of the SSSU under the phase II development of the YMTT

project and imposing a maximum height restriction of six storeys on the buildings concerned.

91. <u>DArchS</u> said that the building height restriction on the Shanghai Street site was introduced by PlanD. <u>DSHA(2)</u> added that the adjoining YMTT and the Red Brick Building, which were historic buildings, as well as the YMTT phase II to be developed at the Shanghai Street site, belonged to an ensemble related to the development of Cantonese opera. In considering the building height restriction on the Shanghai Street site, PlanD had taken into account the surrounding environment of the site. She undertook to provide the information requested by Dr CHEUNG after the meeting.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

[At 12:47 pm, the Chairman ordered that the meeting be suspended to allow time for members to take meals. The meeting resumed at 2:00 pm and the Deputy Chairman took the chair.]

#### Design of the reprovisioned refuse collection point

- 92. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the deodorization arrangements for the reprovisioned RCP. Assistant Director (Operations)2 of Food and Environmental Hygiene ("AD(Ops)2/FEHD") explained that the RCP on Hau Cheung Street would be equipped with modern deodorization systems (including water scrubber system and active-ion generator). In addition, the staff at the RCP would clean the RCP every time after the refuse collection vehicle ("RCV") had left and sanitized the RCP thoroughly every night before its closure.
- 93. Mr IP Kwok-him requested the Administration to explain whether the most advanced deodorization technology would be adopted at the Hau Cheung Street RCP, and how the arrangements for RCVs to access the RCP could reduce the impact of the RCP operation on the neighbouring residents.
- 94. <u>DSHA(2)</u> said that the RCV entrance of the reprovisioned RCP would be positioned a further eight metres backward and maintain a certain distance from the windows of the SSSU. The entrance of the RCP would be fitted with a roller shutter, which would be closed at all times except for the passage of RCVs. DArchS confirmed that both the water scrubber system and the active-ion generator to be installed at the reprovisioned RCP were those with the most advanced deodorization technologies in Hong Kong, and such technologies had already been adopted in some other RCPs.

- 95. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> enquired about the location of the exhaust air outlet of the Hau Cheung Street RCP. <u>DArchS</u> responded that the exhaust air outlet would be located at the highest central point of the roof of the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street, about four metres above the main roof floor and at least nine metres from the windows of the SSSU.
- Miss CHAN Yuen-han expressed support for the funding proposal. While commending the Administration for adopting the views of LegCo Members and revising the reprovisioning scheme, she urged the Administration to continue to listen to Members' views on the reprovisioning project. Given that the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street would accommodate the RCP, offices of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") and SSSU separately, Miss CHAN asked whether the three service units in the proposed building would each operate a separate ventilation system. DSHA(2) confirmed that Miss CHAN's understanding was correct.
- 97. Given that the three service units would each operate a separate ventilation system, Miss CHAN Yuen-han was concerned whether there would be no redress for those users of the facilities above the RCP who were affected by the odour from the RCP. AD(Ops)2/FEHD said that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") would be responsible for dealing with complaints about the ventilation systems of the Hau Cheung Street RCP.
- 98. Mr Abraham SHEK expressed support for the funding proposal. He requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on whether the proposed deodorization system installed at the reprovisioned RCP on Hau Cheung Street had been used in other RCPs in Hong Kong; if so, the locations of those RCPs and the effectiveness of the deodorization.
- 99. <u>AD(Ops)2/FEHD</u> replied that the RCPs built by FEHD in recent years that were close to residential buildings (for instance, the Paterson Street RCP in Causeway Bay and the Sam Pan Street RCP in Wan Chai) were all equipped with the deodorization system which would be used in the Hau Cheung Street RCP. The Administration undertook to provide the information requested by Mr SHEK after the meeting.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

- 100. Ms Cyd HO recalled that the LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs had conducted overseas duty visits to the Republic of Korea and Europe to study their experience in waste management. She said that the design of double doors had been adopted for the access of the RCPs in those countries to prevent the spread of odour from the RCPs. Ms HO requested the Administration to provide information on whether the Hau Cheung Street RCP was designed with double doors; if not, the reasons for that, and whether consideration would be given to including double doors in the design of that RCP. Miss CHAN Yuen-han and Mr Abraham SHEK shared the view that the double-door design was worth considering.
- 101. <u>DArchS</u> replied that an air curtain would be fitted at the top of the roller shutter at the entrance to the RCP to prevent the odour of refuse from spreading. He undertook to provide the information requested by Ms HO after the meeting.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

102. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> said that, in his view, even though the RCP was only equipped with one roller shutter, if the staff of the RCP closed the roller shutter after an RCV drove into the RCP before starting to handle the refuse, the same effect of preventing refuse odour from spreading could be achieved.

# Arrangements for waste disposal

- 103. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the types of materials to be recovered at the material recovery point ("MRP") in the RCP on Hau Cheung Street, whether the fruit and vegetables disposed of every day at the Yau Ma Tei Wholesale Fruit Market would be included; if not, the reasons for that; and the capacity of the MRP. <u>Dr WONG</u> also asked whether the MRP would be equipped with a food waste processor; and whether the thrown-away fruit and vegetables collected at the RCP would be transported to the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities in Siu Ho Wan, Lantau, for central processing.
- 104. <u>AD(Ops)2/FEHD</u> replied that the materials that would be recovered at the MRP in the Hau Cheung Street RCP included wooden furniture items and wooden pallets, but did not include thrown-away fruit and vegetables. <u>Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (1)</u> ("DDEP(1)") added that the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase I in Siu Ho Wan, Lantau, processed mainly food waste from commercial and industrial establishments. The

Administration undertook to provide information on the MRP in the RCP as requested by Dr WONG after the meeting.

(*Post-meeting note*: After the meeting, AD(Ops)2/FEHD made the correction that the materials to be recovered at the MRP in the Hau Cheung Street RCP included waste paper, metal and plastics.)

