

香港司法機構  
司法機構政務處



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JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATION  
JUDICIARY  
HONG KONG

本函檔號 OUR REF: JUD ACCOM 2-25/3/9 Pt VII

來函檔號 YOUR REF:

電話 TEL: 2825 4261

21 April 2010

Ms Joyce Wong  
Director of Practitioners Affairs  
The Law Society of Hong Kong  
3/F Wing On House  
71 Des Voeux Road Central  
Central  
Hong Kong

*Dear Ms Wong,*

**Proposed Construction of the  
West Kowloon Law Courts Building (“WKLCB”)**

Thank you for your letter of 8 April 2010. The comments contained in your letter will be taken into consideration in our planning for the WKLCB.

2. The proposed WKLCB is easily accessible via existing means of public transport along Tongkin Street West and it is within ten minutes' walking distance from either the Nam Cheong or Cheung Sha Wan MTR station. Notwithstanding this, we are liaising with the Administration on the provision of car parking space in the WKLCB for the public and legal representatives.

3. Regarding consultation rooms in the cell areas, the proposed provision has taken into account the views of the Duty Lawyer Service, the Police and the Correctional Services Department. The proposed number of

consultation rooms in the cell areas is also the highest among the existing seven Magistrates' Courts.

4. On the possible future provision of Domestic Violence Courts with related special facilities, the WKLCB is planned to re-provision the Tsuen Wan Magistrates' Courts, Small Claims Tribunal, Coroner's Court and Obscene Articles Tribunal. The Family Court will remain in the Wanchai Tower.

5. The provision of wi-fi facilities will be considered in the wider context of IT facilities to be provided in the WKLCB.

6. Regarding the provision of a canteen in the WKLCB, according to the Administration, canteens are generally not provided in Government accommodation for better utilization of the space therein. As regards the WKLCB, the Administration has advised that the provision of a canteen is not justified given its convenient location.

7. Your other suggestions are noted and will be taken into consideration at the detailed design stage.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs Angela Lo)  
for Judiciary Administrator



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23 April 2010

Ms Joyce Wong  
Director of Practitioners Affairs  
The Law Society of Hong Kong  
3/F Wing On House  
71 Des Voeux Road Central  
Central  
Hong Kong

*Dear Ms Wong,*

**Proposed Construction of the  
West Kowloon Law Courts Building (“WKLCB”)**

I refer to your letter of 22 April 2010.

2. Before we proceed to respond to the specific observations as set out in your letter, it would be useful to re-capitulate that starting from a few months ago, the Judiciary Administration has been in close dialogue and discussion with representatives of the Law Society and other institutional court users on the captioned project. During all these discussions and consultations, the representatives of the Law Society have indicated general support to the proposed project. We also took the opportunity to collate users’ feedback so that their comments could be incorporated into the detailed planning of the project. In January 2010, we met with a focus group of lawyers, including Messrs Stephen Hung and Kenneth Ng of the Law Society, to collate feedback. In addition, users’ feedback from both the Law Society and other court users, including the Bar Association, the Duty Lawyer Service (“DLS”), the Department of Justice, the Police, the Correctional Services Department (“CSD”) and the

Social Welfare Department, are being sought and collated through various channels on an on-going basis. We appreciate that with such a large scale project, there would be an on-going need to maintain dialogue with all institutional court users during the planning and construction process so that users' comments and feedback would continue to be gathered and taken into account as appropriate. This process of consultation is still going on and would continue.

3. As stated in my earlier letter of 21 April and in the context as stated in paragraph 2 above, the comments of the Law Society will be taken into account in our planning of the WKLCB project.

4. In the meantime, the Judiciary Administration has the following comments on the observations contained in your letter.

5. As indicated in our earlier letter dated 21 April 2010, the site identified for the proposed WKLCB is easily accessible via existing means of public transport along Tongkin Street West and is within ten minutes' walking distance from either the Nam Cheong or Cheung Sha Wan MTR station. To facilitate better understanding of the situation, a map of the site of the proposed WKLCB and its surrounding area showing the public transport facilities that serve the area, and an information note on the relevant bus and minibus routes are attached for your reference.

