



香港個人資料私隱專員公署
Office of the Privacy Commissioner
for Personal Data, Hong Kong



Our Ref: PCPD (A)/ 7/65/155

(By Email)

22 October 2021

Dear DPOC member,

Annual Report of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021

I have much pleasure in informing you that the 2020-21 Annual Report of my Office was tabled in the Legislative Council on 20 October 2021. The Report can be accessed by scanning the QR Code or at the link below: -



Link:

https://www.pcpd.org.hk/english/resources_centre/publications/annual_report/files/anreport21_full.pdf

In celebration of my Office's 25th Anniversary, the theme of our 2020-21 Annual Report is ***Guardian • Privacy • 25 Years***. Established as an independent body in August 1996, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (the PCPD) has dutifully discharged our statutory functions in monitoring, supervising, promoting and enforcing compliance with the provisions of the Personal Data

(Privacy) Ordinance for the past 25 years. The volume, variety, difficulty, complexity and nature of work of the PCPD had grown significantly since our establishment. We received 253 complaints in 1997-98 and the number surged to 3,157 in 2020-21, an increase of over 1100%. Similarly, the data breach notification figure increased tremendously from nil in 1997-98 to 106 in 2020-21, with some recent incidents involving millions of affected data subjects.

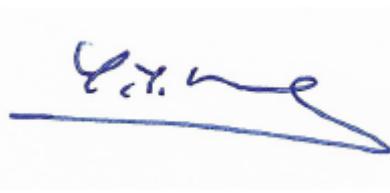
During the reporting year, we continued to step up our efforts to combat doxxing. We handled a total of 957 doxxing cases and adopted a multi-pronged approach. We wrote to the operators of 18 websites, social media platforms and discussion forums to request the removal of web links related to doxxing materials. We also strengthened our collaboration with other regulatory authorities in the investigation and referral of cases, and accentuated the harm of doxxing in our education, promotion and publicity efforts.

With the passage and commencement of operation of the Personal Data (Privacy)(Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (the Amendment Ordinance), we would steadfastly continue to combat doxxing acts by discharging our new roles and functions under the Amendment Ordinance.

Since its outbreak towards the end of 2019, COVID-19 has brought unprecedented challenges to data protection authorities around the world when governments of different jurisdictions introduced a variety of initiatives to contain the pandemic and revive the economies. The situation in Hong Kong was no exception and we provided advisories or views to the Government, organisations, schools and the general public to ensure the proper protection of personal data privacy in relation to contact tracing measures, large-scale testing and vaccination for the public, cash payouts to the public and the likes. As a signature event to mark the 25th Anniversary of the PCPD, we organised the inaugural “Privacy-friendly Awards” early this year.

May I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude for your staunch support to our work. I look forward to continuing to work with you to enhance the protection of personal data privacy in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Ada CHUNG Lai-ling
Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data