

6 April 2018

Hon. HUI Chi-fung

Room 913, Legislative Council Complex,
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Hon Hui,

The Role of Landscape Architectural Profession

Thank you for sparing your time to meet with the Council Members of The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects (HKILA / Institute) on 9 March 2018 and your subsequent letter dated 14 March 2018.

Your motions in the Legislative Council's Panel on Development held on 27 February 2018 were well noted. We would like to share with you our viewpoints on some of the motions as follows:

1. Landscape Ordinance and Policy

We appreciate your attention to tree protection and preservation. However, trees are only a part of the landscape.

In instead of the suggested Tree Ordinance, the Institute promulgates a holistic **Landscape Ordinance and Policy**, which will comprehensively comprise landscape requirements in developments, regulations of landscape conservation and preservation, procedures and standards of landscape maintenance and management, including the requirement for employment of qualified landscape personnel, etc., to be formulated for creating a healthy, safe and sustainable living environment to the benefit of our community.

2. Licensing System for Arborists

On 20 November 2017, HKILA wrote to Mr. Michael Wong, Secretary for Development, Development Bureau (DevB), to advocate a registration / licensing system for arborists and establish a register of Accredited Arborists for the public interest.

As we foresee the importance of this matter, the Institute has proactively established early in 2012 the Accredited List of Arboricultural Practitioners (AAP) scheme which is the first and only local assessment and accreditation system for arborists. The scheme is operated by,

under a new By-law endorsed by the Council of HKILA, a panel including professionals and experts from the landscape architectural and arboricultural fields. The scheme has received support and recognition from DevB and various stakeholders. Please feel free to visit the Institute's website: <http://www.hkila.com/aap.php> for further details.

3. Landscape Department

Being forward looking and pursued by the Institute few years ago, a **Landscape Department** should be established by the Government to provide one-stop services for feasibility study, planning, design, implementation, maintenance and management of government landscape projects to ensure consistency of landscape standards and requirements, and avoid ambiguities in jurisdiction of various government departments involved in landscape projects.

We cordially invite the Democratic Party and its members to support our initiatives above and work together to achieve the goal of a quality environment for our community.

Please be advised that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of HKILA is coming up on 27 April 2018 and a new Council of HKILA will be elected in the AGM. Certainly, the new Council of HKILA would look forward to maintaining close communication and collaboration with the Democratic Party and its members. Our Secretariat will contact you for arranging a meeting in May 2018 to further exchange viewpoints. By the meantime, should you have any burning issues or queries, you are also welcome to contact the undersigned at 2896 2833 or via email to president@hkila.com.

Thank you for your attention and let's keep in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Tak WONG
President
The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects

c.c. Democratic Party (Attn.: Hon Wu Chi-wai)