



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

本局檔號 Our Ref. : EDB(HE) 1/1946/73

電話 Telephone : (852) 3509 8551

來函檔號 Your Ref. :

傳真 Fax Line : (852) 2804 6499

31 May 2017

Ms Angel Wong
Clerk to the Legislative Council Panel on Education
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Wong,

**Legislative Council Panel on Education
Follow-up on Matters Raised at the Panel's Special Meeting
on 15 May 2017**

At its meeting on 15 May 2017, the Legislative Council Panel on Education discussed the proposed works project for The University of Hong Kong (HKU) to construct a new academic building at No. 3 Sassoon Road. While indicating support that the proposal be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee for consideration, Members also requested the Government to provide further information to explain how the project cost should be shared between the Government and HKU.

The Government and the University Grants Committee (UGC) are committed to supporting campus development of the UGC-funded universities in accordance with the established policies and calculation criteria. Provided that the criteria for funding under the policy are met and where UGC-funded universities have applied for subvention, the Government will pay for the full cost of construction of teaching facilities. However, for additional works required by universities that cater for reasons other than those covered under the funding policy (e.g. extra items in the project, or upgrading of part of the building features that goes beyond the standards of publicly-funded works projects), such expenses shall be met by the universities concerned.

For example, the project cost of the Innovation Tower proposed by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) in 2009 [paper no.: PWSC(2009-10)39] was \$705.8 million in money-of-the-day prices. Out of this amount, \$84.3 million (11.9%) was borne by PolyU to cover the cost of some enhanced building features and the related costs such as curtain wall, architectural fins as well as extra piling and substructure to facilitate future expansion.

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) applied for funding to construct the Research and Academic Building in 2011 [paper no.: PWSC(2010-11)36] in order to provide some 10 000 square metres of teaching and research facilities in net operational floor area. According to UGC's assessment at the time, there was a shortfall of some 7 500 square metres in publicly-funded teaching space in HKUST. Therefore, in accordance with the established policy, the Government funded the construction cost in respect of 7 500 square metres (out of the 10 000 square metres) to make up for the shortfall, while the construction cost in respect of the remaining 2 500 square metres was to be paid by HKUST. As such, the split of the total project cost between the Government and HKUST was 75% to 25%, i.e. \$360.2 million and \$120.1 million respectively.

As regards HKU's works project for the academic building at No. 3 Sassoon Road, as no extra works items or upgrading of building features are involved, the Government will fund the construction works in full.

I would be most grateful if the above information could be passed on to Members for their reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sammy Leung', written in a cursive style.

(Sammy Leung)
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Secretary-General, UGC