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Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the 3rd meeting held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Wednesday, 7 November 2018, at 8:30 am

Members present:

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP (Chairman)
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Hon Alvin YEUNG
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon HO Kai-ming

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon AU Nok-hin
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Member attending:

Hon IP Kin-yuen

Members absent:

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon Tanya CHAN
Hon KWONG Chun-yu

Public officers attending:

Mr Raistlin LAU Chun, JP	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury)3
Mr LAM Sai-hung, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Ms Bernadette LINN, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands)

Mr Donald TONG Chi-keung, JP	Permanent Secretary for the Environment
Ms Margaret HSIA Mai-chi	Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)
Mr Paul WONG Yan-yin	Principal Assistant Secretary for the Environment (Energy)
Mr Alfred SIT Wing-hang, JP	Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services
Mr CHAN Pak-cheung	Chief Engineer (Energy Efficiency B) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Dr Christine CHOI Yuk-lin, JP	Under Secretary for Education
Mrs Elina CHAN	Principal Assistant Secretary for Education (Infrastructure and Research Support)
Mr Allen LEUNG Kin-tak	Chief Technical Adviser (Subvented Projects) Architectural Services Department

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Doris LO	Chief Council Secretary (1)2

Staff in attendance:

Mr Keith WONG	Council Secretary (1)2
Ms Christina SHIU	Legislative Assistant (1)2
Ms Christy YAU	Legislative Assistant (1)7
Ms Clara LO	Legislative Assistant (1)8

Action

Application for late membership

The Chairman advised that the meeting would first deal with the application for late membership from Mr HUI Chi-fung (Mr HUI's

application letter was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. PWSC4/18-19 on 16 October 2018). He pointed out that at the meeting on 24 October 2018, some members had raised questions on Mr HUI Chi-fung's application, to which Mr HUI had also given his response. While a division was requested by members, voting was deferred to the current meeting as the remaining meeting time was insufficient. The Chairman also advised that if members accepted Mr HUI's application for late membership, Mr HUI's membership would take immediate effect.

Voting on application for late membership from Mr HUI Chi-fung

2. The Chairman put to vote the question as to whether Mr HUI Chi-fung's application for late membership should be accepted. At the request raised by members at the last meeting, the Chairman ordered a division. Eight members voted for and no one voted against the proposal. One member abstained from voting. The votes of individual members were as follows:

For:

Mr Tommy CHEUNG	Mr Frankie YICK
Mr WU Chi-wai	Mr CHAN Chi-chuen
Dr Fernando CHEUNG	Mr Holden CHOW
Dr CHENG Chung-tai	Mr Gary FAN
(8 members)	

Against:
(0 member)

Abstain:
Mr Tony TSE
(1 member)

3. The Chairman declared that Mr HUI Chi-fung's application for late membership was accepted by the Subcommittee.

4. The Chairman then advised that there were two funding proposals on the agenda for the meeting. The first funding proposal was carried over from the previous meeting, and the second one was newly submitted by the Administration. He 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.

Head 705 – Civil Engineering
PWSC(2018-19)30 45CG District Cooling System at the Kai Tak Development

5. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2018-19)30, sought to increase the approved project estimate ("APE") of 45CG by $1,039.8 million from $3,905.7 million to $4,945.5 million for implementing the remaining works under Phase III ("Phase IIIR") of the District Cooling System ("DCS") at Kai Tak Development ("KTD"). The Administration had consulted the Panel on Development on the proposed works on 26 June 2018. Panel members supported the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion was tabled at the meeting.

Operation of the District Cooling System

6. Mr Gary FAN noted from the Administration's paper for the Panel on Development (i.e. LC Paper No. CB(1)1356/17-18(01)) that it was the Government's policy intent to recover the capital and operating costs from users over the project life of DCS, which was estimated to span 30 years.

