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**FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE  
TREASURY BUREAU**

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26 January 2018

Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road, Central  
Hong Kong  
(Attn: Ms Doris LO)

Dear Ms LO,

**Public Works Subcommittee  
Follow-up to meeting on 22 January 2018**

At the captioned meeting, Members requested the Government to provide supplementary information on the application for block allocations under the Capital Works Reserve Fund (CWRP) for 2018-19. The Government's response, prepared in consultation with the bureaux/departments concerned, is at the **Enclosure**.

Yours sincerely,

(Original signed)

(Margaret HSIA)  
for Secretary for Financial Services  
and the Treasury

**Enclosure**

**(1) At the request of Hon YIU Si-wing, the Government shall provide the following supplementary information on the refurbishment of aviary cages no. 16, 18 and 19 in the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens (“HKZBG”) under Head 703 Subhead 3004GX:**

- (a) The number of local residents and visitors to Hong Kong who had visited the HKZBG in each of the past three years; and**

Over the past three years, about 850 000 people visited the HKZBG annually. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) does not have a breakdown of the number of local residents and visitors to Hong Kong who had visited the HKZBG.

- (b) Whether the Administration has plans to enhance the attractiveness of the HKZBG by improving its overall planning, increasing the number of animal species being shown, stepping up publicity, etc. apart from the proposed refurbishment of the aviary cages.**

The LCSD has strived to enhance the attractiveness of the HKZBG by improving its facilities and services.

On facilities, the HKZBG completed a number of enhancement works in 2017. They include setting up thematic trails and thematic gardens, improving existing ancillary facilities and providing better maps and signage at the HKZBG. Apart from the proposed refurbishment of the aviary cages, the HKZBG started the improvement works of the animal enclosures for the Bornean orangutans in late 2016 to incorporate natural elements and provide more living space for the orangutans. The improvement works is expected to be completed in mid-2018. Meanwhile, the HKZBG and the Architectural Services Department are considering converting some aviaries to walk-in zones for showcasing bird species, so that the public may see the birds up close. The conversion is expected to commence in late 2018.

Regarding animal species, the HKZBG brought in meerkats in 2016 and set up a new exhibition zone called the Meerkat’s Home. The HKZBG plans to bring in two more mammal species soon, namely the Cotton-top Tamarin and the Golden Lion Tamarin.

As for its services, the HKZBG will continue to step up the educational activities and guided tour services. Display boards with graphical illustrations on animals and plants as well as QR codes will be set up in phases to enable visitors to obtain the relevant information. Moreover, to attract visitors to the HKZBG, the Hong Kong Tourism Board has included the HKZBG as one of the city parks on its website. Also, the Transport Department (“TD”) has put up more signage on the roads in the vicinity of the HKZBG to inform the public of the way to the HKZBG from the MTR

Central station and its vicinity.

**(2) At the request of Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung, the Government shall provide the following supplementary information on the establishment of an agricultural park (“Agri-Park”) in Kwu Tung South (phase 1) — road works under Head 701 Subhead 1100CA, setting out the designed traffic volume of the proposed carriageway to be constructed in the Agri-Park (phase 1) and the number of visitors to be attracted.**

To cater for the long-term operational needs and overall objective of the Agri-Park, the Government, after taking into account the consultant’s recommendations, considered it necessary to construct a new carriageway and footpath in the Agri-Park to connect Tsiu Keng Road and Fan Kam Road so as to provide appropriate access to the park.

As the proposed new carriageway will be open for public use, it will be designed in accordance with the TD’s Transport Planning and Design Manual.

The proposed carriageway and footpath aim to cater for the long-term operational needs of and road usage at the Agri-Park, such as facilitating the farmers concerned to transport farming tools and equipment (e.g. agricultural machinery or farming apparatus) for exploration and adoption of new and modern agricultural practices for commercial production and productivity enhancement. Besides, given that the road will be open to the public and visitors to enable them to participate in farming-related educational, sharing and experiential activities, the access of large vehicles or coaches should be considered in the road design.

As the Agri-Park will rehabilitate the existing fallow farmland and increase the agricultural production of the area, it is expected that the traffic demand will be higher than that at present. Also, after commissioning, the Agri-Park, a novel venture in Hong Kong, is expected to attract a certain number of visitors. According to the preliminary estimation by the consultants, the vehicular traffic volume during peak hours will not be greater than 100 vehicles per hour. This estimation has taken into account the number of visitors capped at 500 persons per day in the initial phase (visitors need to make an appointment in advance). The possibility of an increase in the number of visitors and the traffic flow will not be ruled out upon full commissioning and development of the Agri-Park in the long run.