

Still awaiting an answer

I have followed with amazement the exchange of letters following Christine Loh Kung-wai's recent article "An overriding public need" (January 4). From these it is clear that, despite the denials of the secretary for housing, planning and lands, no proper public consultation was ever conducted on Central Reclamation Phase III.

On January 18, Winston Chu Ka-sun of the Society for Protection of the Harbour asked when the government had carried out "any consultation giving the public a fair opportunity to object to Phase III in accordance with the Court of Final Appeal's judgment" on harbour reclamation ("Logic defied on Phase III").

As the minister has still been unable to answer this simple question, he owes an apology not only to Ms Loh and Mr Chu, but also to the public and, particularly, those who tried to save the Star Ferry Clock Tower and are still trying to save Queen's Pier.

Why is this important matter not brought up for a public debate in the Legislative Council? The public is entitled to know whether there has been any dereliction of duty by any government official leading to the loss of our central harbour and heritage icons.

If so, the official concerned should be publicly reprimanded.

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