

# SCS visits Architectural Services Department (with photos)

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Patrick Nip, visited the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) today (November 24) to learn more about the department's key planning projects and the construction progress of anti-epidemic projects as well as meet with its staff of various grades to exchange views on matters of concern.

Accompanied by the Permanent Secretary for the Civil Service, Mrs Ingrid Yeung, Mr Nip first met with the Director of Architectural Services, Mrs Sylvia Lam, and the directorate staff to receive an update on the department's various areas of work and the challenges confronting them.

Mr Nip then met with colleagues of different branches to learn more about their work including project management, architectural design and property services. The ArchSD is currently planning various government office building projects, including the Kwun Tong Composite Development Project. Apart from the Civil Service College, the project will also provide various community facilities for Kwun Tong residents. He learned that the ArchSD has been applying the Building Information Modelling technology in various works projects to enhance the design, construction, project management and asset management efficiency, and he was pleased to know that many of their projects had been awarded overseas and local architectural design awards.

Mr Nip then received a briefing on various projects to combat the epidemic, such as the construction of a community treatment facility and temporary hospital at AsiaWorld-Expo as well as quarantine camps in different locations. The project teams have adopted various innovative construction techniques, such as the modular integrated construction method, so as to substantially reduce the construction time. Other anti-epidemic work includes conversion of existing buildings for quarantine purposes and preventive inspections of drainage systems for existing target government buildings.

Mr Nip also met with staff representatives of various grades to exchange views on matters that concern them. He thanked colleagues for their contribution in fighting the epidemic, and praised them in particular for upholding their professionalism in carrying out the projects despite the time constraint so that various anti-epidemic facilities could be completed as soon as possible.

