

香港特別行政區政府  
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



The Government of  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
Administration Wing,  
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office

2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

香港添馬添美道 2 號

本函檔號 Our Ref.: PROT CR 5-30/1/97 (2016)

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Clerk to Panel on Public Service  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Complex,  
1 Legislative Council Road,  
Central, Hong Kong  
(Attn: Ms Wendy JAN)

1 March 2017

Dear Ms JAN,

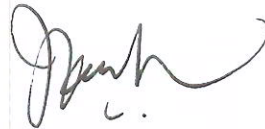
**Response to the Issue Raised by  
Panel on Public Service on 25 January 2017**

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Public Service on 25 January 2017, the Government was requested to advise on the difference between “署” and “處”, and provide examples of Government departments using “署” and “處” in the Chinese names of the departments and the offices under their purview.

Government departments have their specific Chinese names. Most of them have been used for years and are well-known to the public. The literal meanings of both “署” and “處” refer to places for performing official duties. There is no significant difference in meaning when using them in the Chinese names of Government departments. It does not indicate any difference in the nature, scale and hierarchical level of the departments.

For examples of Government departments using “署” for department names and “處” for offices under their purview, please refer to the  
Annex .

Yours sincerely,



( Mrs Judy LI )  
for Director of Administration

Annex

Examples in using “署” and “處” as the Chinese rendition of government departments and offices under these departments

Departments using “署”	Offices under Departments using “處”
<b>Architectural Services Department</b>	Architectural Branch Building Services Branch Quantity Surveying Branch Structural Engineering Branch
<b>Civil Engineering and Development Department</b>	Civil Engineering Office Hong Kong Island and Islands Development Office
<b>Highways Department</b>	Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Project Management Office Railway Development Office
<b>Intellectual Property Department</b>	Patents And Designs Registries Trade Marks Registry