Admin He requested the Administration to provide information on the relevant financial analysis and estimates to explain how the Government would recover the capital and operating costs over the 30-year project life of DCS through collecting charges and fees from consumers for the district cooling services.

7. Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services ("DEMS") said that the Government's objective in the construction of DCS was to allocate resources to the project during the initial construction stage first and then recover the capital and operating costs from users over time through tariff charges after the system came into operation. Under the tariff charging mechanism prescribed in the District Cooling Services Ordinance (Cap. 624) ("DCSO"), DCS users were subject to payment of capacity charge and consumption charge based respectively on the contract capacity and the actual cooling energy consumption of the building in the month. Given the estimated 30-year project life of the electrical and mechanical ("E&M") facilities of DCS, and based on the Government's financial analysis and tariff level, it was estimated that the total sum of capacity charge and consumption charge collected from users would be equal to the capital and operating costs (including the day-to-day maintenance and utilities costs) of DCS over the 30-year period.

8. Mr Tony TSE expressed support for the funding proposal for the project. He enquired whether the Administration would have to seek further

funding approval from LegCo for the development of DCS after completion of the proposed Phase IIIR.

9. DEMS said that the planned total of about 1.7 million square metres of non-domestic air-conditioned floor area in the public and private developments in KTD required about 284 megawatt of refrigeration cooling capacity. As DCS was supposed to be able to provide the required refrigeration cooling capacity after completion of the proposed Phase IIIR, the Administration, at this stage, did not see the need to seek further funding approval for the current DCS. However, as the commercial floor area in KTD might increase in future and the New Acute Hospital ("NAH"), also located at KTD, might be expanded to cope with rising service demand in future, the Government would explore new DCS development in the light of the increase in the public and commercial floor areas in KTD.

10. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Mr AU Nok-hin pointed out that DSC had been serving many buildings in KTD currently. They enquired about the energy saving data of DCS since it came into operation. Mr AU and Mr CHU Hoi-dick also enquired whether DCS would serve the residential buildings in KTD.

11. DEMS replied that presently, DCS was still at the initial stage of operation and some of the facilities had not been completed. As such, energy saving data with full referencing value were unavailable at this stage. He added that in general, DCS only served non-domestic buildings in KTD, including the shopping malls of public housing estates.

12. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that most of the current DCS users were government departments and buildings. He enquired how the Administration would promote the DCS service so that more private commercial buildings in KTD would use this service. Mr CHU Hoi-dick requested the Administration to provide a plan showing the location of the E&M equipment involved in the remaining phase of DCS, as well as the names and locations of buildings that were using and had planned to use the DCS service.

Admin

13. DEMS said that at this stage, DCS users were mainly government buildings. It was anticipated that after the completion of the development of KTD, two-thirds of DCS users would be private commercial buildings, with the rest being government buildings. He added that developers of private commercial buildings in KTD were required by provisions in the conditions of land sale to connect their buildings to DCS. It was believed that this arrangement could promote the wider use of DCS by private commercial buildings in KTD.

14. In response to Dr CHENG Chung-tai's further enquiry, DEMS said that private commercial buildings in KTD which were interested in using DCS might file an application with the Government through a simple procedure during the building construction stage. The Government would install heat exchangers at those buildings for provision of air-conditioning service.

Maintenance of the District Cooling System and contingency mechanism

15. Mr Tony TSE enquired whether the E&M equipment of DCS could withstand strong typhoons. DEMS replied that the E&M equipment of DCS were placed underground or inside buildings. Under such design, DCS would be more resilient to typhoons than traditional air-cooled air-conditioning systems and individual water-cooled air-conditioning systems using cooling towers.

16. Given that DCS would serve government buildings and private commercial buildings in the entire KTD, including the Hong Kong Children's Hospital ("HKCH") and the proposed NAH, Mr Tony TSE and Dr CHENG Chung-tai were concerned about the contingency mechanism put in place by the Administration to deal with the situation where DCS could not provide normal service due to system breakdown or other incidents. Dr CHENG requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the notification mechanism between the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department ("EMSD") and the government departments and buildings affected when DCS could not provide service, and the relevant contingency plans for the two hospitals.

