

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

THB(T)030

Head: 60 – Highways Department

Subhead 000 Operational
(No. & title): expenses

Question Serial No.

0013

Programme: (3) Railway Development

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Regarding the planning and latest progress of the Shatin to Central Link, please inform this Committee:

1. whether the construction of Hin Keng Station has been confirmed, and the reason for the decision;
2. whether the above decision affects the cost and completion date of the Shatin to Central Link. If yes, please provide details about the impact.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply:

We have included the Hin Keng Station in our planning of the Shatin to Central Link (SCL), which will be included in the railway scheme to be gazetted under the Railways Ordinance. An additional Hin Keng Station would facilitate the residents in the vicinity to gain access to the SCL without having to go to Tai Wai Station, thus relieving the congestion at that interchange station. Moreover, there are a number of community facilities near Hin Keng Estate, such as the Hin Tin Swimming Pool and the adjacent soccer pitches which have attracted a lot of users from outside Hin Keng district.

The inclusion of the Hin Keng Station will add to the project cost but the construction of this station at the same time with the SCL project will be more cost effective and will avoid possible disruption to the SCL operation and inconvenience to the passengers. The overall completion date of the SCL will not be affected by the construction of the Hin Keng Station.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 18 March 2009