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OUR REF.: CO/2/19/3C(2021) Pt. 27

來函檔號

YOUR REF .: CB1/PL/FA

21 May 2021 (By Email)

Clerk to the Panel on Financial Affairs Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong (Attn.: Miss Sharon LO)

Dear Miss LO,

Panel on Financial Affairs Follow-up to meeting on 3 May 2021

Thank you for your letter of 3 May 2021. The requested information on the objections raised by the Companies Registry to the Licensing Court regarding applications for new licence and renewal of licence by money lenders which have committed serious non-compliance for the past five years is attached at Annex for Members' reference.

Yours sincerely,

(Benjamin AU)

for Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Encl.

Panel on Financial Affairs Follow-up to meeting on 3 May 2021

The relevant information on the objections raised by the Companies Registry (CR) to the Licensing Court regarding applications for new licence and renewal of licence by money lenders which have committed serious non-compliance for the past five years is as follows:

Number of objections raised by CR to the Licensing Court

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
No. of objections raised by CR	0	3	3	5	4

Summary of non-compliance and misconduct involved in the objection cases

	Number of objection cases				Ta .
Non-compliance and	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
misconduct					
1. Failure to provide	-	1	2	4	4
the requisite					
documents such as					
Supplementary					
Information Sheet, a					
copy of the latest					
audited financial					
statement, and/or					
information to the					
Registrar of Money					l e
Lenders as required					
under licensing					
condition 11					

		Number of objection cases				
No	n-compliance and	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
mis	sconduct					
	Suspection of having connection with a company which was ordered by the High Court to refrain from passing off its business as that of the Hong Kong Housing Authority, thereby failing to comply with Sections 11(5)(b) and 11(5)(c) of the Money Lenders Ordinance (MLO)			-	-	_
3.	Commission of an offence under the Housing Ordinance and convicted, thereby failing to comply with Sections 11(5)(a) and 11(5)(c) of the MLO	-		-	- ×	-
4.	Failure to report its third party, to obtain written confirmation from the third party that no fee was charged on the borrowers; and to provide the latest financial information and a copy of the latest audited financial statement as required under licensing conditions 2(a), 2(b), 3 and 11	-	-	1	-	-

	Number of objection cases					
Non-compliance and misconduct	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
5. Appointment of debt collector who caused nuisance to the staff of the debtor, constituting a breach of licensing conditions 10(a) and 10(c)	-	-	-	1	-	
Total	0	3	3	5	4	

Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau Companies Registry May 2021