

**For discussion  
On 8 January 2021**

**Legislative Council Panel on Education**

**8021EM - Development of the Vocational Training Council  
Aviation and Maritime Education Centre at Tsing Yi**

**Purpose**

This paper seeks Members' views on the proposal of the Vocational Training Council (VTC) to develop an Aviation and Maritime Education Centre (AMEC) at Tsing Yi.

**Background**

2. Established in 1982 under the Vocational Training Council Ordinance (Cap. 1130), the VTC is the largest Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPET) provider in Hong Kong, offering diversified full-time and part-time VPET courses which award formal qualifications ranging from Secondary three to the degree level, and provide students with multiple progression pathways. Through a total of 13 member institutions, the VTC provides about 200 000 places each year through a full range of pre-employment and in-service programmes.

3. In line with the Government's policy to support the manpower development of aviation and maritime industries and in turn strengthen Hong Kong's leading status as a major aviation hub in the region, the VTC proposes to construct the AMEC on the site of the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE) (Tsing Yi) to provide the state-of-the-art facilities to support the manpower development of the two industries. The Government supports this proposal as one of the measures to improve facilities for VPET in Hong Kong.

## Justifications

4. At present, there is a lack of training facilities in Hong Kong for students of aircraft maintenance programmes to fulfil the practical training requirements<sup>1</sup> for the issuance of an Aircraft Maintenance Licence by the Civil Aviation Department (CAD). They have to attend a majority part of their practical training on premises of the outsourced training providers in Guangzhou, Xiamen, and maintenance companies in Hong Kong, in order to meet the training hour requirements of the CAD<sup>2</sup>. Not only does this arrangement incur additional training costs, but it also creates inconvenience for learning and teaching and may affect the effectiveness of the training programmes in meeting the keen manpower demand in the aviation and maritime industries.

5. The VTC therefore proposes the development of the AMEC to address the shortage of training facilities for the aviation and maritime industries in Hong Kong, which will be the first dedicated practical and skills training centre for the relevant engineering programmes operated by a post-secondary education institution to provide quality VPET for students aspiring to join the relevant industries, with a view to enhancing their employability and competitiveness.

6. Under the proposal, the AMEC would provide the state-of-the-art facilities to provide quality and authentic training experiences for students. It will provide simulated aviation and maritime operation facilities, such as the aircraft structure and sheetmetal maintenance practicing workshop, aero engine and aircraft system repair training workshop, and maritime engineering laboratories that incorporate smart technologies and innovative design with reference to the latest technological advancement and training needs of the industries, enabling the AMEC to provide enhanced in-house practical training, which would significantly improve

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<sup>1</sup> VTC students are required to accumulate 826 hours of practical training and 354 hours of maintenance practice to be eligible to apply for the Cat B1.1 Aircraft Maintenance Licence issued by the CAD.

<sup>2</sup> At present, for each student, the VTC can only provide 26 hours of practical training with its existing facilities. 406 hours of practical training are provided by outsourced suppliers. After graduation, the student will also need to undergo 394 hours of practical training conducted at approved aircraft maintenance training organisations, and 354 hours of actual maintenance practice provided by aircraft maintenance organisations.

quality, coordination, and consistency of the teaching and learning by offering such VPET services under the same roof.

7. The proposed AMEC would further support the development of VPET for the relevant maritime and aviation industries by providing multiple progression pathways and career opportunities for young people. The additional and enhanced training facilities would enable the VTC to offer a diversified array of maritime and aviation programmes for both new entrants and in-service practitioners, with a view to providing more comprehensive skills enhancing and progression opportunities and pathways to attract young people to join the relevant industries and reinforcing the knowledge and skills of practitioners. For instance, the maritime related programmes aim to prepare graduates to join the local vessel sector and ocean-going sector and become holders of the Marine Department's Local Vessel Engine Operator Certificate of Competency (CoC) and Ocean-going CoC respectively.

8. To support the operation of the proposed AMEC, the construction of purpose-built infrastructure is required. The VTC has identified a site within the IVE (Tsing Yi) campus with a notional site area of about 7 200 square metres (m<sup>2</sup>) as the suitable site. The subject site would enable the VTC to achieve synergy through the shared use of infrastructure, facilities and resources and economy in land use. The site plan is at **Enclosure 1**.

## **Project Scope and Nature**

9. The proposed AMEC is a seven-storey building excluding the roof level, with a net operational floor area of 9 395 m<sup>2</sup>. Facilities to be provided in the AMEC include workshops, laboratories, teaching facilities and associated facilities, to support the training and manpower development of the aviation and maritime industries.

10. An artist impression of the AMEC is at **Enclosure 2**, which will be compatible with the surroundings and the existing IVE (Tsing Yi) campus. The VTC will also incorporate various design features such as a curved facade and green landscape along the building edge, so as to further enhance the visual compatibility of the proposed AMEC.

## **Financial Implications**

11. The estimated project cost is about \$879.0 million in money-of-the-day prices.

## **Implementation Timetable**

12. Subject to Members' views, we plan to seek the endorsement of and funding approval from the Public Works Sub-Committee and the Finance Committee (FC) respectively in the current legislative session.

