Chapter 2

Quality City And Quality Life

Preamble

The development of Hong Kong into a knowledge-based economy requires talent from around the world, and a quality city life is essential to attracting talent. The concept of “Progressive Development” advocated by the Chief Executive is to develop a quality city life by striking a balance between economic development and environmental protection and conservation. In the arena of environmental protection, we launched a basket of new initiatives in areas such as air quality improvement, waste management and promoting a low-carbon economy and lifestyle. Statistics show that Hong Kong’s environment is improving. Environmental protection is a long-term and continuing commitment. The Government will continue to promote regional co-operation to improve air quality within the region, and to develop the Pearl River Delta Region into a green and quality living area. Global warming is an international concern. We will meet the challenge of climate change with early planning. In particular, we will enhance energy efficiency and promote a low-carbon economy—an economy based on low energy consumption and low pollution. We will also continue to push ahead with on-going initiatives in culture and the arts, information, creativity, greening, and heritage
Quality City And Quality Life

preservation, etc., and will propose new initiatives to make Hong Kong a more attractive quality city.

We will also continue our efforts to beautify the shoreline of Victoria Harbour by transforming it into a landmark asset to be enjoyed by locals and visitors alike.
New Initiatives

We will:

- Prepare for the launch of digital audio broadcasting service including processing applications submitted by commercial operators.

- Process applications for domestic free television programme service licence submitted by commercial operators.

- Progressively develop e-government services accessible via mobile devices.

- Formulate and implement a Green Data Centre Strategy to reduce carbon footprints and environmental impact in government data centre operations.

- Nurture creative talent in Hong Kong through sponsoring a specialised technical training programme to provide skilled workforce at frontline level for the local film industry; and supporting our creative talent to participate in overseas competitions to showcase Hong Kong’s creativity and to gain international status.

- Organise a wide range of community and business activities, including the InnoTech Month and the Business of Design Week, during November and December 2010 to enhance the community’s awareness of and capacity for innovation and creativity.
• Work closely with our creative industries to develop signature events for the different creative sectors, with a view to enriching Hong Kong’s creative events calendar, and establishing the city as the prime location for holding creativity events in the region.

• Support the creative industries in using the new media to explore new markets and promote Hong Kong’s creative industries worldwide. This includes funding the establishment of an online platform to showcase local architectural works, as well as supporting the local comics sector to develop a mobile distribution platform to facilitate promotion and distribution of Hong Kong comics locally and overseas.

• Put in place a new Urban Renewal Strategy following the two-year extensive public engagement process and consult the public on its proposed text before finalisation of the new Strategy.

• Set up a pilot District Urban Renewal Forum to implement a bottom-up, district-based approach in urban renewal.

• Commission a pilot mediation scheme to encourage parties involved in or contemplating applications for compulsory sale for development under the Land (Compulsory Sale for Redevelopment) Ordinance (Cap. 545) to undertake mediation.

• Introduce legislative amendments to enhance safety of advertising signboards and subdivided units.

• Take rigorous enforcement actions against unauthorised building works and respond efficiently to complaints against contraventions of the Buildings Ordinance.
• Together with the Hong Kong Housing Society and Urban Renewal Authority, provide one-stop comprehensive building maintenance advice and assistance to building owners.

• Introduce a package of measures to enhance building design to foster a quality and sustainable built environment.

• Enhance community involvement in surveillance of trees in Hong Kong through co-operation with District Councils, schools and non-government organisations (NGOs) so as to protect public safety.

• Establish an education centre to step up the promotion of water conservation through the provision of education resources to the community.

• Formulate a flood prevention scheme for the provision of an underground stormwater storage tank to relieve the flooding risks in Happy Valley and adjacent areas.

• Commence a study on the adoption of low carbon construction measures in the delivery of public works projects.

• Take forward the Regional Co-operation Plan on Quality Living Area for the Pearl River Delta Region in collaboration with Guangdong and Macau with a view to transforming the Region into a green and quality living area.

• Propose new emission caps for the power sector for promulgation with a view to further tightening up control on its emissions.
Quality City And Quality Life

• Fund a trial to ascertain the feasibility of retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides from the franchised bus fleet.