Admin

17. DEMS said that the Government attached great importance to the reliability of DCS. There were back-up systems for its air-conditioning chiller plant equipment and utility installations. The back-up systems could continue operating and maintain normal cooling services when the main system failed to do so. He added that EMSD had liaised with HKCH on the service arrangement and reliability of DCS. The hospital management was satisfied with the relevant arrangements.

18. Mr AU Nok-hin was concerned that the southern chiller plant room of DCS ("the southern plant") was flooded in July 2018 due to water main burst. He was worried that the operation of DCS would be affected if similar incidents happened again. He enquired about the measures taken by the Administration subsequently to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents.

19. DEMS and Chief Engineer (Energy Efficiency B), Electrical and Mechanical Services Department ("CE(EEB)/EMSD"), advised respectively that the night-shift staff of the southern plant normally patrolled the plant room at 1:00 am. In the aforesaid incident, however, a water tank was slightly displaced and caused leakage at around 2:00 am. The staff therefore could not identify the leakage early and resulted in flooding. As its design had already taken into account of possible flooding, the E&M equipment could maintain normal operation even in the event of flooding and did not affect the DCS service. To prevent the recurrence of similar incidents, the Government had requested the contractor to install flood monitoring equipment in the plant rooms and enhance the work procedure, including conducting a risk assessment afresh on plant room operation, so as to ensure uninterrupted system operation during contingencies such as E&M equipment failure or flooding.

20. The Chairman suggested that the Administration should arrange a visit to the DCS facilities to allow members of the Subcommittee to have a more thorough understanding of the system's mode of operation. DEMS said that the Administration was more than willing to host a visit to the DCS facilities for members.

(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration arranged a visit to the DCS facilities for members of the Subcommittee on 26 November 2018.)

Project cost

21. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen noted that the estimated capital cost of the proposed Phase IIIR was $1,281.8 million. However, the Administration had mentioned in the funding proposal for Phase IIIR that an uncommitted balance of $242 million could be released from the existing $3,905.7 million APE of 45CG under Phase I, Phase II, Phase III (Package A) ("Phase IIIA"), Phase III (Package B) ("Phase IIIB") and Phase III (Package C) ("Phase IIIC") to cover part of the project cost of the proposed Phase IIIR. In this connection, he requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the details of the respective uncommitted balances for Phases I, II, IIIA, IIIB and IIIC of 45CG, including the surplus contingencies, provision for price fluctuation, etc., that could be used in the remaining works under Phase IIIR.

Admin

22. DEMS said that contingencies were provided under the cost estimates of various phases of works of 45CG. Given the satisfactory works progress it was not necessary to use up the funding reserved for contingency under Phases I, II, IIIA, IIIB and IIIC. Early payment of project cost had also reduced the degree of inflationary adjustment. As a result, the actual project

cost turned out to be lower than the estimate. Those two factors had enabled the release of some of the funding reserved for pre-construction activities for use in the proposed Phase IIIR.

23. Mr AU Nok-hin pointed out that when submitting its funding request in 2013 for the construction of DCS, the Administration had estimated that the entire DCS project would cost around $4.9 billion. He enquired whether the cost of the entire DCS project would exceed the estimate of $4.9 billion given the current project progress.

24. DEMS said that with the $3,905.7 million APE of 45CG (Phases I, II, IIIA, IIIB and IIIC), together with its proposed increase by $1,039.8 million to cover the cost of the proposed Phase IIIR, the total project cost was estimated to be $4,945.5 million, which was the same as that stated in the Government's earlier report to LegCo. The Government was confident that the entire project could be completed within budget.

