

**Direct Investigation on The Access to Information Regime in Hong Kong (OMB/DI/238)
& Direct Investigation on Public Records Management System in Hong Kong (OMB/DI/246)**

Public Submissions

	<i>Sender</i>	<i>Gists of comments and views</i>	<i>Contents related to</i>
1.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support for introduction of law on archives 	DI/246
2.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Suggested aspects that The Ombudsman should look into in the direct investigation on public records management 	DI/246
3.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support to The Ombudsman for initiating the direct investigation on public records management ● Urged The Ombudsman to recommend law with punishment provision as soon as possible 	DI/246
4.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support to The Ombudsman for initiating the direct investigation on public records management ● Supported introducing an archive law 	DI/246
5.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Considered that citizens' right to know cannot be protected without a law ● Pointed out some problems under the current records management system 	DI/246
6.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support for the direct investigation on public records management ● Pointed out the importance of proper records and archives management ● Suggested setting up an archive department of information 	DI/246
7.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Applauded the efforts to initiate the direct investigation and hoped the government and legislators will act positively to enact a comprehensive archives law 	DI/246
8.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strongly suggested that the direct investigation report should recommend introduction of an archives law without further delay 	DI/246
9.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supported archives legislation ● Pointed out the importance of having specialists in archive management oversee the public records office, assess records and archives' value and categorise them 	DI/246
10.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Highlighted what an archives law would achieve for Hong Kong and pointed out the problems under the current public records management system 	DI/246

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11.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out some of the problems of records management in Hong Kong, in particular the widening gap between the current competencies and those that are required to manage organisational records in a digital environment and discussed steps taken by other jurisdictions to address associated problems ● Highlighted the importance of records management and the problems associated with poor recordkeeping 	DI/246
12.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support for the direct investigation on public records management ● Pointed out some problems resultant from Hong Kong's lack of archive law ● Suggested directions of the direct investigation on public records management 	DI/246
13.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcomed the direct investigation on public records management and supported introducing an archives law ● Shared experience and work done in related field 	DI/246
14.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set out the problems of the absence of an archives law 	DI/246
15.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out that Hong Kong lacked information policy and the legal framework suitable for an information society ● Pointed out the problems with the Code on Access to Information 	DI/238
16.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcomed the direct investigation ● Hoped that the direct investigation on the access to information regime in Hong Kong would facilitate the introduction of legislation on freedom of information 	DI/238
17.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out how the lack of transparency in certain bureaux/departments' responses to straightforward information requests ● Pointed out the benefits of information sharing by Government 	DI/238
18.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out that Hong Kong lagged far behind other developed economies in providing legal right to freedom of information and the inadequacies of the Code on Access to Information, particularly its exemption clauses 	DI/238
19.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out how the lack of transparency in certain bureaux/departments' responses to straightforward 	DI/238

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		<p>information requests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out the benefits of information sharing by Government 	
20.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shared experience and observations in dealing with Government regarding records creation and management ● Highlighted the problems associated with lack of access to public records 	DI/238
21.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shared experiences in being refused information requests by Government bureaux/departments ● Considered the need for legislation to set out the framework for clearly defining the way bureaux/departments and public bodies should release information 	DI/238
22.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcomed the direct investigation ● Called for legislation for access to information ● Pointed out the importance of access to information for Hong Kong as an international financial centre ● Pointed out some examples of Government failing the uphold citizen's right to access information 	DI/238
23.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shared experience in requesting information from bureaux/departments ● Pointed out ways that the standards and practices could be improved 	DI/238
24.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out some problems associated with the current access to information regime 	DI/238
25.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sent in a related research paper 	DI/238
26.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out some problems associated with the management of archaeological archives 	DI/246 & DI/238
27.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out, with examples, the importance of public records and that public records were created and managed using public money ● Supported introducing laws to protect access to information and archives 	DI/246 & DI/238
28.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out, with examples, the importance of public records and that public records were created and managed using public money ● Supported introducing laws to protect access to information and archives 	DI/246 & DI/238

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29.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support for introduction of laws to protect access to information and archives ● Pointed out that the laws are necessary for proper functioning of a civil society and the associated problems with the lack of such laws 	DI/246 & DI/238
30.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support for introducing laws to protect archives and records and freedom of information 	DI/246 & DI/238
31.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commented on the scope of the direct investigation ● Pointed out practices and standards in other jurisdictions laws concerning public records management and freedom of information ● Pointed out the importance of public records management and freedom of information 	DI/246 & DI/238
32.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supported introduction of laws on freedom of information and archives ● Sent in a related research report 	DI/246 & DI/238
33.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out the problems associated with the lack of laws governing public records management and freedom of information 	DI/246 & DI/238
34.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support for The Ombudsman in initiating the two direct investigations ● Pointed out the importance of public records management and the problems associated with the current regimes ● Shared experiences and observations of the practices and standards in the private sector 	DI/246 & DI/238
35.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pointed out the problems associated with the current access to information regime in Hong Kong ● Commented on the attitudes of Government and some political parties in public records management and public records management 	DI/246 & DI/238
36.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sent in a related research paper ● Shared experience in making information requests to Government bureaux/departments ● Pledged full support to The Ombudsman in initiating the direct investigations and introduction of laws on access to information and public records management 	DI/246 & DI/238
37.	Group/Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pledged full support for the direct investigations 	DI/246 &

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commented on Government's attitude in introducing laws on public records management and archives 	DI/238
38.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcomed the direct investigations and hoped that The Ombudsman would suggest introducing laws to protect freedom of information and archives in Hong Kong ● Pointed out the problems under the current access to information regime and the current public records management system in Hong Kong 	DI/246 & DI/238
39.	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supported passing a freedom of information and law ● Suggested areas in which control and sharing of Government information should be liberalised ● Suggested improvements to The Ombudsman's public consultation exercise 	DI/246 & DI/238

Office of The Ombudsman

17 Apr 2014