• Subject to satisfactory trial results, propose to fund the capital costs for installing SCR devices to Euro II and Euro III franchised buses.

• Set up the Pilot Green Transport Fund within 2010-11 for application by the transport trade.

• Re-open in 2011 some of the Tsuen Wan beaches where water quality has been restored. With the commissioning of the Advance Disinfection Facilities of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A in March 2010, the water quality in western Victoria Harbour and Tsuen Wan beaches has improved.

• Extend the Convention on Biological Biodiversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to Hong Kong upon the commencement of the Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Ordinance to demonstrate to the international community our commitment to enhance the protection of biodiversity.

• Consult the public on Hong Kong’s Climate Change Strategy with a view to drawing up Hong Kong’s action blueprint and related greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures for combating climate change.

• Inject an additional $500 million into the Environment and Conservation Fund to sustain and expand community participation in environmental protection and nature conservation.
• Identify suitable sites for columbarium development across the territory and conduct technical feasibility studies of shortlisted sites to increase supply of columbarium facilities.

• Consolidate the feedback received in the public consultation on review of columbarium policy and formulate appropriate measures to enhance regulation of private columbaria.

• Implement the recommendation of the Committee on Sustainable Fisheries to ban trawling activities in Hong Kong waters through introducing the necessary legislation into the Legislative Council in the 2010-11 legislative session, with the aim of conserving and restoring marine resources.

• Use the annual investment return from the $3 billion seed capital of the Arts and Sport Development Fund to promote the long-term development of sport, the arts and culture.

• Review the funding for the performing arts in Hong Kong with a view to, among other things, drawing up a set of appropriate assessment criteria and improving the monitoring mechanism for subvented performing arts groups.

• Strengthen support for the long-term development of football.

• Strengthen the monitoring of “National Sports Associations” receiving government subvention to improve their corporate governance for more effective promotion and development of sport in Hong Kong.
Quality City And Quality Life

- Tackle the management problem of old buildings by joining hands with property management companies to provide one-stop professional management services to clusters of buildings.

- Launch a building care promotion programme by establishing a panel of advisors to provide neutral and authoritative advice to owners involved in building management disputes and organising structured training for office-bearers of owners’ corporations.

- Announce the public consultation on the introduction of a licensing system for the property management industry.

- Propose amendments to the Road Traffic Ordinance to combat drug driving with a view to enhancing road safety.
On-going Initiatives

We are:

• Continuing with the mid-term review of the two commercial sound broadcasting service licences with a view to gauging public feedback and formulating proposals to improve the radio services provided by the licensees.

• Updating the regulatory arrangements of telephone directory services, in response to the feedback received from public consultation, to facilitate effective use of resources by fixed network operators to maximise consumer benefits.

• Continuing to enhance the Governmental portal, GovHK, to provide more personalised interface for services and information to better meet the needs of users.

• Considering the way forward on the review of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance in light of public opinion received.

• Promoting Hong Kong design and encouraging the use of design to add value to our goods and services and Government’s interface with the public. This includes promoting Hong Kong’s design services to the Pearl River Delta.
Quality City And Quality Life

• Promoting the development of the film industry by implementing recommendations from the Film Development Council; promoting Hong Kong films and directors to the Mainland, Taiwan and South East Asian markets through organising film festivals and business matching activities in these places; and taking forward the development of a digital distribution network to facilitate distribution of film from overseas sources to local digital cinemas through electronic means.

• Encouraging the local creative industries to make good use of the $300 million CreateSmart Initiative to support projects conducive to the development of the industries.

• Nurturing local creative talents in collaboration with the creative industries. This includes training and internship programmes for tertiary students and fresh graduates to obtain on-the-job training in the creative industries; and supporting the local architectural sector to incorporate elements of architecture in the secondary school curriculum to develop students’ appreciation of and interest in architecture and creativity.

• Assessing the submissions received for transforming the former Police Married Quarters on Hollywood Road (i.e. the original site of the Central School) into a creative industries landmark. We will work closely with the selected non-profit-making organisation (NPO) and the local creative industries to implement the revitalisation project.
• Continuing to strengthen the learning of design and creativity elements through providing diverse student learning experiences, teacher professional development programmes as well as learning and teaching resources so as to enhance primary and secondary school students’ creativity.