25. Mr CHU Hoi-dick pointed out that the cost of E&M installation and associated builders' works under the proposed Phase IIIR was as high as $540.1 million, which was far more expensive than the costs of similar works under Phases IIIA and IIIB. He enquired about the reasons for the soaring cost. He also enquired why the cost of mains laying of various works packages under Phase III fluctuated significantly.

26. DEMS said that the Government would provide the associated E&M equipment for the buildings concerned when EMSD received their applications for using DCS service. The proposed Phase IIIR comprised the provision of E&M equipment for many large-scale new buildings. As a result, the estimated cost of E&M installation and associated builders' works was higher than that of other pre-construction activities. As for laying of mains, the Government estimated the total cost required on the basis of the length of the mains to be laid and the market price. Given that the lengths of the mains of various works packages under Phase III were different, the cost varied significantly.

Expanding the District Cooling System

27. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that the Kowloon Bay Vehicle Examination Centre and the New Kowloon Bay Vehicle Examination Centre currently located within the Kowloon Bay Action Area ("KBAA") would be relocated to make way for commercial development projects, and a site at Lam Chak Street would also be used for commercial development. He urged the Administration to expand the area served by DCS to KBAA and the commercial site at Lam Chak Street.

28. CE(EEB)/EMSD said that the commercial site at Lam Chak Street was located within the area served by the DCS. Pipelines connecting to Lam Chak Street had been laid for the provision of DCS service for the commercial developments thereat while KBAA, which was outside the scope of KTD, could not use DCS. DEMS supplemented that the Government planned the DCS development based on the total refrigeration cooling capacity required by the non-domestic air-conditioned floor area of the planned public and private developments in KTD. Even with the planned extra 10% refrigeration cooling capacity, DCS could hardly provide additional service to those areas falling outside the planned scope. Moreover, KBAA was a developed area with a lot of different types of underground utilities. Should new pipelines be laid at this stage for providing district cooling services in KBAA, the capital cost would increase substantially and undermine the cost-effectiveness of the DCS.

29. Mr CHU Hoi-dick pointed out that the enactment of DCSO had put in place the legal framework for providing DCS service in KTD. He enquired, if the Administration developed district cooling services in other new development areas ("NDAs"), whether the relevant mode of service and tariff mechanism under DCSO would also apply, and whether the same arrangement under which the Government would undertake the development and operation of the system would be adopted.

30. DEMS said that in view of the benefits of energy efficiency, the Government intended to launch district cooling services in other NDAs where DCSO would also apply. Regarding the mode of service, the Government would work out a suitable operation mode in the light of the specific development needs of different areas.

31. Mr CHU Hoi-dick enquired whether NDAs located far from the sea, such as the North East New Territories and Hung Shui Kiu NDAs, met the criteria for DCS development. DEMS replied that if an NDA was close to the sea, DCS might use seawater for cooling and further enhance energy efficiency. However, overseas experience also showed that it was technically possible to develop DCSs at locations far from the sea by installing large-scale water towers.

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

33. The item was voted on and endorsed. Dr KWOK Ka-ki requested the item, i.e. PWSC(2018-19)30, be voted on separately at the relevant Finance Committee ("FC") meeting.

Head 708 – Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment

PWSC(2018-19)31 96EB Construction of an assembly hall at Munsang College at 8 Dumbarton Road, Kowloon City

34. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. PWSC(2018-19)31, sought to upgrade 96EB to Category A at an estimated cost of $81.4 million in money-of-the-day ("MOD") prices for construction of an assembly hall at Munsang College ("MSC") at 8 Dumbarton Road, Kowloon City. The Administration had consulted the Panel on Education on the proposed works on 11 May 2018. Panel members supported the submission of the funding proposal to the Subcommittee for consideration. A report on the gist of the Panel's discussion was tabled at the meeting.

