

15 March 1988

## \$3b estate project probed for flaws

WIDESPREAD concern surfaced yesterday about the availability of adequate public services during and after the multi-billion dollar redevelopment plan for Tze Wan Shan Estate.

The redevelopment, which is estimated to cost about \$3 billion, will be the largest under the Housing Authority's comprehensive redevelopment programme.

Wong Tai Sin District Board members said yesterday the Housing Department should give the public details of the redevelopment.

Members said residents in the area were anxious to know when they would be resettled.

But the Housing Department's chief architect, Mr Robert Storey, told the board that it was difficult to give a timetable because the plan had to be flexible.

Mr Storey said the plan involved extensive research and work.

At the meeting, members asked for assurances that the affected residents would be resettled in Tze Wan Shan during the redevelopment.

They said they were concerned that there were not enough facilities to meet the needs of the elderly.

Tze Wan Shan is an old district and more than 20 percent of its population is over 60.

They also queried if three schools would be sufficient to accommodate the number of students who would live in the area after redevelopment.

Members said there should be a comprehensive library and more study rooms.

Mr Fung Kwong-chung said the department should consider extending the Mass Transit Railway to the area.

But Mr Storey said an extension was unlikely as the trains might have to go underground to a depth of 70 metres.

Public light buses and other transport would be able to cater to the residents' needs, he said.