• Strengthening our arts and cultural development by taking a three-pronged approach: (a) programme development, (b) audience building, and (c) arts education and manpower training so as to bring arts to the people for everyone to access to quality and diverse cultural contents.

• Continuing to improve the greening, landscape and tree management regime through the adoption of a holistic approach embracing quality landscape planning and design in the upstream to professional vegetation management in the downstream, effective steer and co-ordination across departments in tree management, enhancement of professional expertise and increased community involvement.

• Continuing to monitor the efficiency and effectiveness of the enhanced minor works delivery system.

• Drafting a bill to enhance the safety of lifts and escalators and the new Ordinance will repeal in whole the existing Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 327).

• Continuing with the implementation of the “Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme” (WELS) to promote public awareness of water conservation and facilitate users’ choice of water efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances.
• Working closely with the selected NPOs to implement projects in the first and second batches of buildings under the “Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme”.

• Proceeding to invite commercial tenders for the revitalisation and adaptive re-use of the Haw Par Mansion.

• Taking forward the conservation and revitalisation of the Central Police Station Compound in partnership with the Hong Kong Jockey Club based on a revised conceptual design.

• Continuing with the development of a comprehensive cycle track network in the New Territories to improve the quality of living.

• Continuing to press ahead with the detailed design and construction works for the comprehensive water mains replacement and rehabilitation programme.

• Continuing with the decking and/or landscaping of 16 sections of nullahs with a view to completion by 2014 to improve the living environment.

• Carrying out the preliminary design of the improvement work for the Yuen Long Town Centre Nullah to enhance the local environment quality and the ecological value of the nullah.

• Continuing to promote the wider use of energy efficient devices and adoption of renewable energy systems in public works projects.

• Implementing the greening works recommended in the Greening Master Plans (GMPs) for remaining urban areas, and proceeding with the preparation of GMPs for the New Territories.
• Promulgating a set of clear and practicable guidelines for the better provision of public open space in private developments.

• Developing a performance-based regulatory system to facilitate modern and innovative building design.

• Implementing the minor works control system in accordance with the Buildings (Amendment) Ordinance 2008 and the Building (Minor Works) Regulation to streamline statutory procedures for processing minor works in private buildings in order to improve building control and building safety.

• Working closely with the Legislative Council in the examination of the Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2010 for introducing a mandatory building inspection scheme and a mandatory window inspection scheme to require private building owners to inspect their buildings and windows regularly with an aim to implement the two schemes as early as possible.

• Continuing to work closely with the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) to assist owners in need to carry out repair and maintenance works, including the $2.5 billion “Operation Building Bright”. We are also continuing our efforts to enhance building management and maintenance of private buildings through public education, publicity and participation of professional bodies.

• Implementing the flood prevention programme to enhance the protection level in flood prone areas and aiming to complete the review of the Drainage Master Plans for northern and northwestern New Territories in 2011.
Quality City And Quality Life

- Continuing with the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme to upgrade and landscape government man-made slopes, mitigate the landslide risk of natural terrain with known hazards, and conduct safety screening studies for private slopes.

- Continuing to work closely with the URA on area improvement schemes in Wan Chai and Mong Kok aimed at preserving local characteristics as well as beautifying the areas.

- Continuing the review of outline zoning plans to stipulate building height control and impose/revise relevant planning parameters where justified to lower the development intensity, with a view to improving the living environment.

- Finalising the revised scheme of property development of a reduced development intensity at Yuen Long Station along the West Rail.

- Strengthening our work on harbourfront planning and implementing harbourfront enhancement initiatives for the enjoyment of our residents and visitors alike, as well as ensuring that our planning, land use and urban design are in line with our stated mission to protect the Victoria Harbour, in collaboration with the Harbourfront Commission and the wider community.

- Providing one-stop advisory and co-ordination services through the Development Opportunities Office to land development proposals by NGOs and the private sector that will bring broader economic and social benefits to society.

- Working with the Guangdong authorities to carry out further in-depth studies with a view to finalising a strategy to transform the Pearl River Delta Region into a green and quality living area.
• Upon the passage of the Buildings Energy Efficiency Bill by the Legislative Council, proceeding with the enactment of relevant subsidiary legislation and preparing for the implementation of the ordinance.