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

- 105. Mr Albert CHAN expressed concern about the potential safety risks arising from reversing RCVs. He asked whether RCVs needed to reverse out of the Hau Cheung Street RCP or could make a U-turn inside the RCP. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung enquired about the distance between the RCV entrance of the Hau Cheung Street RCP and the main entrance to LCSD offices/the SSSU located in the same building.
- 106. <u>DArchS</u> said that RCVs could make a U-turn inside the RCP to exit the RCP without having to reverse, and the location of the RCV entrance was about 20 metres to 30 metres away from the main entrance to the SSSU on Hau Cheung Street. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> requested the Administration to require RCV drivers not to reverse in or out of the RCP upon its commencement of operation.
- 107. Ms Cyd HO requested the Administration to provide the following supplementary information: (a) the detailed arrangements to be made for transporting the refuse collected at the Hau Cheung Street RCP to refuse transfer stations/landfills for disposal; and (b) whether all the RCVs of the contractors engaged by FEHD and other private companies had been converted to those with a fully-enclosed design, and whether a telephone number had been displayed on these RCVs for the public to make complaints about leachate dripping from RCVs.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

# Design of the reprovisioned street sleepers' services units

108. Mr KWOK Wai-keung asked whether the reprovisioned SSSU would be provided with natural ventilation or fitted with an air conditioning system. In his view, if natural ventilation was employed for the SSSU, the room windows should not be close to the exhaust air outlet of the RCP.

- 109. <u>DArchS</u> replied that the reprovisioned SSSU would mainly adopt natural ventilation and the exhaust air outlet of the RCP would be located at the highest point of the roof of the proposed building, more than nine metres away from the windows of the SSSU. It was believed that the gas discharged upwards from the exhaust air outlet located on the roof of the RCP would not affect users of the SSSU.
- Dr Fernando CHEUNG asked whether the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street would be fitted with a central air conditioning system. DArchS replied that the Hau Cheung Street RCP would not be equipped with central air conditioning but the second floor of the proposed building (i.e. the floor where LCSD's Information Technology Office was located) would be fitted with a central air conditioning system. DSHA(2) added that natural ventilation would be employed for the dormitory floor of the SSSU (located on the fourth floor) in the proposed building. However, the street sleepers' shelter on the fourth floor of the proposed building would be provided with powering facilities (including installation of electrical trunkings and sockets) and suitable space under the reprovisioning project to enable the operators of the SSSU to install an appropriate air conditioning system (e.g. split type air conditioners) when necessary in future. ADSW(F&CW) further said that as the street sleepers' shelter was operated on a self-financing basis, and installation of air conditioners for the street sleepers' dormitory on the fourth floor of the proposed building might result in an increase in service fees, the operators had no plan to install air conditioners at this stage.
- 111. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> was dissatisfied that the Administration had no plan to install a central air conditioning system on the floors where the SSSU would be located. He held the view that with the installation of a central air conditioning system on the floors housing the SSSU, users of such units could be spared from enduring the hot weather in Hong Kong and the odour from the RCP downstairs. He was also dissatisfied that users of the SSSU were charged an air conditioning fee.
- 112. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> considered that the Administration should install a central air conditioning system on the floors where the SSSU would be located. <u>Mr Abraham SHEK</u>, however, considered that a central air conditioning system might not be suitable for the dormitory. It would be more appropriate for the Administration to provide infrastructure so that the service operators could install air conditioners of their own accord.
- 113. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on whether consideration would be given to installing a central air conditioning system on the floors of the new building

on Hau Cheung Street on which the SSSU would be located; if not, the reasons for that. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> also suggested that the Administration should discuss with the operators of the SSSU regarding the arrangements for installing air conditioners in the dormitory so as to improve the living environment of the dormitory.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

- 114. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked whether the Administration would capitalize on the opportunity of reprovisioning the SSSU to upgrade the facilities of such units and increase the number of dormitory places. ADSW(F&CW) replied that the utilization rate of the SSSU currently on Shanghai Street was about 80% in the past three years, and other organizations also provided dormitory services to street sleepers. As such, the operators of the SSSU on Shanghai Street had no plan at present to increase the number of dormitory places after the reprovisioning. As regards the facilities of the SSSU, the operators concerned could seek funding from the Lotteries Fund for purchasing new furniture and equipment during the reprovisioning of such units.
- 115. Noting that there were only male toilets and no female toilets in the SSSU in the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street, Mr KWOK Wai-keung enquired whether females could be admitted to the dormitory. ADSW(F&CW) said that the SSSU in the proposed building would provide dormitory services to male street sleepers only. If necessary, the dormitory could be re-partitioned to provide dormitory services to females.

# Other facilities in the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street

- 116. Mr Alan LEONG noted that, under the revised reprovisioning scheme, two additional floors would be provided in between the SSSU and the RCP for use by LCSD in order to widen the vertical distances between the two facilities. Mr LEONG was concerned whether LCSD had an actual need to use the two floors and would not leave them idle.
- 117. <u>Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Administration)</u> said that LCSD's Finance Section and Supplies Section would use the first floor of the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street for storage purposes and the staff of LCSD's Information Technology Office would use the second floor of that building as office space. Such arrangements could mitigate the problem of shortage of office and storage space for LCSD. <u>Mr Alan LEONG</u> requested the Administration to provide information on the number

of staff members expected to be working in the LCSD's offices on the two floors and the detailed uses of these floors.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No.</u> PWSC281/15-16(01) on 24 June 2016.)

