

Join the discussion on control of obscene and indecent articles review

Members of the public are invited to take part in a public discussion forum tomorrow (November 21) to give views on the review of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance.

The forum, to be conducted in Cantonese, will be held at Leighton Hill Community Hall, 133 Wong Nai Chung Road, Happy Valley, from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

The Government launched on October 3 the first round of public consultation on a comprehensive review of the ordinance. Town hall meetings and focus group discussions are organised to widely engage all parts of the community to help shape measures to improve the regulation of obscene and indecent articles distributed over various media platforms.

The consultation covers all main issues relating to the operation of the ordinance and a wide range of areas for public discussion. These include the definitions of “obscenity” and “indecent”; the adjudicating system; the classification system; regulation of new forms of media; enforcement; penalty; as well as publicity and public education.

Similar discussion sessions will be held at the Sha Tin Town Hall on December 8 this year and Hong Kong Space Museum on January 16, 2009.

Apart from joining the forums, the public can share their views on the subject on an online discussion forum available on the consultation website at www.coiao.gov.hk. They can also send their comments to the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau by mail to 2/F Murray Building, Garden Road, Central; by fax to 2511 1458; or by email to info@coiao.gov.hk. The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2009.

For details of the forums and a consultation booklet of the review, please visit the consultation website.

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