6. Regarding the provision of "conference rooms" (I think you are referring to interview rooms as they now stand) in the cell areas, it is necessary to consult the Police and CSD because the facilities are to be provided in the areas that will be under their management. The Judiciary Administration has also consulted the DLS. Comments received have been appropriately reflected in the proposed requirements. In the subsequent consultations with the Criminal Court Users' Committee ("the former") and the Civil Court Users' Committee ("the latter"), the former noted after discussion the proposed provision of 12 interview rooms (eight located in the Police's cell custody area and four in the CSD cell area) and the latter has not made any comments on the said proposed provision. It is noted that members of the Law Society are sitting on both Users' Committees.

7. That the proposed number of interview rooms in the cell areas of the proposed WKLCB will be the highest among the existing seven Magistrates' Courts (not the highest in Hong Kong) was pointed out in our earlier letter of 21 April 2010 for information. While a greater number on

its own might not necessarily mean sufficiency of provision, it would appear from the outcome of our consultations described in the paragraph above that users are largely of the view that the proposed provision is appropriate.

8. By the way, as regards Tuen Mun Law Courts Building, we understand from the Police that interviewing facilities are available to enable lawyers to take instructions from female detainees.

9. The WKLCB is planned to re-provision the Tsuen Wan Magistrates' Courts, Small Claims Tribunal, Coroner's Court and Obscene Articles Tribunal, which are all at the magisterial and tribunal level. At present, domestic violent ("DV") cases are dealt with by the courts mainly in two aspects, namely:

- (a) On the civil side, matters related to a DV case would be dealt with by the Family Court in the District Court building; and
- (b) On the criminal side, injuries inflicted on family members are dealt with at various levels of courts (including the magistrates' courts), depending on the seriousness of the cases.

Regarding the handling of DV cases on the criminal side, following a consultation between the Department of Justice and the Judiciary, a mechanism has been put in place since October 2008 to enable expedited listing of suitable DV cases. The mechanism has so far been found to be working satisfactorily. The WKLCB will provide adequate facilities for the magistrate courts to handle DV cases on the criminal side.

10. As regards wi-fi facilities, we will be giving active consideration to this suggestion in the wider context of IT facilities to be provided in the WKLCB.

11. There are a number of housing estates surrounding the site of the proposed WKLCB, such as Fu Cheong Estate, Lai Kok Estate, Lai On Estate, Hoi Lai Estate, etc. A bit farther away, there is the Cheung Sha Wan Plaza. Plenty of dining places could be found within these premises. Your earlier letter of 8 April 2010 reflected the suggestion of providing a canteen, which could not be provided for the reason that we have explained in our letter of 21 April 2010. As regards the provision of a small café now raised in your letter of 22 April 2010, according to the Administration, cafes are generally not provided in Government

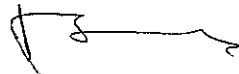
accommodation for the same reason, i.e. for better utilization of the space therein. We understand that this prevailing policy of the Administration has been implemented over the past 10 years or so after adopting the recommendations of the Director of Audit. In this connection, you may wish to note that:

- (a) At present, kiosk but not canteen facilities are provided in the Kowloon City and Tuen Mun Law Courts Buildings; and
- (b) As regards the 20 square metres of space in the Eastern Law Courts Building which is under the Police's management and was formerly used as a gymnasium/games room for the Police, it has long been converted into a conference room.

12. In the proposed WKLCB project, it is proposed that a convenience store, which would also provide kiosk facilities, will be provided.

13. We hope that the additional information provided in this letter has helped to enable better understanding of the proposed facilities of the WKLCB project. We would continue to keep in close contacts with representatives of the Law Society on relevant matters of the WKLCB in the months ahead.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs Angela Lo)  
for Judiciary Administrator

c.c. Mr. Huen Wong  
Mr. Stephen Hung  
Clerk to AJLS Panel  
(Attn: Ms Flora Tai)



## West Kowloon Law Courts Building (“WKLCB”) Location of Public Transport



### Legend

- Buses
- Minibuses



## West Kowloon Law Courts Building (“WKLCB”)

### Public Transport

#### A. MTR

Cheung Sha Wan MTR Station and Nam Cheong MTR Station are located within 10 minutes’ walking distance from WKLCB.