- 118. Mr Albert CHAN opined that government offices should be accommodated in government-owned premises as far as practicable in order to save public expenditure. Given that the Administration was currently renting quite a number of private properties in YMT for use as offices, he enquired about: (a) whether it had studied if the Hau Cheung Street site was suitable for use as government offices; (b) during the planning of the site, which government departments had indicated an intention to relocate their offices to that site; and (c) whether the permitted development plot ratio of the Hau Cheung Street site had been fully utilized.
- 119. <u>DSHA(2)</u> responded that an internal consultation had been conducted during the revision of the reprovisioning scheme to gauge various government departments' needs for space, and LCSD indicated that its Finance Section, Supplies Section and Information Technology Office would wish to use the Hau Cheung Street site. <u>DArchS</u> added that the proposed plot ratio for the Hau Cheung Street site was 4.2, and the proposed project had fully utitized the plot ratio.
- 120. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> considered that the plot ratio for the Hau Cheung Street site was relatively low compared with other sites in the urban area. He enquired whether the maximum plot ratio for the surrounding land lots was also set at 4.2. <u>DArchS</u> replied in the negative.
- 121. <u>Mr Alan LEONG</u> noted that, under the revised reprovisioning scheme, the Administration would alter the orientation of the SSSU's main entrance in order to prevent it from facing the same direction as the RCP's entrance. <u>Mr LEONG</u> requested the Administration to provide details on the alteration. <u>DSHA(2)</u> responded that the RCP's entrance would be facing west towards Hau Cheung Street, and the SSSU's main entrance would be located at the north side.
- 122. <u>Ms Cyd HO</u> asked whether the roof of the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street would be designed with thermal insulation. <u>DArchS</u> said that the green roof occupied about half of the proposed roof area of the proposed building, and the green roof also had the function of thermal insulation.

# Completion time of the reprovisioning project

123. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> asked whether the Administration would demolish the SSSU and the RCP on Shanghai Street only after completion of the reprovisioning project. <u>DSHA(2)</u> confirmed that the reprovisioning project would be completed in the first quarter of 2019. Only after the SSSU and the RCP on Shanghai Street were relocated to the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street would the facilities on Shanghai Street be demolished.

Impact of the natural gas filling station on Hau Cheung Street on the users of the proposed building

- 124. Noting that there was a natural gas filling station opposite the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street, <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> was concerned about the impact of the filling station on the users of the proposed building. In this connection, <u>Dr WONG</u> requested the Administration to provide the following supplementary information: (a) the distance between the natural gas filling station and the proposed building; (b) whether an assessment had been conducted on the safety risks of the natural gas filling station to the users of the proposed building; the factors for consideration in conducting the assessment; and (c) whether relevant guidelines or policies had been developed to specify the precautionary measures against gas leaks/fire that should be taken during the construction of residential units near a petrol filling station or a natural gas filling station.
- 125. <u>DArchS</u> explained that, during the planning of the proposed building on Hau Cheung Street, professional views had been sought from the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department on the impact of the natural gas filling station on the opposite side on the safety of the users of the building. The Department confirmed that the Hau Cheung Street site was suitable for reprovisioning the facilities on Shanghai Street. He undertook to provide the information requested by Dr WONG after the meeting.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

#### Other views

126. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> was concerned that after the relocation of the Shanghai Street RCP to Hau Cheung Street, the cleansing workers serving the areas around Shanghai Street/YMT Wholesale Fruit Market would take more time to transport refuse to the reprovisioned RCP. <u>AD(Ops)2/FEHD</u> replied that as the distance between the two RCPs on Shanghai Street and Hau

Cheung Street was about 250 metres, the walking time between the two locations was about 10 minutes. After conducting on-site assessments, the Administration believed that the reprovisioning works for the RCP would not have a significant impact on the refuse transportation arrangements of the cleansing workers. Dr Helena WONG requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on whether consideration would be given to introducing measures (e.g. opening up a short cut) for cleansing workers to transport refuse between the YMT Wholesale Fruit Market and the Hau Cheung Street RCP quickly; if not, the reasons for that.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC281/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

127. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung suggested that the Administration should consider reprovisioning the Shanghai Street RCP to the West Kowloon Reclamation Area to facilitate sea transportation of the collected refuse to the West New Territories Landfill.

#### Voting on PWSC(2016-17)23

128. There being no further questions from members on the proposal, the Deputy Chairman put the proposal PWSC(2016-17)23 to vote. At the request of Dr Fernando CHEUNG, the Deputy Chairman ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. Nine members voted for, eight voted against the proposal and no one abstained. The votes of individual members were as follows —

For:

Mr CHAN Kam-lam
Mr Andrew LEUNG
Mr WONG Ting-kwong
Mr Steven HO
Miss CHAN Yuen-han
Mr Christopher CHEUNG
Mr Christopher CHUNG
(9 members)

Against:

Mr Alan LEONG
Mr Albert CHAN
Mr Dennis KWOK
Mr SIN Chung-kai
(8 members)

Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung
Dr Kenneth CHAN
Dr Fernando CHEUNG
Dr Helena WONG

Abstain: (0 member)

- 129. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> declared that the item was endorsed by the Subcommittee.
- 130. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> requested that this item be voted on separately at the relevant FC meeting.

Head 704 – Drainage PWSC(2016-17)30

381DS Construction of additional sewage rising main and rehabilitation of the existing sewage rising main between Tung Chung and Siu Ho Wan

131. The Deputy Chairman advised that the proposal (i.e. PWSC(2016-17)30) was to upgrade 381DS to Category A at an estimated cost of \$1,362.6 million in MOD prices for the construction of an additional sewage rising main and the rehabilitation of the existing sewage rising main between Tung Chung and Siu Ho Wan. The Panel on Environmental Affairs had been consulted on this proposal on 21 December 2015. The majority of Panel members present at the meeting supported the submission of the proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

