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18 July 2019

Ms Joanne MAK
Clerk to the Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms Mak,

**Panel on Home Affairs
Motions passed at the meeting on 27 May 2019**

At the meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs (the Panel) on 27 May 2019, Members passed two motions under agenda item V “Promotion of Sports Development in Hong Kong”. Our response is set out below.

Hon Au Nok-hin’s Motion

2. The Government has been supporting the development of sports in Hong Kong and is committed to promoting sports in the community, supporting elite sports and developing Hong Kong into a centre for major international sports events. Our relevant initiatives are set out in our report to the Panel through LC Paper no. CB(2)1500/18-19(05) on 27 May 2019. To promote sports development, the Government has since 2017 invested over \$60 billion of new resources, including \$31.9 billion for the development of the Kai Tak Sports Park (the Sports Park) project, \$20 billion for the construction of recreational and sports facilities in the 18 districts and around \$8 billion for the sustainable development of elite and community sports¹. In addition, the

¹ Related initiatives include the injection of \$6 billion into the Elite Athletes Development Fund (EADF), injection of \$1 billion into the Arts and Sport Development Fund (ASDF) (Sports Portion), allocation of \$500 million to launch the Major Sports Events Matching Grant Scheme, injection of \$250 million into the Hong Kong Athletes Fund (HKAF), allocation of \$130 million to launch the Five-Year Development Plan for Team Sports, allocation of \$100 million to launch the District Sports Programmes Funding Scheme, allocation of around \$100 million to NSAs and allocation of around \$100 million to develop initiatives on disability sports.

Government has been increasing its recurrent expenditure in support of sports development. The estimated expenditure for 2019-20 is \$5.8 billion², representing an increase of about 16% over that of \$5 billion in 2018-19. We will allocate additional resources to “national sports associations” (NSAs) to further support the development of sports in Hong Kong. We are conducting a comprehensive review of the Sports Subvention Scheme to formulate measures to further enhance the overall mechanism and strengthen the NSAs’ governance. The review is expected to be completed by the end of 2019.

3. Besides, the Government is committed to increasing the provision of sports facilities of various types. In the Policy Address published in January 2017, the Government announced the Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreation Facilities (the Five-Year Plan) to launch 26 projects, involving a provision of \$20 billion, before 2022 to develop new and improve existing district sports and recreation facilities, as well as to conduct Technical Feasibility Study for another 15 projects to prepare for their implementation in the future. These projects cover all 18 districts in Hong Kong, including 12 projects carried forward from the two former Municipal Councils. The list of projects under the Five-Year Plan is at **Annex**. In the past two legislative sessions, we have obtained funding approval from the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) for 10 of the projects, involving an amount of about \$4.6 billion. The pre-construction activities / construction works of these projects are underway. Projects under the Five-Year Plan with funding approved by the FC are listed as follows –

Project Name	Estimated Year of Completion
Open Space in Area 47 and 48, North District	2020
Waterfront Promenade Adjacent to the Hong Kong Children’s Hospital	2020
Open Space in Area 6, Tai Po	2020
Redevelopment of Yuen Long Stadium – Pre-construction Activities	Pre-construction Activities: 2021
Avenue Park at Kai Tak	2021
Open Space at Sze Mei Street, San Po Kong	2021
Improvement of Hoi Bun Road Park and Adjacent Area	2021
Provision of Heated Pool at the Morse Park Swimming Pool Complex, Wong Tai Sin	2022

² This figure includes the expenditures of the HAB (Head 53) and the LCSD (Head 95), as well as subvention provided through the EADF, Sir David Trench Fund for Recreation and its sub-funds (including the ASDF (Sports Portion) and the HKAF). The expenditures relating to promoting sports in the community, supporting elite sports and developing Hong Kong into a centre for major international sports events would be around \$4.82 billion, around \$770 million and around \$200 million respectively.

Swimming Pool Complex and Open Space in Area 107, Tin Shui Wai	2022
Station Square at Kai Tak	2022

4. We have consulted the relevant LegCo panels on the projects of “Hoi Sham Park Extension in Kowloon City District” and “Improvement of Lam Wah Street Playground and Adjacent Area” and obtained their support for seeking funding approval from the FC. The total cost of the two projects is about \$440 million. Since the abovementioned two projects were not discussed in the 2018-19 LegCo session, we would endeavor to seek the FC’s approval on these two projects in the 2019-20 LegCo session. We will continue to follow up on and submit funding applications for other projects under the Five-Year Plan to the FC.

5. As regards taking forward the development of local football, we provide funding for the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) to meet the football development needs of different age groups, nurture local talented footballers and raise the performance level of local football. From 2011-12 to 2013-14, an annual amount of \$20 million was earmarked for the HKFA to implement the Project Phoenix, and from 2015-16 to 2019-20, another annual amount of \$25 million was earmarked for the HKFA to implement the Five-Year Strategic Plan to enhance the HKFA’s administrative and technical capabilities in developing local football.

