

By email and by fax at 2978 7569

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Panel on Commerce and Industry
Legislative Council Secretariat
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立法會 CB(1)738/19-20(20)號文件

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(English version only)

[Attn: Mr Joey LO, Clerk to Panel on Commerce and Industry]

Dear Mr LO

Legislative Council Panel on Commerce and Industry - Meeting on 16 June 2020
“Innovation and Technology Development and the Re-industrialisation Policy in Hong Kong”

The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) has been advocating for building a diversified economy with the focus on intensifying innovation and technology (I&T) development. We welcome the Administration’s support for the development of I&T and the re-industrialisation policy. To provide favourable conditions, the Administration should continuously enhance our infrastructures, promote research and development (R&D) by providing supporting resources to assist award-winning innovative solutions and startup companies, and provide further preferential tax measures for SMEs in engineering and construction industry to adopt new technologies, such as Internet of Things, data analytics, biotech, artificial intelligence and virtual reality. In addition, the HKIE is aware that the Smart City Blueprint 2.0 will soon be released. We are looking forward to seeing the inclusion of initiatives on making use of I&T to address urban challenges such as those posed by COVID-19 in the Blueprint.

Furthermore, quality manpower is another crucial factor to drive innovation. The HKIE suggests the Administration to promote advantages of working in Hong Kong and provide financial incentives to attract overseas talents as well as multi-national companies to come to Hong Kong to facilitate exchange of I&T, so as to enhance its renowned international status. Apart from attracting foreign talents, the Administration is recommended to allocate sufficient resource for promoting STEM education and Vocational and Professional Education and Training (VPET) to stimulate students’ interests in I&T and encourage young talents to pursue continuous training to meet the demand of different levels of manpower in the industry in the long run. Furthermore, to cultivate more young talents and engineering professionals, we recommend the Administration to consider providing more funding to support employees in private sector to participate in relevant training schemes, including but not limited to engineering graduate training scheme, apprenticeship training scheme, etc., which should incorporate new technology and design thinking elements to foster I&T culture for young talents and technical staff at different levels.

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Since I&T development could revitalise the manufacturing industry and pave the way for developing high-end production lines, the HKIE supports the Re-industrialisation Funding Scheme and suggests investing more resources to upgrade the traditional manufacturing industry by adopting advanced technologies, such as automation intelligence and robotic technology for smart production.

In addition, regarding the development in the Greater Bay Area (GBA), the HKIE suggests the Administration to boost academic and research collaborations among various practitioners in engineering or technology within the GBA, which would benefit development of I&T industry in Hong Kong and other cities in the GBA.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely



Ir Ringo S M YU
President
The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers

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