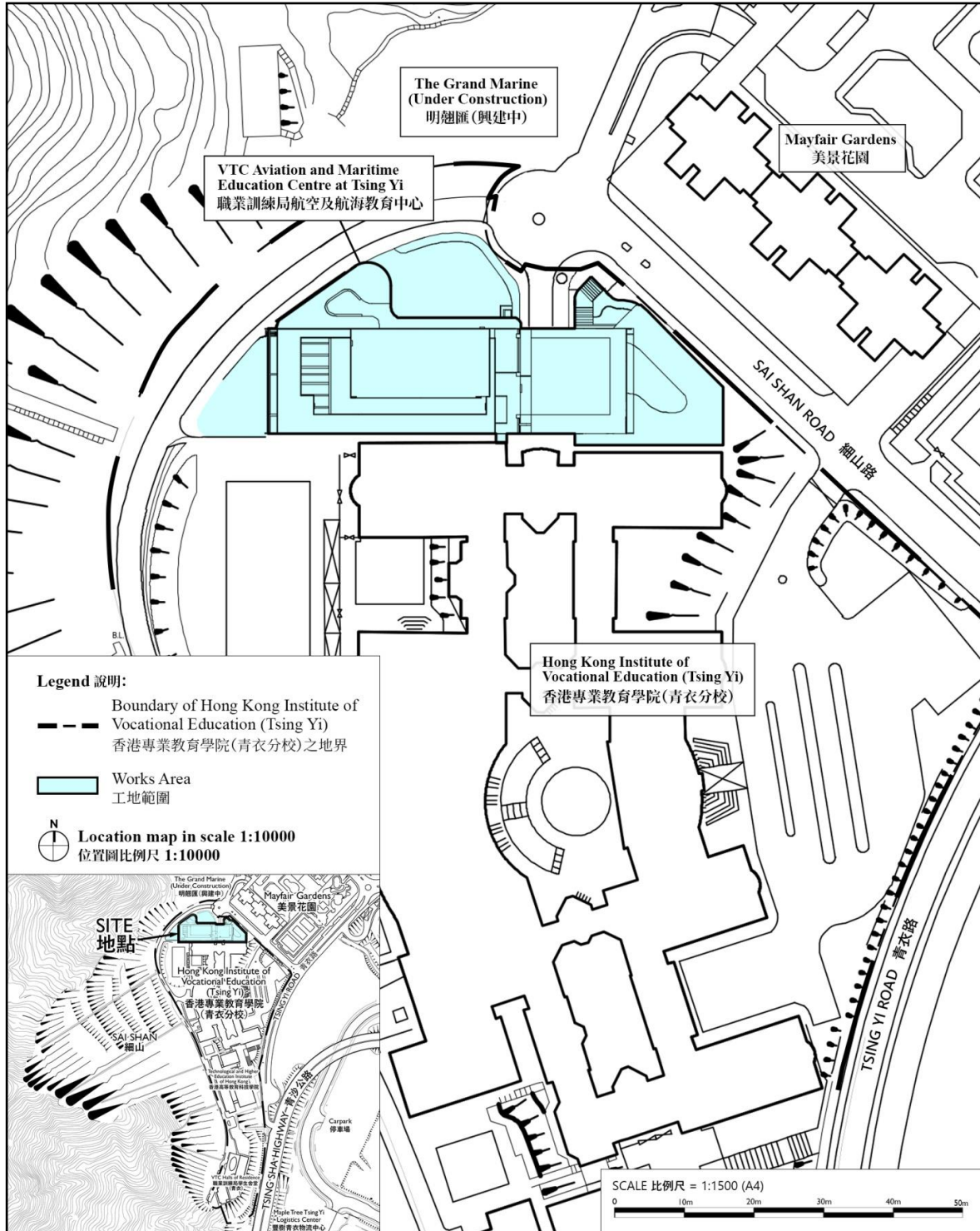
13. The VTC plans to commence the construction works of the proposed AMEC upon obtaining funding approval from the FC for target completion in around 3.5 years. The proposed AMEC will commence operation upon the completion of equipment and facilities installation.

## **Public Consultation**

14. The proposed development of the AMEC was discussed at the meeting of the Planning and District Facilities Management Committee of the Kwai Tsing District Council on 6 May 2020. In response to Members' questions regarding the potential traffic and environmental impacts of the proposed development, the VTC explained that despite the new programmes to be launched at the proposed AMEC, the VTC would be able to maintain the total number of students attending programmes at the IVE (Tsing Yi) campus at a level similar to the existing level through programme reshuffling, taking into account the projected student numbers in the coming years. The VTC also submitted a Preliminary Environmental Review and a Traffic Impact Assessment to the District Council in September 2020, which indicated that the proposed development would not lead to adverse environmental and traffic impacts. Members have no further comments on the proposed development.

**Education Bureau**  
**December 2020**

## Site Plan for the Vocational Training Council Aviation and Maritime Education Centre





**Artist Impression of the Vocational Training Council  
Aviation and Maritime Education Centre**



**(View from nearby residential development under construction)**



**(View from Sai Shan Road)**