LC Paper No. CB(2)1485/15-16(01)

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11 May 2016

Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong (Attn: Ms Alice Leung)

Dear Ms Leung,

Request for Discussion on the Regulatory Regime for Trampoline Venues

Thank you for your letter dated 6 April 2016 relaying the concerns of the Hon WONG Kwok-hing over the regulation on trampoline venues. Our reply is provided below.

The Places of Public Entertainment Ordinance (Cap.172) (the Ordinance) has been enacted for the primary purpose of ensuring public safety and order, covering fire safety, building safety, electrical and mechanical equipment, ventilation, crowd management and hygiene, at places of entertainment where members of the public gather together. Hence, all places of public entertainment (PPEs) must comply with the requirements set by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and other relevant departments, such as the Fire Services Department, the Buildings Department, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and the Hong Kong Police Force.

Under the Ordinance, any person who keeps or uses a PPE is required to apply for a PPE licence. PPEs refer to those places used for presenting or carrying on activities as specified in Schedule 1 of the Ordinance and where the general public are allowed to have access, with or without payment. The types of "entertainment" regulated by the Ordinance include:

- (i) a concert, opera or stage performance;
- (ii) a cinematograph or laser projection display;
- (iii) a circus;
- (iv) lecture or story-telling;
- (v) an exhibition (including exhibitions of pictures, photographs or things);
- (vi) a sporting exhibition or contest;
- (vii) a bazaar;
- (viii) an amusement ride within the meaning of the Amusement Rides (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 449) or other amusement device which is designed for amusement; and
- (ix) a dance party.

Although trampolining is not included in the Schedule, if the actual organisation and the modus operandi of such an activity involve an event or activity defined as "entertainment" under the Ordinance, operators of places holding such activities must obtain PPE licences.

In fact, a trampoline is a sports device. The Gymnastics Association of Hong Kong, China (the Association) is the national sports association that promotes trampolining in Hong Kong and trains trampoline instructors. It can provide the latest information of registered trampoline coaches and trampolining guidelines. Organisers or operators of such activities may hire qualified instructors to provide guidance for trampoline users as necessary by making reference to the guidelines provided by the Association.

Whether a regulatory or licensing regime should be set up for a particular sports activity or entertainment involves a number of considerations. The Government will continue to keep in view the development and operation of trampolining in Hong Kong and take follow-up action based on actual needs.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss Gloria LO)

for Secretary for Home Affairs