# Justifications for the proposed project

- 132. Given that the development history of Tung Chung Town was not very long, Mr Albert CHAN queried the need for rehabilitation of the existing sewage rising main and construction of an additional sewage rising main in the town, and expressed concern about the high construction costs. MrCHAN enquired about the normal service life of a sewage rising main and whether the proposed works would be carried out only after the details of Tung Chung New Town Extension ("TCNTE") had been finalized, so as to examine how the project would tie in with the future development needs of the town and achieve cost savings. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung considered it a significant difference between the current Tung Chung population of about 80 000 people and the original projection of 200 000 people in the planning of Tung Chung Town. He queried the need for construction of an additional sewage rising main.
- 133. <u>Director of Drainage Services</u> ("DDS") replied that the existing sewage rising main between Tung Chung and Siu Ho Wan, which had been in

operation for about 20 years, was the only pipe for conveying sewage collected from Tung Chung Town and Airport Island to the Siu Ho Wan sewage treatment works ("SHWSTW"). Assessments revealed that the pipe was at risk of structural failure and thus required rehabilitation works. single-pipe operation made it difficult to take the pipe temporarily out of operation for inspection or maintenance. Therefore, it was necessary to construct an additional sewage rising main to enable maintenance of the existing one, so as to avoid the spilling of sewage due to a pipe burst, which would result in disruption to traffic and detrimental environmental impacts. Upon operation of the proposed additional sewage rising main, the existing main could be temporarily decommissioned for rehabilitation. After the completion of the works, the reliability and capacity of the sewerage system would be greatly enhanced. In a nutshell, the project had two objectives. The first objective was to convert the sewerage system concerned from single-pipe operation to twin-pipe operation so as to enhance its operational The second objective was to enhance the capacity of the reliability. sewerage system so as to tie in with the future development of North Lantau.

- DDEP(1) responded that the design capacity of the existing sewage 134. rising main was 60 000 cubic metres ("m3")/day. Currently about 42 000m<sup>3</sup>/day of sewage flow was processed, including that from Tung Chung Town and the Hong Kong International Airport ("HKIA"). As there would be further developments in Tung Chung Town, and the current sewage flow from HKIA would also rise along with the increase in passenger flow, it was expected that by 2023, leaving aside the increased sewage from TCNTE and the expansion of HKIA into a three-runway system ("3RS"), the projected sewage flow from Tung Chung and HKIA would increase to 58 000 m<sup>3</sup>/day, close to the maximum handling capacity of the existing sewage rising main of 60 000 m<sup>3</sup>. In addition, both the population intake for the planned housing development of TCNTE and the commissioning of HKIA's 3RS were scheduled to take place in late 2023. They would increase the projected sewage flow to about 76 500 m<sup>3</sup>/day in 2023. Along with the subsequent developments in Tung Chung New Town ("TCNT") and the full development of HKIA's 3RS, the projected sewage flow would increase to about 120 000 m<sup>3</sup>/day in 2038, which was close to the design capacity of the twin rising mains upon completion of the proposed works.
- 135. <u>DDS</u> replied that the normal service life of a sewage rising main was about 25 years. With timely maintenance and repair, it could be extended to about 50 years. Upon the commissioning of the proposed additional sewage rising main in 2023, the existing sewage rising main between Tung Chung and Siu Ho Wan would have been used for 25 years. Therefore, it was necessary to construct an additional sewage rising main in that district, and

then rehabilitate the existing sewage rising main, so as to extend the service life of the latter.

136. DDS further said that as SHWSTW was at a higher altitude than the Tung Chung sewage pumping station ("TCSPS"), it was necessary to use a sewage rising main to convey sewage. This type of sewage pipe was generally more difficult to maintain than those operating by gravity. Most of the critical sewage rising mains laid in recent years in Hong Kong were provided in pair running alongside each other, with both mains using as duty rather than one as duty and the other as standby, since the twin-pipe operation mode could maintain the pumping pressure at normal level which would help The twin-pipe operation mode also enabled one save long-term power cost. of the duty mains to be taken out of operation for inspection or maintenance. In response to Mr Albert CHAN's further enquiry, DDS said that the original design of SHWSTW had already made provision for facilities to cater for the future development of the areas around North Lantau and Tung Chung. Therefore, it would be more cost-effective to convey the sewage from the future TCNTE to SHWSTW for treatment than constructing another sewage treatment works in the TCNTE area.

#### Issue of high levels of hydrogen sulphide in sewage

- 137. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung noted from Enclosure 2 to the discussion paper that the Drainage Services Department had detected high level of hydrogen sulphide ("H<sub>2</sub>S") in the sewage at TCSPS and SHWSTW in 2004, and subsequent investigations showed that such emissions of H<sub>2</sub>S originated mainly from the sewage generated at HKIA. Mr Albert CHAN said that there were also claims that the chemicals added by HKIA in the sewage treatment process had speeded up the corrosion of the sewer. and Mr CHAN pointed out that as the current population of TCNT was less than the forecast in the planning of the area, there was a likelihood that the early emergence of a serious corrosion problem with the existing sewage rising main was associated with the sewage from HKIA. They considered that the Hong Kong Airport Authority ("HKAA") should be requested to tackle at source the problem of high levels of H<sub>2</sub>S in the sewage from HKIA. They further enquired whether HKAA was obliged to pay any of the capital cost required for the proposed project.
- 138. <u>DDS</u> explained that sewage contained high levels of organic pollutants and bacteria. Seawater, which was commonly used for toilet flushing in Hong Kong, contained high levels of sulphate. Inside sewers and rising mains, bacteria would grow on the surface of pipes and used sulphate to oxidize the organic pollutants. With this activity, sulphate was gradually converted into  $H_2S$ . As it took time for sewage to pass through

sewers and reach sewage treatment works, the longer the hydraulic retention time inside a sewer, the more  $H_2S$  would be formed. High levels of  $H_2S$  would speed up the corrosion of sewers.