6. To increase the provision of football training venues, under the support of the Home Affairs Bureau, the HKFA rented a piece of land of over 12 hectares at the restored Tseung Kwan O State I Landfill from the Environmental Protection Department to develop the Football Training Centre (FTC). With funding from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the HKFA constructed three 11-a-side turf pitches, three 11-a-side artificial turf pitches, a 5-a-side hard-surface pitch and related auxiliary facilities. Apart from providing training venue for the Hong Kong Teams, the HKFA may use the venue for implementing various development plans and community football activities. The FTC was open for use by Hong Kong Teams and clubs in August 2018 and subsequently by members of the public in March 2019.

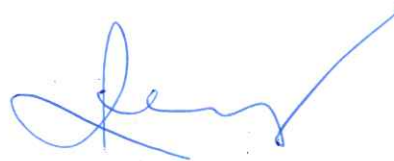
7. When the Panel would invite deputations to express views on football development in Hong Kong at its meeting, our representatives would be happy to attend and listen to the views expressed by the deputations.

Hon Luk Chung-hung's Motion

8. Regarding the issue on sponsoring local sports events, if a commercial entity sponsors an NSA in order to promote its own business, the sponsorship would be treated as marketing expenses and could be used to apply for tax deduction. In recent years, some in the sports sector suggested the Government to provide new tax concessions, such as a 200% tax deduction for sponsorship to eligible sports events, in order to encourage commercial sectors to sponsor major sports events. Upon a comprehensive review on the issue (including the read-across implications on tax deduction for promoting good causes), the Government decided not to introduce tax concession for commercial entities sponsoring local sports events.

9. In order to enhance the existing "M" Mark System, the Government announced in the 2018-19 Budget an allocation of \$500 million to implement the Major Sports Events Matching Grant Scheme to enhance the provision of a matching grant under the "M" Mark System, with a view to encouraging more sponsorships from the business and private sectors to support NSAs in bringing more higher-level major sports events.

Yours sincerely,



(Alex LEUNG)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreational Facilities (Five-Year Plan)

26 Projects to be launched under the Five-Year Plan

Projects with funding approved by the Legislative Council

1. Avenue Park at Kai Tak
2. Improvement of Hoi Bun Road Park and Adjacent Area, Kwun Tong
3. Open Space at Sze Mei Street, San Po Kong (the first phase)
4. Open Space in Area 6, Tai Po*
5. Open space in Area 47 and 48, North District*
6. Provision of Heated Pool at the Morse Park Swimming Pool Complex, Wong Tai Sin
7. Redevelopment of Yuen Long Stadium - Pre-construction activities
8. Station Square at Kai Tak
9. Swimming Pool Complex and Open Space in Area 107, Tin Shui Wai
10. Waterfront Promenade adjacent to the Hong Kong Children's Hospital

Projects under planning stage

11. Hoi Sham Park Extension in Kowloon City District
12. Improvement of Lam Wah Street Playground and Adjacent Area, Kwun Tong
13. Provision of Heated Pool at the Pao Yue Kong Swimming Pool Complex in the Southern District
14. Open Space at Hoi Fai Road, Tai Kok Tsui
15. Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront
16. Open Space in Area 6, Tuen Mun
17. Redevelopment of Kowloon Tsai Swimming Pool Complex
18. Sports Ground and Open Space in Area 16, Tuen Mun
19. Kwai Chung Park
20. Open Space at Hoi Fan Road, Tai Kok Tsui
21. Open Space in Area 27, Tuen Mun*
22. Town Park in Area 66 and 68, Tseung Kwan O
23. Redevelopment of Tung Tau Industrial Area Playground, Yuen Long
24. Sports Centre in Area 103, Ma On Shan*

25. Football-cum-Rugby Pitch in Area 33, Tai Po*
26. Open Space in Area 17, Tuen Mun*

15 Projects for conducting Technical Feasibility Study

1. Ha Hang Village Playground in Area 31, Tai Po*
2. Improvement of Tsuen Wan Riviera Park and Tsuen Wan Park
3. Waterfront Promenade at Eastern Street North in the Central and Western District
4. Redevelopment of Aberdeen Sports Ground
5. Redevelopment of Hong Kong Stadium
6. Sports Centre and Open Space at Aldrich Bay
7. Sports Centre and Town Plaza at Sai Kung*
8. Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pak Heung*
9. Sports Centre at Lai Chi Kok*
10. Sports Centre in Area 6, Tai Po*
11. Sports Centre in Area 12, Yuen Long*
12. Sports Centre in Area 39, Tung Chung
13. Sports Complex at Whitehead
14. Sung Wong Toi Park
15. Water Sports Centre in Area 77, Tseung Kwan O

* Projects carried forward from the two former Municipal Councils