



香港建築師學會  
The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

20 April 2009

Our Ref. : BLA/DCSPSOW/AK/cw/0904

Secretariat  
Committee on Review of Post-service Outside Work for Directorate Civil Servants  
10/F Central Government Offices West Wing  
11 Ice House Street  
Central

Dear Sirs

**Consultation on Review of Post-service Outside Work for Directorate Civil Servants**

Thank you for inviting the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) to express views and comments on the above consultation document.

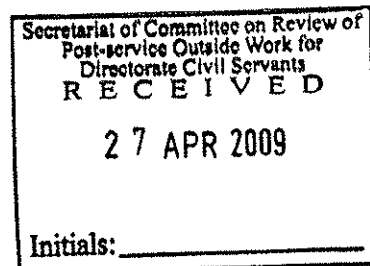
The HKIA supports the view that protecting the public interest and protecting an individual's right should continue to be the two underlying principles of the control regime. The Institute is of the view that the current length of 'period of restriction' for post-service outside work is appropriate, having considered that the current length in the Hong Kong control regime is already among one of the longest compared with other countries.

We think what is more important is the approving mechanism. When we look at the few cases that have raised public concern, the main worries were related to a 'perceived conflict of interest'. While 'actual conflict of interest' may be ascertained through diligent checking, 'perceived conflict of interest' is sometimes difficult to judge, involving speculation of public reaction. In this regard, the HKIA supports one of the suggestions that the composition of the Advisory Committee on Post-service Employment of Civil Servants, which gives advice to the Administration, can be expanded to include members of the public who have a good grasp of public sentiments and a good understanding of the wide public interest.

The current arrangement of disclosing the post-service outside work taken up by more senior former directorate civil servants (including mostly Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Departments and Deputy Secretaries) through the public register should be maintained. This will help to build public trust in the Government.

Yours sincerely

Anna S Y Kwong, *FHKIA, MH*  
President



c.c. Prof Hon Patrick Lau, Legislative Councillor (Architectural, Surveying and Planning)  
Mr K S Wong, Vice President  
Prof Edwin Chan, Chairman, Board of Local Affairs