

香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

政府總部  
運輸及房屋局  
運輸科

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Transport and  
Housing Bureau  
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Ms. Sophie LAU  
Clerk to Panel on Transport  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

13 January 2016

Dear Ms. LAU,

**Panel on Transport  
Request for discussion on dangerous driving and hit-and-run cases**

Thank you for your letter of 18 December 2015 to our bureau relaying the view of Hon. WONG Kwok-hing on the captioned subject. Our reply is provided as follows.

Dangerous driving is a serious traffic offence. Under existing legislation, a person who commits a dangerous driving offence is liable to a fine and imprisonment. He may also be disqualified from driving, incur driving-offence points and be mandated to attend driving improvement course. The maximum penalty for the offence of causing death by dangerous driving is a fine of \$50,000 and imprisonment for ten years. The person concerned is also liable to disqualification from driving for not less than five years on a first conviction and not less than ten years or life on a subsequent conviction. Furthermore, if a vehicle fails to stop after causing injury to any other person in a traffic accident, the driver of that vehicle commits an offence and is liable to a fine of \$10,000 and imprisonment for one year.

The Government has reviewed and increased the penalties for the offence of causing death by dangerous driving for various times over the past years. For example, the maximum imprisonment term was doubled from five years to ten years in 2008 and the minimum driving disqualification period for a subsequent conviction was raised from three years to five years in 2010. In 2011, the Government further raised the minimum driving disqualification period from two years to five years for a first conviction and from five years to ten years for a subsequent conviction, and provided in the legislation that the court may disqualify the offender from driving for life.

Regarding the road traffic control and surveillance closed circuit television (“CCTV”) systems, the Transport Department advises that its CCTV systems are currently for real-time traffic monitoring. Only those installed at government tunnels, Tsing Ma Control Area and Tsing Sha Control Area have recording function for verification of tolls charged, while the rest do not have recording function. If CCTV systems are to be installed at roadside to record traffic offences to facilitate Police’s investigation and prosecution, apart from the technical feasibility of such installation and the additional resources involved for installing and operating the systems, we should also consider carefully the public’s concerns such as privacy arising from the 24-hour recording of CCTV systems.

As regards the traffic accident mentioned in the letter, the Police believe that it refers to the fatal traffic accident happened at Chatham Road North, Hung Hom on 2 December 2014. The Police are following up the case. A reward of \$100,000 has been offered for the wanted vehicle and the public is urged through various channels to provide relevant information to help with the investigation and detection.

We believe that the existing penalties for the offence of causing death by dangerous driving have appropriately reflected the seriousness of the offence and have a considerable deterrent effect on offending drivers. We will keep the situation in view and follow up as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Freda CHAN)  
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.:

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