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(for discussion on 18.1.2022)

Southern District Council
Recreation and District Facilities Committee

Reprovisioning of Pok Fu Lam Public Library

Purpose

This paper seeks members' views on the works project for the "Reprovisioning of Pok Fu Lam Public Library".

Background

2. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) currently provides one district library (Aberdeen Public Library), three small libraries (Pok Fu Lam, Ap Lei Chau and Stanley Public Libraries), and five mobile library service points at Ap Lei Chau Estate, Lei Tung Estate, Shek O Beach, South Horizons and Tin Wan Estate in the Southern District, serving a population of about 268 300.

3. Pok Fu Lam Public Library (PFLPL) is a small library under the LCSD, located in leased premises at Wah Chun House of Wah Fu (I) Estate of the Housing Department (HD) since 1970 for the provision of public library services to residents in the Pok Fu Lam and Wah Fu areas. According to the Proposed Public Housing Development in Pok Fu Lam South and the Proposed Clearance and Rehousing Arrangement for Wah Fu Estate Redevelopment put forward by the HD, the rehousing of residents and demolition of Wah Chun House are scheduled to commence from 2030 to 2031. To tie in with the redevelopment programme, the existing PFLPL will then be reprovisioned so as to maintain its services to the local residents.

Proposed Reprovisioning Project

4. Upon co-ordination and completion of studies by the HD, the LCSD and other government departments, it is proposed that the above-mentioned small library should be reprovisioned at the site of Kai Lung Wan North, one of the five sites in Pok Fu Lam South for public housing development by the HD. The location map of the proposed site is at **Annex**.

5. The net operating floor area (NOFA) of the proposed small library is about 1 200 square metres (m^2)[1]. The construction of bare shell (excluding internal fitting-out works) will be undertaken by the HD, with the construction cost borne by the LCSD. The LCSD will seek funding from the Legislative Council according to established procedures for the whole reprovisioning project, including the internal fitting-out works, furniture and equipment, etc. of the library.

6. Proposed facilities in the new library include:

(a) an adult library, a children's library, a newspapers and periodicals section, an extension activities room, a students' study room, a display/exhibition area and a customer service counter;
(b) self-service facilities such as self-service reservation pick-up lockers/dispensers, multi-functional self-service kiosks, self-charging terminals, book drops, internet & digital service workstations, etc.; and
(c) other ancillary facilities including an office, a book processing and sorting room, a computer equipment room, a babycare room, toilets, staff changing rooms, etc.

7. Upon reprovisioning, the new small library will replace the existing public library at Wah Chun House and will continue to be operated by the LCSD, while the existing PFLPL will cease operation immediately.

Advice Sought

8. Members are invited to comment on the proposed reprovisioning project as set out in paragraphs 4 to 7 above. Members' views will be adopted as far as practicable, subject to financial and technical feasibility. We will then take forward the planning of the project, such as preparing the project definition statement for the approval of the Home Affairs Bureau, inviting the Architectural Services Department to conduct a Technical Feasibility Study for assessing the suitability of the site proposed for the said reprovisioning project.

Leisure and Cultural Services Department
January 2022

[1] The NOFA is subject to the approval of the Property Vetting Committee.