- DDS and DDEP(1) supplemented that sewage from TCNT and HKIA 139. was currently delivered to SHWSTW for treatment. To tie in with the expansion of TCNT and HKIA, the same basic sewage treatment facilities would be provided, and the sewerage system in Tung Chung would be used to deliver sewage to SHWSTW for treatment. In addition, regarding the issue of H<sub>2</sub>S, the information in Enclosure 2 had explained the relevant situation. No information indicated that corrosion of the sewage rising main had been accelerated because HKIA used additional chemicals in the treatment of sewage. The high H<sub>2</sub>S levels of the sewage in TCSPS and SHWSTW were mainly due to the prolonged retention time inside the sewerage system on Airport Island, which resulted in the generation of more H<sub>2</sub>S. As explained in Enclosure 2, HKAA had been requested to take a series of remedial actions to reduce the H<sub>2</sub>S levels of the sewage generated on Airport Island. Since the implementation of the above measures in 2011, the level of H<sub>2</sub>S in the sewage system concerned had been reduced to an acceptable level. However, the downstream section of the existing sewage rising main could not be shut down for inspection and maintenance until the completion of an additional sewage rising main.
- 140. Mr IP Kwok-him expressed support for the proposed project. He opined that as an important infrastructure of the Government, HKIA had made significant contributions to the economy of Hong Kong. Therefore, it was the responsibility of the Administration to provide relevant infrastructure, including sewage pipes, to support the operation and development of HKIA. The Administration noted Mr IP's views.
- 141. In response to Mr Albert CHAN's enquiry, <u>DDEP(1)</u> said that HKAA was required to pay a sewage charge. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> requested the Administration to provide the following supplementary information
  - (a) further justifications for the construction of an additional sewage rising main and the rehabilitation of the existing sewage rising main between Tung Chung and Siu Ho Wan, including the current sewage flow, the projected sewage flow from TCNTE and HKIA's 3RS, specifically the determining and contributing factors; and
  - (b) whether the properties in HKIA were liable for rates and Government rent.

142. Mr IP Kwok-him requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the expected service life of the existing sewage rising main between Tung Chung and Siu Ho Wan before and after the completion of the proposed works.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC282/15-16(01)</u> on 24 June 2016.)

### Voting on PWSC(2016-17)30

- 143. There being no further questions from members on the item, <u>the</u> <u>Deputy Chairman</u> put the item to vote.
- 144. The item was voted on and endorsed. Some members requested that this item be voted on separately at the relevant FC meeting.

# Head 703 – Buildings PWSC(2016-17)31

118KA Renovation works for the West Wing of the former Central Government Offices for office use by the Department of Justice and law-related organizations

[At 4:10 pm, the Chairman took over the chair. At the request of members, the Chairman announced suspension of the meeting for 10 minutes for members to take a short break. The meeting resumed at 4:20 pm.]

145. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2016-17)31, was to upgrade 118KA to Category A at an estimated cost of \$1,078.9 million in MOD prices for the renovation works for the West Wing of the former Central Government Offices ("CGO") for use by the Department of Justice ("DoJ") and law-related organizations ("LROs"). The Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services had been consulted on the proposed project on 25 April 2016. Panel members supported the submission of the relevant funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

<u>Arrangements for public access to the heritage features of the West Wing of</u> the former Central Government Offices

- 146. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> supported the proposed project. He enquired about the facilities of the West Wing to be open for public viewing upon the completion of the renovation and their opening hours, as well as the opening hours of the open compound between the Main Wing and the West Wing of the former CGO. He also enquired about the number of bookings made by members of the public to visit the Court of Final Appeal Building.
- 147. Director of Administration and Development, Department of Justice ("DAD/DoJ"), replied that having regard to the operational needs of the department, the Administration planned to organize public guided tours on Saturdays/Sundays for members of the public to visit the heritage features of the former CGO. As regards the West Wing, DoJ would further study the heritage impact assessment report with a view to making the most appropriate arrangement for public interpretation. According to the current plan, the corridor on the 7/F of the West Wing would be used for displaying items with heritage value for public viewing. Besides, the open compound between the Main Wing and the West Wing of the former CGO would be developed into a public open space to be managed by LCSD. He said that he did not have in hand the number of bookings made by members of the public to visit the Court of Final Appeal Building.
- 148. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> said that quite a number of community groups (e.g. the Government Hill Concern Group) were gravely concerned about the conservation of the West Wing, particularly the content and arrangements of the guided tour activities to be organized by the Administration upon the completion of the renovation of the West Wing. He urged the Administration to conduct thorough consultation with community groups on the arrangements for guided tour services.
- 149. Having regard to the historical significance of the "Government Hill" (including the areas around the Main, East and West Wings of the former CGO), Miss CHAN Yuen-han supported the Administration's project for the conservation of the West Wing. Miss CHAN suggested that the Administration should step up exchanges and discussions with community groups on how to preserve the structures and original atmosphere of the "Government Hill".
- 150. In response, <u>DAD/DoJ</u> said that contact was constantly maintained with community groups, including the Government Hill Concern Group, on issues relating to the conservation of the West Wing. Regarding the arrangements for public guided tours, DoJ would seek advice from the

Antiquities and Monument Office ("AMO") and readily communicate with community groups. On the other hand, in order to enhance public access to the open compound at the level of Lower Albert Road (i.e. on the 7/F of the West Wing), a new passenger lift would be constructed under the proposed project to facilitate the access of the public, including persons with disabilities, from Queen's Road Central to the 7/F of the West Wing. Mr IP Kwok-him enquired about the capacity of that lift. DArchS replied that the lift could accommodate a maximum of 12 persons.

- 151. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> was dissatisfied that the Administration would make only the corridor on the 7/F of the West Wing accessible for public visits and organize guided tours only on Saturdays/Sundays. He urged that more facilities and spaces of the West Wing should be made accessible to the public. He asked whether the original canteen in the West Wing would be preserved for use by members of the public. <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> opined that consideration might be given to making good use of the public realm by establishing an open air cafe in the open compound between the Main Wing and the West Wing.
- 152. <u>DAD/DoJ</u> replied that improvement works would be carried out on the 7/F of the West Wing to reinstate the original covered plaza design. No canteen would be provided in the renovated West Wing. The plan was to renovate part of the original canteen to provide a publicly-accessible corridor. He said that the Development Bureau planned to develop the open compound between the Main Wing and the West Wing into a public open space. DoJ would relay to the Development Bureau members' suggestion of establishing a cafe in the open compound.
- 153. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> considered it equally important to conserve the heritage buildings for public viewing/use. He requested the attendance of a representative of the Development Bureau (including the Commissioner for Heritage) at the relevant FC meeting for discussion of this item to explain the arrangements for public access to the heritage features of the West Wing.

