Translation

14 April 2014

Secretary General Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong (Attn: Ms Sophie LAU)

Fax No.: 2978 7569

Dear Ms LAU,

Panel on Transport Motion passed at the meeting on 17 January 2014

Thank you for your letter of 17 January 2014 to the Secretary for Transport and Housing. Regarding the motion on "expeditious implementation of the construction of the Northern Link as well as provision of a station in the Fanling North New Development Area" passed at the aforementioned meeting, our reply is set out below.

The Government has commissioned a consultant to conduct a study for the Review and Update of the RDS 2000, with a view to updating the long-term railway development blueprint for Hong Kong to cater for the latest development needs of the society. Two stages of Public Engagement exercise were conducted to explore the conceptual proposals of ten railway schemes (including the Northern Link).

The Government is finalising the blueprint for railway development beyond 2020 having regard to transport demand, cost-effectiveness and development needs of New Development Areas. We will announce the way forward for the new railway proposals as soon as possible. When individual projects proceed to the detailed planning stage, we will further study the technical details and consult the public on the projects.

Yours sincerely,

(Kelvin MA) for Secretary for Transport and Housing

<u>c.c.</u>

Principal Government Engineer/ Railway Development, Highways Department

(Attn: Mr. LO Yu Bun)

Fax: 2761 1508