

Question on Lantau Development Public Forum
(Paper TAFEHC 29/2016)

Joint written reply of the Development Bureau, the Planning Department and the Civil Engineering and Development Department

We conducted a three-month public engagement (PE) exercise from 31 January 2016 to 30 April 2016 to collect the public views on the Lantau Development. There were three large-scale public forums held at Hong Kong Island and Lantau during the PE.

All the three public forums were hosted by an independent facilitator, Mr. TSE Chi-fung, Joseph, and consisted sessions for the public to express their opinions. All the attending citizens, without any privileges or limitation due to their background or status, had been given the same opportunities to express their opinions in the forums. There was not any occasion that the expression of opinions by someone might lead to depriving the opportunities of others of expressing their opinions. Moreover, all the written opinions collected during the forums, no matter whether they had been expressed on the spot, have been treated in the same way for incorporation as a whole into the public views for our consideration.

Regarding the comments from Ms Amy YUNG on the briefing held on 2 April 2016, we would like to clarify and respond as follows:

The briefing held on that day at the Discovery Bay Community Hall was organized by Ms Amy YUNG who invited the Development Bureau, the Planning Department and the Civil Engineering and Development Department to attend to give a briefing on the proposals of the Lantau Development. The briefing comprised two parts: the first part was a bilingual presentation with presentation slides conducted by Government representatives to let attendees understand the content of proposals of the Lantau Development; the second part was a “Question and Answer” (Q&A) session. To manage the presentation duration and keep the content of the presentation consistent with other briefing sessions and public forums, we conduct the presentation based on the presentation slides and scripts prepared in advance. In addition, before the start of the briefing we had distributed to attendees the Lantau Development PE Digest. It was believed that attendees should have sufficient information for understanding the content of our presentation. However, the audio system of the venue malfunctioned intermittently affecting the effect and the fluency of the presentation, which was outside our expectation and control, and luckily the whole briefing could be completed eventually. During the Q&A session, attendees expressed their opinions eagerly that we have collected a lot of valuable opinions.

As a matter of fact, we value every public engagement activity. The colleagues concerned are well prepared in advance and make the best endeavour to explain the proposals of the Lantau Development to the public and respond to the public enquiries. Lastly, we would like to thank Ms Amy YUNG for her organization of the briefing.

May 2016