Construction of the new assembly hall block at Munsang College

35. Mr Gary FAN expressed support for the funding proposal for the project. He pointed out that MSC had expressed years ago the need to build the assembly hall but did not receive any positive response from the Administration. In the meantime, MSC had carried out initial studies for the project at its own expense. He enquired whether the Administration had provided MSC with sufficient support in the course of its initial studies. As it took years for the funding request for the construction of the assembly hall of MSC to be endorsed by the Education Bureau ("EDB"), Mr CHU Hoi-dick also enquired whether it had reflected that the Administration accorded lower priority to school facilities improvement projects when considering the allocation of internal financial resources.

36. Principal Assistant Secretary for Education (Infrastructure and Research Support) ("PAS(IRS)/EDB") said that MSC first submitted the request to EDB for the in-situ development of the new assembly hall block between 2009 and 2010. After EDB gave its nod to the project in 2012, MSC had carried out the relevant feasibility study and initial design between 2012 and 2014, and the detailed design and cost estimation in 2015. These tasks were basically completed in 2016. The funding application for the relevant works was approved within the Government in 2017. Subsequently, the Panel on Education was consulted on the funding proposal for the project in May 2018. Construction works would commence once the funding approval of FC was obtained. Under Secretary for Education ("USED") stressed that the Government had handled the application from MSC in a timely manner in accordance with established procedure.

37. Mr IP Kin-yuen considered it undesirable that MSC, which had been turned into an aided school many years ago, did not have its own assembly hall. He hoped that members of the Subcommittee would support the funding proposal so that the construction works could commence as soon as possible.

38. Mr CHU Hoi-dick noted that while the total cost estimate of the whole proposed project was $226.3 million in MOD prices, the capital grant to be provided by the Administration was capped at just $81.4 million. In this connection, he enquired why the Administration would bear only part of the project cost.

39. USED explained that in providing the capital grant for MSC, the Government followed the criteria of enhancing its facilities to a standard on a par with that of a standard-design 30-classroom public sector secondary school. As some of the works items under the proposed project would upgrade MSC's facilities to a level above a standard-design public sector secondary school, the additional cost would be borne by the school-sponsoring body ("SSB") while the Administration would provide financial support for standard facilities only.

40. Mr Jeremy TAM enquired whether the Administration had checked if the SSB of MSC had sufficient funds to pay for the additional cost before it agreed to provide MSC with the capital grant. USED said that as far as the Government understood, the SSB of MSC had secured sufficient funds for implementing the project through such channels as fundraising campaigns.

41. Mr CHU Hoi-dick noted that the proposed works would comprise the adoption of energy conservation measures, greening features and recycled features (collectively referred to as "energy conservation features") at the new assembly hall block, including the installation of photovoltaic system on the roof for solar power generation. He enquired about the details of the installation of solar panels for power generation, and whether MSC could sell the power generated to power companies under their feed-in tariff schemes.

42. Chief Technical Adviser (Subvented Projects), Architectural Services Department ("CTA(SP)/ArchSD"), said that the limited roof space of the new assembly hall block could only accommodate 12 solar panels and the amount of power to be generated would be small. Nevertheless, MSC, by generating its own power, could reduce its electricity expenses and offer its students an opportunity to learn about renewable energy. He added that MSC could sell the power generated by the photovoltaic system to power companies under their feed-in tariff schemes.

43. Mr CHU Hoi-dick opined that the Administration should install more solar panels at MSC to increase the power generation capacity of the photovoltaic system. CTA(SP)/ArchSD said that the installation of additional solar panels to generate more solar power required a lot of outdoor space on the school premises, which would affect other outdoor teaching and learning activities of the school. The Government appreciated and respected the need for SSB to strike a balance in the use of space.

44. Mr CHU Hoi-dick noted that the cost estimate of installing the energy conservation features was around $2.2 million. He requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the breakdown and the relevant estimated costs of the energy conservation features, and whether the Administration would bear only $1 million of the additional cost; if so, the reasons for the Administration to cap its financial support to only $1 million. In addition, he also requested the Administration to explain the standard funding provision for the energy conservation features of a standard-design public sector secondary school.

