

Hong Kong's Public Records and Access to Information Systems in a Data-saturated World

Abstract

Media professionals, legal professionals, archivists, social scientists and humanities scholars and other stakeholders, have for many years expressed concern and campaigned for both access to government information and the creation and proper management of public records. The Law Reform Commission Sub-committees on Access to Information and Archives Law published, respectively, a consultation paper on 6 December 2018 to seek public views on whether reform is needed of the current regimes on access to information and public records management; and what kind of reform is preferred. The current public consultation period is an opportune time to initiate public debate on these two key legislation that would bring Hong Kong in line with international best practice and improve the transparency and accountability of the Government.