

政府總部
運輸及房屋局
運輸科
香港添馬添美道 2 號
政府總部東翼



**Transport and
Housing Bureau**
Government Secretariat
Transport Branch
East Wing, Central Government Offices,
2 Tim Mei Avenue,
Tamar, Hong Kong

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[English Translation]

電話號碼 Tel. No. 3509 8188
傳真號碼 Fax. No. 2868 5261

Fax No.: 2840 0269
Council Business Division
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road, Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Sophie LAU)

14 March 2019

Dear Ms LAU,

**Panel on Transport
Special Meeting on 31 August 2018**

Supplementary Information

At the special meeting of the Panel on Transport held on 31 August 2018, some Members requested the Government to provide supplementary information on issues relating to the steel works and associated remedial measures at the diagram walls and platform slabs of Hung Hom Station Extension under the Shatin to Central Link (SCL) project. Our replies are as follows:

- (a) information presented by the Secretary for Transport and Housing and the Acting Director of Highways at this meeting about the problem of honeycomb concrete**

In his opening speech, the Secretary for Transport and Housing presented the following information about the problem of honeycomb concrete:-

“Recently, Highways Department has revealed an incident involving the spalling of concrete and even the exposure of reinforcement bars at part of the platform slab of the Hung Hom Station Extension via a new standing item in the agenda for the Project Supervision Committee meeting which discussed the data in the Non-conforming Reports issued by the MTRCL to the contractors. Later, I will ask the Acting Director of Highways and Deputy Director of Buildings to supplement the information about the incident.”

Regarding the information presented by the Acting Director of Highways at this meeting in relation to the problem of honeycomb concrete, please refer to **Enclosure (1)**.

(b) details of the sub-contractors responsible for carrying out the concrete pouring works in the bays/areas where the problem of honeycomb concrete was identified

The problem of honeycomb concrete was identified at the soffit of the East West Line (“EWL”) platform slab of Areas B, C1 and C2. The sub-contractor for concreting works for Hung Hom Station Extension EWL slab is China Technology Corporation Limited, except that, for Bay No. 1875 of Area C1, the sub-contractor for concreting works is Richwell Civil Engineering Limited.

(c) details of works projects [except Shatin to Central Link project] funded by public monies and under construction by Leighton Contractors (Asia) Limited

Please refer to **Enclosure (2)**.

Yours sincerely,

[Chinese version signed]

(CHEUNG Kwok-ming)

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.:

Highways Department (Attn.: Mr Jonathan LEUNG) (Fax: 2714 5297)
MTR Corporation Limited (Attn.: Ms Prudence CHAN) (Fax: 2795 9991)

**Enclosure (1) : Information presented by the Acting Director of Highways
at this meeting about the problem of honeycomb concrete**

At the Shatin to Central Link Project Supervision Committee meeting held on 28 August this year (2018), MTRCL mentioned that there were concrete quality problems at the soffit of part of the East West Line (“EWL”) platform slab at Hung Hom Station Extension. What MTRCL was referring to was the phenomenon of honeycombing that occurred in the concrete at the soffit of part of the platform slab.

The Government then asked for a site visit to understand the incident in detail. Building Department (“BD”) carried out on-site inspection in the morning of 29 August and requested the MTRCL to submit an investigation report. In the afternoon of the same day, the MTRCL provided HyD with a total of three non-conformance reports issued to the contractor between 17 and 22 August regarding concreting works of the platform slab; and requested the contractor to remove substandard concrete.

Highways Department (“HyD”) was very concerned about the incident and asked MTRCL on 29 August to clarify whether there was safety problem at the EWL platform slab. HyD and its Monitoring and Verification consultant also inspected the site on 30 August. It was found at multiple locations at the soffit of the EWL platform slab in Areas B, C1 and C2 that after the removal of concrete, there was honeycombing at the concrete surface. On the same day, the HyD immediately issued a letter requesting MTRCL: (i) to check whether the platform slab is fraught with safety problem, and whether workers can continue working on it; (ii) to take immediate action that eliminates safety hazards; and (iii) to review the quality of concrete at the platform slab comprehensively, and submit an investigation report and propose remedial works as soon as possible for the BD’s consideration.

Enclosure (2): On-going Public Works Contracts Undertaken by Leighton Contractors (Asia) Limited

As at February 2019, Leighton Contractors (Asia) Limited has been undertaking the following five public works contracts (with total value about \$23.6 billion) which are managed and supervised by the works departments:

Works Department	Public Works Contract	Contract Value (About \$billion)	Commencement Date	Anticipated Completion Date
Highways Department	Central-Wan Chai Bypass – Tunnel Buildings, Systems and Fittings, and Works Associated with Tunnel Commissioning*	3.4	February 2014	2019
Civil Engineering and Development Department	Tseung Kwan O - Lam Tin Tunnel Main Tunnel and Associated Works*	8.7	July 2016	2021
Architectural Services Department	Construction of Liangtang / Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point – Boundary Control Point Buildings and Associated Facilities	7.1	July 2015	2019
	Construction of Columbarium and Garden of Remembrance at Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun	1.8	July 2016	2019

Works Department	Public Works Contract	Contract Value (About \$billion)	Commencement Date	Anticipated Completion Date
	Construction of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre in Kowloon Bay, Kowloon	2.6	May 2017	2020

Remark:

* A joint venture contractor for the concerned works contracts formed by Leighton Contractors (Asia) Limited and other contractors.