

香港特別行政區政府  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

房屋及規劃地政局  
香港花園道美利大廈



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20 January 2004

**(By Post and Fax : 2537 1204)**

Ms Miranda Hon  
Clerk  
Public Accounts Committee  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Hon,

**The Public Accounts Committee's consideration of  
the Director of Audit's Report No. 31**

**Footbridge connections between five  
commercial buildings in the Central District**

Thank you for your letter of 5 January 2004.

As regards the questions raised by the Public Accounts Committee ("the Committee"), the relevant information is as follows :

- (a) Owner of Building I indicated that its building was not designed to take up the additional load arising from Footbridge A. This means that if Footbridge A is to be connected to Building I, strengthening work (with cost implications) to the Building is required. The owner of Building I has indicated that it would not bear the costs for

such work and its future maintenance. The owner of Building II does not agree that it should bear such costs.

- (b) Since the last report to the Committee, the owner of Building II submitted a new footbridge proposal. The owner proposed to construct a footbridge which would cross Queen's Road Central, stopping immediately in front of Building I but would not link to the mezzanine floor (M/F) of Building I. Instead, staircase and lift were proposed to take pedestrians from the Footbridge onto the street. This proposal, not requiring the consent of owner of Building I, was found not acceptable because it would cause obstruction to the pedestrian flow at Queen's Road Central and could not achieve the original intention of linking up the two buildings.
- (c) There is no more new proposal from the owner of Building II. To facilitate the construction of Footbridge A, the Lands Department is exploring the feasibility of an alternative proposal of linking Building II with the southeast corner of Building I at its M/F. It would require column supports at the pavement on both sides of the Queen's Road Central. The Lands Department is consulting relevant departments on this alternative. We will report outcome of the deliberation in due course.

Yours sincerely,



( Gary Y.S. Yeung )  
for Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

c.c.

Director of Audit

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