

香港特別行政區政府
財經事務及庫務局
財經事務科
香港添馬添美道二號
政府總部二十四樓



FINANCIAL SERVICES BRANCH
FINANCIAL SERVICES AND
THE TREASURY BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

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本函檔號 OUR REF.: C&SD/4/2C(2019)Pt.1
來函檔號 YOUR REF.: CB(4)/PAC/R73

9 January 2020
(By Email)

Mr Anthony Chu
Clerk to Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Chu,

Public Accounts Committee
Consideration of Chapter 7 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 73
Statistical services provided by the Census and Statistics Department

Thank you for your letter dated 17 December 2019 regarding the Public Accounts Committee's consideration of Chapter 7 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 73. The bilingual response of the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury to the matters set out in Part (II) of the Appendix of your letter is at the Annex.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Noel', written over a light blue horizontal line.

(Ms Noel Tsang)

for Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

c.c. Commissioner for Census and Statistics (fax no.: 2147 5239)
Director of Audit (fax no.: 2583 9063)

**Public Accounts Committee (“PAC”)
Consideration of Chapter 7 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 73
Statistical services provided by the Census and Statistics Department**

**The Response of the Secretary of the Financial Services and the
Treasury (“SFST”) to Matters set out in Part (II) of the Appendix to
the Letter of 17 December 2019 from the Clerk to PAC**

Part 3: Population census and by-censuses

- 10) According to paragraph 3.12(c), while C&SD planned to submit the preliminary accommodation requirements of the joint-user SDB to the Government Property Agency (“GPA”) for advice after its second meeting with REO held in September 2019, GPA said that REO and C&SD may approach the relevant department(s) to take forward the site search process under the established mechanism once REO and C&SD agree to develop a joint-user SDB. As the policy bureau of both C&SD and GPA, will the Financial and the Treasury Bureau help coordinate this matter so as to expedite progress?

SFST’s Response:

In Chapter 8 of the Director of Audit’s Report No. 69 entitled “Provision of government office accommodation and utilisation of government sites”, Audit recommended that REO and C&SD, in consultation with GPA, should explore the feasibility of developing a joint-user SDB to meet their periodic accommodation requirements. We note that REO and C&SD have already analysed their periodic accommodation requirements in terms of project timeframes and space requirements, and will soon consult GPA on accommodation issues while finalizing their assessment on the feasibility of developing a joint-user SDB. We will closely monitor the follow-up actions of the departments concerned and stand ready to render facilitation to expedite process as and when necessary.

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