

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PANEL ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**Response on Green Roofs Funded
by the Environment and Conservation Fund**

During the discussion on the “Latest Development on the Work on Combating Climate Change” at the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on 23 May 2016, Members requested the Government to provide within one week, a written response to the Panel regarding whether the Government will issue reminders to responsible persons of all green roof projects funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF), including those which are accessible and mainly inaccessible, requesting such persons to engage Authorised Persons (APs) to review the structural loading of the green roofs concerned to ensure that such green roofs are structurally safe after installation of the green systems. The response of the Government is given below.

2. Green roof projects funded by the ECF have undertaken a feasibility study on issues including structural loading of the green roofs and engaged an AP or registered structural engineer to assess whether plan submission to respective authorities is needed. On this, government schools are to seek approval from the Architectural Services Department. Non-government schools are to undertake a feasibility study and engage an AP or registered structural engineer to assess whether plan submission to the Buildings Department (for schools outside housing estates) or the Independent Checking Unit under the Transport and Housing Bureau (for schools in housing estates) is needed and obtain approval from the Education Bureau. Similarly, it is necessary for green roof projects of NGOs to undertake a feasibility study and engage an AP or registered structural engineer to assess whether plan submission to the Buildings Department is needed. Funds for carrying out the works will be released by the ECF only after the applicant schools or NGOs have completed the above procedures.

3. As at end March 2016, the ECF has approved and processed 133 projects involving green roofs out of which 116 are school projects and 17 are NGO projects. The 116 school projects involve a total of 132 schools (as one project may cover more than one school and about 60 schools have completed their green roof works).

4. The Education Bureau has issued a letter to all schools on 24 May 2016 to remind them to comply with all requirements concerning installation works of green roofs and undertake the necessary inspection and maintenance. Schools with green roof projects funded by the ECF have been covered in this letter. For the other 17 NGO green roof projects funded by the ECF, the ECF Secretariat has also written to these NGOs on 26 May 2016 to remind them to comply with all requirements concerning installation works of green roofs and undertake the necessary inspection and maintenance.

**Environment Bureau / Environmental Protection Department
May 2016**