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12 August 2026

Department of Justice
Prosecutions Division
Sub-division I (Magistrates' Courts)
12th floor, West Wing, Justice Place,
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Central, Hong Kong
Attn.: Ms Catherine Ko,
Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions (I)

BY EMAIL

Dear Sirs,

Seeking In-Principle Views: Proposed Offence of Persistent Child Sexual Abuse (Sexual Offences Reform)

We refer to the email from the Department of Justice dated 28 July 2026, seeking the in-principle views and support of The Law Society of Hong Kong ("The Law Society") regarding the Government's potential proposal to introduce a new offence of "persistent child sexual abuse" as part of the current legislative exercise to reform Hong Kong's sexual offences laws. We understand that the proposed new offence has not been proposed in the consultation paper issued by the Security Bureau in July 2026.

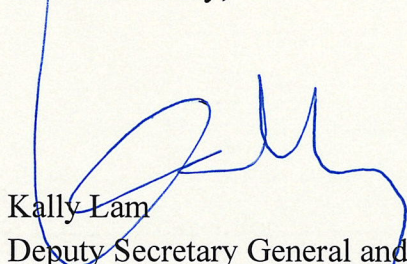
Upon review of this matter by our specialist committee, The Law Society supports, in principle, the introduction of a new offence of "persistent child sexual abuse". However, The Law Society has reservations regarding the practicality of the proposed procedure and evidential requirements. For instance, The Law Society considers that appropriate safeguards should be built into the legislative and prosecutorial framework, including clear guidance that the new offence should not

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be used where the evidence supports substantive charges, and that it should not operate as an alternative charge to such substantive offences. Our specialist committee will consider the draft bill in detail and provide its views and proposals once it is issued.

The Law Society would welcome continued dialogue with the Government and relevant stakeholders on this issue.

Yours faithfully,



Kally Lam
Deputy Secretary General and
Director of Practitioners Affairs