

民政事務總署
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修頓中心三十一樓



Home Affairs Department

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6 January 2016

Mr Anthony CHU
Clerk to Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Council
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr CHU,

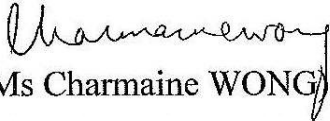
Public Accounts Committee
Consideration of Chapter 8 of the Director of Audit's Report No. 65
Management of the public lighting system

I refer to your letter of 23 December 2015 to the Director of Home Affairs. Our response to the question raised in your letter is set out below.

Q1. According to paragraph 4.14 and Annex K, it took a long time for the Home Affairs Department (HAD) to approve the installation of village lighting. As a result, there was a huge backlog of applications. What is the reason?

As pointed out in paragraph 4.14 and Annex K of the Audit Report, the installation works of some of the village lights had remained outstanding for over three years after inclusion in the PLP. Longer processing time was required for these cases due to receipt of objections on the lighting locations, difficulties in finding a site meeting time that suited the schedule of all parties concerned, change of mind on the lighting locations by Village Representatives or applicants, contrasting views of the current and former Village Representatives on the lighting locations, adverse comments from concerned government departments on the proposed lighting locations which were within conservation areas or near heritage sites, obstruction of cable routes by utilities drawpits, site constraints, etc.

Yours sincerely,


(Ms Charmaine WONG)
for Director of Home Affairs

c.c. Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (fax no. 2147 5239)
Director of Audit (fax no. 2583 9063)
Director of Highways (fax no. 2714 5216)