• Continuing to promote the buildings energy efficiency funding schemes, with $450 million allocated by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to subsidise building owners to carry out energy-cum-carbon audits and energy efficiency projects. The funding schemes have been open for application since April 2009. Over 560 funding applications have been approved, involving a subsidy amount of over $180 million.

• Implementing a comprehensive target-based green performance framework for new and existing government buildings to continue promoting environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings.

• Implementing energy efficiency demonstration projects to demonstrate state-of-the-art energy efficient designs and technologies.

• Implementing the district cooling system at Kai Tak Development to meet the demand of air-conditioning for public and private non-domestic developments.

• Preparing for full implementation of the second phase of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme in September 2011.

• Continuing to promote the use of energy-efficient lighting installations and preparing for the public consultation on progressively restricting the sale of incandescent light bulbs.
Quality City And Quality Life

• Taking follow-up actions in view of the findings of the study on the issue of energy wastage of external lighting.

• Continuing to monitor the progress of the two power companies in developing commercial-scale wind energy projects.

• Continuing to collaborate with the two power companies to launch a leasing scheme of electric vehicles by end 2010, so as to expose a wider section of the community to electric vehicle driving experience.

• Continuing to cap the total emissions of power companies according to the Air Pollution Control Ordinance, and requiring them to maximise the use of natural gas in power generation.

• Continuing with the implementation of the Regional Air Quality Management Plan together with the Guangdong Provincial Government to reduce the emission of four major air pollutants in the Pearl River Delta with a view to achieving the joint emission reduction targets.

• Continuing to work with the Guangdong authorities to map out the post-2010 emission reduction arrangements to further improve regional air quality.

• Continuing to implement the five-year “Cleaner Production Partnership Programme” to provide professional and technical support to Hong Kong-owned factories in the Pearl River Delta Region with a view to promoting adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices.
• Continuing to tighten vehicle emission and fuel standards following the EU’s practices.

• Developing a proposal for stakeholder consultation with a view to strengthening the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, including the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometers for emission testing.

• Bringing the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Bill through the Legislative Council to introduce a statutory ban on idling vehicles with running engines.

• Providing incentives to encourage owners of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles to replace their old vehicles with those complying with the prevalent emission requirements for newly registered vehicles.

• Encouraging the use of environment-friendly private petrol cars and commercial vehicles by reduction in first registration tax.

• Drawing up a scheme to control the emissions of non-road mobile sources, including implementation of statutory emission standards for non-road mobile machinery, in light of the outcome of the consultation with the trade.

• Mapping out the way forward for reducing emissions from local ferries in light of the findings of the trial to ascertain the technical feasibility of local ferries using ultra-low sulphur diesel.
• Extending the import ban to controlled products containing hydrochlorofluorocarbons and other scheduled substances by phases from January 2010, with a view to meeting the new phasing out schedule agreed by the Montreal Protocol in September 2007.

• Implementing the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation, which was amended in October 2009, to limit the contents of volatile organic compounds in adhesives, sealants, vehicle refinishing paints and marine vessels paints by phases from January 2010.

• Mapping out the best way forward to update Hong Kong’s Air Quality Objectives and develop an air quality management plan.

• Continuing to engage major local trade and environmental protection associations in organising activities for promoting carbon audits or carbon reduction within the community.

• Continuing to implement the initiatives in “A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste in Hong Kong (2005-2014)” by –

  (a) extending the territory-wide source separation of waste programme to promote waste recovery both at home and at work;

  (b) monitoring the development of Phase I and Phase II of EcoPark;
(c) completing the baseline survey to collect information on waste generation pattern and waste management practices among different types of commercial and industrial establishments, and continuing to examine feasible municipal solid waste charging options in the local context;

(d) implementing the three landfill extension schemes;

(e) completing the feasibility and environmental impact assessment studies for the Integrated Waste Management Facilities at the two potential sites (i.e. Tsang Tsui ash lagoon in the Tuen Mun District and Shek Kwu Chau of the Islands District); and

(f) completing the feasibility and environmental impact assessment studies for the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities and preparing for the tendering of the project.

- Reviewing the effectiveness of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags, as the first mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme under the Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance, and consulting the public on its way forward.

- Drawing up detailed proposals for a mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme for waste electrical and electronic equipment.

- Completing the upgrading of the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in 2011 to meet the latest EU air-emission standards.
Quality City And Quality Life

- Commencing the construction of the sludge treatment facility in 2010 to avoid the disposal of large amount of sewage sludge at landfills.

- Continuing to deliver inert construction and demolition materials to the Mainland for reclamation purposes. We will liaise with the Mainland authorities to identify more possible sites for their reuse.

- Continuing to implement Stage 2 of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme by phases with the aim of completing Stage 2A within 2014. We commenced a study to review Stage 2B of the Scheme in June 2010. Based on the results to be obtained under the study, we will decide on the timing for building the biological treatment plant under Stage 2B.

- Overseeing the implementation of the Management Agreement and pilot scheme on Public-Private-Partnership promulgated under the New Nature Conservation Policy, with the objective of enhancing conservation of ecologically important habitats on private land.

- Seeking to designate the Geopark areas as protected areas, and stepping up publicity and education efforts on geo-conservation, in order to better preserve Hong Kong’s unique and valuable geological resources.

- Taking forward the proposal to ban commercial fishing in marine parks for improving ecosystems in marine parks and offering better protection for marine organisms.

- Continuing the public engagement process for the Sustainable Development Strategy for Hong Kong, with the aim of encouraging greater public awareness of and participation in this process.
• Continuing to support, through the ECF, the following projects to further promote public awareness on environmental protection and strengthen international and regional collaboration to address environmental challenges –

(a) greening/waste reduction/energy efficiency projects for schools, community buildings and charitable organisations;

(b) energy audits and energy efficient installation projects for buildings to promote energy conservation under the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Scheme, as well as energy audits and energy conservation projects in NGO premises under the Energy Conservation Projects for NGOs funding scheme;

(c) the operation of two processing centres by NGOs for waste plastics and waste electrical and electronic equipment respectively at EcoPark;

(d) international conferences to promote exchanges amongst policy-makers, professionals as well as other stakeholders on latest developments and best practices on environment and conservation matters;

(e) projects from District Councils and community groups to implement district-based projects on low carbon lifestyle promotion, energy efficient installations and waste reduction; and

(f) projects in conserving and enhancing the biodiversity of ecologically important sites.
Quality City And Quality Life

- Continuing to actively apply green specifications in government procurement. We also aim to extend the green procurement policy to cleansing and vehicle hiring service contracts. Furthermore, works departments will also start using paving blocks made with recycled glass in upcoming road maintenance contracts.

- Continuing to encourage all schools to sign a green lunch charter to avoid the use of disposable containers and cutlery, and to reduce food waste; and with funding support from the ECF, encouraging schools to install new facilities for serving green lunch. Up to end September 2010, 45 funding applications, amounting to $57 million have been approved.

- Following through the scrutiny of the Food Safety Bill by the Legislative Council to provide for new food safety control tools. The Bill will include a mandatory registration scheme for food importers and distributors, enhanced food traceability measures and power to make regulations for tightening control on imported food.

- Preparing legislation to provide for a set of comprehensive and clear food safety standards for pesticide residues and veterinary drug residues in food that meet Hong Kong’s needs.

- Continuing the programme to convert all aqua privies into flushing toilets in phases by 2012-13.

- Tightening up the regulatory framework for poultry and animals for the purpose of enhancing public health and food safety.
• Promoting sustainable development of the fisheries industry and conserving fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters including offering free training on sustainable fishing practices, and launching a pilot fish hatchery and nursery scheme.

• Reviewing proposals on the regulation of restricted dining places to safeguard public health.

• Exploring how to co-operate with the Mainland authorities on using latest information technology application to ensure effective tracing of food along the production chain and achieve better food safety management through control at source.

• Reviewing the provision of cemeteries, columbaria and crematoria facilities and striving to provide more facilities to meet future demand.

• Following up on the recommendations of the review on hawker licensing, including the issuing of fixed-pitch hawker licences after consultation with the relevant District Councils.

• Continuing to plan and build new cultural and sports facilities taking into account community needs.