#### Heritage conservation measures

154. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> was concerned whether the proposed project would affect the original architectural characteristics and heritage of the West Wing. <u>DAD/DoJ</u> said that, in planning the works project, the Administration had taken steps to preserve as far as practicable the original outlook of the West Wing when it was built in 1959. The facilities proposed to be demolished were later additions or obsolete facilities.

- 155. Mr IP Kwok-him considered that as the West Wing had less historical significance and architectural characteristics than the Main and East Wings, the Administration's suggestion that the West Wing be demolished for commercial development was in fact more beneficial to Hong Kong's long-term economic development. Pointing out that the original lift at the east end of the 7/F of the West Wing was a convenient means of access for the public, he asked why the Administration had planned to demolish it.
- 156. <u>DAD/DoJ</u> said that the lift tower, lobby and covered carport at the east end of the 7/F, which were later additions in 1998, currently restricted the north-south views between the Main Wing and the West Wing. In line with the recommendations of the heritage impact assessment report, and in consultation with the Antiquities Advisory Board and the Central and Western District Council, it was proposed that the relevant facilities be demolished so as to restore the original design intent of the West Wing in 1959. Upon the completion of the proposed demolition works, a two-way vehicle ramp would be provided in the vacated area for access to the former Court of Final Appeal Building, so as to minimize vehicular access to the open compound, which would otherwise cause inconvenience to the members of the public using that open space.

# The fence and the gate around the former CGO

- 157. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> said that the fence and the gate erected by the Administration in the area around the former CGO after the handover of Hong Kong in 1997 should be demolished because they obstructed public access to the public open space on the "Government Hill". <u>Miss CHAN Yuen-han</u> recalled that there was originally no iron fence around the former CGO. <u>Dr CHAN</u> and <u>Miss CHAN</u> asked why the Administration retained the fence under the proposed project.
- 158. <u>DAD/DoJ</u> replied that since the footpath on Lower Albert Road off the 7/F of the West Wing was not at the same level as the floor of the West Wing, the fence at the top of the escarpment within the West Wing site along Lower Albert Road would be lowered for the sake of pedestrians' safety and in line with the recommendations of the heritage impact assessment report. This fence arrangement was comparable with that of 1959. The fence height would also be lowered from currently about 2.2 metres to about 1.45 metres. In addition, the gate would be replaced by drop-arm barriers for vehicular control. The authorities would ensure that the fence within the West Wing site would not cause inconvenience to the members of the public using the public open space.

- 159. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> advised that the addition of a fence around the former CGO after 1997 aimed at obstructing members of the public from staging protests or petitions. The fence also had a serious impact on the original environment and atmosphere. He asked whether the Administration would display information in the renovated West Wing to present to the public the history related to the addition of the fence. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> raised similar questions. <u>DAD/DoJ</u> replied that the content for public interpretation included mainly DoJ's history and information on the conservation of the former CGO.
- 160. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung asked whether the fence around the former CGO would obstruct pedestrians from walking from Battery Path to Lower Albert Road and further to the Government House. DAD/DoJ said that pedestrians could now go from Battery Path to Lower Albert Road via the main entrance of Justice Place. That section of footpath was open 24 hours a day.
- 161. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung commented that the addition of a fence around the former CGO after 1997 was proposed by Mr TUNG Chee-hwa, the then Chief Executive. The Administration could, through an open design contest, make use of the metal materials removed from the old fence to make a statute of Mr TUNG, or display to the public, through a video, the respective outlooks of the West Wing as it had been originally in 1959, after the addition of the fence in 1997 and upon the completion of the proposed project. DAD/DoJ said that AMO and related organizations would be consulted on the suggestions on the display of conserved heritage items.

# Areas to be occupied by law-related organizations

- 162. Mr Dennis KWOK noted that the Administration would set aside areas in the West Wing for providing space to LROs and carry out basic conversion and refurbishment for those areas. He considered that the premises for holding hearings/meetings should be of international professional standards in order to attract usage by arbitration institutions. Mr KWOK asked whether the Administration would provide hearing/meeting facilities up to a standard comparable to that of the existing facilities of Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre ("HKIAC") for LROs in the West Wing and bear the costs incurred.
- 163. In response, <u>DAD/DoJ</u> said that as there were different operational needs among various LROs, only basically refurbished space would be provided for use by such organizations in the West Wing. The costs of the proposed project did not cover the provision of various facilities to such organizations. Discussions with individual LROs would be held separately

and assistance would be provided as appropriate to ensure that the future service facilities available to such organizations in the West Wing would not be of a lesser standard than the facilities that they were currently using. Appropriate resources would be allocated to promote Hong Kong as a legal and dispute resolution services centre in the Asia-Pacific region.

164. Mr IP Kwok-him was concerned that if professional hearing facilities up to a standard comparable to that of the existing facilities of HKIAC were to be provided for LROs in the West Wing, it might entail a very high cost. Mr Tony TSE supported the proposed project. He suggested that in addition to carrying out renovation works for the West Wing, the Administration should raise the standard of the facilities inside the building to meet modern needs. He was of the view that only appropriate and reasonable facilities should be provided for LROs in the West Wing.

#### Recurrent costs arising from the proposed project

- 165. Mr Tony TSE considered that the estimated recurrent costs for the renovated West Wing (i.e. \$39.5 million per year) was higher than normal, and enquired about the details of this expenditure item. DAD/DoJ replied that the recurrent costs included the expenses for maintenance, security, cleaning services, etc. As the West Wing had been accorded Grade 1 status, the building maintenance cost would be relatively high.
- 166. <u>Mr Tony TSE</u> requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on
  - (a) a breakdown of the estimated recurrent costs for the project; and
  - (b) the differences in the recurrent costs for heritage government buildings and those for non-heritage government buildings and the relevant details.

