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Ms Shirley CHAN  
Clerk to Panel on Economic Development  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

27 December 2017

Dear Ms CHAN,

**LegCo Panel on Economic Development  
Follow-up to Meeting on 27 November 2017  
Incident of Flight Cancellation of Hong Kong Express Airways**

Thank you for your letter dated 29 November 2017 to the Secretary for Transport and Housing. The letter requests the Government to provide supplementary information in relation to the Incident of Flight Cancellation of Hong Kong Express Airways (HKE) discussed at the LegCo Panel on Economic Development (the Panel) meeting on 27 November 2017. The information requested is provided as follows:

As mentioned in the LegCo Discussion Paper CB(4)244/17-18(02) submitted by the Government to the Panel, generally speaking the Civil Aviation Department (CAD) will conduct routine inspections on aircraft operators. These inspections include flight inspections, inspections on maintenance, documents inspections, training inspections, inspection visits at out-stations, inspections on examiners etc. If required, CAD may also conduct unscheduled inspections on their flight operations. In 2017 (up to 29 November), CAD had conducted a total of four unscheduled inspections on aircraft operators, three of which were conducted on HKE.

In respect of the submission from the Express & Airlines Pilots Association (E&APA), CAD wrote to HKE and E&APA on 28 November 2017 and the Hong Kong Express Cabin Attendants Union on 30 November 2017, requesting all three parties to work together in a professional and responsible manner towards a mutually agreeable solution in order to eliminate any possible impact on passengers. HKE is also reminded through the aforementioned letter by CAD that it is their responsibility to take every step to protect the travel arrangements of their passengers while maintaining a high level of aviation safety. The President of HKE replied on 5 December that they would endeavor to put forward a reasonable and practicable staff engagement programme. We understand that the HKE management has met with some of the aircrews and cabin crews at end-November this year to exchange views on issues of concern.

CAD will continue to closely monitor the flight standards and airworthiness of HKE, and continue to urge HKE to give top priority to aviation safety and the interest of passengers.

Yours sincerely,



( Miss Cheng Sze Ling )

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

cc.:

Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP  
(Chairman of the Panel on Economic Development)

Civil Aviation Department (Attn.: Capt. Victor LIU, Deputy Director-General of Civil Aviation (1))