(*Post-meeting note:* The supplementary information provided by the Administration was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. PWSC33/18-19(01) on 23 November 2018.)

45. CTA(SP)/ArchSD said that according to the information provided by the consultants, the energy conservation features would include heat recovery fresh air pre-conditioners for heat energy reclaim of exhaust air, LED illumination, energy-efficient window glass, environmentally friendly wooden boards on the roof garden, and energy and water saving installations at toilets.

Addressing the issue of sub-standard school premises

46. Mr CHU Hoi-dick enquired whether there were other proposals for school improvement works that were currently awaiting approval and funding support. PAS(IRS)/EDB said that the Government was preparing for the construction of the school premises of two new primary schools. The Panel on Education had been consulted on the relevant proposal. EDB would work closely with the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau with a view to submitting the relevant funding proposal to the Subcommittee and FC for vetting and approval as soon as possible.

47. The Chairman suggested that the Administration might consider drawing reference from the implementation model of the Universal Accessibility Programme by creating a block allocation subhead under the Capital Works Reserve Fund to provide dedicated funding for school

improvement, so as to add flexibility to the deployment of financial resources to cover the cost of school improvement works and expedite the progress of improvement projects.

48. Mr IP Kin-yuen said that the assembly hall was a basic facility for each and every school. The Government had the responsibility to ensure that every school had its own assembly hall to hold student assemblies and other teaching and learning activities. However, according to the information provided by the Administration to the Panel on Education, other than MSC there were 10 schools which did not have assembly hall facilities. He enquired about the Administration's plan to help those schools construct their own assembly halls.

49. USED said that upon receipt of school improvement proposals from schools, the Government must consider a basket of factors, including the age and physical conditions of the school premises, engineering feasibility, demand for school places and the quality of education delivered, etc., in deciding whether and how the improvement works should be carried out. Given the resource constraint, the Government had difficulty in acceding to all school improvement proposals within a short period of time, including the proposals to construct assembly halls. Based on the consensus reached between the Government and the education sector, the Government would first focus on the improvement works of "matchbox-style" school premises.

50. Dr KWOK Ka-ki expressed support for the funding proposal for the project. Both Dr KWOK and Mr Tony TSE urged the Administration to formulate long-term plans and allocate additional resources expeditiously to assist those schools operating in sub-standard premises to improve their teaching and learning environment as soon as possible.

51. USED said that currently, there were around 900 schools in Hong Kong, about 200 of which were built according to the prevailing standards. Between 1994 and 2006, the Government implemented the School Improvement Programme ("SIP") to enhance in phases the educational and administrative facilities of the remaining some 700 ordinary public-sector schools built according to the planning standards when the schools were constructed, including a number of campus expansion projects. Subsequently, the Government further expanded the scope of the last two phases of SIP, under which the facilities of more than 300 schools were enhanced to the prevailing standards as far as technically feasible. Moreover, the Government had been supporting schools in carrying out improvement works required by law, such as reserving $2 billion to support the installation of lifts at schools. She reiterated that in view of resource constraint, the Government would provide schools with appropriate

assistance, having regard to their actual education needs and urgency to have those school premises facilities.

52. The Chairman said that since assisting schools operating in sub-standard premises to improve their teaching and learning facilities was a matter of broader policy issues, he suggested that members should follow up on the issue at the Panel on Education separately.

53. Mr Holden CHOW enquired whether the Government would consider supporting the improvement works of schools operating in sub-standard premises by providing grants on a dollar-for-dollar matching basis in respect of the funds raised by those school themselves. USED said that the Government would bear the cost of improving the standard provision for schools.

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

55. The item was voted on and endorsed. The Chairman consulted members on whether the item would require separate voting at the relevant FC meeting. No member made such a request.

56. The meeting ended at 10:16 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
30 November 2018