(*Post-meeting note*: The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide <u>LC Paper No. PWSC269/15-16(01)</u> on 21 June 2016.)

- 167. There being no further questions from members on the item, <u>the</u> <u>Chairman</u> put the item to vote.
- 168. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> requested that this item be voted on separately at the relevant FC meeting.

Head 709 – Waterworks

PWSC(2016-17)29 350WF Improvement of water supply to Sheung

**Shui and Fanling** 

53WS Uprating of Chai Wan salt water supply

system

196WC Implementation of Water Intelligent

Network

169. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2016-17)29, was to upgrade 350WF, 53WS and part of 196WC to Category A at estimated costs of \$521.3 million, \$379.1 million and \$239.7 million in MOD prices respectively. These three projects were for improvement of water supply to Sheung Shui and Fanling, uprating of the Chai Wan salt water supply system, and implementation of the first stage of the Water Intelligent Network. The Panel on Development had been consulted on the three aforementioned projects on 15 March, 26 April and 24 May 2016. Panel members supported the submission of the relevant funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

#### Use of reclaimed water for flushing

- 170. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> supported the funding proposal. Given that at present residents living in some districts in Hong Kong were still using fresh water for flushing, he asked whether the Administration would, under the proposed improvement of water supply to Sheung Shui and Fanling, implement any programmes for the two districts to switch to seawater flushing; if not, the reasons for that.
- 171. <u>Director of Water Supplies</u> ("DWS") replied that the seawater supply networks in Hong Kong currently covered about 80% of the population. Given their remoteness from the sea, Sheung Shui and Fanling districts had not been supplied with seawater for flushing. It was planned that in future, reclaimed water being converted from tertiary treated sewage effluent from the Shek Wu Hui Sewage Treatment Works would be supplied to some districts, including Sheung Shui and Fanling, for flushing purpose.
- 172. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> asked, apart from Sheung Shui and Fanling, whether the Administration would provide other water sources for flushing to residents in other districts where fresh water was used for flushing, so as to help save fresh water resources. <u>DWS</u> responded that seawater was not suitable for flushing in some areas (such as the Peak on the Hong Kong Island and the outlying islands) due to geographical constraints, i.e. it would not be cost-effective to construct and operate salt water supply systems there.

As for other areas, the Administration would, where feasible, make arrangements for the gradual switch from using fresh water to using seawater or reclaimed water for flushing.

- 173. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung asked whether the Administration would install grey water and rainwater harvesting systems for those districts using fresh water for flushing, so that grey water and rain water could be recycled In response, DWS said that the Administration was for flushing. considering the inclusion of grey water recycling and rainwater harvesting systems in new developments for flushing and irrigation. water and rain water could replace fresh water for flushing was yet to be In response to Mr LEUNG's further enquiry, DWS said that in planning the provision of grey water or rainwater harvesting systems for new developments, the cost for constructing system-related facilities (such as those for water storage and treatment) should be taken into account. For new developments which were close to the sea, the Administration would compare the cost-effectiveness of providing a grey water/rainwater harvesting system against a salt water supply system.
- 174. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung asked whether the Administration would plan to provide grey water recycling and rainwater harvesting systems on the roofs of existing buildings, and whether government buildings would be installed with such systems. DWS replied that should these systems be installed on the roofs of existing buildings, the costs and feasibility of the projects should be considered. The Water Supplies Department ("WSD") had established corresponding technical and water quality standards in respect of recycling of grey water and rainwater harvesting for non-potable applications and provided relevant guidelines on the use of recycled grey water and rain water in government projects, with a view to promoting the provision of such systems in government facilities.

# Service life of fresh water and salt water supply systems

175. <u>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</u> enquired about the service life of facilities to be provided under the proposed improvement of water supply to Sheung Shui and Fanling and uprating of Chai Wan salt water supply system, and whether the Administration would adopt new technologies to prolong the service life of these facilities. <u>DWS</u> replied that the Administration had used new materials for water mains and their lining in order to prolong the service life of water mains. The service life of new water mains was generally about 40 to 60 years under normal operation, while that of the pumping system could be as long as 30 to 40 years. Because of the corrosive nature of salt water, the service life of the salt water supply system would be shorter than that of the fresh water supply system.

#### New Engineering Contract form

- 176. Noting that the Administration had adopted the New Engineering Contract ("NEC") form for some public works contracts, <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> enquired about the factors for consideration and merits for adopting the NEC form instead of implementing the proposed improvement of water supply to Sheung Shui and Fanling under conventional contracts, as well as the effectiveness of trying out the NEC form in public works projects in the past.
- 177. DWS replied that the NEC form had been tried out in many public works contracts for the purpose of enhancing the management efficiency and cost-effectiveness of such contracts. The NEC form had a collaborative risk management mechanism, with an objective to enable the contracting parties to manage the risk collaboratively and strive to complete the works in a more Taking waterworks as an example, the possible risks cost-effective manner. that might arise in the course of the works included delays in the progress of excavation due to unfavourable ground conditions. The project for the improvement of fresh water supply to Cheung Chau currently underway was the first project implemented by WSD under the NEC form. To promote the implementation of public works under a partnership approach, WSD adopted the NEC form again on a trial basis for the proposed improvement of water supply to Sheung Shui and Fanling.
- 178. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> enquired about the uses of consultants' fees for provision of consultation services for management of NEC (i.e. \$4.9 million) under the proposed improvement of water supply to Sheung Shui and Fanling. In response, <u>DWS</u> said given that the NEC form was relatively new for contracts for waterworks, the fees would be used for hiring consultants for provision of consultation services to WSD in respect of works monitoring to be conducted under the NEC form.
- 179. There being no further questions from members on the item, <u>the Chairman</u> put the item to vote.
- 180. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

# Head 707 – New Towns and Urban Area Development PWSC(2016-17)28 332CL West Kowloon Reclamation - main works (remainder)

181. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2016-17)28), was to upgrade part of 332CL, entitled "West Kowloon Reclamation – main works (remainder) – footbridge at the junction of Sham Mong Road and Tonkin Street West in Sham Shui Po", to Category A at an estimated cost of \$368.9 million in MOD prices for the construction of a footbridge system at the junction of Sham Mong Road and Tonkin Street West in Sham Shui Po. The Panel on Development had been consulted on the proposed project on 26April 2016. Panel members supported the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion had been tabled at the meeting.