#### B. Buses and Minibuses

A number of bus/minibus routes are also available in the vicinity of the WKLCB. There are over 20 bus routes serving a wide range of areas in the territory: north to Ma On Shan in the New Territories; south to Aberdeen on the Hong Kong Island; west to Tsuen Wan in the New Territories and Hong Kong International Airport on the Lantau Island; and east to Tseung Kwan O in East Kowloon. 2 minibus routes serving around the areas of Cheung Sha Wan and Mei Foo are also available. Details of some of bus / minibus routes are listed below:

<b>Route No.</b>	<b>Route</b>
<u>Buses</u> (Total: 24 routes)	
2	Star Ferry, Tsim Sha Tsui → Mong Kok → So Uk, Cheung Sha Wan
2A	Lok Wah, Kwun Tong → Kowloon City → Mong Kok → Cheung Sha Wan → Mei Foo
6F	Kowloon City Ferry → To Kwa Wan → Yau Ma Tei → Sham Shui Po → Cheung Sha Wan
12 (Circular)	Hoi Lai Estate, Lai Chi Kok → Olympic → Tsim Sha Tsui → Nam Cheong
12A	Whampoa Garden, Hung Hom → To Kwa Wan → Prince Edward → Sham Shui Po → Nam Cheong



- 18 (Circular) Nam Cheong → Sham Shui Po → Mong Kok → Ho Man Tin
- 32 Shek Wai Kok, Tsuen Wan → Kwai Chung → Sham Shui Po → Mong Kok → Olympic
- 33A Tsuen Wan → Kwai Chung → Mei Foo → Cheung Sha Wan → Sham Shui Po → Mong Kok
- 36A Lei Muk Shue, Tsuen Wan → Kwai Chung → Mei Foo → Sham Shui Po
- 37 Olympic → Mong Kok → Cheung Sha Wan → Mei Foo → Kwai Shing
- 41 Tsing Yi → Mei Foo → Cheung Sha Wan → Sham Shui Po → Prince Edward → Ho Man Tin → Kowloon City
- 41A Tsing Yi → Kwai Chung → Cheung Sha Wan → Sham Shui Po → Mong Kok → Tsim Sha Tsui
- 42 Cheung Ching, Tsing Yi → Kwai Chung → Mei Foo → Sham Shui Po → Kowloon City → Choi Hung → Shun Lee, Kwun Tong
- 44 Tsing Yi → Mei Foo → Cheung Sha Wan → Sham Shui Po → Shek Kip Mei → Mong Kok
- 86C Lee On, Ma On Shan → Shatin → Tai Wai → Shek Kip Mei → Cheung Sha Wan
- 117 Sham Shui Po → Mong Kok → Cross Harbour Tunnel → Causeway Bay → Happy Valley
- 212 Whampoa Garden, Hung Hom → Mong Kok → Sham Shui Po → Nam Cheong
- 296C Sheung Tak, Tseung Kwan O → Kwun Tong → Kowloon City → Mong Kok → Sham Shui Po
- 701 (Circular) Hoi Lai Estate, Lai Chi Kok → Nam Cheong → Mong Kok
- 702 (Circular) Hoi Lai Estate, Lai Chi Kok → Nam Cheong → Sham Sui Po

- 796C Tseung Kwan O → Prince Edward → Sham Shui Po →  
Nam Cheong
- 914 Hoi Lai Estate, Lai Chi Kok → Sham Shui Po → Western  
Harbour Crossing → Sheung Wan → Admiralty →  
Causeway Bay
- 971 Shek Pai Wan, Aberdeen → Kennedy Town → Western  
Harbour Crossing → Tsim Sha Tsui → Mong Kok → Hoi  
Lai Estate, Lai Chi Kok
- A21 Hung Hom Station → Tsim Sha Tsui → Mong Kok →  
Sham Shui Po → Lantau Link → Hong Kong International  
Airport

Minibuses (Total: 2 routes)

75 (Circular) Fu Cheong Estate, Nam Cheong → Cheung Sha Wan

81K (Circular) Hoi Lai Estate, Lai Chi Kok → Mei Foo