• Continuing to plan the development of a Multi-purpose Stadium Complex at Kai Tak.

• Continuing to promote “sport for all” by –

  (a) working with District Councils and “National Sports Associations” to introduce more sports programmes to suit the needs of people of different age groups;
(b) liaising with the business sector with a view to sponsoring more people from less privileged backgrounds to attend major sports events;

(c) strengthening the promotion of major sports events with a view to encouraging greater spectator participation and promoting Hong Kong as an international events centre;

(d) helping “National Sports Associations” implement effective feeder systems for the early identification of potential elite athletes; and

(e) organising events such as the Sport for All Day and the Hong Kong Games to promote regular and continued participation in sport.

• Continuing to facilitate the re-development of the Hong Kong Sports Institute in order to provide world-class sports training facilities.

• Continuing to support our elite athletes as they prepare to participate in the 2010 Asian Games, the 2012 Olympic Games and other major international sports events.

• Working closely with the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) Authority to develop the arts and cultural facilities in the WKCD, at the same time provide a variety of good quality arts and cultural activities, and broaden Hong Kong’s exchanges with other places in contemporary art and performing arts, so as to enrich people’s cultural life.
• Enhancing the operation and management of cultural services and venues, rationalising the use of existing performance venues through the venue partnership scheme and identifying alternative arts venues to address the venue shortage problem.

• Continuing to support the small- and medium-sized performing arts groups in using venues not managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department to enrich the cultural life across the districts and to usher in a more vibrant and lively arts scene prior to the coming on-stream of the WKCD facilities.

• At the district level, lining up quality cultural programmes to support the district arts festivals; launching specially curated entertainment programmes, community cultural events, student performances, etc. through the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for audience development and arts education.

• Facilitating the promotion of major arts and cultural events and festivals in Hong Kong, so as to highlight our status as an international city.

• Implementing a package of new initiatives with a view to establishing clear branding for our public museums and expanding their audience.

• Continuing to work closely with the Hong Kong Maritime Museum to establish a representative maritime museum for Hong Kong at the Central Pier 8.

• Supporting the research, preservation and promotion of Hong Kong’s intangible cultural heritage, in particular Cantonese opera as an important form of local indigenous art form.
Quality City And Quality Life

• Implementing strategies and measures for the development of library facilities and services to achieve the broader cultural mission of the Hong Kong Public Libraries.

• Building on the experience of the Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum, continuing to foster partnership among governments in the Asian region and enhance Hong Kong’s position as the cultural hub of Asia.

• Continuing our efforts to strengthen the regional cultural network in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) through the Greater PRD Cultural Co-operation Meeting.

• Conducting more publicity to encourage owners’ corporations to procure third party risks insurance as soon as possible for the benefit of property owners.

• Continuing the study on long-term options for better meeting demands for emergency ambulance services.

• Promoting the use of environment-friendly buses by implementing the provision in the bus franchises on the adoption of the latest commercially available and proven environment-friendly technologies for acquiring new buses, encouraging bus companies to deploy cleaner vehicles along busy corridors, including as appropriate the adoption of environment-friendly measures as a criterion in selecting operators for new bus route packages and enhancing bus service rationalisation to reduce roadside air pollution, noise nuisance, traffic congestion and energy consumption.
• Continuing to consider measures to regulate traffic, including fiscal and traffic management means, with a view to reducing congestion along major transport corridors and to consult the community on the proposals.

• Taking forward feasibility studies for the proposed pedestrian link schemes in Causeway Bay and Mong Kok so as to create space for pedestrian movements, minimise vehicle-pedestrian conflicts and improve roadside air quality, and continuing with public consultation on the proposed schemes for improving the pedestrian environment in Yuen Long town centre.

• Continuing with the assessment of options that are feasible in transport, financial and legal terms to improve traffic distribution among the three road harbour crossings in the light of the recommendations of the consultancy study. We will also consult the public on the matter.

• Promoting sustainable public housing developments by designing for green and healthy living, and ensuring effective and rational use of housing resources.

• Increasing the greening ratio of all new public rental housing estates to at least 20%. For large public housing projects over 2 hectares, we will increase the greening ratio to 30%. We will also provide green roofs in low-rise buildings and provide vertical greening in some pilot projects wherever feasible.