



郭榮鏗立法會議員辦事處

Legislative Council Office of the Hon. Dennis Kwok

Dr. Hon Priscilla LEUNG
Chairperson
Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Legislative Council

By EMAIL only

Email: priscilla@lmf.hk

20 February 2020

Dear Dr. Leung,

General Adjournment of Courts

It is noted that in view of public health considerations, all hearings of the courts/tribunals originally scheduled from 29 January to 23 February have been adjourned, except urgent and essential hearings/matters. It is also noted that the Wuhan Coronavirus epidemic is still serious, and the courts closure may extend further.

While I understand and support the Judiciary for taking measures to cope with the Wuhan Coronavirus epidemic in order to safeguard health and safety of all parties involved in hearings and the operation of courts/tribunals, the prolonged courts closure has inevitably affected the access to justice for parties and applicants.

Therefore, I wish to raise for urgent deliberations at the Panel's meeting

next Monday (24 February) to discuss the matter, including what measures can be taken to alleviate the impact. For a meaningful discussion of this matter, I propose inviting the Judiciary Administrator, the Law Society of Hong Kong, and the Bar Association to attend too.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Kwok." The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dennis Kwok

Member of the Legislative Council

Deputy Chair of AJLS

cc. Emma Lau, Judiciary Administrator
Melissa Pang, President, Law Society of Hong Kong
Philip Dykes, SC, Chairman of the Bar Council, Hong Kong Bar
Association