

**Speaking Points of the Secretary for Development
at the Special Finance Committee Meeting (Planning and Lands)
on 11 April 2019**

Chairman,

1. The respective Controlling Officers of the Planning and Lands Branch and relevant departments under the Development Bureau (DEVB) have provided answers to 220 written questions from Members accounting for the use of resources under their purview. We are here to respond to any further questions that Members may wish to raise.
2. The 2019-20 estimated Recurrent Expenditure for the Planning and Lands Branch and relevant departments is \$6,110 million, representing an increase of \$440 million (about 7.7%) compared with the revised estimate for 2018-19. There will be a net increase of 336 civil service posts in total, including 28 civil service posts in replacement of non-civil service contract posts. The directorate civil service establishment will see a net increase of three posts.
3. The additional recurrent resources this year are mainly deployed to the following three areas:
 - firstly, to increase manpower to handle the work of increasing land supply (involving additional resources of about \$250 million);
 - secondly, to strengthen the work of safeguarding building safety (involving additional resources of about \$42 million);
 - thirdly, to support smart city development and harbourfront enhancement (involving additional resources of about \$22 million).

Land Supply

4. Increasing land supply has been the top priority of the DEVB's work. The Government announced in February 2019 its full acceptance of the recommendations tendered by the Task Force on Land Supply on the strategy of land supply and eight land supply options worthy of priority studies and implementation. We are taking forward a range of follow-up actions.
5. We will seek funding approval of the Legislative Council in 2019 for various major development projects, including the main works of the first phase of Kwu Tung North/Fanling North New Development Area (NDA) in the New Territories, the first batch of works of Hung Shui Kiu NDA, as well as the studies on Kau Yi Chau artificial islands and the near-shore reclamations on three locations, namely Lung Kwu Tan, Siu Ho Wan and Sunny Bay.
6. In addition, we will also expedite the planning for brownfield development, kick start a study on the first phase of the New Territories North NDA development covering San Tin/Lok Ma Chau, and formulate policy measures to promote relocation of brownfield operations in multi-storey buildings; draw up details of the Land Sharing Pilot Scheme as soon as possible; and commission a detailed technical study on the development of the 32 hectares of Fanling Golf Course for housing purpose.
7. In addition, with the \$1 billion funding scheme recently launched, we are supporting non-government organisations actively to take forward worthy projects as soon as possible, with a view to putting more vacant government sites to optimal short-term uses benefiting the community.

“Single Site, Multiple Use” Initiative

8. We will pursue more vigorously the “single site, multiple use” model through multi-storey development on “Government, Institution or Community” sites to accommodate and consolidate different public facilities to provide the public services to meet local needs and to make optimal use of government land. The Government has set aside \$22 billion to take forward the first batch of “single site, multiple use” development projects, including redevelopment of Tuen Mun Clinic, development of a proposed ambulance depot near Sheung Wan Fire Station, and consolidation of several government sites in Tsuen Wan town centre. Together with the Government Property Agency, the PlanD and the relevant government departments, we are actively working on the specific details of these development projects.

Smart City

9. Land creation aside, we work closely with the Innovation and Technology Bureau and other relevant departments to press ahead with the setting up of the Common Spatial Data Infrastructure (CSDI) to facilitate the dissemination, utilisation and innovative application of geospatial data. The Government has set aside \$300 million to expedite the CSDI development, which is expected to come into full operation by end 2022, and to make available the high-quality 3D digital maps of the whole territory in phases. We will seek funding approval of the Finance Committee within this year to implement early the CSDI development.

Harbourfront Enhancement

10. Following the gradual completion of the planning for the

harbourfront areas and the commissioning of the related major infrastructure projects on both sides of the Victoria Harbour, the DEVB will make the best use of the \$6 billion earmarked funding to take forward the nine projects which have gained the support of the Harbourfront Commission earlier. These projects are located in Wan Chai, the Eastern District, Kai Tak, Cha Kwo Ling and Tsuen Wan respectively.

11. Chairman, the above is a brief account. My colleagues and I will be happy to answer any questions that Members may wish to raise. Thank you.