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> By Fax (2397 3395) 29 February 2012

Mr Don HO, JP Assistant Commissioner for Transport Transport Department 7/F, Mongkok Government Offices 30 Luen Wan Street Mongkok Kowloon

Dear Mr HO,

Subcommittee on the Six Orders Made under Section 5(1) of the Public Bus Services Ordinance and Gazetted on 20 January 2012

At the Subcommittee meeting on 23 February 2012, I was asked to advise on whether amendments to the above six Orders could be made by LegCo to add a benchmark for franchised bus companies' deviation from the Schedule of Service.

In this connection, I shall be grateful if you would provide me with the following clarification and documents:

- (a) How is the non-exclusive right to operate a public bus service referred to in the six Orders established? Please provide the documents (including any franchises and their gazette notice references, if applicable) that establish the said non-exclusive right.
- (b) Is a Schedule of Service as referred to in paragraph 2 of your information paper to the Subcommittee (LC Paper No. CB(1) 1126/11-12(05)) approved by the Transport Department for each of the bus companies covered by the six Orders? Please provide a sample Schedule of Service for each of the bus companies.

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(c) Is it the Government policy to remove exclusivity of bus routes to allow greater flexibility in service adjustment and help stimulate healthy competition? Please provide information on the introduction of that policy and the changes that have been made to the terms of franchises to implement that policy.

I shall be grateful if you would let me have the Administration's reply in both languages <u>on or before 3 March 2012</u>.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Carrie WONG) Assistant Legal Adviser

c.c. Clerk to Subcommittee