

政府總部
民政事務局

香港添馬添美道二號
政府總部西翼十二樓



**GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
HOME AFFAIRS BUREAU**

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10 July 2020

Clerk to the Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Joanne MAK)

Dear Ms Mak,

**Panel on Home Affairs
Response to Letter from Hon IP Kin-yuen**

The collection development of the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department is guided by the beliefs proclaimed in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Public Library Manifesto. It aims to develop a library stock that meets the community's needs for information and research, supports lifelong learning, continuous education and profitable use of leisure time, and promotes local literary arts.

In selecting library materials for acquisition, HKPL will consider the entire collection as a whole and a myriad of factors such as user demand and interest, quality of library materials, collection development and publishing situation. The library collection should be as diverse as possible. HKPL upholds the freedom of information and its entire collection does not reflect any particular beliefs and views. However, its collection must comply with the Laws of Hong Kong.

With the promulgation of the “Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region” (“National Security Law”), HKPL must ensure that its collections are in compliance with the stipulations of the National Security Law. HKPL is now reviewing whether the contents of nine titles of books violate the stipulations of the National Security Law. While legal advice will be sought in the process of the review, the books will not be available for borrowing and reference in libraries for the time being.

Yours sincerely,



(Iona SHAM)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

c.c. Director of Leisure and Cultural Services