# 政府總部運輸及房屋局

運輸科

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## Transport and Housing Bureau

### Government Secretariat Transport Branch

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1 February 2018

Clerk to the Legislative Council (Attn: Ms. Sophie LAU) Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms. Lau,

### **Panel on Transport**

### Letter from Hon Claudia MO requesting to discuss the progress of the Co-location Arrangement

I refer to your letter dated 3 January 2018, which enclosed the letter from Hon Claudia MO requesting to discuss the captioned subject. Our reply is as follows.

The Government appreciates that there are concerns in the Hong Kong community on the implementation of co-location arrangement. Following the passing of a motion by the Legislative Council (LegCo) on 15 November 2017 supporting the Government to take forward follow-up tasks of the co-location arrangement, the Government and the Mainland signed the Co-operation Arrangement between the Mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on the Establishment of the Port at the West Kowloon Station of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link for Implementing Co-location Arrangement (Co-operation Arrangement) on 18 November 2017 to formally

commence the "Three-step Process". Subsequently, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) made a decision (Decision) on 27 December 2017 approving the Co-operation Arrangement, which signified the accomplishment of the second step in the "Three-step Process", thereby providing a firm legal basis for the implementation of co-location arrangement.

At this juncture, the first two steps of the "Three-step Process" have been completed, and the third, final, step is the local legislative process. Pursuant to the NPCSC's Decision and the approved Co-operation Arrangement, the Government has gazetted the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (Co-location) Bill on 26 January 2018 for First Reading and Second Reading at LegCo on 31 January. Following the publication of the Bill, when read together with the NPCSC's Decision and the Co-operation Arrangement which have already been published, Members and the public can have a full and comprehensive understanding of the overall co-location arrangement.

In view of the above, the Government is of the view that it is more appropriate for Government officials to comprehensively address Members' queries or concerns on the co-location arrangement when the Bill is being scrutinised by the Bills Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Rad . C.

( Ronald CHENG )

for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c. Secretary for Justice Secretary for Security