Dear Editor,

I refer to Ms Barbara Park's letter ("Dangerous pavement must be repaired", 9 March) about a badly laid metal plate and unstable bricks (paving blocks) at the pavement of Lyndhurst Terrace.

I am sorry to learn that Ms Park had fallen heavily on the pavement and hope that she has made a full recovery.

After reading her letter, the Highways Department immediately conducted a site inspection and identified several unstable paving blocks, and the problem was rectified. During the inspection, we did not identify any metal plate on the pavement.

To keep the road network in a safe and serviceable condition, the department conducts regular inspections and carries out urgent repair works for any identified road defects which might create danger or inconvenience to road users.

According to the record of our last inspection conducted in February at Lyndhurst Terrace, prior to Ms Park's letter, no metal plate was spotted on the pavement. However, minor defects arising from works carried out by utilities undertakers were identified, and were referred to relevant parties for rectification.

The latest regular inspection was carried out on 13 March 2017. The condition of the footpath on the odd numbers side of Lyndhurst Terrace is generally satisfactory (its last reconstruction in April 2016).

Regarding the footpath on the even numbers side of the road, there was no major defect except normal wear and tear of the pavement surface.

In order to further improve the condition of pavement, we plan to reconstruct the section of footpath at the even numbers side of Lyndhurst Terrace with sand and cement bedding, upon completion of the utilities works I mentioned earlier.

We will continue to closely monitor the pavement condition and arrange for any interim maintenance works that are deemed necessary.

Humphrey Yeung Senior Engineer/Public Relations Highways Department