

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Security Bureau

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香港特別行政區政府

保安局

本函檔號 Our Ref.: SEC 2/8/63

來函檔號 Your Ref.: HAD TM DC/13/10/DC/15

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10 September 2015

Mr Lawrence LAU Secretary Tuen Mun District Council 2/F, Tuen Mun Government Offices 1 Tuen Hi Road Tuen Mun, N.T.

Dear Mr LAU,

<u>"Concerns over situations at Tuen Mun Area 38</u> and Lung Kwu Tan"

Thank you for your letter of 31 August 2015 to the Secretary for Security. We note that the Tuen Mun District Council will discuss the subject matter at the meeting of 15 September 2015. Due to official engagement, we are unable to send representatives for the said Council meeting. As regards the issues raised in the discussion paper enclosed in your letter, after consulting the Fire Services Department (FSD) and the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), our consolidated reply is as follows:

Storage of Dangerous Goods and Contingency Plans

FSD has always attached great importance to the storage of dangerous goods (DG) in the territory. In accordance with the Dangerous Goods Ordinance (Cap. 295), FSD regulates the manufacture, conveyance, storage and use of DG on land through a risk-based approach under a rigorous licensing system, with a view to safeguarding public safety. Except under and in accordance with a valid DG licence, no person shall manufacture, store, convey or use any DG in excess of the exempted quantity.

For a more efficient and prompt deployment of resources for rescue operations, the Government has drawn up various contingency plans and operational guidelines, including those for handling incidents involving DG. In addition, FSD formulates contingency plans for large-scale DG stores (e.g. oil depots) and conducts regular fire drills for staff of the stores so that they can understand how to respond and evacuate in case of emergency. Fire personnel can also get familiarised with the design and operation of such DG stores. As regards DG stores in general, FSD has kept relevant information of these stores and conducts routine inspections so that fire personnel are more familiar with the surroundings of the DG stores in order to maintain high operational efficiency.

Threat of Terrorist Attacks for Hong Kong

The Government has been conducting assessments of the terrorist threat for Hong Kong. At present, there is no specific intelligence suggesting that Hong Kong is a potential target of terrorist attack. The threat of terrorist attacks for Hong Kong remains at the "moderate" level.

Strengthening counter-terrorism work is one of the operational priorities of the Commissioner of Police in 2015. HKPF will continue to monitor trends of terrorist activities, and conduct training and multi-agency exercises regularly to prepare for emergencies.

Thank you for your attention on the aforementioned matters.

Yours sincerely,

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(Miss Venus TSOI) for Secretary for Security