



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
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The People's Republic of China

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24 December 2019

Clerk to the Public Works Subcommittee
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn.: Ms Doris WY LO)

Dear Ms LO,

**Public Works Subcommittee
Follow-up to the Meeting on 20 November 2019
(29EK – Library Extension and Revitalisation)**

At the meeting of the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) on 20 November 2019, in relation to the item (29EK) i.e. the Library Extension and Revitalisation of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), the Honourable CHU Hoi-dick requested the Government to provide a written response in consultation with the PolyU explaining its decision to withdraw the item from the agenda for the meeting. After consulting the PolyU, the Government would like to provide the following response.

According to the agenda of the PWSC, the project was scheduled for discussion on 20 November, but the confrontations on the PolyU campus had yet to be settled then. While the PolyU's initial understanding was that many on-campus facilities, including the library, were damaged to various extents, the PolyU was unable to promptly assess the condition of the library in detail. In view of the development of the situation and after deliberations with the PolyU, the Government wrote to the Chairman of the PWSC on 19 November to temporarily withdraw the agenda item so that the PolyU could review the timeline for the works. In this connection, the PolyU plans to survey the actual damage to the library in detail, assess the impact of such damage on the Library Expansion and Revitalisation project, and consider the need for corresponding adjustments to the project and an updated works timeline.

We must stress that it is prudent for the Government to temporarily withdraw the item to create room for the PolyU's review of the works timeline. When the outcome of the review is available, the Government will consider the timing for submitting the item to the PWSC and hope to obtain the Legislative Council's approval for the funding proposal within this legislative session.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Ling', written in a cursive style.

(Ronald LING)
for Secretary for Education