

## **TASK FORCE ON LAND SUPPLY**

### **Terms of Reference and Declaration of Interests**

#### **PURPOSE**

This paper sets out the terms of reference and the system of declaration of interests of the Task Force on Land Supply (the Task Force).

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

2. The membership of the Task Force is at **Annex A**. Members are appointed for a term of 1.5 years commencing 1 September 2017.

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

3. Land use planning and development require sustained efforts, catering not only to imminent demands but also future needs. While pursuing the on-going measures under the prevailing multi-pronged approach to increasing land supply, the Administration would also wish to draw on the collective wisdom of society and build consensus on developing land resources, with a view to enhancing the Government's overall land supply strategy and prioritising different land supply options. It is with this objective in mind that the Administration has drawn up the terms of reference of the Task Force, a copy of which is at **Annex B**.

4. The Development Bureau (Planning and Lands Branch) will provide secretariat support to the Task Force, including coordinating/preparing discussion/information papers; coordinating/ organising public engagement activities/ programmes; and preparation of reports. Outside

consultants may be engaged to assist in organising and following up on the public engagement activities.

## **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

5. The Task Force has no executive or statutory powers; nor does it have any financial autonomy or control over the use of public funds. Given the ultimate task of recommending an overall land supply strategy, the Task Force is likely to focus on the broad directions of land supply and the recommendations are not expected to be project-based, site-specific or user-specific. The recommendations would also be backed up by transparent public engagement activities. In these circumstances, it is considered that a light-touch approach for declaration of interests would suffice. Specifically, it is proposed that a member of the Task Force should make a full disclosure of his/her interest when he/she perceives a potential conflict or interest in a matter placed before the Task Force. Members should feel free to judge and decide if the situation warrants a declaration, and to seek a ruling from the Chairman in case of doubt.

6. The general principles for declaration of interest, potential conflict of interest situations and declaration of interests at meetings are given at **Annex C**. These principles basically follow those applicable to advisory bodies with similar declaration requirements.

## **ADVICE SOUGHT**

7. Members are invited to note the terms of reference. Members are also invited to advise if the proposed arrangements for declaration of interests are appropriate.

**Development Bureau**  
**1 September 2017**

**Task Force on Land Supply - Membership**

Non-official Members

Mr. WONG Yuen-fai, Stanley, S.B.S., J.P. (*Chairman*)

Ir. Dr. WONG Chak-yan, Greg, B.B.S., J.P. (*Vice-chairman*)

Professor CHAU Kwong-wing

Mr. CHEUNG Hok-ming, G.B.S., J.P.

Mr. FUNG Shing-cheung, Simon

Mr. HO Hei-wah, B.B.S., J.P.

Ms. HOI Iris

Professor LAM Kin-che, S.B.S., J.P.

Mr. LAU Chun-kong

Professor LEUNG Cheuk-fai, Jimmy, S.B.S.

Professor LUI Ting-ming, Francis, B.B.S., J.P.

Dr. MAK Hoi-cheung, Eunice

Dr. NG Cho-nam, S.B.S., J.P.

Mr. NG Wing-shun, Anthony Vincent, J.P.

Ir. Dr. PANG Yat-bond, Derrick, J.P.

Mr. TSANG Yok-sing, Jasper, G.B.M., G.B.S., J.P.

Ir. WAI Chi-sing, G.B.S., J.P.

Mr. WONG Kit-loong

Mr. WONG Kwun, B.B.S., M.H.

Mr. Stephen WONG Yuen-shan

Professor WU Ting-yuk, Anthony, G.B.S., J.P.

Mr. YU Wai-yip, Ricky

Official Members

Secretary for Development or representative

Secretary for the Environment or representative

Secretary for Transport and Housing or representative

Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands) or representative

Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) or representative

Director of Civil Engineering and Development or representative

Director of Lands or representative

Director of Planning or representative

Secretary

Principal Assistant Secretary (Planning & Lands), Development Bureau

**Task Force on Land Supply**

**Terms of Reference**

- (i) to take stock of the demand and supply of land resources;
- (ii) to review and recommend enhancement to the implementation of land development measures for the short, medium and long term already promulgated, and taking into account these measures to review and evaluate other land supply options and their relative priorities;
- (iii) to raise public awareness of the facts and constraints in land supply;
- (iv) to engage the public in thorough discussions on the pros and cons of different land supply options and facilitate consensus-building on the preferred options and their priorities; and
- (v) to come up with a broad framework recommending enhancement to the overall land supply strategy and prioritising different land supply options for further consideration by the Government.

**Declaration of Interests by  
Members of the Task Force on Land Supply**

**General Principles**

When a member (including the chairman) of the Task Force has a potential conflict of interest in a matter placed before the Task Force, he/she should make full disclosure of his/her interest. Members should feel free to judge and decide if the situation warrants a declaration, and to seek a ruling from the chairman in case of doubt.

It is impossible to define or describe all the situations that would call for such a declaration, because each individual case differs, and because of the difficulty of catering for unusual and unforeseen circumstances. On the other hand, it is not intended that a member should make a declaration of interest simply because the Task Force is considering a matter in which he/she has knowledge or experience.

**Potential Conflict of Interest Situations**

The following are examples of potential conflict of interest situations:

- (1) Pecuniary interests in a matter under consideration by the Task Force held either by the member or by any close relative of his/hers. Members are themselves the best judge of who, in the particular circumstances, is a “close relative”.
- (2) A directorship, partnership, advisory or client relationship, employment or other significant connection with a company, firm, club, association, union or other organisation which is connected with, or the subject of, a matter under consideration by the Task Force.
- (3) Some friendships which might be so close as to warrant declaration in order to avoid situations where an objective observer might believe a member’s advice to have been influenced by the closeness of the association.

- (4) A member who, as a barrister, solicitor, accountant or other professional adviser, has personally or as a member of a company, advised or represented or had frequent dealings with any person or body connected with a matter under consideration by the Task Force.
- (5) Any interest likely to lead an objective observer to believe that the member's advice might have been motivated by personal interest rather than a duty to give impartial advice.

### **Making Declaration of Interests at Meetings**

The following sets out the arrangements for making declaration of interests at meetings:

- (1) If a member (including the chairman) has a potential conflict of interest in any matter to be considered by the Task Force, he/she must disclose to the chairman (or the Task Force) prior to the discussion of the item at the meeting concerned.
- (2) The chairman (or the Task Force) shall decide whether the member disclosing an interest may take part in the discussion or remain in the meeting as an observer, or should withdraw from the meeting.
- (3) If the chairman declares an interest in a matter to be considered by the Task Force, the chairmanship may be temporarily taken over by the vice-chairman.
- (4) When a known direct pecuniary interest exists, the secretary may withhold circulation of relevant papers to the member concerned. Where a member is in receipt of a paper for discussion which he/she knows presents a direct conflict of interest, he/she should immediately inform the secretary and return the paper.
- (5) All cases of declaration of interests shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.