# Impact of the existing at-grade pedestrian crossings on the junction capacity

- 182. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired whether the Administration would remove the existing at-grade pedestrian crossings at the junction of Sham Mong Road and Tonkin Street West ("the junction") upon the commissioning of the proposed footbridge system, and the relevant factors for consideration.
- 183. Director of Civil Engineering and Development ("DCED") replied that in the light of the suggestion of some members of the Panel on Development for retaining the existing at-grade pedestrian crossings, the Administration would consider whether the existing at-grade pedestrian crossings at the junction should be retained after reviewing the current actual situation upon the commissioning of the proposed footbridge system. Administration tended to remove the at-grade pedestrian crossings in order to enhance road safety and improve junction capacity. He explained that at present, the cycle time of the signal-controlled road junction included the pedestrian crossing time and the vehicular traffic time. commissioning of the proposed footbridge system and removal of the existing at-grade pedestrian crossings, the vehicular traffic time would be increased. If the at-grade pedestrian crossings were to be retained, it was anticipated that the reserved capacity would be reduced to -10% in 2031, meaning that the junction capacity would be overloaded. On the contrary, if the at-grade pedestrian crossings were to be removed, it was anticipated that the reserved capacity at the junction would be increased to 27% in 2031.
- 184. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</u> was of the view that in considering whether the at-grade pedestrian crossings should be removed upon the commissioning of the new footbridge, the Administration should assess the impact of removing the crossings on the junction capacity at present rather than in 2031.

If the impact was not substantial, the pedestrian crossings should be retained. <a href="DCED">DCED</a> replied that ensuring pedestrian safety was a major factor for consideration of removing the at-grade pedestrian crossings. The proposed footbridge system would connect the existing Nam Cheong MTR Station and the two housing developments which were currently under construction, so as to provide a more convenient access for pedestrians. <a href="MTLEUNG">Mr LEUNG</a> considered that retaining the at-grade pedestrian crossings could serve the purpose of diverting pedestrian flow.

185. Mr IP Kwok-him said that as there were a number of schools near the junction of Sham Mong Road and Tonkin Street West, he supported the construction of the proposed footbridge system, as well as the removal of the at-grade pedestrian crossings upon the commissioning of the footbridge system, so as to ensure safety of pedestrians, especially students.

# Design of the proposed footbridge system

- 186. Mr TAM Yiu-chung supported the proposed project. He suggested that the Administration should enhance the carrying capacity of the lifts of the proposed footbridge system as far as possible, and that the gradient of the proposed covered staircases should also cater for the safety of the elderly. He considered that if the deck floor of the proposed footbridge system could be connected directly to the adjacent buildings, more pedestrians would be attracted to use the system.
- 187. Noting that the aesthetic design of the proposed works had been endorsed by the Advisory Committee on the Appearance of Bridges and Associated Structures, <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> enquired about the Committee's views on the aesthetic design of the proposed works. <u>DCED</u> replied that the Administration had struck a balance between the cost-effectiveness and the aesthetic design of the works. Glass and steel materials would be used for the construction of the proposed footbridge system, so as to achieve the effect of natural lighting and a relatively light-weight external appearance.
- 188. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> urged the Administration to ensure the accessibility of the proposed footbridge system and to ensure that the lifts to be provided by the adjacent housing developments for connecting the footbridge would have a carrying capacity sufficient to meet the need of the users. <u>DCED</u> responded that the authorities would maintain contact with the organizations that were responsible for the housing developments (i.e. the MTR Corporation Limited and HD) on the related matters.
- 189. <u>Mr Albert CHAN</u> suggested that the Administration should include some innovative features into the design of the proposed footbridge system,

so as to make it become an iconic building in Sham Shui Po. He also suggested that on the premise that no substantial increase in the project costs would be incurred, designs with special features should be adopted in other public works projects.

#### Management of the proposed footbridge system

190. <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u> asked which government departments or organizations would be responsible for the management of the proposed footbridge system upon its completion. <u>DCED</u> said that adequate resources would be allocated to government departments responsible for the management of the system for providing maintenance and repair services for the relevant facilities.

#### Contract approach for implementing work projects

- 191. Mr Albert CHAN considered that under a fair and impartial assessment mechanism, the adoption of the "design and build" ("D&B") contract approach for implementing public works projects could enhance the distinctiveness of the building design and cost-effectiveness of the project, as compared with the conventional "government-design, contractor-build" approach. In the past, there were quite a number of successful cases of public works projects which were implemented under the D&B contract approach. Mr CHAN suggested that the Administration should employ the D&B contract approach on a trial basis for implementing some selected public works projects in various districts.
- 192. In response, <u>DCED</u> said that the Administration would consider whether the D&B contract approach should be adopted, depending on the nature of the works projects. The construction of an elevated landscaped deck and roadside noise barriers at the former runway under the Kai Tak development project was a recent example of works projects being implemented under the D&B approach.

#### Other concerns

- 193. Mr Albert CHAN commented that as the West Kowloon reclamation works had been completed several years ago, it was inappropriate for the proposed project of the footbridge system to be named "West Kowloon Reclamation main works (remainder)" at the time when it was planned. The proposed project should be regarded as a district enhancement project.
- 194. There being no further questions from members on the item, <u>the</u> <u>Chairman</u> put the item to vote.

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- 195. The item was voted on and endorsed. <u>The Chairman</u> consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.
- 196. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:56 pm.

Council Business Division 1
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27 June 2016