

Financial Secretary, HKSAR Government
25/F, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar, Hong Kong

6 November 2015

Dear Mr. John Tsang, GBM, JP,

**Consultation Meeting for 2016 Policy Address and 2016/17 Financial Budget
on 11.11.2015**

I refer to your letter dated 30.10.2015 inviting The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects' (The HKILA) participation in the captioned meeting.

Although we are not able to attend the Consultation Meeting, The HKILA has the following suggestions for your consideration in preparing the 2016 Policy Address and the 2016/17 Financial Budget:

- 1) Provide adequate resources for the landscape and greening works in Hong Kong, both in human resources and financial support in design, implementation and maintenance, to make our living environment more eco-friendly, attractive, and sustainable as compared to other international cities.
- 2) Take the lead in emphasizing the importance of involving landscape architects in all stages of public architectural and engineering projects like Singapore, in particular, retaining landscape architects as the lead consultant of open space and greening projects, and act as a role model for private sectors to follow.
- 3) Enhance the establishment of landscape architect grade in the civil servants by promptly creating Chief Landscape Architect (D1 rank) posts in ASD, CEDD, HyD and HD to formulate respective landscape policies and standards, and manage landscape projects and contracts directly and efficiently, as well as Senior Landscape Architect posts in DSD and WSD to cope with the increased workload and operational needs in order to demonstrate the sincerity and commitment of the Government to implement the Green Hong Kong policy and promote landscape preservation.
- 4) Provide tax credit to tax-payers on education allowance, in particular, for overseas education as these tax payers are already saving the government expenditures on local education provision and it would increase the supply of qualified personnel in future to alleviate the shortage of workforce in landscape, building and construction industries.
- 5) Provide subsidies, tax incentive/credit and/or interest free loan to energy saving design in new buildings, and renovation works or purchase of energy efficient appliances for improvements of energy consumption in existing buildings so that we could help Hong Kong to achieve the targeted 30% reduction in electricity consumption by 2030 so as to reduce the carbon footprint.

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6) Provide tax credit, interest free loan and/or subsidy to recycling industry so that we could reduce vast expanses of landfill by reducing waste at source.

Thank you for your consideration. Our Council would be most delighted to discuss with you or your colleagues in details on the above suggestions in taking them forward.

Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact the undersigned at 2896 2833 or via email to president@hkila.com.

Yours sincerely,



Tak WONG
for and on behalf of
The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects