

For information on
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LANTAU DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sustainable Development Subcommittee Progress Report

PURPOSE

This paper aims to report to the Lantau Development Advisory Committee (LanDAC) on the work progress of the Sustainable Development Subcommittee (SD SC).

WORK PROGRESS

2. The third meeting of the SD SC was held on 20 November 2017. The Task Force on Lantau Conservation (Task Force) under the SD SC also held its third meeting on 15 September 2017.

Meeting of the Task Force on Lantau Conservation

3. At the third meeting of the Task Force, the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) proposed a series of priority actions for the “First Batch Discussion Items” related to conservation, including the “Study on Traffic, Transport and Capacity to Receive Visitors for Lantau – Feasibility Study” which commenced in July 2017, “Ecological Study for Pui O, Shui Hau, Tai O and Neighbouring Areas” to commence in the fourth quarter of 2017, exploration of funding support for conservation projects, collating data to capture the current situation of Lantau, as well as conducting expert group discussions on respective specific topics, etc.

4. In addition, Members of the Task Force also discussed the cattle protection issue in Lantau. Members’ views included opposing the feeding of wild/feral animals, urging the Government to step up cattle management, proposing measures to control the number of cattle, reducing the conflicts between humans and cattle, as well as recognising the need to get familiar with the behaviours and relevant historical background of cattle when carrying out conservation work. Members noted that the Lantau Stray Buffalo and Cattle Working Group set up by the Lantau Area Committee would follow up with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and the relevant parties on the cattle protection issues.

(Translated Version)

5. Overall speaking, given that the views and advice by Members of the Task Force involved a wide range of issues, it was necessary for the Government to make detailed consideration and continue discussions with green groups, conservationists, the relevant stakeholders and bureaux/departments, with a view to optimising the conservation work and achieving the goal of sustainable development.

The Third Meeting of the SD SC

6. The SD SC noted the progress of the various strategic studies for Lantau (**SD SC Paper No. 03/2017**). The major views of the SD SC included requesting the government departments concerned to provide details on the future land uses and development arrangements of the topside development at the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (HKBCF) Island of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge as early as possible, as well as urging the Government to brief Members on the results of the topical strategic studies. The Development Bureau remarked that CEDD was conducting the technical assessments for the topside development at the HKBCF Island. Upon completion of the technical assessments, CEDD would consult the SD SC and collate public views on the recommendations of the study through the Stage 2 Community Engagement. CEDD also pointed out that the recommendations made in the topical strategic studies had been included as appropriate in the Sustainable Lantau Blueprint after consolidating the public views.

7. The SD SC noted the work report of the Task Force (**SD SC Paper No. 04/2017**). The major views of the SD SC included requesting the Government to attach importance to the conservation of culture and heritage in addition to nature conservation; and proposing that the Government should examine promotion of water transport between Lantau and urban areas, in particular the water transport connecting Tai O, Tung Chung and urban areas. CEDD remarked that the Government treasured the conservation of culture and heritage, and would commence expert group discussions for in-depth study on respective specific topics as soon as possible (including the conservation issues in relation to natural environment, culture and heritage). In addition, CEDD indicated that relevant data would be collected for analysis under the “Feasibility Study on Traffic, Transport and Capacity to Receive Visitors for Lantau”, so as to assess the demand for water transport and explore the opportunities for the public water transport services.

8. The SD SC noted the work of CEDD on the rural conservation pilot projects in Lantau, including conducting ecological studies, examining the use of funding resource and promoting community engagement (**SD SC Paper No. 05/2017**). The SD SC was of the view that consideration might be given to utilising funding resource to subsidise non-profit-making organisations to promote green tourism in the rural areas of Lantau.

(Translated Version)

9. The SD SC noted the work of CEDD work on the “Ecological Study for Pui O, Shui Hau, Tai O and Neighbouring Areas” (**SD SC Paper No. 06/2017**).

10. The SD SC noted and supported the proposed sustainable development initiatives under the Tung Chung New Town Extension project (**SD SC Paper No. 07/2017**). The proposed initiatives included construction of a River Park and provision of district cooling system for non-residential developments in the new development area of Tung Chung East.

CONCLUSION

11. Members are invited to note and offer their views on the work progress of the SD SC.

**Secretariat of Sustainable Development Subcommittee
Lantau Development Advisory Committee
January 2018**